



Weddings & Blessings at Grace Cathedral

Thank you for your interest in having your wedding in Grace Cathedral. The commitment to a life-long union is a very special one, and we are happy that you are thinking of making Grace Cathedral the setting for your ceremony. We hope that the following information will help to answer some of the more commonly asked questions about having a wedding here.

WHO MAY HAVE THEIR WEDDING AT GRACE CATHEDRAL? The canon law of the Episcopal Church requires that at least one of the couple must be a baptized Christian. It is not necessary to be a member of the cathedral congregation, nor to be an Episcopalian, to have one's wedding celebration here. Nevertheless, a wedding in the cathedral is different from a ceremony that takes place in a home, a hotel, a judge's chamber or another location. We hope that couples who come to the cathedral seeking God's blessing on their relationship will be open to a discussion of the spiritual nature of that relationship and the place of God in their lives.

WHO MAY OFFICIATE? Clergy on the staff of the cathedral will normally officiate at all weddings. Clergy are assigned to weddings according to their availability on the date in question. Clergy of other denominations, including those of other faith traditions, may assist the Episcopal priest.

SCHEDULING: Weddings are most often scheduled on Saturdays. They may be scheduled also on weekdays (Monday – Friday), subject to the requirements of the cathedral calendar. Weddings are not scheduled on Sundays, during Holy Week or during most of the month of December. The times available for Saturday weddings are: 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Please e-mail or call the wedding administrator if you need more information or to check specific dates and times.

Wedding rehearsals are scheduled as the cathedral calendar permits. While we try to accommodate the preferred date and time for a wedding rehearsal, we cannot guarantee that your preference will be met. Other events on the cathedral calendar may preclude scheduling a rehearsal on the evening preceding a wedding; in this case the rehearsal must be scheduled earlier on Friday, or even earlier in the week.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE AND TEXTS: Weddings in the cathedral use the sacred rites of the Episcopal Church as approved for use by the Diocese of California, most often "The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage 2". The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible is the text used for scriptural readings.

PREPARATORY INSTRUCTION: Several sessions of preparatory instruction are required of all couples. Meetings are scheduled at the mutual convenience of the officiant and the couple. Couples who reside far from San Francisco may make arrangements for counseling in their home areas; the counseling clergy will confirm with the officiating cathedral clergy when the counseling has been completed.

MUSIC: Music for weddings is subject to the same standards and policies as music for any cathedral service. The wedding coordinator will provide you with a list of appropriate music for the entering and retiring processions. Only sacred music may be performed; popular music in the form of secular love songs or romantic ballads is not suitable. Hymns may be sung during the service by the congregation. Exceptions are subject to the approval of the Music Department.

FLOWERS: Only previously approved florists prepare flower arrangements for any area of the cathedral. The wedding coordinator will provide you with a list of approved florists. For safety reasons, pew-end arrangements which contain candles, are not permitted. Candles are present at the altar and are lit for weddings as for other services.

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOTAPING: These are permitted within specified guidelines. No flash photographs may be taken during the service by anyone. The wedding verger will determine where video cameras and photographers may be located. An information/permission form will be provided for your photographer and/or videographer containing complete rules and regulations for cathedral weddings. These forms must be signed and returned to the wedding coordinator.

The cathedral's media professionals can provide you with a digital audio recording of your wedding in the nave or quire for an additional fee.

COSTS: The following costs apply. Donor discounts apply to those who have been pledging members of the cathedral congregation for at least six months before making arrangements for a wedding.

Space	Max. Capacity	Price	Non-Refundable Deposit
Nave	1,000	\$8,500	\$2,125
Quire	175	\$6,000	\$1,500
Indoor Labyrinth	150	\$6,000	\$1,500
Outdoor Labyrinth	150	\$6,000	\$1,500
Chapel of Grace	113	\$5,000	\$1,250
Chapel of the Nativity	20	\$2,500	\$625
AIDS Interfaith Chapel	20	\$2,500	\$625

This package price includes the preparatory counseling, organist's fee, verger's fee, sound engineer's fee (Nave, Quire, Chapel of Grace), weddings coordinator's fee, space use fees for the church, including rehearsal time and space, dressing areas and time for post-wedding photography.

Weddings will be rescheduled, if necessary, but the deposit is non-refundable if you cancel. Additional fees apply for the carillon, cathedral choir, or any other special services.

For further information, please contact the Lisa Machata who may be reached by phone at 415-749-6328 or by email at lisam@gracecathedral.org.