

**GUIDELINES FOR WEDDINGS AT
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
307 Federal Street / P.O. Box 441
Milton, Delaware 19968**

The Rector and Congregation of the historic Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist are happy and thankful that you are planning to celebrate with us a most significant milestone in your life: your Wedding. The guidelines which follow are intended to assist in making this sacred moment the best, happiest, and most memorable moment it can be. First and foremost a Christian Wedding is a religious Service of Worship, solemn and holy, to be approached reverently.

GUIDELINES:

1. The Rector at St. John the Baptist should be notified immediately after you decide to be married at St. John the Baptist, ideally at least six (6) months before the date contemplated. The Rector can advise you as to the Church's availability and then secure the date. The Rector is available to meet with you, answer initial questions you may have, and begin planning the Wedding Service. All plans are to be made in consultation with the Rector.

2. For those who are not members of The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, fees for using the sanctuary and staff are as follows:
 - Sanctuary \$200 (payable the day of scheduling)
 - Rector \$350
 - Minister of Music \$250
 - Sexton \$100.There are no fees if either spouse is a member of the congregation.

3. Flowers for the Altar, two (2) arrangements, must be purchased from the Church's florist, The Hillside Florist, 105 Lavinia Street, Milton, DE, 302-684-3553. No other flowers are permitted in the Altar area (Chancel). The Altar flowers may be left for Sunday Mass, if flowers have not already

been reserved, and can be dedicated by you for the bulletin. All other flowers for your Wedding can be supplied by a florist of your choosing. Flowers and/or bows may be placed at the end of each pew, but cannot be attached with pins or nails, but ribbon only.

4. The Minister of Music is available to discuss selections of music for Prelude, Processional, Hymns, Soloist(s), Recessional, and Postlude. If it is desirable that the Minister of Music be present at a rehearsal he/she must be informed as soon as possible and will rehearse with the Soloist(s) at that time. Secular music at Weddings will be used only with the approval of the Rector.
5. There is to be no movement of photographers or videographers during the Wedding Service, and flash photography is not permitted. The photographer may take as many pictures as desired following the Wedding Ceremony.
6. The Holy Communion may be celebrated at your Wedding, but all worshippers present will be invited to receive the Blessed Sacrament.
7. The Parish Hall can be closed off and used for dressing by the wedding party. All your things, i.e. bows, flowers, corsage boxes, wrappings, etc. must be removed from the Sanctuary and Parish Hall. If not, an additional fee of \$25 will be charged by the Sexton.
8. The Parish Hall is available at a cost of \$200 for Wedding Receptions, but all food must be catered. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the Parish Hall. No rice or bird seed is to be thrown inside or outside the church.
9. A Marriage License can be secured in Delaware at the County Seat Courthouse of either Sussex, Kent, or New Castle. Please give the Rector the three copies of the Marriage License at the Wedding Rehearsal.

We sincerely hope you find these Guidelines informative and helpful to assure your Wedding Day will be a cherished memory!

Father Thomas White, Rector

Parish office – 302.684.8431

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