

**St. Martin de Porres Catholic Parish
Avondale Heights**

Telephone: (03) 9337 6016
Email: avondaleheights@cam.org.au
www.melbcatholic.org/avondaleheights

158 Military Road
Avondale Heights VIC 3034



Celebrating Your Wedding at St Martin De Porres

Introduction

Should you choose our parish church for the celebration of your wedding, the following information may be of some assistance.

The Catholic Church teaches that marriage between two baptised persons is a sacrament, i.e. a real sign of the grace and goodness of Jesus Christ at work through your love for each other.

We should like to spend some time with you in the preparation for such a wonderful life together. It is important to talk about the various aspects of not just the liturgy of the wedding, but also of marriage itself, and it is essential to undertake some form of pre marriage education. The Marriage and Relationship Education sessions are highly recommended. We can supply details on the variety of courses available to you, and how they might be best suited to your situation.

Documents to bring to first meeting

The priest who celebrates your marriage will draw up the documentation required by both the Federal Government and the Church.

The following documents are required for the completion of marriage paperwork.

- A Birth Certificate (for those born in Australia) OR an Overseas Passport (for those born overseas)
- A Certificate of Baptism issued within the last six months (available from the parish of your baptism)
- Letter Of Freedom To Marry (When the Bridegroom is from another parish)
- Permission To Marry Outside Your Own Parish (Where the Bride is from another parish)

And if applicable

- Death Certificate of previous partner
- Decree Absolute of Divorce
- Decree of Annulment

By agreement with the Federal Government, Ministers of Religion are registered to act as civil celebrants for weddings conducted according to their respective church regulations. Consequently, it is not necessary to have a civil celebration in addition to your Catholic wedding.

Fees

A total fee of \$1,000 is charged i.e. \$500 for the use of the church and \$500 for the priest or deacon celebrating your marriage.

Music

The church is equipped with a pipe organ. Arrangements for music and singing are to be made with the celebrant before you make any other decisions. Couples will need to contact musicians re prices and pay them direct.

Flowers

\$350 (includes 10% GST) per couple.

The parish secretary, Mrs. Lee Tran, should be notified at least TWO WEEKS before the wedding about the type and colour of flowers.

Decoration of the seats is your responsibility however we have bows etc. from other weddings which you might like to use on the day.

NB: The supply and arranging of flowers is a non-profit service for the church.

The flowers are arranged voluntarily by ladies of the parish who are very experienced in knowing what arrangements most suit the layout of the church

Care of the Church and Grounds

The parishioners of St. Martin de Porres are very proud of their church. We therefore ask you to inform your guests beforehand, preferably in the invitation itself, that we discourage the use of paper confetti inside the Church, although it is allowed outside the Church. Flower petals and rice create a safety hazard in that they may lead to slipping on the tiled aisles. Bubbles are better for the environment and for yourselves.

Photography

Operators of still and video cameras should also be reminded of the need for dignified and respectful behaviour in the church.

Parking

There is plenty of parking space in front of the school and at the back of the church. Guests and others could be informed about parking in the invitation.

Preliminary Booking

If you wish to make a preliminary booking, please

- Phone the parish office on 9337 6016 to check your proposed date and time
- Complete the Booking Form and return it via email or mail

Once your booking is confirmed you will need to meet with the priest celebrating your marriage (between 12 and 4 months before date of wedding) to complete the preliminary documentation required by both the Commonwealth Government and the Church.

You will need to bring the required certificates and documents to that meeting.

We hope that this information will clarify matters and that this period of preparation may bring great happiness to you both.

Yours sincerely,



Fr. Paul Tru
Parish Priest
St Martin de Porres Parish



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Preliminary Marriage Booking

(Please print clearly using BLOCK LETTERS)



	Groom		Bride	
Christian Names				
Surname				
Address	Street		Street	
	Suburb		Suburb	
	State	Postcode	State	Postcode
Phone				
Email				
Religion				
Baptized	Yes	No	Yes	No
Which Catholic parish do you live in or belong to?				
Have you been married before?	Yes	No	Yes	No
If 'Yes' how did that marriage end?	Death	Divorce	Death	Divorce
Priest Celebrating your Marriage <i>if not from Avondale Heights</i>	Name of Priest			
	Priest's Parish			
	Priest's Phone No.			
Proposed Day & Date		Time	With Mass or No Mass	
			Nuptial Mass No Mass	
NB: Weddings cannot be celebrated during Holy Week / Easter: i.e. From the Vigil of Palm Sunday through to Sunday after Easter inclusive.				