



The Anglican Mission District of Waimate North of the Diocese of Auckland

Wedding Information

Thank you for your enquiry about getting married in the Waimate North Anglican Parish. We are delighted to talk with you about this special day and to help you in your planning process.

There are three churches in the Waimate North Parish with their seating capacity are as follows:

- St John the Baptist, Te Ahuahu Road, Waimate North (150)
- Holy Trinity, State Hwy 1, Pakaraka (90).
- St Catherine, Settlers Way, Okaihau (75).

The first step towards making a booking is to meet with our priest-in-charge, of the Parish, Rev. Elgin Edwards. Elgin will discuss with you your hopes and dreams for your special day and make sure that what you are looking for is going to match what we are able to offer.

SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER

- As a Christian church we only offer Christian marriage. This means that you will make your wedding vows to each other in a service which acknowledges the presence of God, Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit. The service will be conducted with respect for the variety of beliefs your family and friend may have.
- One of the couple must have been baptised in any Christian tradition.
- We are committed not just to the success of your wedding day, but to the long term success of your marriage.

PLANNING YOUR SERVICE

The Waimate North Parish is a place where the Anglican tradition is followed. Approximately two months before your wedding the priest will work with you to craft a personal service within the framework of this tradition. You will be able to select music, hymns, prayers and readings which reflect the uniqueness of your relationship. At least one of the readings is to come from the bible.

ORDER OF SERVICE

You may choose to print an order of service. The cost of this is your responsibility. Please work with the priest to make sure that your guests have a copy of anything they need to sing or say during the marriage service.

MUSIC

The type of musical instruments in the four churches varies. A musician can be available if required. There is a charge of \$150 if you would like to have an organist. Live or recorded music may be used in the service. You will need to provide your own equipment to play CDs or MP3s (and someone to operate this equipment).

FLOWERS

Some of our churches have more space than others. You may choose to:

1. Engage a florist (your cost).
2. Arrange your own flowers (no cost).

Let us know if you plan to leave the flowers or remove them after the service. Please do not remove our vases from the church or use the font for floral arrangements. (The font is a significant symbol of Christian baptism.) Decorations may be tied, but not pinned or cello taped to the pew ends. As other services may follow they need to be removed after your ceremony. Please advise your guests that no confetti, rice are to be thrown. Rose petals are to be used outside the church, but not inside.

REHEARSAL

The priest will arrange a rehearsal time with you, in the week before your wedding. Ideally all members of the bridal party, close family, readers and the ushers will attend this rehearsal. Your photographer is welcome to attend the rehearsal if she/he would like to.

PHOTOGRAPHS

You will want to have a record your special day. Please ask your photographer and/or videographer to introduce him/herself to the priest who is conducting your wedding when they arrive. The priest will offer guidance on where the best photos can be taken from.

TIMING ON THE DAY

The time of your booking is the time your service will begin. As a bride please plan to be on time. The groom and his party should arrive 20 minutes before the service.

USHERS

Please ask your ushers to help in the following ways:

- Arrive 30 minutes before the service and to introduce themselves to the minister.
- Direct the parking of cars if necessary
- Welcome family and friends, handing guests any printed material relating to the service
- Guide guests to their seats. It is important that they know how many seats should be left for the immediate family of the bride and groom and are able to recognise these people.
- After the service, collect any printed material left in the pews and see the church is left in a tidy state.

FACILITIES

Your care of our buildings is requested so that they can be enjoyed for generations to come. Please speak with a parish representative before you move any furniture.

- St John the Baptist, Waimate North - toilet available in the Sunday School building.
- Holy Trinity, Pakaraka - toilet facilities available are the portable-toilet at the back of the Church or the Community Hall 100 metres along the road; care on the busy main road is advised.
- St Catherine, Okaihau - no toilet facilities at the church, public toilet in Okaihau township

The seating capacity of each church as indicated above is a reasonable guide though often the number in the wedding party could be in addition. However, it is necessary that the parties of the marriage understand the need to conform to safety and OSH regulations.

FINALISING YOUR BOOKING

If you wish is to make a booking for your wedding, please fill in and return the wedding booking form to Elgin by post or email. Please note that this form needs to be signed by both parties to be married. We will send you confirmation of your booking by email.

FEES

The cost of having a wedding in one of our churches is \$500 for the church and \$250 for the Waimate North Priest an additional \$150 is charged if you could like to have an organist. These fees are payable ***no later than two weeks before the wedding***. Cheques should be made payable to The Parish of Waimate North. Electronic payments may be paid directly into account # 03-0334-0021899-00 name "Waimate North Vestry Charities" Please reference "Wedding Deposit" and your name, AND notify us by email that you have made the deposit.

MARRIAGE LICENCE

You will need to apply for this from Births, Deaths and Marriages at the Department of Internal Affairs in the three months prior to your wedding. <http://www.dia.govt.nz/Births-deaths-and-marriages>. The licence you receive will then need to be sent to the priest ***no later than two weeks before the wedding***. Please note that without this licence a marriage service cannot be conducted.

REV ELGIN EDWARDS
PRIEST-IN-CHARGE WAIMATE NORTH

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