

What does it cost to be married in the church?

If you are not a regular supporter of the parish the cost is **\$500.00** to be married St. James the Apostle.

Please leave the following in four separate envelopes, with the priest, two weeks prior to the wedding date.

- * \$ 150.00 Clergy
- * \$ 150.00 Church
- * \$ 125.00 Organist
- * \$ 75.00 Chancel Guild

If you regularly support St. James through envelope donations, the \$150.00 Clergy fee is waived. Please note that the amount for the church applies whether the wedding takes place at the church or another location.

Please fill out the enclosed "Application to be Married" and bring to your appointment.



St. James the Apostle

CURRENT CONTACTS

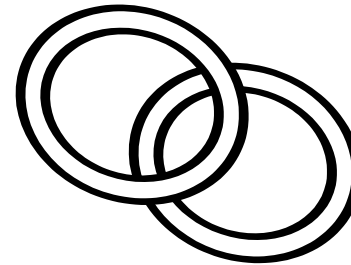
Organist: Connie Scriver
(Available after the
10.30 am Sunday Service)
Chancel: Janet Russell
905-478-4116

Incumbent
The Rev. Bill Welch
905-478-1959

stjames1959@gmail.com
www.stjamessharon.ca

St. James the Apostle

18974 Leslie St
Sharon, ON



***St. James the Apostle
Anglican Church
enriches people's
spiritual life through
worship, discipleship,
community, and
service."***

**Guidelines for
Those Seeking
Marriage**

*If you are coming to the church
to celebrate your marriage,
and to seek God's blessing
upon it,
these are some of the things
you need to know,*

***May God bless you as you
prepare for your wedding day!***

Why a Christian ceremony?

Christians believe that “Marriage is a gift from God and a means of His grace in which man and woman become one flesh.” (Book of Alternative Services p. 528). The focus in the church wedding is on God’s presence, blessing and purpose. By God’s help, Christians hope to live out what they believe to be a *union of faithful love, to the exclusion of all others on either side, for better or for worse, until they are separated by death.* Indeed, in Christian marriage, we pray that the love which grows and binds two people together will be a sign of God’s love for us in Jesus Christ.

What are our Parish expectations of those who seek to be married?

- * That both the bride and groom are baptized Christians or at least one of you is baptized
- * That those seeking to be married will practice their Christian faith by worship
- * That you will attend a Marriage Preparation course
- * That you will meet with the Incumbent 2 -3 times prior to the wedding
- * That you, your wedding party, musicians, readers and parents of the bride and groom, where applicable, attend a Wedding Rehearsal at a time to be arranged.

Can we be married outside?

Can we write our own vows?

Your wedding will reflect not only what you believe and feel about your marriage, but also what the Anglican Church understands about Christian marriage. Therefore, in the Anglican Church, the words of the service are set. The service will normally take place in a church building; any other location should be discussed with the incumbent.

When should we book our wedding?

We normally require at least 3 months notice to make all the arrangements for your wedding. In exceptional circumstances, please speak to the Incumbent.

What if I’m divorced?

Divorced persons can be married in the Anglican Church.

Where do we obtain a licence?

Couples supply their own marriage licence (available from any municipal office). It must be obtained, completed legibly in **black ink or typewriter** and left with the church office **no later than 2 weeks** prior to the wedding date. The wedding can only be solemnized within **three (3) months and no earlier than three (3) days** immediately following the issuance of the licence.

For active members of the church, banns of the intended marriage may be read at Sunday worship. The banns are read on **three (3) occasions** prior to the wedding.

What sort of music will there be?

The following policies determine the selection of music:

- * “Hymns, anthems and readings at the service shall be those only which may be found in Holy Scripture, in the Book of Common Prayer, The Hymn Book, or in texts approved by ecclesiastical authority.” (B.A.S. P.527)
- * Music of a secular nature is not permitted. Save these songs for the reception! Instrumental music is generally fine.
- * **Arrange to meet with our organist at least one (1) month prior to the wedding.**
- * If you are arranging for another musician, that person will need to consult with the Incumbent prior to finalizing plans.

Should we arrange for decorations & flowers?

The Chancel Guild will supply candles and pew bows. Please speak to the head of the Chancel to discuss flowers and other decorations for the church at least **one (1) month prior** to the wedding. If your wedding will take place somewhere besides the church, these arrangements are your responsibility.

Do we ask the clergy to the reception?

The clergy do not expect to be invited to the reception.

Who can officiate at our wedding?

The officiating minister must be the Incumbent of the parish, except under special circumstances. Other clergy may assist with the consent of the Incumbent.

What about photography & videotaping?

- * Photography is allowed only during the procession, recession, and the signing of the register. The wedding party may pose for photographs immediately following the service.
- * Videotaping is permitted provided no lights are used, and the videographer remains in one spot designated by the Incumbent.

Can confetti or rice be used?

Please do not! We don’t have the staff to clean up afterwards.

Can special service brochures be printed?

Absolutely! If you wish to have printed brochures listing the people involved, hymns, readings and the order of service, please let the Incumbent know.