

MARRIAGE INFORMATION

Getting Married in the Church

What is needed?

- ◆ The first thing a couple needs to do is to contact the local parish clergy.
- ◆ The Church where they wish to marry must also be booked.

The Pre-Nuptial Enquiry Forms should be completed, for which the following are required:

- ◆ Baptism and Confirmation Certificates.
- ◆ Proof of Freedom to marry.
- ◆ Marriage Preparation Certificate.
- ◆ Permissions and dispensations where applicable.
- ◆ If either party has been previously married, it is essential that freedom to marry be established before any marriage arrangements are confirmed.

Check List

What the Couple Must Do:

- ◆ Contact the priest chosen to preside at the wedding ceremony (Solemniser).
- ◆ Meet the priest to complete the paperwork.
- ◆ Book the Church where they wish to marry.
- ◆ Attend Pre-Marriage Course.
- ◆ Meet a civil registrar at least 3 months before the wedding to give notice of their intention to marry.
- ◆ Receive the Marriage Registration Form (MRF) from the Civil Registrar.
- ◆ Bring the MRF to the Solemniser.
- ◆ Make the verbal declaration of no civil impediment not more than 2 days before the wedding.
- ◆ Return the signed MRF to any Civil Registrar not later than 1 month after the wedding.

Important Hints

- ◆ Inform the officiating priest of the date and time of your wedding.
- ◆ To avoid any confusion include the officiating priest's name, address and contact number on your Booking Form.
- ◆ Each couple is to see their own local priest for preparatory paper work. He will forward the completed paperwork to our Parish office.
- ◆ Attend a Pre-marriage course ideally 5 months before your wedding. The Accord Course and the Redemptorist Course in Athenry are the only Courses approved by our Diocese.
contact details: Accord, Charles Street, Sligo, Tel: 071 914 5641 website: www.accord.ie
email: accordsligo@eircom.net
Esker Retreat House, Athenry, Co. Galway, Tel: 091 844549, website: www.eskercommunity.net
- ◆ Legal Civil Requirement is at least 3 months notice to The Office of Births/ Marriages/Deaths, Markievicz House, Sligo.
- ◆ Choose appropriate Sacred/ Religious Music for the ceremony.
- ◆ Stipends to Sacristans are payable directly on the day of marriage.
- ◆ Choose Readings/ Ceremony Texts with the officiating priest and arrange a practice with him before the marriage day.
- ◆ Marriage ceremonies must commence on time.
- ◆ Photography/ videography to be used discreetly. Please take care not to have dazzling lights.

We pray God's blessings on Your Marriage. Trust in God, trust in His help and His teachings.

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