

Blessing of a Civil Marriage

at Christ Church Anglican

Couples who have chosen to be married in a civil ceremony may have their union blessed by a clergy member of Christ Church Anglican if they so choose. It is our joy and privilege to do so!

Here at Christ Church, the Blessing of a Civil Marriage is not the same as a typical wedding ceremony. In the *Book of Common Prayer*, there are differences between a wedding and the Blessing of a Civil Marriage:

Celebration & Blessing of a Marriage

- Wedding/Bridal Procession (with attendants)
- Welcome
- "Giving away" of the bride
- Declaration of Consent
- The Ministry of the Word
- The Homily
- The Marriage (*Vows and Blessing of the Rings*)
- The Prayers
- Blessing of the Marriage
- The Peace (*only if the Eucharist is taking place*)
- Eucharist (*if desired*)

Blessing of a Civil Marriage

- There is NO wedding/bridal procession, no attendants, or "giving away" of the bride (*as the couple is already married*)
- Welcome
- Ministry of the Word
- The Homily
- The Commitment
- Blessing of the Rings
- The Prayers
- Blessing of the Marriage
- The Peace (*only if the Eucharist is taking place*)
- Eucharist (*if desired*)

The procedure for scheduling the Blessing of a Civil Marriage is much the same as scheduling a wedding ceremony:

- Contact is **Cindy Purifoy, Outreach & the Arts Coordinator**
913.648.2271 x246 / cindy.purifoy@gmail.com
- Before the ceremony can take place, every couple who gets married at Christ Church Anglican is required to participate in the "Prepare" marriage counseling course with Ruth Stromberg, LCSW/LCSW of *Associates in Comprehensive Counseling* (913.345.9333 x104). The cost of this program is \$300 paid directly to Ruth and takes several weeks to complete. (*Even though you are already married, the clergy at Christ Church want the two of you to have as many tools as possible at your disposal to help make your relationship a long-term success. They are whole-heartedly invested in your marriage!*)
- All building rental fees apply (*ceremony, optional rehearsal dinner, etc.*).
- A Wedding Coordinator will be assigned to couples desiring the Blessing of a Civil Marriage for the purpose of service organization and general support.



Christ Church
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5500 W. 91st Street • Overland Park, KS 66207
913.648.2271 • www.christchurch-op.org