

# Sacrament of Matrimony



## Marriage

Wedding ceremonies in the Catholic Parish of St Mary of the Cross, Mordialloc and Aspendale can be conducted at either St Brigid's Church, Mordialloc or St Louis de Montfort Church, Aspendale. Couples who are considering holding their wedding ceremony should first contact the Parish Office on (03 9580 7981) to ensure that the church is available on the day they have chosen.

**Six months minimum notice is preferred for wedding bookings.**

We invite you to read the following information which will help answer some questions you may have.

### The Sacrament of Matrimony

Marriage is a divine calling by which a man and a woman give themselves to each other in a life-long partnership. It is an opportunity to experience the beauty of human love, a love that mirrors the love of God.

*Australian Catholic Bishops Conference*

### Preparation for Marriage

Couples will be invited to discuss their wedding plans with our Parish Priest Father Andrew Jekot. You will be asked to participate in a Pre- Marriage Education Programme in addition to your appointments with Father Andrew. To determine which programme would suit you best please visit <https://www.ccam.org.au/page/24/pre-marriage-education-programs>

### Documents required

You will be required to produce the following documents at the first appointment:

- a) A birth certificate [full or extract]
- b) A certificate of Baptism for Catholic parties

### The Ceremony

Details of the marriage ceremony will be discussed by Father Andrew with you. The basic structure of the ceremony is determined by the rites of the Catholic Church but there are several parts of the ceremony where you will need to choose from the suggested alternatives. You can have a Nuptial Mass or a wedding service (no communion).

### Fees

The following are the fees for weddings in our churches:

- Church Fee: \$400. This is used entirely for the upkeep and maintenance of the church and grounds. This pays for the flowers that will be used in the church.
- Stole Fee: This fee is your contribution to the priest who celebrates your wedding. As a guideline, \$250 is considered a suitable fee for the time the priest dedicates to preparing a couple for and celebrating the wedding. If this causes any concern though, please telephone the Parish Office to discuss the matter with Father. It is worth noting that a civil celebrant receives in excess of \$450 for performing a wedding.

Payment of a deposit of \$100 confirms your booking of the church. It is fully refundable should for some reason the wedding not proceed and is payable at the time of booking.

**To book your wedding ceremony, please phone the Parish Office on 03 9580 7981**



Both of our Churches are wheelchair accessible