

EMMANUEL CHURCH

Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts

GUIDELINES FOR THE CELEBRATION AND BLESSING OF A MARRIAGE

SCHEDULING: In advance of setting the date for the service, please contact the Rev. Luther Zeigler to be certain Emmanuel Church is available. **You may reach Rev. Zeigler at the Parsonage, 24 Masconomo St., Manchester, MA 01944, 978-526-0085, or by email at luther.zeigler@gmail.com.** Rev. Zeigler is available to be the celebrant at weddings. A minister in good standing with the Episcopal Church and licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts is also welcome to officiate. Other clergy are welcome to assist at the ceremony with prior consultation and approval.

PRE-MARITAL COUNSELING: The Episcopal Church requires at least one person of the couple be a baptized Christian. The Church Canons require pre-marital counseling in order discuss some of the major issues in a life-long, loving marriage, to satisfy the officiating minister that a Christian marriage, as the Episcopal Church understands that relationship, is intended by the couple. This is also an opportunity for the minister and couple to build a relationship with one another. They should be scheduled well in advance of the proposed marriage.

IN CASES OF DIVORCE: If either of the couple has been divorced from a spouse still living, further requirements are involved. The effective date of the divorce decree absolute must be one full year in advance of the proposed date of the marriage. In addition, the Officiant is required to secure the consent of his or her Bishop to the marriage. Certain documentation is required and the process of obtaining the Bishop's consent must be initiated at least eight weeks in advance of the proposed ceremony.

MUSIC: Arrangements for wedding music must be made with our director of music, Carolyn Skelton. Mrs. Skelton may be reached at 104 Mill Pond, North Andover, MA 01845, telephone 978-208-0149. She supervises all use of the organ. Her professional fee (\$300) includes music consultation, the rehearsal and the wedding.

FLOWERS: Flowers for the wedding are provided by the family or the florist of the family's choice and may be left for the Sunday services. Chapman's Greenhouse in Beverly Farms and Cottage Flowers, Manchester are familiar with Emmanuel Church. In matters of decoration of the church, please contact our Altar Guild Director, Martha Brown, at 978-526-1413.

REHEARSAL: The officiating clergy conducts the rehearsal, normally the evening before the ceremony. The marriage license must be provided to the minister at the time of the rehearsal.

PHOTOS: A photographer may discreetly take pictures during the wedding service with the permission of Rev. Zeigler and in consultation with the bride and groom.

AMENITIES OR NOT: The comfortable seating capacity of Emmanuel Church is about one hundred and forty. Parking is difficult and should be confined to the church side of the street. If traffic direction is desired, the family may contact the Manchester Police Department for assistance. There is no dressing room at Emmanuel Church. There is no telephone in the church.

FEES: The fee for the use of Emmanuel Church for a wedding is \$1500; a non-refundable deposit of \$1000, payable to Emmanuel Church, is required to hold the date. The Organist, Carolyn Skelton, receives \$300. The Sexton, Douglas Hotchkiss, receives \$75, The Clergy honorarium is \$500. If you choose an Episcopal Priest other than Rev. Zeigler, you need to discuss the honorarium with that person. Professional fees are tendered at the time of the rehearsal with checks made out as follows: Emmanuel Church \$500, representing the balance of the \$1500 fee for use of the church; Carolyn Skelton \$300; Douglas Hotchkiss \$75; and Rev. Luther Zeigler \$500.

We want to do all we can to insure that your wedding service is a memorable, holy, and joyful occasion for you, your family and friends. If you have any questions please contact Rev. Zeigler.