

The Wedding Guide

Vestry Approved—July 19, 2022

WEDDINGS AT CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

One of the greatest and most joyous decisions of life is to marry. For this reason, we, at Church of the Resurrection, are eager to assist you in making your wedding a wonderful and memorable occasion for you and your loved ones.

It is also our goal to help you build the strongest possible Christian marriage leading to a “lifelong union between husband and wife.” To foster this commitment, any marriage at Church of the Resurrection will be in accordance with Anglican Church in North America and Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic wedding policy (a link to the ACNA and DOMA marriage policy can be found at: <https://www.anglicandoma.org/s/Policy-on-Christian-Marriage-and-Remarriage-7620.pdf>). We have developed a premarital preparation process and this Wedding Guide to help you prepare for your wedding at Resurrection. Our clergy and our Wedding Ministry Team would be more than happy to meet with you to discuss Christian marriage, the wedding process at Resurrection, or to answer any other questions you might have.

1) ELIGIBILITY FOR MARRIAGE AT RESURRECTION

Either the bride or the groom must be a member, or child of a member, in good standing at Church of the Resurrection. The Vestry leadership council has the authority to waive this policy on a case-by-case basis for those who adhere to the ACNA policy on marriage and submit to the Res marriage preparation process.

2) COMMITMENT TO PREPARE FOR A LIFELONG MARRIAGE

At Resurrection, it is expected that the couple is seeking to better understand the gospel, grow in their relationship with Christ, and base their marriage on God’s biblical blueprint. To help each couple build a strong foundation for marriage, Resurrection is committed to offering a marriage mentoring program to answer questions, serve their practical needs, and help them prepare for a lifelong marriage. In witness thereof, the bride and groom are asked to sign the Resurrection Declaration of Intent, agreeing to enter into the covenant of Christian marriage by making a lifelong commitment to each other.

3) SCHEDULING A WEDDING AT RESURRECTION

Before a wedding date can be scheduled at Resurrection, each couple will meet with a clergy or member of the pastoral staff to outline expectations and the preparation process to determine if a marriage at Resurrection is a good fit for the couple and the church. Once clergy or pastoral appointment has been completed and approval received, a wedding date will be placed on the church calendar.

4) THE MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM AT RESURRECTION

We desire that both the bride and the groom understand the essence of Christian marriage as taught by the Holy Scriptures and the Anglican Church. As a part of the marriage preparation process, premarital mentoring is required prior to marriage at Resurrection. Mentoring helps prepare couples for a lifelong commitment to each other before God. Resurrection offers a six-part marriage mentoring program that covers God’s blueprint for marriage, communication and conflict resolution, sex and intimacy over a lifetime, finances, values and priorities, family of origin, and children and family expectations. The Rector may approve a non-Resurrection marriage mentoring program

if it aligns with the same topics and biblical values. This mentoring process must be completed no less than thirty (30) days prior to the couple's anticipated wedding date.

5) THE SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE

If either the bride or the groom has been divorced, the clergy will need to apply to our Bishop for permission to perform the marriage. A minimum of six months must pass after the final divorce is granted before the Bishop will consider the request for remarriage.

Resurrection upholds the biblical standards of purity outside as well as inside the bonds of marriage. To be sexually active or to cohabit during the engagement is considered inappropriate, and we hold as unbiblical. If a couple desires to be married at Resurrection, a member of the pastoral staff is available to talk about God's design for marriage and, if necessary, help couples better understand and recommit to a celibate relationship until their wedding.

Resurrection is committed to helping engaged couples build a lifelong marriage. Additional materials, books, conferences, and other resources are available upon request. Please call the office for more information.

The Marriage Process and Logistical Information

THE WEDDING MINISTRY TEAM

After the wedding has been approved and a date set, couples will be assigned a Resurrection Wedding Contact who will act as a liaison between them and the church regarding the wedding ceremony. This member of the Resurrection Wedding Ministry will help couples consider costs, facility uses, and whether to utilize church resources such as bulletins, music, sound, livestream, and recording. They will be present for the rehearsal and on the wedding day, serving on site to help interface with staff and ensure a smooth use of the facility capabilities. If available to do so, the Wedding Contact may be asked to serve as a Wedding Coordinator, helping to organize the wedding party, plan the entry and exit to and from the service, or serve in other mutually agreed-upon roles. There is an additional fee for the Res Wedding Contact to act as Wedding Coordinator, and it is listed in the fee schedule.

CEREMONY GUIDELINES

Resurrection clergy preside at weddings at the church and at the rehearsal. With approval from the Rector, clergy from outside our parish may be welcome to assist.

While there is flexibility in the Anglican wedding liturgy, no part of the ceremony may violate any portion of the Anglican Church in North America Book of Common Prayer wedding liturgy and its rubrics.

MUSIC AND SOUND

The Resurrection Director of Music Ministry, while under no contractual obligation, will make every effort to serve as lead musician and organist for a wedding of a Resurrection church or family member. If he is unavailable, he can provide a list of approved and recommended substitutes.

The ceremony usually takes place in the sanctuary, and use of the sound system is required. The Prayer Chapel is available for smaller, more private ceremonies. Requests for outdoor weddings at Resurrection may be considered for an additional fee.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND VIDEOGRAPHER

Placement of photographers and video equipment in the sanctuary needs prior approval from the presiding clergy member before placement.

OTHER CHURCH POLICIES

Weddings at Resurrection are normally held on Saturdays between 11am and 5pm.

Rehearsals are scheduled for the day before the wedding, Friday, between 4–6pm. Please allow 1 hour for the rehearsal.

COST SUMMARY

All fees are paid directly to “Church of the Resurrection” unless otherwise noted, and 50% of total fees should be paid as a deposit at least 30 days prior to the wedding.

Clergy: Paid Resurrection clergy do not charge for officiating weddings. Any voluntary honorariums may be paid directly to the clergy member.

REQUIRED FEES FOR MEMBERS, CHILDREN OF MEMBERS

Marriage Mentoring: \$50

Use of Property: \$200

Building Cleaning Fee: \$300

Organist/Director of Music: Minimum \$300 (*paid directly to the musician*)
Additional fees may be required for additional musicians, rehearsals, or arrangements.

Audio Sound Technician: \$250
All weddings at Resurrection require a sound technician for rehearsal and the wedding.

Resurrection Wedding Contact: \$250

OPTIONAL FEES FOR MEMBERS, CHILDREN OF MEMBERS

Bulletins–Up to 250: \$75

Resurrection Wedding Contact Also Acting as Wedding Coordinator: \$750

Livestream or Recording: \$600

Silk Altar Flowers: \$25

Pew Bows: \$5 per bow

Pew Candles: \$5/candle

Reception Fee (required if approved): Due to the impact of a reception on the weekly cycle of events (worship services, Bible studies, liability concerns, etc.) the hosting of receptions at Res is not encouraged. Petitions to the church to host a reception will be considered if submitted within 30 days after a wedding date has been approved. If approved, there will be a reception fee and the wedding party will be responsible for all items (catering, tables, chairs, tablecloths, dishes, cups, utensils, setup, takedown, general cleanup, etc.). The premises must be vacated by 10pm.

Reception Cleaning Fee: \$1,000 (minimum) *Replaces the \$300 building cleaning fee

REQUIRED FEES FOR NON-MEMBERS

Marriage Mentoring: \$50

Use of Property: \$2,500

Building Cleaning Fee: \$500

Organist/Director of Music: Minimum \$500 (*paid directly to the musician*)
Additional fees may be required for additional musicians, rehearsals, or arrangements.

Audio Sound Technician: \$250
All weddings at Resurrection require a sound technician for rehearsal and the wedding.

Resurrection Wedding Contact: \$250

OPTIONAL FEES FOR NON-MEMBERS

Bulletins–Up to 250: \$100

Resurrection Wedding Contact Also Acting as Wedding Coordinator: \$1,000

Livestream or Recording: \$1,000

Silk Altar Flowers: \$100

Pew Bows: \$25 per bow

Pew Candle: \$25/candle

Reception Fee (required if approved): Due to the impact of a reception on the weekly cycle of events (worship services, Bible studies, liability concerns, etc.) the hosting of receptions at Res is not encouraged. Petitions to the church to host a reception will be considered if submitted within 30 days after a wedding date has been approved. If approved, there will be a reception fee and the wedding party will be responsible for all items (catering, tables, chairs, tablecloths, dishes, cups, utensils, setup, takedown, general cleanup, etc.). The premises must be vacated by 10pm.

Reception Cleaning Fee: \$1,000 (minimum) *Replaces the \$500 building cleaning fee

RESURRECTION CLERGY PARTICIPATION IN OFFSITE OR OUT-OF-TOWN WEDDINGS

Resurrection clergy are open to requests to serve members or children of members at an out-of-town wedding but are under no obligation to do so. Premarital mentoring is required of all couples being married by Resurrection clergy. For out-of-town weddings, the clergy fees are as follows:

Within the Greater Baltimore Area (*less than 1 hour drive from Res*): \$400

Outside the Greater Baltimore Area: \$750

The couple agrees to pay all travel expenses, including airfare, hotel room, rental car, gas, meals, and all expenses relating to the wedding. If the clergy will miss Sunday services, a \$300 gift to Resurrection is necessary to cover weekend time away or guest preacher.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Church Office

410.560.0456

Pam Waldhauser, Wedding Ministries Staff Liaison 410.560.0456 (ext. 170)
(*point of contact for scheduling meetings with clergy, questions about paperwork, etc.*)