

*Congratulations on your decision to commit your lives to each other with God's help. May you be blessed as you prepare for holy matrimony.*

This leaflet will assist you in planning your wedding. We are pleased that you are considering celebrating your marriage in the Christian faith, and St. Timothy's will support you before, during, and after the wedding. Our priest is available for counsel and assistance as part of your marriage preparation program. Our church family will pray for you and offer you help, guidance, and a loving community in which to grow together in love.

Brides and grooms wishing to view the worship space are requested to do so on Sunday mornings at the 10 am Eucharist service. Your wedding is a service of worship held in this particular faith community. You are therefore encouraged to participate in the devotion and service of Saint Timothy's from the time of your interview regarding your wedding here.

### **BAPTISM**

Ministers of religion are licensed by the Provincial Government to perform marriages for members of their faith community. In a Christian context, membership begins with baptism into the Body of Christ. In Church law, one or both of the partners seeking marriage in an Anglican Church must be baptized.

### **RESERVING THE WEDDING DATE AND TIME**

All weddings are reserved through the priest. Please be sure to notify the Office Assistant of any change of telephone number or address so that she may be able to

contact you. The church is confirmed for a particular wedding date once marriage preparation details have been agreed upon.

### **MARRIAGE LICENCE**

In British Columbia, before two people can be married, a license must be obtained. Contact the Vancouver Vital Statistics Office at 250-605 Robson Street, Vancouver (Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm) or phone 1-250-952-2681. Licences are valid for three months after they are issued.

### **REMARRIAGE IN THE ANGLICAN CHURCH**

Divorced persons may be remarried in the Anglican Church. In the case of a previous divorce of one or both partners, the Church requires both legal verification of the divorce and evidence that the couple have thought seriously about the factors which resulted in the breakdown of the former marriage. This counselling process is carried on in discussion with the priest and with emphasis on particular issues of interest such as sharing finances and assets, blended families, and adult children.

### **SAME SEX BLESSINGS**

Saint Timothy's Anglican Church is a welcoming and inclusive community which celebrates the diversity of God's gifts. However, it is not an authorized parish for the rite of blessing a same sex relationship. We would be happy to support you as you explore your relationship or to refer you to an Anglican parish that is authorised to perform a blessing.

### **LEGAL AGE AND KINSHIP**

For those under nineteen years of age, a consent form signed by both parents or guardians is required and must be presented at the time of applying for the license. In cases where one parent has sole guardianship, only that parent needs to sign the form. There are Christian prohibitions about marrying a person who is closely related to you. Please speak to the priest.

### **MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM**

All couples married in the Church are required to seek appropriate preparation. This will usually entail several meetings with the priest, completion of a "Marriage Project" workshop, and a rehearsal of the wedding a week prior to the date.

### **MUSIC**

If you would like music at your wedding, our church musician can provide this service on organ and/or piano. The honorarium for the musician is included in the fee structure. Soloists can be arranged. If you decide to have family or friends help with the music for your service, they are welcome to meet with the musician. Our Church musician should be contacted at least one month before the wedding to make arrangements and discuss appropriate music. Ms. Kirsten Oldale can be reached through the Parish Office.

### **FLOWERS**

Decoration of the church is arranged by contacting Saint Timothy's Altar Guild at least one month before the wedding. The honorarium for the Altar Guild is

included in the fee structure. The Altar Guild will put up candle stanchions and church pew bows on request. Any flower arrangements are to be provided by the wedding party, and may be delivered to the church on the date with prior consultation. These may be removed from the church after the service or remain as a thanksgiving for the following Sunday service.

#### **PEW MARKERS AND CANDLE STANCHIONS**

Pew markers are available in white only. If special colours are required, they are to be provided by the wedding party. Candle stanchions are available by special request to line the aisles. Please prearrange.

#### **PICTURES**

Pictures may be taken before the ceremony and at the entrance of the bridal party, during the signing of the register, and as the bridal party leaves the church. No flash photography during the actual ceremony, please. Arrangements for videotaping the ceremony must be made with the priest prior to the date. Please advise your wedding photographer of these requirements.

#### **CONFETTI ETC.**

Confetti, rice, birdseed, etc may not be thrown inside the church or on the church grounds. Bubbles are allowed outside the church buildings only. You are asked to pass this information on to your family and friends.

#### **MARRIAGE FEE SCHEDULE**

Fee	\$600, to be distributed as follows (separate cheques or envelopes):
church	\$200 The Parish of St. Timothy
priest	\$150 The Rev. Stephanie Shepard
musician	\$150 Ms. Kirsten Oldale
Altar Guild	\$100 St. Timothy Altar Guild

#### **THE PARISH OF SAINT TIMOTHY**

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# **YOUR WEDDING AT SAINT TIMOTHY'S**



A Parish of the Anglican Church of Canada,  
Diocese of New Westminster