

Trinity Church of Lime Rock

484 Lime Rock Rd.

Lakeville, Connecticut 06039

860.435.2627

vicar@trinitylimerock.org

Information Concerning the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Thank you for considering Trinity Church as the venue for your reception of the sacrament of Holy Matrimony. While we will engage in every effort to satisfy the expectations of the couple, there are some realities concerning both sacramental liturgy and its conveyance of which you should be aware:

1. The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Connecticut require pre-marital counseling. This counseling is organized by the vicar of Trinity Church and must be satisfactorily completed before the confirmation of the wedding date. Most counseling offered through Trinity Church is conducted by a professional marriage counselor/therapist on our extended staff. The cost of pre-marital counseling is \$300.
2. As the couple has requested to receive the sacrament of Holy Matrimony in the Episcopal Church, the liturgy will be organized according to the Book of Common Prayer. It is in the best interest of the couple that they familiarize themselves with the expectations and guidelines found in the Prayer Book beginning on page 423.
3. All liturgies at Trinity Church are officiated by the vicar of the parish. While other clergy and trained laity may participate, it is the vicar who is the officiant of record. The services of Trinity Church's vicar are offered without a required fee.
4. Only sacred or similar music may be offered as part of the sacramental liturgy. Broadway show tunes and pop music are best suited for the reception. Trinity Church's music director is to organize the liturgical music and any arrangements with ancillary musicians. The music director is to be paid a minimum of \$200, depending on the complexity of the music and the number of other musicians. It is advised that the couple be in direct contact with Trinity's music director as soon as is feasible.
5. The sacramental liturgy is organized by the couple in consultation with the vicar, who has the final say in all arrangements. The vicar does not work with wedding planners, family members, or interested friends.
6. A rehearsal will be scheduled at a date close to that of the sacramental liturgy. All those who have a role in the liturgy will be expected to attend.

7. Flash photography is not permitted after the entrance of the bride during the sacramental liturgy. Cell phone cameras are not to be used by the wedding party during the wedding ceremony. Videographers may record the liturgy as long as they remain at a fixed station during the course of the wedding service. The same holds true for photographers using the non-flash option with their cameras. Any of the significant moments of the sacramental liturgy may be re-staged after the conclusion of the ceremony, if that is desired.
8. The marriage license and payment of all fees are to be submitted to the vicar of Trinity Church no later than the conclusion of the rehearsal. The wedding will not proceed until these items have been received.
9. Unless either the bride or groom is a communicant in good standing of Trinity Church, there will be a tax-deductible donation of no less than \$200 to the Trinity Church Discretionary Fund.
10. Any other services, such as the creation of programs for the ceremony, special floral arrangements or physical additions to the worship space will be negotiated separately and, in some cases, will incur an additional cost. The sexton of Trinity Church will clean the sanctuary before and after the ceremony. A fee of \$75 is charged for the sexton's service.

If you have any questions about these ten points, please feel free to call Trinity's vicar directly at the parish office. The number is 860.435.2627. If you have read through these points and understand them, on one copy of this document please affix your signatures to the proper spaces below and return it at your first meeting with the vicar.

We look forward to meeting with you and organizing the counseling and other preparatory items for the celebration to come. The congregation of Trinity Church will begin to offer prayers of thanksgiving for your sacramental union as of this coming Sunday.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Robert P. Clements

Signature of Groom

Signature of Bride

Groom's Name [Printed]

Bride's Name [Printed]

Date: _____