

# A Wedding at St George's Anglican Church, Epsom



*Thank you for your inquiry about being married at St George's. We are delighted that you are considering our beautiful church building. Your marriage will surely be one of the greatest occasions of your life and St George's is a beautiful setting for such a memorable event.*

*A Christian wedding is a really important occasion. During the service you will commit yourself to each other and seek God's help to enable you to follow the promises you make as you commit to continuing to love each other. What really makes a marriage is your ongoing commitment to love each other and your dependence upon God's presence with you both in that loving relationship.*

**St George's**  
EPSOM

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# THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

## Booking

This needs to be arranged as early as possible. Ring the parish office to find out if the church is available. To book the church, please return the enclosed booking form along with the deposit payment of \$300.

**Note:** There can be more than one wedding booked on a day; **start** times for weddings are booked at least four hours apart.

## Who can take your Wedding?

We are quite happy, in principle, for you to have your own Pastor or Minister to conduct your wedding. Otherwise one of our local clergy would be happy to lead your service.

## Marriage Preparation Course

The person taking the service will want to meet with you both, to plan the ceremony and to discuss your commitment to each other. They will provide ideas to help you plan your wedding service. Taking time out to reflect on your relationship is a vital part of preparing for marriage; therefore we ask all couples who are getting married at St George's to participate in **marriage preparation sessions** to discuss aspects of sharing your lives together. If you are being married by a priest or minister from another denomination, **we do require confirmation this has been completed**. If you are being married by a priest from St George's, you will be expected to participate in a five week Marriage Preparation Course. Please contact the parish office for upcoming dates or there is an online course you can take, the link is <https://www.alpha.org.nz/the-marriage-courses/>

## Organist/Music

We have a church organist, ask the office for their details, they are often available to play at weddings, contact the office for their details. You may also use Spotify or bring your own musicians.

## Sound & Other Equipment

The church provides a sound desk operator for basic sound desk duties. If you require anything more please discuss it with us at least two weeks prior to the service.

St George's is more than happy for you to use our music equipment.

**Note:** For wedding musicians, all equipment must be left exactly as found. No wires need to be changed or dismantled in any way.

## Licence

You are required to obtain a **Marriage Licence** from the Justice Department (The Department of Internal Affairs), Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages. The Marriage Licence and Particulars of Marriage **must be** sent (via email) to St George's **two weeks** before the service.

**Note:** A licence takes at least four working days to be processed by the government department.

## Buildings & Furniture

We ask that you respect the building and its layout. Furniture or other items may not be moved without the permission of the vicar or our wedding co-ordinator. **Tape, Blu-tack & pins are not permitted on pews or any wooden surfaces.**

## Confetti

We request that you **do not** use confetti or rice at all, but fresh flower petals or bio-degradable confetti **outside** are permitted.

## Rehearsal

To book a wedding rehearsal (which usually takes up to one hour), arrange a time with the office (and your minister). The latest time in the day for a rehearsal is 6pm. Everyone and everything taking part in your ceremony should attend. You are welcome to decorate the church before the rehearsal or the afternoon before the wedding, during our office hours.

## Flowers and Decorations

You are welcome to organise a florist to supply and arrange flowers for you. St George's can also provide a display of white flowers which are to be left in the church for our Sunday service. If there is another wedding on the same day you may organise to share flowers with them. Otherwise, flowers will need to be set up after the previous wedding. If it is possible that one floral arrangement can be left in the church for our Sunday service, it would be very much appreciated.

Please advise the office whether or not you are providing floral arrangements for your wedding and book a time for your florist to be able to enter the church during office hours; Monday to Friday, 9am-2.30pm. Some stands and vases are available for use, but **must not** be taken from the church.

You are welcome to use the window boxes and/or use pew decorations; however, **you must not use sticky tape, Blu-tack or pins** on any timber surfaces. Damage caused by using these will be repaired at your expense. Candles may only be used on the tables in the altar area of the church. USB or battery candles can be used anywhere in the church.

## Front of the Church

From time to time St George's church is decorated in special ways, particularly during seasons like Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas. This means there may be special visual installations in the church (banners, sculptures, pictures, a large Christmas tree etc.) which may not be there at other times. When you confirm a wedding booking, we will let you know if we think there may be any special decorations in the church at the time of your wedding. These decorations cannot always be easily removed, so they may need to remain visible in the church. The Tree of Life at the back of the altar cannot be removed, but can be covered up.

### ***As you consider your wedding we invite you to:***

- *Worship with us on a Sunday at 10am.*
- *Attend an Alpha Marriage Preparation Course. Check with the office for when the next course is taking place.*

## Costs

### Church Costs (including rehearsal)

**\$1,200—(Including GST)**

To book your wedding a \$300 deposit is required (refundable three or more months prior to your wedding). You can make payment via internet banking, a/c #: **03 0104 0109844 00.**

Please use your “**your last name**” and “**WEDDING**” as the reference. Once the completed booking form and your deposit have been received your wedding booking is confirmed and a letter sent.

The \$900 balance payment is due two weeks prior to your wedding, please use the same account and reference. Eftpos is available if required.

### St George's Livestream

St George's offers a Livestream service for \$200 + GST, contact the office for more details.

### Organist Fee

Only payable if you use the church organist, Discuss availability and cost with them directly. Contact the office for more details.

### St George's Flowers

We can arrange a large display of white flowers for \$200 per display. We ask that one arrangement is left in the church after your wedding for our Sunday service. Payment is to be made directly to the flower lady. Contact the office for more details.

### St. George's Hall Hire

Our hall facilities are available for hire at a rate of \$60 + GST per hour. Contact the office for more details and availability.

- *Talk with a member of the church or staff about anything that would help you prepare for your wedding and your life together.*
- *Have your service led by your own minister if you regularly attend another Christian church; otherwise one of our priests would be happy to lead your service.*