

# Getting Married



**St. Andrew's Cronulla**  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

# Congratulations!

At St. Andrew's, we care about great weddings. But we care even more about great marriages. This means that we won't just do everything we can to make your wedding day as special as possible. We'll also do everything we can, as your wedding draws near, to make your marriage as healthy as possible.

For example, we take all our wedding couples through Preparation Day. This incorporates the widely respected [PREPARE-ENRICH](#) couple assessment tool, as well as four modules of teaching from God's Word, the Bible. After all, God created marriage! And as couples married at St. Andrew's have found time and time again, the things God's word has to say about marriage are just as relevant and helpful in the 21<sup>st</sup> century as they've ever been.

But these things lie ahead. For now, please read through this document, then complete the attached 'Wedding Planner', and return it by email, mail or in person to our church office. Once you've done that, we'll get in touch to let you know when our next Marriage Preparation Day will be taking place.

## Steps Toward Your Wedding

Here's what needs to happen before you get married at St. Andrew's:

- ❑ [Reserve a date through the church office.](#) A date may be held for 21 days, during which time a non-refundable deposit of \$50 needs to be paid to the office (by cash, cheque or electronic transfer) to make the booking permanent (pending your meeting with one of our ministers, and your completion of Part I of the Wedding Planner attached to this document).

Electronic Transfer Details  
St. Andrew's Anglican Church Cronulla  
BSB: 704-998 /ACC 100007280  
(Receipts available upon request)

- ❑ [Meet with one of our ministers.](#) Usually, wedding couples arrange to meet with one of our ministers before or after one of our Sunday services. Both parties will need to bring along their birth certificates or foreign passports to this meeting, to fulfil legal requirements (as well as any divorce papers, if that is an issue).

- ❑ **Complete the attached 'Wedding Planner'.** Part I needs to be completed before your wedding booking can be confirmed. Part II is your opportunity to express your preferences about certain elements of your ceremony (e.g. music, decorations, Bible readings), and it needs to be completed at least one month before your wedding. Please note that all requests made on the Wedding Planner are subject to your minister's approval.
- ❑ **Pay the balance of your donation.** Along with applicable fees (for things like the organist, or the orders of service—see below).
- ❑ **Attend one of our Marriage Preparation days.** We run one of these every few months on a Saturday, from 9:30am-3:30pm (our office will let you know when the next one is taking place). At least one week prior to your Marriage Preparation day, you will need to complete the PREPARE-ENRICH Questionnaire online (you will receive an email explaining how to do this, and how to pay the \$33 processing fee to the PREPARE-ENRICH organisation).
- ❑ **Attend your wedding rehearsal.** Along with your bridal party, and anyone else who has a key role in your wedding. Your minister will confirm the date and time of the rehearsal with you (it's usually a day or two before the wedding).
- ❑ **Get married!** We expect the groom to get to St. Andrew's at least 20 minutes before the service, and we expect the bride to arrive on time. Then, you can leave the rest to us (and to God!)

In addition to these things, we invite (but do not require) wedding couples to come along to our Sunday services, during the period of their engagement (and after they get married, for that matter). Especially since you'll be getting married 'in the sight of God'—why not get to know God better, in this significant stage of your lives?

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How much does it cost to get married at St Andrew's?

We request a donation of \$1000. This is not a payment to the Rector (who is paid by the church) but a contribution to the ministry and operational costs of St. Andrew's. We also offer certain optional services, which attract their own specific costs. These are as follows:

- Refundable Cleaning Deposit\*           \$250
- Church Organist                           \$100
- Hall hire                                     \$70 / hour
- B/W Orders of Service                 \$25 / 50
- Colour Orders                             \$30 / 50

\*The Refundable Cleaning Deposit is only required when an alternate minister (not from St. Andrew's) conducts the wedding service.

### On which days can we get married at St. Andrew's?

Weddings at St. Andrew's usually take place on Fridays and Saturdays. They can take place on other days, subject to the minister's availability. Apart from very exceptional circumstances, we do not have weddings on Sundays (when we have our regular services) or on Good Friday.

### How long will our wedding actually take?

Somewhere between 30 and 45 minutes. A key factor will be whether or not your wedding includes congregational singing. Having said that, for planning purposes you should assume that your wedding will take at least an hour, in case of any unforeseen delays. Please note that your minister cannot 'trim' the service to make it shorter than it currently is.

### How many people can be seated in the church building?

170 comfortably. Up to 220 with additional seating.

### Can we appoint our own musicians, or use a CD or MP3 player?

Yes. Our sound system can play CDs, and it has MP3 input via a headphone jack. Please indicate your musical preferences on the

attached wedding planner. And if you'll be using a CD or an MP3 player, be sure to bring it to the rehearsal, to make sure it works!

### Where will everyone park?

The wedding vehicles are allowed to park out the front of the church building, on the Kingsway. Please be aware that any vehicle not identifiable as a wedding car may attract an infringement notice.

As for your guests, you should inform them that parking can be difficult in this area so they can plan their journey accordingly. Some [parking](#) is available in the surrounding streets, or at the Cronulla Plaza Shopping Centre (which has two to four hour parking limits).

### When can we look around the inside of the church building?

- During your appointment with the minister.
- Before or after any of our Sunday services.
- From 9:30am-12:00pm weekdays (excluding Wednesday) when our Parish Administrator can let you inside the building.

### Are our guests allowed to throw confetti / rice / flower petals?

We only allow flower petals to be thrown, and only outside the church building. Having said that, if your guests are going to do anything of this nature, our preference is for them to blow bubbles around you.

### Can we bring in our own minister to conduct our wedding?

If he is not an Anglican Minister in the Diocese of Sydney, we need our Bishop's approval before he can conduct your wedding here. For this to be granted, our Senior Minister and Parish Council will need to give their consent. This process will be expedited if you are able to provide a Christian belief-statement to which your minister subscribes.

### Can we write our own vows / choose non-Biblical readings?

Legally, the ministers here are only permitted to solemnise a marriage using the official rites of the Anglican Church (this includes the vows). Having said that, we offers a number of different versions of these rites, from the highly traditional [1662 Book of Common Prayer](#) marriage service to the contemporary service in our [2012 Prayer Book](#).

## What if one of us is (or both of us are) divorced?

The Anglican Church of Australia allows divorced persons to marry, subject to our Bishop's approval. For this to be granted, we will need copies of the relevant divorce papers. Also, one of our ministers will need to take you through a confidential questionnaire, with a view to determining the reason(s) their previous marriage ended.

We appreciate that this can be uncomfortable, but we are committed to doing everything we can to help people avoid repeating mistakes of the past. We are also committed to letting everyone know about the grace and acceptance that God offers to all people, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Hopefully you will recognize these attitudes in your minister, as you discuss your previous marriage(s) with him.

# Wedding Planner • Part I (\* personal details as exactly shown on birth certificates)

This page to be emailed in as soon as possible to secure date

Wedding Day and Date	Wedding Time
Rehearsal Day and Date	Rehearsal Time

	Groom	Bride
Surname *		
Given Names *		
Address		
Address After Marriage		
Phone *		
Email		
Place of Birth *		
Birth Cert. Number *		
Father's Full Name *		
Mother's Full Name * Maiden Name *		
Occupation		
Marital Status	Never Validly Divorced Widowed	
Denomination		

# Wedding Planner • Part II

These pages to be emailed in at least one month prior to wedding date

	Groomsmen	Bridesmaids
Bridal Party (Include Roles, e.g. Best Man, Maid of Honour)	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
Chief Ushers	1.	2.
Music Provision	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Andrew's Organist <input type="checkbox"/> CD / MP3 Player <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Processional Music		
Congregational Songs	1.	2. 3.
Bible Readings	1.	2.
Bible Readers	1.	2.
Prayer Leader	<input type="checkbox"/> The Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Registry Signing Music		
Witnesses	1.	2.
Recessional Music		
Bell Ringer	<input type="checkbox"/> The Minister	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____



## Additional Details

Please indicate which of the following items you'd like St. Andrew's to take care of. Please remember that there is a charge for the orders of service (to cover printing and administration costs). There is no charge for artificial flowers or pew ends.

<input type="checkbox"/> Artificial Flowers	Colour Preference: _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pew Ends	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrangeas	<input type="checkbox"/> Lily	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple Ribbon
<input type="checkbox"/> Orders of Service	Colour Preference: _____		

## Alternate Minister Nomination Form

Full Name		Phone	
Denomination		Email	
Celebrant #		Address	
Reason for Alternate Minister			