



ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH

Getting Married at St Mary Mother of God Church



213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TL

Tel.: 01708 447761 / Fax: 01708 449267

Email: hornchurchstmmg@dioceseofbrentwood.org



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INTRODUCTION

Congratulations!!! We are happy that you have asked to have your wedding here at St Mary Mother of God Church, Hornchurch. To enable your wedding day to go as smoothly as possible we would like you to read through this flyer and refer to it during your preparations.

LEGAL FORMALITIES

You will need to obtain a Registrar's Licence from the Registrar's Office where you live. For Hornchurch this is Langtons, Billets Lane. Tel. 01708 433481.

CHURCH FORMALITIES

You will need a Certificate of Baptism and a Letter of Freedom from your parents stating that you have not been married before, either civilly or in any other church. A Catholic partner who has lived in any other parish other than St. Mary's for more than six months will need a Letter of Freedom from the parish priest of each such parish.

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

The Churches teaching is that every Catholic who wishes to enter into marriage should be fully initiated into the Church i.e. should have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist prior to the wedding day.

FLOWERS

Our parish provides floral decoration for your wedding. There is no charge for the work of flower arranging, however the cost of the flowers is £175, greenery is donated. Please phone Angela Bennett on 01708 743828/07974 417007 no later than eight weeks prior to your wedding. If you wish to use your own florist, you will still need to phone Angela, in good time, so that appropriate placements can

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be discussed. This service is not available Monday to Thursday as most of the volunteers are working.

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOS

Photography and video recordings are permitted in consultation with the priest. Please note however that cameras are not allowed on any part of the sanctuary or in the side chapels. Please make your photographer and guests aware of this. In the case of video recording it is necessary for you to obtain a private function licence from the Mechanical Copyright Protection Society Ltd, Elgar House, 41 Streatham High Road, London SW16 1ER. The priest may ask to see this licence before the wedding ceremony.

MUSIC

The music will obviously enhance the wedding celebration and the Parish Organist and Choir will be more than happy to help you choose the music for your ceremony. The choir arranges two Wedding Evenings throughout the year so that you can come along and listen to the hymns and marches and make a selection. For further information, contact Jackie Caprari on 07528 485034

FEES

The organist, choir and soloist fees should be paid directly to Jackie Caprari, two weeks before the wedding.

Registrar and Church fees are to be paid in cash to the priest at your wedding rehearsal.

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| Organist fee (if required) | £100.00 |
| Choir fee (if required) | £100.00 |
| Soloist fee (if required) | £60.00 |
| Registrars fee | £90.00 |

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It is customary to make an offering to the presiding priest who is officiating at the wedding. The customary offering is £150.00

LIVING OUTSIDE THE PARISH

You will appreciate that our church building is available primarily for families who are part of the Parish Community either because they live here or regularly celebrate mass here. If neither the Bride or Groom (or their parents) are members of our parish community, we feel it appropriate that a contribution towards Parish Expenses and maintenance be offered.

CLEARING UP THE CHURCH

We are sorry to have to mention this, but our experience shows that it is necessary. Please ensure that the Best Man/Ushers are instructed to remove all unwanted items from the church and the porch after the wedding. This includes unused/used Order of Service, floristry boxes etc. etc.

CONFETTI

Unlike some churches we do allow confetti. BUT we would ask that the throwing of confetti be confined to the semi-circular grass area at the front of the church.

We hope that your wedding day will give you lots of happy memories for years to come. If we can assist you further in any way, or if you require further information please do not hesitate to call the presbytery on 01708 447761.

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