

## The Church Ceremony

This should be discussed in detail with the officiating priest. Readings at Mass or Service should always be from the bible. Sample readings are available.

Regarding music, Vincent McCarthy, tel: 021 4772998 will be happy to advise you. Vincent is the Church organist and he must always be contacted if you need the church organ. The Sacristan will be in attendance at rehearsals and the ceremony. Should you wish to have Altar Servers, the Sacristan will arrange that for you.

## Money

If one of the parishioners is from Kinsale parish, there is no fee for the church. It is however, customary to give a voluntary offering to the priest who helps you with the marriage arrangements – deals with all the paperwork etc. Should this priest also officiate at the wedding, most couples would give an offering of €100 to cover paperwork, plus saying mass. The Sacristan is usually given €25 for attending at rehearsals and ceremony. The Altar Servers are also given a small monetary gift. This is the total of the church expenses for a parish wedding.

If neither party is from Kinsale and the use of the Kinsale church is required for their wedding, there is a fee of €200 for the use of the church. In these situations, it is presumed the couple will invite a priest from their own parish, or a friend to officiate. The documentation required will be attended to by the priest in the home parish and forwarded to Kinsale. The priest in the home parish should be contacted several months before the wedding date.

### **CONTACT NUMBERS:**

Fr. John  
Fr. John  
Fr. John  
Church  
e-mail [kinsaleneewsletter@eircom.net](mailto:kinsaleneewsletter@eircom.net)



# GETTING MARRIED

in

St. John The Baptist Church  
Kinsale

**So you have set the date!**

**Congratulations from the Parish of Kinsale. The parish clergy wish you every blessing and hope your wedding day will be full of memories you will treasure the rest of your life.**

**Once your family and friends hear you have set the date, they will start telling you what you must do and what you must not do on your wedding day. Some of this advise will be correct and helpful, some of it will be incorrect**

**in regard to Kinsale Parish and only confuse you. This leaflet is compiled**

**to give you the correct do's and don'ts about getting married in Kinsale.**

## Pre Marriage Courses

Couples are required by church authorities to take part in a Pre Marriage Course. It is advisable to make enquiries about these as early as possible. The ideal time to do such a course would be before the date is set. This rarely happens, so a booking should be made as early as possible after setting the date. Bookings are made through the Cork Marriage Counseling Centre, 34, Paul Street, Cork.

Tel: 021 4275678



### What Kind of Service?

There are two kinds of Marriage Service.

One is where the Marriage Promises are made during the Mass, the other is where the Promises are made at a special service but without Mass.

The choice of the Service should be made in the light of the personal faith circumstances of both parties. Most Catholics will choose to make their Marriage Promises at a Nuptial Mass, however, where one of the party is not a Roman Catholic, or is a non believer, the Wedding Service without Mass may be more appropriate. It is important to talk this decision over with the priest who will officiate.

## Fixing the Date

When you have chosen a date and found a hotel that can accommodate you on that date, do not pay a deposit until you have checked that the church is available for that particular date. Civil law requires you to give not less than three months notice to the Registrar of Marriages. You can obtain a special form for this from any Marriage Registration Office. Both parties complete the form and send it to Mrs A. Fitzpatrick, Registrar of Marriages, c/o Social Welfare Office, Kinsale.

## Papers

Many couples think they need only what is called “A letter of Freedom”, THIS IS NOT SO. The following documents are required:

1. Pre Nuptial Inquiry Form. The priest in the parish of your normal residence will fill this up for you.
2. If your place of baptism was elsewhere, you will need to get a Baptismal Certificate from your church of baptism (must not be over six months issued).

3. Letter of Freedom in some areas. Consult the priest doing your papers about this.

4. In the case where one partner is not a Catholic, a dispensation will be needed. The priest will get this for you.

Situations vary from couple to couple. It would be impossible in this short leaflet to cover everything. It is best to contact your local priest six months ahead of your wedding date and he will advise you on the documents needed in your case.

## Photographs and Video Recording

The making of a video and the taking of photographs is no problem so long as nothing is done that takes from the sacredness of the ceremony.



### Flowers

Floral displays in a church ceremony should not obscure or distract but rather enhance the principal liturgical furnishings in the sanctuary, the altar, the lectern, the chair and the tabernacle. Before making arrangements for flowers, it is best to contact Eileen O'Brien, Chairperson of the local Altar Society, tel. 021 4773256.