

Policy: The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage

**Christ Episcopal Church
Marlboro, New York
January 2006**

Guidelines

- Weddings are normally celebrated in church.
- Weddings must meet canonical guidelines.
- Engaged couples must participate in at least three counseling and planning sessions prior to the wedding.
- A rehearsal will be held, when possible, on the evening before the wedding and will begin at the stated time.
- Weddings are not normally celebrated during Lent or Advent.
- The marriage will be taken from the Book of Common Prayer.
- Music will be in agreement with a Christian theology of marriage and chosen with the approval of the rector and music director.
- The Christ Church organist has the right of first refusal.
- Flowers will remain at the church for display at Sunday services.
- Divorced persons will need to obtain permission to solemnize the new marriage. Copies of divorce decrees must be available for review.
- The ceremony may be videotaped from a fixed position at the back or at the side of the church.
- The church will remain open for 30 minutes following the ceremony for photographs.
- The Vicar has the final say in the details of the wedding ceremony.
- The church will provide complete copies of the service for all in attendance.
- No confetti, birdseed, rice, etc. may be thrown inside or outside the church.

Fees for nonmembers of Christ Church

- **The music director's** fee is \$100, covering planning, rehearsal, and wedding ceremony.
- **The building use fee** is \$300, to be applied to building and property funds.
- **Cleaning fee** is \$50.

All fees are due to the church office two weeks before the wedding.

Checks to the church should be payable to **Christ Episcopal Church**.

Check to the music director should be payable to **Reneé Borchert**.

The Vicar will not accept compensation for presiding at The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage held at Christ Church.

For further information, please contact the Vicar:

The Rev. Jerry Brooks
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845-231-3412

Tuesday, April 11, 2006

Filename: Church Wedding Policy