

WELCOME to Saint Brigid of Kildare's Catholic Church, served by the Scalabrinian Missionaries, one of the most significant carved blue stone Churches in Melbourne.

The Church was designed in the late 1860's by architect T.A Kelly, before being erected in 1870. Constructed in the Decorated Gothic Style, the blue-stone exterior of St Brigid's casts a striking silhouette against the surrounding skyline. Whilst the individual timber pews of the interior allow for a large congregation, from the outset St Brigid's is by no means a domineering church. The powerful blue-stone façade and unique symmetry of the architecture provide a setting of considered subtlety, the result is a church that will beautifully complement the bride and groom.

Inside, the church is graced with a myriad of exquisite details: high timber ceilings, hand paintings and breathtaking stained glass windows, make wonderful backdrops for the ceremony. One of the centre-pieces of the church is the beautifully restored organ. Built by Alfred Fuller, the organ has been a part of St Brigid's since 1886.

St Brigid's excellent central location makes it a convenient option for wedding day celebrations. The large surrounding grounds provide ample space for parking. We have seen many couples falling in love with St Brigid's gorgeous combination of rich history, striking architecture and great location. Indeed, our Church is one of prayerful, elegant and traditional venue for catholic ceremonies. It is a wonderful setting to celebrate love in a prayerful place.

As parish community, Saint Brigid's is a welcoming family where, besides the territorial parish, 4 migrant chaplaincies find their home: the Italian, Hispanic, Portuguese speaking and Filipino communities.

This strong inter-cultural focus of the parish, and the love of the multilingual Scalabrinian missionaries, makes it a welcoming venue for couples of many backgrounds wanting to celebrate their love keeping cultural traditions according to the rites of Catholic Church.

St Brigid's is not just a marvellous setting for your wedding but, above all, a sacred place of prayer where the sacraments are celebrated. As we congratulate you in your decision to receive the sacrament of Holy Matrimony, in this brochure we would like to offer some relevant and practical information.

1. Bookings

It is advisable to book the church at least 12 months in advance. A tentative booking can be made by calling 9489 6777. This booking will be cancelled if not confirmed within one month. All weddings are finally confirmed upon paying a non-refundable deposit of \$ 200.00

2. Marriage Preparation

The Scalabrinian Missionaries are available for weddings at St. Brigid's. However, you are most welcome to choose a priest known to you, provided that he has the proper faculties and has a number as registered minister of religion. If so, please ring the parish office to advise us of the name of your chosen priest. If you are being married by a priest from St. Brigid's, the parish secretary will inform you about the pre-marriage courses and the requested documents. If there has been a previous marriage or one of the parties is not a catholic, please inform about it before the confirmation of your booking. An appointment with the priest, not later than 3 months before the wedding, will be arranged to guide you accordingly.

3. Documents

- Full birth certificates (extracts are not acceptable).
- If catholic, recent baptismal certificates.
- If catholic, a letter of freedom or permission to marry from your local parish priest.
- If previously married, the full government marriage certificate and the evidence of dissolution (absolute decree of divorce) /nullity.
- If widow or widower, the appropriate death certificate.



4. Music

Marriage is a sacred event, appropriate preparation and respect for the liturgy is requested. The music you choose must illustrate the sacredness of the celebration. Therefore, the sacred nature of the marriage ceremony is reflected in the music of the service and the hymns must be approved by the celebrant.



5. Confetti

The throwing of confetti, rose petals or rice in the church or surroundings grounds is not permitted. Wedding bubbles are permitted outside the church.

6. Photographs and Videos

Photographers are welcome and video recording is permitted. Mindful that we are in a sacred place, we request respect and to be as unobtrusive as possible.

7. Bell

The pealing of the church bell brings solemnity and charm to your wedding. Arrangements can be made with the parish secretary. The bell is normally rung when the wedding party emerges from the church at the end of the service. An extra fee of \$100 is to be paid.

8. Flowers and Pew Ribbons

Flowers and pew ribbons for church services are provided by the church. However, special requests for extra flowers or decorations may be considered.



9. Offering

The total fee is \$700 which includes church fees, government fees, donation to the celebrant, flowers and ribbons. Final payment must be done before or at the wedding rehearsal.

10. Wedding Rehearsal

A booking is to be made with the celebrant and the parish secretary according to the availability of the church. Usually the 30 minutes rehearsal is held one week or few days before the wedding.

11. Punctuality

Brides are expected to arrive on time. A delay of more than 10 minutes is unacceptable since it causes serious inconvenience to your guests and to the next wedding party. A delayed start may result in a shortened ceremony and restricted music and photography.

Blessing for Engaged Couples

May your love nourish the dreams
you share.

May your lives be long and filled with joy.

May you bathe in the love of
your children and their children.

May you come at last into the
Kingdom of love,

which the Lord, in his goodness,
has prepared for you.

And may the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
animate your lives today
and for all time.

Amen



**Any further information
please contact our Parish office.**

Celebrating Your Marriage At

St. Brigid's Catholic Church

North Fitzroy



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