

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL BALLARAT

- GETTING MARRIED -



The Sacrament of Marriage

“A partnership of the whole of life”

“A covenant”

“Intimate community of life and love”

“The vocation to marriage”

*“The wellbeing of the individual person
and of both human and Christian society
is closely bound up with the healthy state
of marriage and family life.”*

Policy

Within the Churches of St Patrick's Cathedral Parish, marriage is according to the Rites of the Catholic Church.

At least one of the partners to the intended marriage must be baptised Catholic.

The pastoral role of the Church emphasises the importance of preparation for marriage within the faith community and with the assistance of the community. All couples intending to marry in St Patrick's Cathedral Parish are required to participate in an approved pre-marriage education program.

Centacare, the Church's relationship and welfare agency, offers pre-marriage education programs that provide a good opportunity to strengthen communication skills and to explore together the essential ingredients for creating and maintaining a lasting and satisfying marriage.

St Patrick's Cathedral bookings:

Weddings are booked through the Cathedral Parish Office (details overleaf) by submitting a 'Cathedral – Wedding Booking Form' and the required Church fee.

All bookings remain tentative until:

- ✓ *The services of a priest has been obtained and confirmed; and*
- ✓ *The completed booking form and Church fee is received by the Parish Office.*

St Patrick's College Chapel and Loreto College Chapel bookings:

The availability of the Chapels at the Colleges within the Cathedral Parish is at the discretion of the relevant school authority.

Initial contact should be made directly with each College.



What are the costs involved?

Church fee:

The current Church fee is set at **\$550.00**

This fee is a payment towards:

- *The presentation, cleaning and maintenance of the Cathedral*
- *Administration*

Priest's fee:

The current fee is set at **\$300.00**. This offering goes into the Presbytery Account, supporting the Priests. If the priest celebrating your marriage is from outside the St. Patrick's Cathedral Parish, the payment is made directly to him.

Cathedral preparation:

The Cathedral will be cleaned in preparation for your wedding.

Volunteers from the Cathedral Parish will arrange flowers that are also in keeping with the Liturgical year and the cycle of Church Seasons. Flowers remain in the Cathedral after your wedding. You are welcome to bring in your own flowers in addition to what is provided by the Parish.

Please note during the Season of Lent (6 weeks prior to Easter), decoration within the Church is kept to a minimum.

The Wedding Ceremony:

Preparation of the ceremony, including Scripture readings, prayers and music are to be selected in consultation with your Celebrant, who will provide the necessary resources.

If you intend printing a wedding booklet which will include the words of prayers, readings, or hymns, a draft is to be submitted to the Priest celebrating the marriage in time for the necessary copyright approvals to be checked.

Photos:

Once the wedding ceremony has concluded and all have exited the Church, we ask that you not return inside for photos. Please feel free to make use of the grounds.

Preparing for Marriage:

Preparation for a marriage ceremony involves:

- * *Documentation for both Government and Church purposes*
- * *Marriage preparation*
- * *Preparation of the marriage ceremony.*

Each of these elements involves time. We suggest that at least six months notice is given to the priest.

Documents required by the priest include:

- * *Full Birth Certificates (not extract of entry)*
- * *Extract of Baptism, not more than six months old*

Confetti:

Confetti, such as rose petals, rice or paper are not permitted in the Church or within the Church grounds please.

REMINDER:

All bookings are tentative until all paperwork has been completed and lodged with the Parish Office

St Patrick's Cathedral Parish:

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Office hours: Mon – Fri 10.00am to 5.00pm



St. Patrick's Parish, Ballarat