

# Weddings



Church of the Redeemer

# *A Celebration and Blessing*

## *Welcome*

It is our joy to welcome you to the Church of the Redeemer and we look forward to meeting with you to discuss how we as a church community can help you start your life together as a married couple.

As part of the Church of the Redeemer's commitment to creating a welcoming and nurturing community of faith, we open our church for weddings for members of our gathered community as well as non-members who are seeking a Christian marriage. Your wedding day is a special event in your life and our staff—clergy, musicians, administrative and facility staff—will provide you with the support you need to ensure that this aspect of your wedding day is deeply meaningful for you and the friends and family who gather to celebrate with you as you begin this next chapter of your life together.

In the pages that follow you will find the essential information about how we conduct weddings at the Church of the Redeemer. There is information about the things we require of you and what you can expect of us. As well, there are details about the spaces available both for your ceremony and reception or other functions.

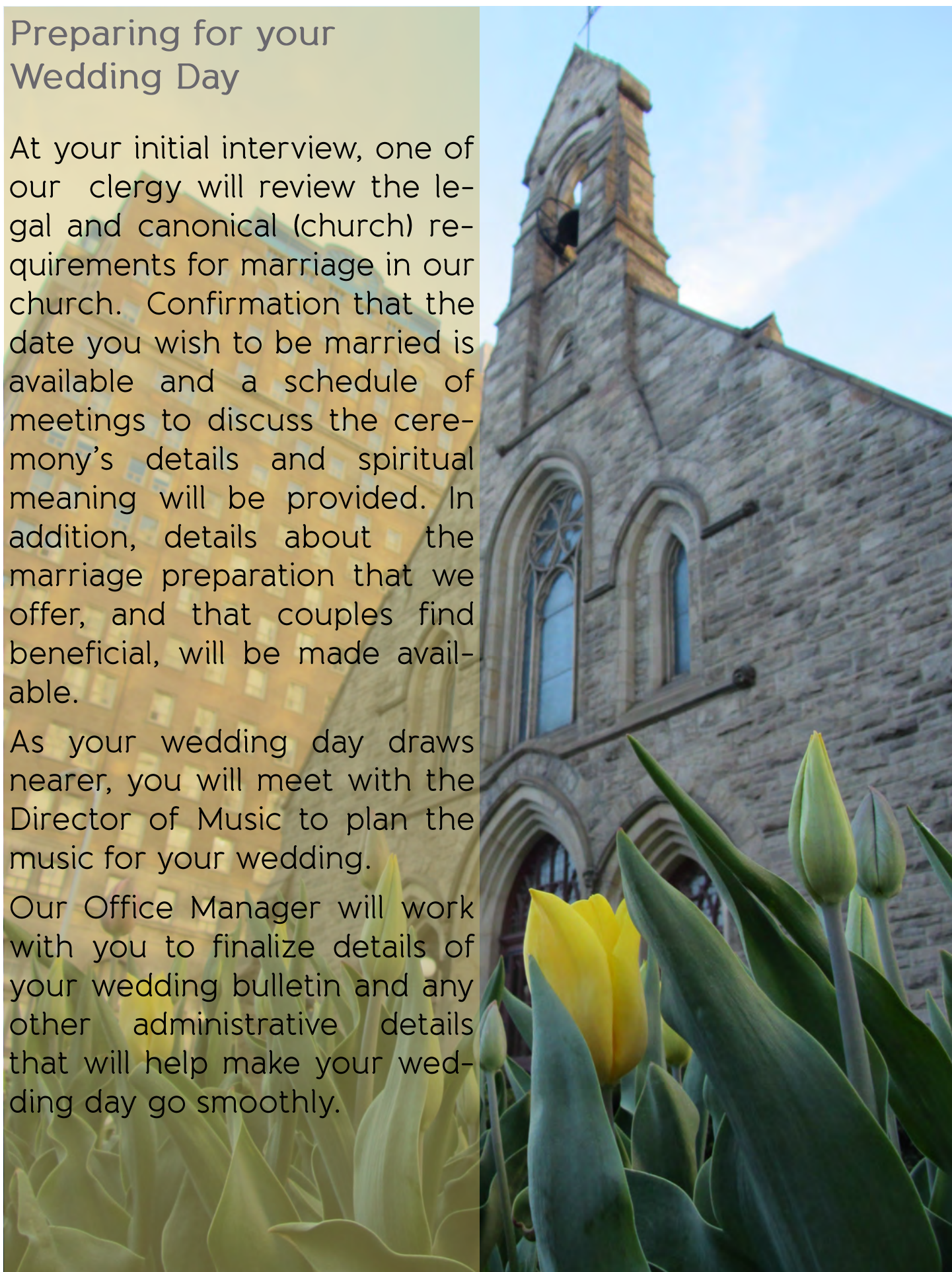


## Preparing for your Wedding Day

At your initial interview, one of our clergy will review the legal and canonical (church) requirements for marriage in our church. Confirmation that the date you wish to be married is available and a schedule of meetings to discuss the ceremony's details and spiritual meaning will be provided. In addition, details about the marriage preparation that we offer, and that couples find beneficial, will be made available.

As your wedding day draws nearer, you will meet with the Director of Music to plan the music for your wedding.

Our Office Manager will work with you to finalize details of your wedding bulletin and any other administrative details that will help make your wedding day go smoothly.



# Your Wedding

## Legal and Canonical Requirements



Most couples will be married by license since provincial law allows marriage by banns (public church announcements) only if both parties attend church regularly. You can obtain a marriage license from any municipal office in the province. The license is valid for three months from

the date of issue, and you must deliver or send your license to the church office at least one week before your wedding. For information about the marriage license application process in Toronto, visit [www.toronto.ca/registry-services/marriage.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/registry-services/marriage.htm) or call 416-392-7036.

In addition to the laws of the province, the solemnization of marriage in an Anglican church is governed by the *canons* or regulations of the Anglican Church of Canada.

The Anglican Church of Canada requires a minimum of 30 days notice between the date of application for marriage and the service itself. Anglican weddings can take place in the church building or in a suitable alternative venue. All couples are required to undertake an approved program of marriage preparation. Divorced people seeking remarriage are welcome in the Anglican church.

## Marriage Preparation

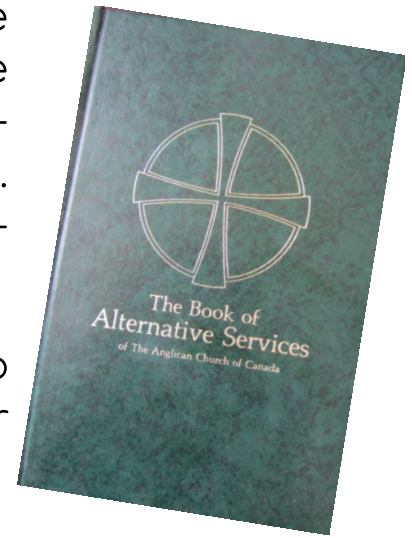
We offer a marriage preparation course that meets canonical requirements and equally important, provides you with some essential skills to continue to build a strong and healthy relationship. Details of the next course and other marriage preparation options will be provided to you by the priest who will be presiding at your ceremony.



# The Wedding Ceremony

We use the Book of Alternative Services at the Church of the Redeemer. The language of the service is contemporary and contains the elements that the Presider is required to include. You will have the option of including the Eucharist as part of your worship service.

Each of our clergy has experience helping to shape the liturgy such that your particular needs are met.



## Music

Music plays an important role in worship at the Church of the Redeemer. Our Casavant three-manual pipe organ, a concert grand piano, the professional singers and instrumentalists who are part of our community are available to add joyful music to your wedding ceremony.

As you plan your ceremony, our Director of Music will be happy to both suggest appropriate music and receive suggestions. The Director of Music, in consultation with the clergy, has discretion concerning the selection of appropriate music. The scope of options is very wide with the main criterion being that the music you choose should reflect the fact that the ceremony is a worship service.

## Printed Wedding Bulletins

The officiating priest and our Office Manager will work with you to create a wedding bulletin that includes the order of service, the words to the readings and hymns, and participant names. This will help your family and friends participate fully in the ceremony.

We have a beautiful standard cover for weddings, but you are also welcome to provide personalized artwork. Printing of the bulletin is handled by the church office if you use our standard format.

# Photography

The clicking of cameras and other electronics are a disconcerting distraction—not least to the couple to be married—so photographs are not permitted during the service. Instead, we welcome wedding parties to come back into the church immediately after the service to pose for photographs. There are certain photographs that are allowed during the ceremony. The officiating priest will review this with your photographer. Please consult with the officiating priest if you are considering other means of recording your wedding service

## Flowers

Altar flowers, for the shelf on which the cross stands, shall be arranged through the church's regular florist. These flowers are placed to the glory of God and are a gift to the church, and as such they remain at the church following the wedding ceremony.

If you would like additional floral arrangements, you may use any florist you like. You should discuss these arrangements with the officiating priest to ensure they are appropriate. If you desire, you may take these additional flowers with you after the service.



## Other Decorative Features

Confetti, bird seed, and flower petals are not permitted inside or outside the church building. There are a number of other options that are appropriate ways for your guests to celebrate with you. Speak with the officiating priest about whether what you have in mind will be possible at the Church of the Redeemer. In addition please confirm that the installation of other decorative features in the worship space can be included in your plans for your ceremony. Centre aisle runners cannot be accommodated.

# The Rehearsal

One of the scheduled appointments you will have with the officiating priest is the rehearsal for your ceremony. Generally the rehearsal is scheduled for the Thursday evening prior to your wedding. To ensure that everyone is comfortable in the space and knows what to do and where to stand, it is essential that all members of the wedding party attend the rehearsal.

If family members or friends will be doing one of the readings or leading the prayers of the people, it would be helpful for them to attend the rehearsal as well to become familiar with their role.

The officiating priest or another member of staff will lead the rehearsal.

## Fees and Donations

To avoid confusion, you should place cheques for the amounts for the various fees associated with your wedding in separate, labelled envelopes and give or send them to the church office a minimum of one week before the wedding. The officiating priest will be able to provide you with further guidance on these fees and donations.

Wedding in the church	\$1000
<i>(tax-receiptable donation)</i>	
Officiating Priest	\$450
Director of Music	\$350
Extra musicians	\$50
Staff person at a wedding	\$100
Altar Server <i>(if needed)</i>	\$50
Wedding offsite	\$500

*(tax-receiptable) Note: travel costs are additional*

*Please note: there is a \$250 non-refundable deposit at the time you book your wedding as well as a \$250 "Tardiness Fee". The latter fee will be refunded if the wedding starts no more than 10 minutes after the agreed time.*



# *Your Wedding Day*

On your wedding day, a staff person, in addition to the officiating priest and Director of Music, will be on hand to assist you.

The officiating priest will tell you what time the wedding party needs to be present prior to the ceremony and where to meet. In addition any known traffic concerns for the day will be highlighted so that you can arrive on time.

One of our staff will have the board room set up for family to gather in prior to the ceremony if needed. The staff person will also be on hand to assist in the timing of the procession.





# Our Church



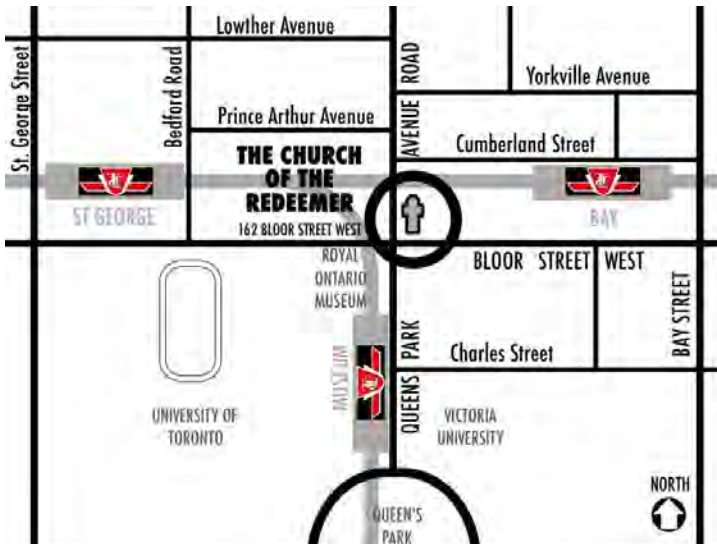
Contributing to the Church of the Redeemer's welcoming atmosphere is its stunning Gothic revival architecture, stained glass windows, and wide nave that provides an intimate setting with comfortable seating and good sightlines for up to 250 guests.

The church's bright and modern lower level includes a variety of spaces that can be used for receptions and changing rooms. The church's neighbourhood – Bloor Yorkville – boasts several hotels that can accommodate out-of-town wedding guests.

## Receptions and Other Events

The lower level of the church is a lovely and convenient space for bridal showers, rehearsal dinners and wedding receptions. We can accommodate up to 100 people for a sit-down dinner or 150 for a cocktail-style event. You will need to arrange your own catering. Our Facilities Manager and office staff will work with you to ensure that your caterer has easy access to the facilities, which include a fully-equipped kitchen. Please call the church office to learn more about the rates for the use of the space.

# Our Community



We are a vibrant Christian community that celebrates diversity: singles, couples, gays, lesbians, children and the elderly. Almost half of us grew up in the Anglican Church, while the rest of us have come from every other denomination under the sun.

More and more, people with little or no church experience are walking through our doors and finding a community of new friends and fellow seekers. You are welcome here! We hope you will find inspiration and meaning within our community.

## To learn more about us

**Website:** [www.TheRedeemer.ca](http://www.TheRedeemer.ca)

[There is a link on the website to sign up for our biweekly eNews]

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/RedeemerAnglican>

**Twitter:** @TheRedeemerTO



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