

# St Andrew's Parish Church, Blantyre

**Important information for**

## *Your Wedding Day*

Congratulations on deciding to get married! The Church celebrates the commitment of two people to each other in marriage and we look forward to being able to help you make the most of your day and your future together.

Contents correct as of August 2008

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# Practical Details

## Arranging the Date

*As soon as the provisional date has been chosen for the wedding, the Minister should be consulted. This is very important, and should be done **before making final arrangements for the reception.** Please telephone and make an appointment.*

## Notice of Marriage

*About six weeks before the wedding date, you must give notice of your intention to marry to the local Registrar. **This is a necessary legal requirement.** You will be told to collect the **Marriage Schedule** during the week before the wedding. **Please note that without the Schedule the marriage cannot take place.** It is a good idea to bring the Schedule to the church for the rehearsal.*

## Music for the Service

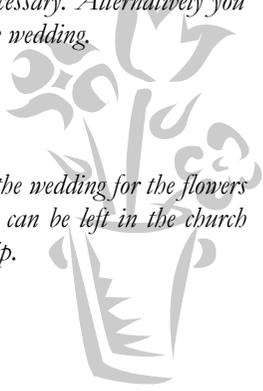
*You should discuss the choice of hymns and processional music with the minister and organist. It is advisable to do this well in advance so that hymn sheets, if required, may be printed. Please see back page for organist's contact information. It is advisable to contact an organist as early as possible. The Church Organist (Susan Menzies) will be able to advise of other possible organists if necessary. Alternatively you may have someone that you would like to ask to play at the wedding.*

## Flower Arrangements

*Please contact the Church Officer to arrange a time before the wedding for the flowers to be placed / arranged in the church. The arrangements can be left in the church following the wedding to be enjoyed again at Sunday worship.*

## Enjoy the Day!

*And remember this is the first day of your married life together. Try not to worry too much about the preparations for the day. The day is fun and enjoyable, but it is the time after the wedding, your married life, that is far more important.*



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# Practical Details

## Fees

*Fees are payable for the services of the Church Officer and Organist and we would ask that non-members of the church make a contribution towards the heating and lighting costs of the church. The fees, in addressed envelopes, should be handed to the Minister at the time of the rehearsal. These are:*

<i>Church Officer</i>	<i>£20</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>£35</i>
<i>Heating &amp; Lighting Contribution</i>	<i>£30 (non-members)</i>

## Photographs and Video Recordings

*To avoid any distractions, the official photographer may take only one picture during the service. This should be taken from the side of the church opposite the organ during the singing of the first hymn. A video recording of the service may be taken from a fixed position at the back of the church. The photographer and video recordist should consult with the Church Officer before the service begins.*

## Wedding Rehearsal

*The Minister will arrange for a rehearsal prior to the wedding. Apart from the Bride and Groom, the Bride's Father or guardian, the Best Man, the Bridesmaid(s) and any other interested parties are invited to meet at the Church to rehearse the procedure at the service. **The Marriage Schedule and hymn sheets should be taken to the Church at the time of the rehearsal with the relevant fees.***

## Wedding Reception

*When you make arrangements for your wedding, the Minister will ask if you wish him to come to the reception. There is no obligation on your part to invite him, the question is simply to know how much time to set aside for the wedding day. There may be occasions when the Minister cannot attend. If the Minister attends it is usual for him to say Grace before the meal. On some occasions he may also chair during the toasts and speeches.*

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# The Wedding Day

## **Bridegroom**

*The Bridegroom and Best Man should come to the Vestry about 25 minutes before the service is due to begin. They may want to welcome guests at the door, but should make their way to the Vestry at least 10 minutes before the service to wait with the Minister until the Bride arrives at the Church.*

## **Bride**

*The Bride will enter the Church at the main door where the Church Officer will be in attendance. After all photographs have been taken, the Church Officer will inform the Minister, who will lead the Bridegroom and Best Man to the foot of the Chancel steps facing the Communion Table. The Minister will then go to the vestibule to meet the Bride. The processional voluntary will then be played while the Minister and Bridal party enter the Church by the North aisle (nearest Church Street) and proceed to the Chancel. The Bride will be on the right arm of her father or guardian. When the bride reaches the front of the Church, her father or guardian will leave her and take his place in the front pew. The Bridesmaid(s) and Flower Girl(s) stand to the left and slightly behind the Bride.*

## **Signing the Marriage Schedule**

*This takes place following the marriage ceremony (see Order of Service on following pages). After a short pause the Minister will move from the Chancel followed by the Bride and Bridegroom, Best Man and Chief Bridesmaid. Any other Bridesmaids and Flower Girls will bring up the rear of the procession, and may be escorted by Groomsmen or Ushers. The parents of the Bride and Groom will follow the procession into the Session Room where the Marriage Schedule is signed.*

## **Leaving the Church**

*After the signing of the Marriage Schedule and the taking of any photographs, the organist will play processional music and the Bridal Party, lead by the Bride and Groom will process across the Church and down the South Aisle and then back across the Church to the door so that everyone has a chance to see you.*

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# Order of Service

## Welcome

## Opening Praise/Hymn

## Introduction

We are here in the presence of God  
to witness the vows of A..... and B.....  
as they give themselves to each other  
in Christian marriage.

We offer them our continuing support and love  
in their covenant with each other.

We rejoice in the uniqueness of their marriage,  
and seek with them God's blessing.

Marriage is to be entered upon  
thoughtfully and reverently,  
and with a deep awareness  
of its sacred and enduring nature.

Marriage is honourable and holy.  
It is founded in the loving nature of God.  
It is part of God's purpose for humanity,  
and was provided by him  
for the comfort and happiness  
of man and woman  
and for the welfare of human society.

It was hallowed by our Lord's gracious presence  
at the marriage in Cana of Galilee;  
and is consecrated as the symbol  
of the union between Christ and his Church.

Today as A..... and B.....  
become husband and wife,  
we are confident that this deepening  
of their commitment to each other  
will lead to enrichment and joy in their lives.

## Prayer

Gracious God,  
we give you thanks and praise  
for all your gifts of goodness and grace.  
We praise you for your gift of love,  
uniting our families,  
blessing our lives,  
enfolding us all our days.  
Especially we thank you  
for the love which dwells and grows  
in the hearts of A..... and B.....,



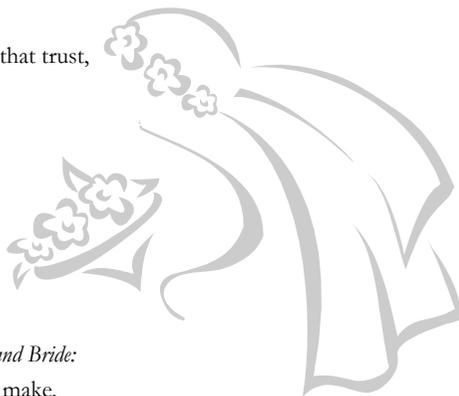
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# Order of Service

and for the happiness and trust  
that has led them here.

As they seek now in marriage  
to confirm that happiness and deepen that trust,  
may your Spirit of love  
sanctify their joy and enrich their love.

Guide them by your grace,  
surround them with your presence,  
and keep them in your love;  
through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.



## Exchange of Vows

Will the congregation please stand.

*The minister says to the Bridegroom and Bride:*

As a seal to the vows you are about to make,  
will you join hands and face each other.

*The Bride and Bridegroom turn and face each other, and join hands.*

*They make their vows by (1) repeating them after the Minister or by (2) answering the questions put to them.*

Jesus said,  
'This is my commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.'

(1) *Either partner may make the vow first.*

*The Bridegroom says:*

**Before God  
and in the presence  
of our families and friends,  
I, A.....,  
declare my love  
for you, B.....  
and I give myself to you  
as your husband.  
I promise you my love,  
my loyalty, and my trust  
for as long as we both shall live.**

*The Bride says:*

**Before God  
and in the presence  
of our families and friends,  
I, B.....,  
declare my love  
for you, A.....  
and I give myself to you  
as your wife.  
I promise you my love,  
my loyalty, and my trust  
for as long as we both shall live.**

(2) *Either partner may answer the questions first.*

*To the Bridegroom:*

Do you, A....., before God  
and in the presence  
of your families and friends,  
declare your love for B.....  
and give yourself to her  
as her husband?

*To the Bride:*

Do you, B....., before God  
and in the presence  
of your families and friends,  
declare your love for A.....  
and give yourself to him  
as his wife?

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# Order of Service

Do you promise your love,  
your loyalty, and your trust  
for as long as you both shall live?

*I do.*

Do you promise your love,  
your loyalty, and your trust  
for as long as you both shall live?

*I do.*

## Giving and Receiving of the Ring(s)

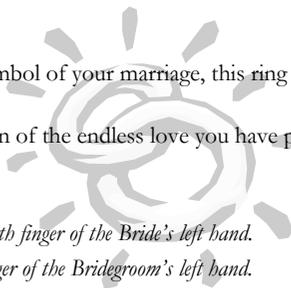
As a token of these promises and as a symbol of your marriage, this ring [these rings] is [are] given and received.

May this ring [these rings] be to you a sign of the endless love you have pledged to each other this day.

*Either partner may give ring first.*

*The Bridegroom places a ring on the fourth finger of the Bride's left hand.*

*The Bride places a ring on the fourth finger of the Bridegroom's left hand.*



## Declaration of Marriage

*The Bride and Bridegroom join their right hands and the Minister places his right hand upon their joined hands.*

A..... and B.....,  
you have declared your love for each other  
before God and your families and friends.  
You have pledged that you will live together  
in Christian marriage,  
in the words of your promises  
and in the symbolism  
of the joining of hands and the giving of rings.  
I therefore declare you to be husband and wife.  
In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*To the congregation:*

Those whom God has joined together, no one must separate.

## Marriage Blessing

*The Husband and Wife kneel.*

A..... and B.....,  
may the blessing of God rest upon you  
in the keeping of the promises you have made.  
May his holy presence sanctify your love  
and dwell richly in your lives.  
God guard you on every side.  
God guide you in truth and peace.  
God gird you with faith and love. Amen.

*The couple stand. The Bride's veil may be lifted, and the couple may kiss.*

## Scripture Readings

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# Order of Service

## Address

### Prayer

Gracious God, for the promise,  
for the hope,  
for the love of this day,  
we praise you.

Bless your children now  
with the strength of your Spirit,  
that they may build a life  
of joy and fulfilment  
on the foundations of commitment  
and love.

May they be sustained by the love and  
support that now surrounds them.  
May they always remain open-hearted,  
courageous and strong.  
Give to them generosity of spirit,  
understanding of each other,

warm and loyal friendship.

Grant that they may go forward  
from this day delighting in their love.  
May their love grow,  
and in time to come may it prove  
able to heal and to help,  
to overcome difficulties, and  
to bring reconciliation.

So may all see in them  
a symbol of your love  
from which nothing can separate us  
and which nothing can overcome.

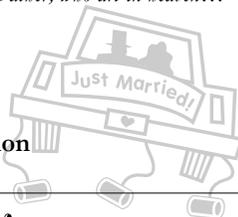
Be with them now  
and remain with them for ever.

*Our Father, who art in heaven...*

### Closing Praise / Hymn

### Blessing

### Signing of the Marriage Schedule & Final Procession



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## Contact Information

### Minister

*Rev. Peter Johnston*  
332 Glasgow Road  
Blantyre  
Glasgow  
G72 9LQ  
Tel: 01698 828633

Email: [peter.johnston@standrewsblantyre.com](mailto:peter.johnston@standrewsblantyre.com)

### Church Office

*Mrs Gill Fraser*  
St Andrew's Parish Church  
Church Street  
Blantyre  
Glasgow  
G72 0NY  
Tel: 01698 327958

### Organist

*Mrs Susan Mathieson*  
15 Bowmont Place  
East Kilbride  
G75 8YG  
Tel: 07709 393084

### Local Registrar

*South Lanarkshire Council Q & A*  
45 John Street  
Blantyre  
Glasgow, G72 0JG  
Tel: 01698 527916  
Hours: 9-12:30pm, 1:30-4:45pm