



**Marriage in the  
Cathedral Parish  
of  
Sts Michael & John,  
Bathurst NSW**

**Marriage  
Information**

**Parish Office: 100 George St, Bathurst NSW 2795**

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Congratulations!

Your decision to marry is a most important one and we wish to assist you in every possible way to prepare well for married life.

We ask that you pray about your decision, reflect deeply on it, and seek God's guidance in your plans for the days and years ahead. We look forward to offering you our support.

Your choice of the Cathedral Parish as the place for your wedding indicates a desire to enter married life with the blessing of God and to ask God to bless you with a long and happy marriage.

## First Steps

Before a booking can be made for your wedding, there are a number of steps that need to be taken. These include:

1. **Read through this *Information Sheet* and acquaint yourselves with the information contained therein.**
2. **Assemble the Relevant Documentation (see Number 2 below)**
3. **Make an appointment with one of the priests in the parish at least 6 months prior to your proposed wedding date to complete the required Church and Government paperwork, and to discuss your wedding ceremony.**
4. **Bookings will not be confirmed and entered into the Parish diary until the Application Form is completed and returned to the Parish Office with full payment of monies and the signature of the proposed celebrant, confirming his availability.**
5. **If you have any questions please contact the Parish Office by email or phone as soon as possible.**

## Matters to Consider

1. **What does the Catholic Community ask of you?**
  - (a) That your decision to marry be **FREE**.
  - (b) That your commitment to each other be **FOR LIFE**.
  - (c) That it be your intention to have **CHILDREN** and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church, loving God and neighbour.

We ask you to give these three points serious consideration. Please feel free to discuss them with us if you are unclear about them.

## 2. What Certificates are required?

- (a) Full Birth Certificate
- (b) Baptism (Christening) Certificate

N.B. Catholics must have a recent copy of their Baptism details and not the original certificate. Such details can be obtained by requesting them from the parish in which you were baptised.

## 3. Marriage Preparation & Relationship Programmes

It is essential that you complete a **Centacare** Relationship Programme if you intend to marry within the Cathedral Parish. Relationship Programmes are organised at various times (usually Sundays or week nights). They are also available in major country centres as well as the Metropolitan areas.

In Bathurst contact **Centacare**: Ph. (02) 6331 8944.

The Priest officiating at your wedding will want to discuss with you:

- (a) the sacramental/spiritual dimension of marriage,
- (b) the wedding ceremony.

## 4. What type of ceremony is Appropriate for you?

- (a) Nuptial Mass - the exchange of vows within the celebration of the Eucharist.
- (b) Wedding ceremony

## 5. What Churches are available?

***Sts Michael & John's Cathedral, The Assumption Church*** and the churches at ***Burruga, Rockley, Wattle Flat*** and ***Trunkey Creek*** are booked through the Cathedral Parish Office.

***St. Joseph's College Chapel, Perthville, St. Stanislaus' College Chapel*** and ***St Joseph's Mount Chapel*** (Busby Street) are also available for weddings, but it is essential that they are **booked at the respective offices**. Permission is given through those Offices and depends on availability of the Chapel. An extra booking fee may apply at these places.

## 6. What about Music?

If you require the services of an organist or singer we ask that make your own arrangements regarding what is to be played or sung, and their fee. **The music should be of a religious nature and in keeping with the solemnity of the occasion.** It is important that you discuss the music with the priest as you are making arrangements for the ceremony.

A list of Organists/Instrumentalists and Vocalists is available from the Parish Office

## 6. Flowers?

The co-ordinator of the flowers in the Cathedral is Mrs. Gen Croaker who can be contacted on 6331 1601. The most convenient time for contact is between 9.00am and 10.00am any morning. A charge of \$20 is made for flower arrangements. This does not include the purchase of flowers. There is a minimum charge of \$130.00 for the purchase of flowers. (If you wish more flowers in the church this can be arranged at an extra charge.)

## 7. Photographers and Video?

We want your wedding to be a special event. Photographs and videos are permitted but there are strict guidelines for videos and photographs in the Church - the photographer must discuss this with the Celebrant beforehand.

## 8. Costs?

The required payment is **\$700** to be paid at the Parish Office before the wedding. This is made up as follows:

- **\$550.00** for Administration Costs, Government forms, Clerical costs, Certificates, insurance and public liability costs, and the use of the Church. This **cost is waived** if either of you are regular contributors to the Parish Planned Giving Programme. **This money does not go to the Priest.**
- **\$150.00** purchase and arrangement of flowers. Please Note that members of our parish community generously give of their time to arrange the flowers in the Cathedral.

If for any reason the wedding is cancelled all your fees will be refunded.

## 9. Confetti

Wedding guests are **requested not to throw confetti or rose petals** in or outside the Cathedral or Assumption Church.

## 10. Punctuality

It is very important to be on time for your wedding as there may be other weddings or Masses on that day and the Priest may have other commitments.

## 11. Finally

Please make an appointment with the Priest to ensure that all **Marriage Registration Details are completed**. The Priest celebrating your wedding **MUST** have signed the registration form before any booking is confirmed. **This is very important, especially if the Priest is from outside the parish**. We ask God's richest Blessings on the two of you, your preparations, and your future life together.