

*Christian Marriage  
at  
The Church of the Epiphany*



*To stand For Jesus Christ,  
grow together as God's family and  
make Him known through the power of the Holy Spirit*

## The Staff

The Rev. Robin Rauh, Rector

The Rev. Marion (Luke) Lucas, Associate Rector

Anne Bracy, Assistant to the Rector

Betsy Zimmermann, Parish Secretary

Jimmy Crawford, Director of Music

Please contact the following people, once you have had your meeting with the priest and the wedding date has been established.

Jimmy Crawford, Director of Music  
jcrawford@His-Star.org  
703-481-8601 Ext. 114

Greg Conrad, Sound Ministry  
(703) 378-7715

## **Altar Guild**

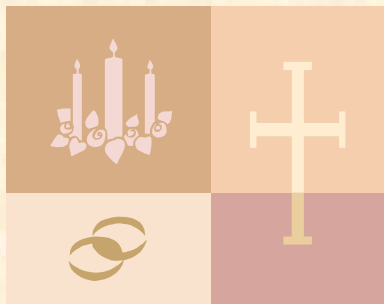
Ginny Roberts, Wedding Chairman	703-968-8751
Margaret Stromberg, Altar Guild Chairman	703-327-0766

## General Information

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is something we honor, and the Wedding Liturgy is a Worship Service. Generally, only those who are active members of the Church of the Epiphany may arrange a wedding here. Please take note of the following information:

- Normally, a priest of this parish will officiate at all weddings.
- Other clergy, either of the Anglican Church or of other Christian denominations who have a special relationship with either the bride or groom may be invited to assist in the service by the Rector. The Rector or officiating priest should be consulted before communicating with other clergy regarding the wedding.
- Requests to be married should be made of the clergy at least 6 months before the contemplated marriage date. When a divorced person seeks to be married by a priest, the priest must complete special applications, and the Bishop must be petitioned.
- Please make no announcement of your marriage in the church until you have consulted with the Rector and the date has been entered on the church calendar.
- *Weddings are not scheduled during the seasons of Advent or Lent, including Holy Week.* Weddings scheduled between Christmas and Epiphany will usually have the Christmas decorations remaining.
- To avoid possible conflict, complication and confusion, the church will normally schedule only one wedding per day.
- Following your initial consultation with the priest, you should meet with the Minister of Music and the Wedding Chairman as early as possible.

- Epiphany's Wedding Chairman and members of the Altar Guild will assist in planning for the appropriate use of flowers, candles, acolytes, and other details such as table set-up for guest book, gifts, etc. Please contact them before engaging a florist or wedding consultant.
- A representative from the Altar Guild needs to be present when floral arrangers are working in the church. Epiphany's Wedding Chairman will be at the rehearsal and the wedding to assist the bride and to help coordinate all the details of the liturgy. The church will be open two hours before the service.
- Floral arrangements on the Holy Table are generally left for the Sunday morning Worship Service. Please do not use artificial flowers.
- Floor runners may not be used.
- Rice or confetti is not permitted at any time, however, bird seed or bubbles may be used, but only outside the church.
- Epiphany does not permit smoking or alcohol to be consumed anywhere on its property.



## Pre-marital Counseling

The Canons of the Anglican Church require that the parties of the marriage shall be instructed "as to the nature of Holy Matrimony." This will be done through the Marriage Mentors Program. A mentor couple will be assigned to the engaged couple and the officiating priest will participate.

The canons also require the parties to sign the following Declaration of Intention:

"We (name) and (name), desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of husband and wife as it is set forth in the Form of Solemnization of Holy Matrimony in the Book of Common Prayer.

"We believe it is for the purpose of mutual fellowship, encouragement and understanding, for the procreation (if it may be) of children, and their physical and spiritual nurture, for the safeguarding and benefit of society.

"And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God's help thereto."

"God has instituted marriage to be a life-long union of husband and wife, intended for their mutual joy, help and comfort; for the procreation and nurture of godly children; and for the blessing of society. Therefore we require any man or woman seeking to be united in the Covenant of Marriage, to participate in an appropriate period of premarital preparation, which, in the case of those living together out of wedlock, we require them to separate and honor each other until marriage and live in an accountable way until that time."

# THE SERVICE

The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage from the Book of Common Prayer (pages 423-436) is used in the Anglican Church under the guidance of the officiating priest. The couple may choose specific readings and prayers from those options presented in the Prayer Book. No personally composed or other services may be used.

The Parish Office generally does not print wedding bulletins however, copies of bulletins used by couples previously married at Epiphany are available for you to review.

## SCRIPTURES

Please choose from the following passages for Scripture readings.

### Old Testament:

Genesis 1:26-28 (Male and female he created them)

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-24 (A man cleaves to his wife and they shall become one flesh)

Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6-7 (Many waters cannot quench love)

Tobit 8:5b-8 (New English Bible) (That she and I may grow old together)

### Psalm:

Psalm 67, 127, or 128

### New Testament:

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (Love is patient and kind)

Ephesians 3:14-19 (The Father from whom every family is named)

Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33 (Walk in love, as Christ loved us)

Colossians 3:12-17 (Love which binds everything together in harmony)

1 John 4:7-16 (Let us love one another for love is of God)

### Gospel:

Matthew 5:1-10 (The Beatitudes)

Matthew 5:13-16 (You are the light, Let your light so shine)

Matthew 7:21,24-29 (Like a wise man who built his house upon the rock)

Mark 10:6-9, 13-16 (They are no longer two but one)

John 15:9-12 (Love one another as I have loved you)

## HOLY COMMUNION

The Anglican Church offers the bride and groom the opportunity to receive Holy Communion as part of the marriage liturgy. The Book of Common Prayer provides a special Collect, Epistle and Gospel for this a nuptial celebration of the Holy Eucharist. All guests who are baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament during the wedding ceremony in an Anglican Church.

## MUSIC

Since in the Anglican Church a wedding is primarily an act of Christian worship, it is important to understand that all music used at weddings, which are celebrated at the Church of the Epiphany, must support the sacramental nature of Holy Matrimony. Therefore, no secular music is permitted at weddings celebrated in this parish; only sacred music may be used. Part of the Music Minister's responsibility is to meet with and advise the bridal couple on the selection of music appropriate for Christian worship. If the bride wants to bring in her own musician, she must first contact Epiphany's Music Minister for approval of the selection of music.

## REHEARSALS

Rehearsals of weddings are entirely under the direction of the priest officiating at the service. Generally, rehearsals will be scheduled at 5:30 p.m. on the evening before the wedding. The Altar Guild and the Wedding Chairman, as necessary, will assist the priest. All members of the wedding party, as well as other participants such as readers, soloists, or other musicians, need to be present at the rehearsal.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Because the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is a sacred event in the life of the man and woman, photographs are generally not permitted during the liturgy, except for a professional who may take time exposure pictures from the rear of the church. The photographer may take flash pictures only as the wedding party is processing in and recessing out. Please, no flash photography during the service. Video cameras may be used, discretely, under the direction of, and with prior approval of the Rector.

The photographer needs to check in with the officiating priest 30 minutes before the wedding. Photography should be completed by 1 hour

before the service, and within 30 minutes following the service. All significant moments in the wedding can be recreated after the liturgy. If pictures are requested with the priest, please take these first, then the family pictures. Check with the Wedding Chairman before moving any chairs in the Sanctuary.

## **DRESSING ROOMS**

Dressing rooms may be arranged for the bride and her attendants, and for the groom and his best man. The bridal party should plan to arrive at the church approximately one and a half hours before the ceremony. Please leave the rooms in good order. You are reminded that Epiphany does not permit smoking or alcohol to be consumed anywhere on its property.

## **USHERS**

The ushers and/or groomsmen need to be available for usher duties 30 minutes before the start of the ceremony. Please have them available to hand out bulletins and to escort the guests to their seats. Please think about who will escort the special family members.

## **DECORATIONS**

Please let the Wedding Chairman know the name of your florist, and have your florist consult with the Chairman about flower arrangements. Please keep decorations simple and in good taste. No arrangements may be placed on the floor or in the aisles.

## **RECEIVING LINE**

We recommend that the receiving line be set up at the place of the reception, not outside the church immediately following the wedding.

## **FEES**

There is no fee for the use of church facilities. If it is your desire to make a contribution, gifts can be given to "The Church of the Epiphany" and can be designated to the Rector's Discretionary Fund, the Music Ministry, or the Altar Guild. Please indicate your intentions, if specific, on the memo line of your check (payable to The Church of the Epiphany).

Fees are incurred to cover the cost of the following:

- Music Director: Base Fee - \$275.00 (includes one rehearsal with soloist(s) and/or instrumentalist(s); additional rehearsals are \$25.00 each)
- Soloist(s), vocal ensembles, instrumentalist(s): as agreed to by you
- Unity Candle: \$45.00 (Note: Use is at the discretion of the presiding Priest.)

Please pay directly to the individuals involved, one week in advance. Please make the check for candles payable to The Church of the Epiphany Altar Guild. Checks may be given to the Parish Secretary in the church office for distribution.

**The order for printing a  
Service Bulletin for the  
Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage**

Prelude Music

Seating of the Mothers (music)

Ringing the bell, if desired

Processional

Opening Address

Declaration of Consent

The Ministry of the Word

The First Lesson

Psalm

The Second Lesson:

Hymn

The Gospel:

Homily

The Marriage

The Prayers

The Blessing of the Marriage

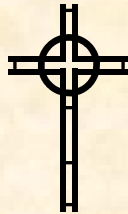
The Peace

Communion

Recessional

# Wedding Planning Reminders

Item	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Meet w/ Rector	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communion?	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Establish Date/Calendar	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Meet w/ Music Director	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Meet w/Wedding Chair	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Rehearsal/Date/Time	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Service Bulletin	_____
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*Church of the Epiphany—Anglican*

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Herndon, VA 20171

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[www.epiphany-herndon.org](http://www.epiphany-herndon.org)

The Rev. Robin Rauh, Rector

The Rev. Luke Lucas, Associate Rector

The Rev. David Welch, Parish Deacon