



Weddings

at

Christ Church, Ithan

536 Conestoga Road

Villanova, PA 19085

Telephone 610-688-1110

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www.christchurchithan.org

The Rev. John W. Sosnowski, M.DIV., M.F.T.

1. Couples wishing to be married at Christ Church Ithan must fulfill the requirements of Canon Law in the Episcopal Church. This means:
 - a. At least one of them must be a baptized Christian.
 - b. They must subscribe to the "Declaration of Intention" set down in the Canons which states their understanding that marriage is, by intention, a life-long union.
 - c. If this is a second marriage for either party, a dispensation from the Bishop of Pennsylvania must be requested.
 - d. They must meet with the requirements of the state regarding licenses.
 - e. They must arrange for a minimum of three premarital sessions with the clergy.
2. A minimum of 90 days' notice is required to insure the date and time of the ceremony and rehearsal. Marriages do not take place during the Lenten Season and are not permitted during Holy Week.
3. There is no charge for the use of the church building for the families who are currently pledging to the financial support of the parish. For those not pledging to the ongoing work of Christ Church there is a fee of \$750.
4. Gratuities for the clergy are voluntary. \$250 is the guideline but depends on the financial ability of the couple. If the couple wishes to invite clergy from another parish to participate in the ceremony, they should consult, in advance, with the Rector of Christ Church.
5. The church organist receives a fee of \$250 for the consultation and wedding ceremony. The organist is to be consulted in advance regarding the music to be used. His approval, in consultation with the Rector, of the proposed music is a prerequisite for its use. If vocal or instrumental services are desired, the couple must make their own arrangements for this consultation with the organist or other musicians. The Parish organist must still be consulted and paid the appropriate fee.
6. The Sexton receives a fee of \$100. This is for setting up and cleaning of the Church building.
7. Floral decorations for the church building should be chosen only after prior consultation with the Rector. It is recommended that floral arrangements for the altar be confined to the altar vases. The vase liners will be made available to the florist. The expense of the flowers is to be met by the couple.
8. Since the church is carpeted, the use of a runner, from the florist, is unnecessary. If wedding candles are chosen as an option, the cost of said candles will be \$20 per set. The church office will gladly order the candles and the couple may take them after the service.

9. The clergy will be present at the rehearsal. There is no need for outside consultants. **If services of a professional wedding planner are employed, his or her jurisdiction terminates at the door of the church.**
10. Photographs and video recordings preserve the precious moments of a wedding. Unfortunately, flash bulbs and high intensity lights are distracting. We permit photography and video recording using existing light only. Guests with cameras will be asked to refrain from picture-taking during the liturgy.
11. The photographer must consult with the officiating clergy immediately before the ceremony. The clergy will gladly cooperate with posed pictures after the ceremony.
12. Printed programs are the responsibility of the couple.
13. Rice, confetti, flower petals, and other congratulatory missiles should not be thrown on church property. If any of the church facilities are to be used for the reception or gathering, no alcoholic beverages are to be consumed without the permission of the Church Vestry.
14. The license, together with checks to cover expenses, should be delivered to the Parish Office on or before the Monday preceding the wedding. Please make a special note of this because the priest cannot proceed without a valid license.

Wedding Checklist

Have you conformed to the requirements of the Canon Law in the Episcopal Church?

Have you set the time and date of your rehearsal?

Have you taken care of all fees at least one week prior to your ceremony?

Checks to be made payable as follows:

Church – Christ Church Ithan

Organist – Christ Church Ithan

Sexton – Charles Gerhab

Wedding Candles – Christ Church Ithan

Stipend for Priest - The Rev. John W. Sosnowski