

Scaffolding

*Masons, when they start upon a building,
Are careful to test out the scaffolding;
Make sure that planks won't slip at busy points,
Secure all ladders, tighten bolted joints.
And yet all this comes down when the job's done
Showing off walls of sure and solid stone.
So if, my dear, there sometimes seem to be
Old bridges breaking between you and me
Never fear. We may let the scaffolds fall
Confident that we have built our wall.*

Seamus Heaney, 1939 - 2013



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Oblate Parish of Mary Immaculate

Planning Your Church Wedding



Marriage is an icon of God's love for us

Pope Francis, Amoris Laetitia: The Joy of Love



Church Booking

- ◆ You must provide at least **three months notice** of your intention to marry.
- ◆ When booking the Church and seeking a preferred date, you must furnish details of the Priest who has agreed to celebrate your marriage.
- ◆ If the marriage is in another Parish, a Letter of Freedom is necessary from the Priest of your Parish.
- ◆ If neither party lives in the Parish a letter from your priest stating that he will officiate at the wedding ceremony must be presented when the church is being booked
- ◆ A **Provisional Booking Form** is then completed and handed into the parish office with the required fee of €250
- ◆ Church weddings generally take place between 12.30 pm and 1.30pm.

State Booking

- ◆ Both parties must appear before the State Registrar in person to make notification of your intention to marry.
- ◆ The Office of the Registrar General is Joyce House, 8-11 Lombard Street East, Dublin 2, Tel: 01 8638200. This must be done **at least three months prior to your wedding**.
- ◆ Bring sufficient photographic ID with you.
- ◆ In advance of meeting the registrar, meet with your local priest, book the church, and know the name of the priest (solemniser) who has agreed to celebrate your Marriage.
- ◆ Receive the Marriage Registration Form (MRF) from the civil registrar, without this document no marriage can take place.
- ◆ Show this document to the priest who has agreed to celebrate your marriage to check that the details are correct.

For more information visit: www.civilregistrationservice.ie

Pre-Marriage Courses

All couples intending to marry are required to attend an approved pre-marriage course. Information and booking forms are available from:

- ◆ ACCORD, visit: www.accord.ie (Clonliffe College) Tel: 01 4784400
- ◆ Together.ie visit: www.together.ie (Mount Argus) Tel: 01 296 4257

Church Papers Required for Marriage within Ireland

- ◆ **Pre-Nuptial Enquiry Form**— the completion of the Pre-Nuptial Enquiry Form for each party takes place in two stages with your parish priest.

Both parties must provide:

- ◆ **Baptismal Certificate**—(long version) issued within six months of the proposed date of marriage from the parish of Baptism.
- ◆ **Confirmation Certificate**— if confirmation is not noted on the Baptismal Certificate, a separate confirmation certificate is required.
- ◆ **Documentary proof of freedom to marriage for both parties** - is required only if you have been resident for six months or more in a parish other than your present one since reaching the age of eighteen years. If so, a letter of freedom from each parish is required.

Alternatively, freedom to marry can be established by asking a parent or sibling to complete a form called: *Statement of Freedom to Marry* in the presence of a priest, stating that to the best of their knowledge s/he have never been married religiously or civically in any jurisdiction.

Another possibility is a sworn affidavit before a Commissioner of Oaths attesting that s/he has never been married religiously or civically in any jurisdiction.

- ◆ **Pre-marriage Course Certificate** and
- ◆ **The Marriage Registration Form (MRF)** from the civil registrar

Dispensations

Dispensations, where applicable, are granted by the local bishop through an application process.



Love needs time and space; everything else is secondary

Pope Francis