

Who may be witness to our marriage?

It is a legal requirement that there are two witnesses at least 18 years of age. They must be present at the marriage celebration and sign the wedding register.

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### **How do we prepare our wedding booklets (Order of Service)?**

Your celebrant will assist you in preparing your ceremony and will be able to provide you with books for guidance. You will need to provide a draft of your wedding booklet to your celebrant for approval prior to printing them.

Our copyright licence must be quoted together with acknowledgement for all hymns used for the booklet. Please contact the Parish Office for these details.

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May we have photographs and video in the Church?

Professional photographers and video cameras are permitted in the Church. Their equipment and movement are not to distract the priest, bridal couple or guests. Your photographer and/or video operator will need to consult with the celebrant prior to the ceremony as to what is expected of them.

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### **What if we are running late?**

There can be multiple weddings during the afternoon so we ask brides to be on time. You will need to impress this upon your hire car operators, photographers and wedding party.

### **Do we need a wedding rehearsal?**

Rehearsals are recommended to be held the week prior to your wedding day. The church is available on Wednesday or Thursday evenings between 5.30 pm and 7.30 pm. Please discuss the rehearsal with your celebrant before contacting the Parish Office to book a date and time.

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May we throw confetti, rose petals?

The use of confetti, rose petals, bubbles or rice is strictly prohibited within OLG, the Church steps or any other part of the Church property.

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### **What parking facilities are there?**

Parking on the church forecourt is to be used by the bridal party vehicles only. Parking is available in the surrounding streets as well as in the school playground which may be accessed via Campbell Road.

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What is the next step?

Complete and lodge the booking form together with the deposit. For any further queries, please contact the Parish Office.

Our Lady of Good Counsel and All Hallows Parish

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church:
10 Whitehorse Road, Deepdene, Vic 3103

All Hallows Church:
17 Brenbeal Street, Balwyn, Vic 3103

Parish Office and all correspondence to:
19 Brenbeal Street, Balwyn, Vic 3103
Telephone: (03) 9816 9291
Email: parish@olg.com.au
Website: www.olg.com.au



Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

Wedding Information Brochure

Our Lady of Good Counsel and All Hallows Parish congratulates you on your upcoming wedding and welcomes you.

The journey to your wedding day becomes an important starting point for your life together. You have much to think about as your wedding day approaches. The following are responses to frequently asked questions about celebrating your wedding at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church and are provided to assist with your planning.

Can we celebrate our wedding at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church?

You are welcome to celebrate your wedding at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church (OLGC Church). Marriages are celebrated only according to the rites of the Catholic Church. This means that at least one party must be baptised Catholic and both parties are free to marry. If you have any queries about this please discuss with the priest or deacon who will marry you.

The Church provides two forms of the marriage rite:

- Marriage outside of Mass;
- Marriage within Mass.

The priest or deacon marrying you will be able to assist you in choosing the right ceremony for you and planning the detail of the ceremony.

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### **Who will celebrate our marriage for us?**

One of the Parish Priests would be happy to officiate at your wedding. Please indicate on the booking form if you are in need of a priest and one of the Parish Priests will make contact with you.

However, you may prefer to use your own celebrant. Any Catholic priest or deacon registered with the civil authorities as a Celebrant of Marriage may officiate. He will need to provide written confirmation to the Parish Priest in advance of his availability for the chosen date and time to celebrate your marriage. Please include his name and contact details on the booking form.

### **What is required of us?**

At the first meeting with your celebrant you will need to produce positive forms of ID, either a full birth certificate or a valid passport. For a person baptised you will require a baptismal certificate extract that is no older than six months issued by the parish of baptism. There may be other documents required. Your celebrant will advise you of this.

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What times are wedding's celebrated?

OLGC Church is available for weddings on most Saturdays during the year at 1.00 pm and 3.00 pm.

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### **When do we need to book?**

We accept wedding bookings up to 24 months ahead.

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How much does it cost?

The fee for the use of OLGC Church is \$1,000.00.

The celebrant's fee is a separate fee and needs to be discussed with the celebrant directly.

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### **Are flowers included in the fee?**

Normal Sunday flowers will be in the church. If you require special flowers or extra arrangements you will need to provide these. In regards to placement of your flowers, please contact the Parish Office.

### **How do I make a booking?**

By completing the Wedding Ceremony Booking Form and returning it with your deposit of \$500. A letter confirming the booking will be sent out to you. The balance of \$500 needs to be paid six months prior to the ceremony date.

Payment may be made by way of bank cheque, postal order or credit card.

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What if we decide to cancel?

If you wish to cancel your booking at any time, you must do so in writing. Any fees will be returned to you less \$100.00 administration fee.

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### **What music is permissible?**

Music is an important part of your wedding. Couples are encouraged, in consultation with your celebrant, to select hymns that reflect and enhance the sacrament of marriage and the sanctity of the church. Recorded music (CD & iPod) is not permitted.

OLGC Church has a selection of musicians and vocalists who would be able to play and sing at your ceremony. Please contact the Parish Office for further information.

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Do we need to attend a Marriage Preparation course?

Pre-marriage courses are recommended. Your celebrant will guide you in your choice. These courses are an invitation to plan for your marriage, not just your wedding day.