

WEDDING INFORMATION & APPLICATION



ST AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1318 Washington State Highway 532

Camano Island, WA 98282

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360-629-3969

www.staidancamanoisland.org

YOUR WEDDING AT ST AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

By now you have learned that there are few events in life that generate as much joy and excitement AND planning and anxiety as a wedding!

We want you to have the best wedding possible, but also honor the integrity of the marriage service as the sacramental rite that it is.

In these pages, you will find information we hope will help you plan a wedding that is beautiful and consistent with the liturgy of the Episcopal Church and the style of worship here at St Aidan's.

THREE MONTHS before the desired date of your wedding

1. Determine that at least one of you: 1) has been baptized 2) has been actively attending St Aidan's for at least six months prior to making your request (or is immediate family (child, parent, sibling) of an active member)
2. If either of you has been previously married, you will need to file a petition for remarriage to the office of the bishop. In such instances, the officiating priest must meet with you at least six (6) months prior to the wedding date to discuss the previous relationship(s). Canon law requires the consent of the Bishop of the Diocese for a new marriage to be made. A petition to the bishop, together with a letter from the officiating clergy person, should include the following information:
 - The full names of the parties to be married.
 - The names of the Episcopal congregation(s) in which the persons seeking to be married are active members.
 - The names of former spouses.
 - The dates of final divorce decrees involved.
 - If child support is to be paid, whether you are current in payment.
 - A statement concerning the reason for the failure of prior marriage(s).
 - A statement telling how and why this new relationship will be different.
 - A statement concerning the manner in which the couple intends to place God at the center of their marriage and home.

For a second marriage, a waiting period of one year from the date of final divorce decree is normally required. Your officiating clergy person will provide additional information and specific instructions on how to complete the petition process.

3. Contact the Church Secretary to set up an initial joint meeting with the vicar. (Note: Only St Aidan's clergy officiate weddings at St Aidan's. Other clergy are most welcome to assist.)

At this meeting, your application for marriage at St Aidan's will be reviewed, and upon approval by the vicar, the date and time of the wedding will be set. Because St Aidan's is a very active church we are not able to perform weddings at the following times:

- Days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Day
 - Thanksgiving week, including the Saturday before and after Thanksgiving
 - The week before and after Christmas Day, including New Year's Eve and New Year's Day
 - Memorial Day weekend
4. Schedule with the officiating priest, at least three, sixty-minute pre-marital counseling sessions. These pre-marital sessions offer valuable insight into the development of a healthy relationship.
 5. Schedule Reception and Honeymoon

TWO MONTHS before the wedding

1. Attend pre-marital counseling sessions with the priest.
2. Finalize music plans with the organist and priest.

ONE MONTH before the wedding

1. Complete pre-marital counseling sessions with the clergy.
2. Confirm with the vicar that a marriage license has been obtained.
3. Deliver all checks for fees to the church office.
4. Prepare your wedding bulletin
 - The church office can make and print a simple but elegant wedding bulletin for you.
 - Or you may design your own.
 - If you design your own bulletin you are responsible for printing and duplicating.
 - The officiating clergy will review the final draft of the bulletin *before* printing.
 - You may email a draft copy in PDF form directly to the vicar at drewfoisie@gmail.com
5. Notify the Church Secretary of rehearsal time.
 - Rehearsals are normally scheduled between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on the evening before the wedding.
 - The rehearsal will last one hour and be led by the priest only.
 - Because the wedding is a religious ceremony, the rehearsal is conducted by the clergy and a church wedding consultant (if available) only.
 - The entire bridal party including attendants, readers, ushers, and parents of the bridal couple are expected to be in attendance and arrive on time.

PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR YOUR WEDDING

WEDDING CONSULTANT

A member of St Aidan's Altar Guild can assist you in planning many details of your wedding, if available. She would attend your rehearsal and wedding, help arrange for the altar flowers, reserve family pews, direct the ushers in their duties, and assist in getting mothers seated and the procession started down the aisle.

In addition, she would be able to answer numerous questions relating to use of the church, wedding etiquette, and planning details - especially those related to the information that follows in this hand-out.

Outside wedding consultants (commercial or family friends) are neither necessary nor permitted to direct the wedding activities which take place inside the church. Naturally, you may invite anyone you wish to help with details at home or at the reception.

FLOWERS

The only flowers permitted for weddings (other than those carried or worn by the bridal party) are the altar flowers, which are placed in behind and above the altar. The flowers behind the altar are ordered through the St Aidan's Flower Guild. You may utilize the flowers that will naturally be there for Sunday at no cost, or choose custom colors for the Flower Guild to use in their arrangement. They will then be used for worship services on the Sunday after your wedding. The Flower Guild's normal arrangement is beautiful and will save you money, and assure that the flower arrangements are properly sized and shaped (since our flower guild knows through experience what looks best), and it will also help the church (flowers are often taken to the sick after Sunday services). Most requests for certain colors or types of flowers can be accommodated. You may also custom order your arrangements. They must fit on 1' x 1' shelves and you are responsible paying the florist directly and getting the arrangements to the church no later than the rehearsal.

DECORATIONS

The simplicity of the architecture and decoration of St Aidan's is part of its uniqueness and charm. Bows may be placed on the ends of pews/chairs reserved for the family and candles with hurricane globes may be placed in the windows for evening weddings. These items are supplied by the wedding party with the approval of the church. Decorations on the walls are not permitted.

NUMBER OF GUESTS AND SIZE OF BRIDAL PARTY

Guests: The church comfortably seats 125 guests (125-150 with additional folding chairs).

Bridal Party: Experience has taught that bridal parties are best limited to the bride and groom, the best man, the maid of honor, 3 groomsmen and 3 bridesmaids, totaling ten (10). More can be accommodated, but with increasing difficulty.

WEDDING PROGRAMS

You are welcome to have your own program made, though we ask you to take full responsibility for its design, proofing, and printing. Before printing we ask that you present your bulletin to the vicar so that liturgy is correct and reflects the service that will take place. We have several samples used at previous weddings. If you would like to see them, please call the church office (360-629-3969) for a convenient time to come in.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

A Marriage License must be obtained ahead of time in the City in which you reside. Licenses are currently valid for 60 days after their issuance. Photo IDs are required; blood tests are not. Please confirm with the clergy at one of your counseling sessions that you have obtained your license, but no later than at your rehearsal.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Please see "Photography Requirements for Weddings in St Aidan's Church," and provide a copy to your photographer, as well. We would also appreciate your placing the following notice in your program, if any: "Please refrain from flash photography during the wedding ceremony."

DIETEL HALL RECEPTION

St Aidan's fellowship hall (Dietel Hall) may be used, if available, for your reception. It is important that you call the church office (360-629-3969) as soon as possible to reserve this facility. Champagne or wine punch may be served, as long as all state laws regarding alcohol use are observed, and an equally attractive non-alcoholic alternative in equal quantity is served. Open bars or kegs of beer are NOT permitted. Smoking is not permitted inside the building or within 25 ft of the building. Please see "Catering Requirements for Receptions in St Aidan's Parish Hall", Pages 8 and 9, and provide a copy to your caterer, as well.

ST AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE MARRIAGE LITURGY

ORDER OF SERVICE

All weddings in St Aidan's Church will be celebrated according to the order for "The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage" in the Book of Common Prayer, page 423. This Rite does not include the use of unity candles.

BIBLE READINGS

Biblical lessons for the service may be selected from the list on page 426 of the Book of Common Prayer (also listed below). Up to three lessons and a psalm may be used, if desired. At least one lesson must be included. If you would like a friend or family member to read, please invite them to do so and have them attend the rehearsal.

Genesis 1:26-28 (Male and female he created them)

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-24 (A man cleaves to his wife and they become one flesh)

Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6-7 (Many waters cannot quench love)

Tobit 8:5b-8 (New English Bible) (That she and I may grow old together)

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (Love is patient and kind)

Ephesians 3:14-19 (The Father from whom every family is named)

Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33 (Walk in love, as Christ loved us)

Colossians 3:12-17 (Love which binds everything together in harmony)

1 John 4:7-16 (Let us love one another for love is of God)

Matthew 5:1-10 (The Beatitudes)

Matthew 5:13-16 (You are the light...Let your light so shine)

Matthew 7:21,24-29 (Like a wise man who built his house upon the rock)

Mark 10:6-9,13-16 (They are no longer two but one)

John 15:9-12 (Love one another as I have loved you)

Psalms 67, 127, or 128

HOLY EUCHARIST (HOLY COMMUNION)

A celebration of Holy Eucharist is not required, but is encouraged as part of the spiritual preparation of the bride and groom for Christian marriage. The most suitable time for this celebration is during the wedding service. Whenever the Holy Eucharist is celebrated the entire community present will be invited to receive the sacrament of bread and wine. (A limited invitation, for the marriage party only, in the presence of other wedding guests is not appropriate and is contrary to the spirit of the Eucharist). If the assembled community is predominately of mixed religious background it may be appropriate to forego Communion. If not, it would be most appropriate to have it.

PRAYERS

The prayers for your marriage (pp. 429-30, BCP) are written as a series of intercessions. (The prayer regarding the gift and heritage of children is optional.) Consider having these prayers read by various family members.

MUSIC

The church organist will play at all church member weddings. If the church organist is unavailable for your wedding, we will assist you in arranging for a qualified substitute to the extent possible. You are ultimately responsible for securing the organist. If you wish for additional instrumentalists or vocal soloists, please consult with the vicar and organist. The singing of congregational hymns during the service is highly encouraged. Since a wedding is a sacramental rite of the church (a worship service), the music should reflect a reverent atmosphere. The vicar must approve all music selections. "Popular" music and recorded music are prohibited at the wedding ceremony.

PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES FOR WEDDINGS

The main criterion for photography before, during, and after your wedding is that it not be distracting or obtrusive.

1. No flash photography may be used by anyone (commercial photographer or guests) during the wedding ceremony.
2. Non-flash photographs may be taken during the service from the back of the church or side aisles only, as long as there is no disruptive noise or movement.
3. Formal poses may be taken at the altar after the service, re-enacting what actually took place there.
4. Please limit your photo session after the service to 20 minutes. (This is desirable both out of respect for your reception guests and so that altar guild members may prepare the church for subsequent services.)

5. Video recording is permitted and encouraged. This may be done by a friend or a professional service. Cameras are not allowed inside the altar area.
6. The photographer should consult with the vicar and is encouraged to attend the rehearsal.

CATERING GUIDELINES FOR RECEPTION

1. Caterer must furnish own tablecloths, candles, table decorations, and any cookware which is required.
2. Caterer may use kitchen facilities for serving beverages, refrigeration, service of previously prepared food.
3. Caterer may serve champagne or wine punch as long as an equally attractive non-alcoholic beverage is served as an alternative in equal quantity. Open bars or kegs of beer are prohibited. Caterer must be familiar with, and follow, State and Federal Law regulating the serving of alcoholic beverages. Caterer should be alert to possible abuse and be prepared to act responsibly. Transportation should be provided for anyone judged unable to drive.
4. Smoking is prohibited in all Church buildings
5. Caterer should see that only birdseed is used to shower the bride and groom.
6. Caterer may use the church's flatware, dishes, bowls, sugar & creamer servers, plates, bowls, glasses, cups and saucers, serving bowls, etc., provided that all such items are washed, dried and returned to their respective storage cabinets.
7. Caterer may use Dietel Hall (fellowship hall) tables and chairs, provided we are advised in advance.
8. Caterer is responsible for clean-up after use of kitchen facilities and Deitel Hall.
9. Caterer is responsible for making sure that all appliances are turned off before leaving.
10. Caterer is responsible for any damage to church property during his/her use.
11. Caterer should consult with the church secretary to schedule a date and time to view the facilities
12. A \$100.00 security deposit will be required of Caterer, to be returned to Caterer if the facilities, appliances, etc. are left clean, items used have been properly washed, dried and stored, and no damage has resulted.
13. Caterer will not hold St Aidan's Church liable for any accident or injury incurred during the use of the facilities.



This DECLARATION OF INTENT is signed by BOTH Partners of the
Intended Marriage

In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We, _____ and _____ ,
desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly
declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of two persons as is set forth in
the Book of Common Prayer. “We believe that the union of two people in heart,
body and mind is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort
given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God’s will, for the
nurturing of children in the knowledge and love of the Lord. And we do engage
ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this relationship
and to seek God’s help thereto.”

Signature

Signature

Date _____

MARRIAGE APPLICATION

ST AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1318 SR 532, Camano Island, WA 98282

PO Box 145, Stanwood, WA 98292

Office@StAidanCI.org

(360) 629-3969

Bride's Full Name: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Maiden ____ Widow ____ Divorced ____ Date of Final Divorce Decree _____

Date of Birth: _____ Baptized (Y/N) ____ Confirmed (Y/N) ____

Church Membership _____

Telephone Number(s): _____
(home) (work) (mobile)

Occupation: _____

Father's Full Name: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Mother's Full Name: _____
(first) (middle) (maiden) (last)

Groom's Full Name: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Bachelor ____ Widower ____ Divorced ____ Date of Final Divorce Decree _____

Date of Birth: _____ Baptized: (Y/N) ____ Confirmed: (Y/N) ____

Church Membership: _____

Occupation: _____

Father's Full Name: _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Mother's Full Name: _____
(first) (middle) (maiden) (last)

Date of Wedding: _____ Time: _____

Preferred Rehearsal Date: _____ Time: _____

Location of Reception: _____

*Would you like to receive information for a reception in Deitel Hall? _____ Y _____ N

Maid/Matron of Honor: _____

Best Man: _____

Number of Bridesmaids: _____ of Ushers: _____ of Guests: _____

(Note: The maximum seating capacity in the St. Aidan's sanctuary is about 130)

Address after Marriage: _____

The name the bride will be known by after the wedding: _____

Can St Aidan's Welcome Committee send you cards and additional information regarding St Aidan's ministries offered? _____ Y _____ N

ASSOCIATED FEES: *(circle all that apply)*

Church: \$300 Clergy Officiant: \$300 Dietel Hall: \$300 Organist: \$200 Sexton: \$100 (required)

Altar Flowers: Free (same as for Sunday) Alar Flowers: 2 arrangements for 1' x 1' shelves, you order/pay

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Fees Paid: Church _____ Clergy _____ Dietel Hall _____ Organist _____ Sexton _____ Caterer _____
(deposit)

Number of Bulletins/Programs Needed: _____ Dietel Hall: Hours _____ Paid _____

Dietel Hall Building Use form received? _____ Welcome Committee notified? _____