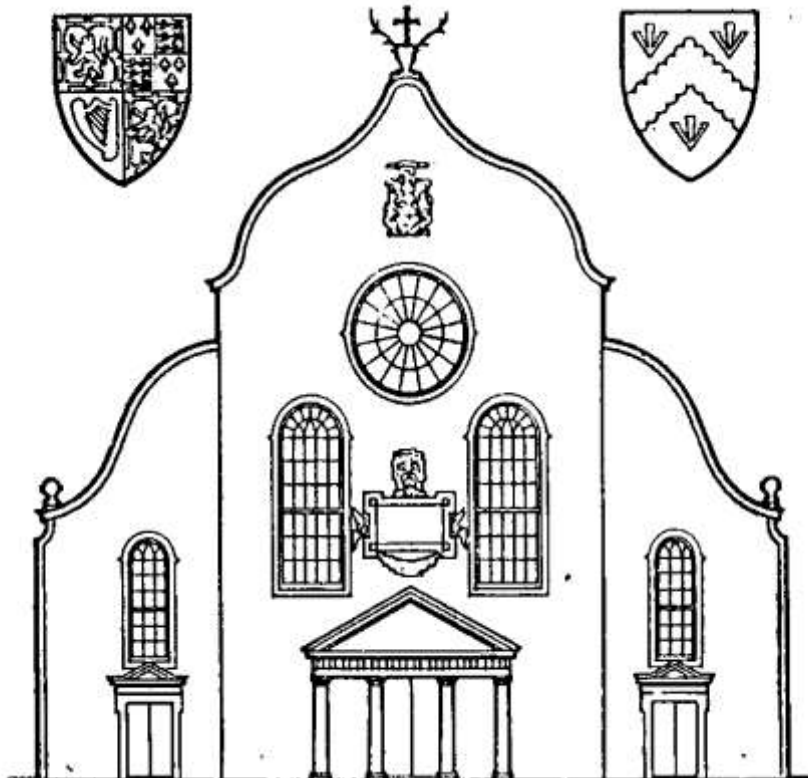


Weddings



Canongate Kirk

The Kirk of Holyroodhouse and Edinburgh Castle

Unless the Lord builds the house,
its builders will have toiled in vain

Congratulations

...on your decision to get married. Whether you're to be married in Canongate Kirk or elsewhere, there are certain things you will need to know as you begin to make your plans and preparations for the big day.

By law you are required to give **Notice of Marriage** to the local Registrar at least 28 clear days before the date of your wedding. You might also be required to supply such documents as birth or death certificates, or divorce papers. For Canongate the appropriate Registrar's office is at

The Registrar's Office

The Quadrangle

City Chambers

253 High Street

Edinburgh EH1 1YP

Tel: 0131 529 2600. www.edinburgh.gov.uk

You will need to contact them direct to make an appointment to lodge the forms. All being well the Registrar will issue a **Marriage Schedule** shortly before the wedding. It should be collected by the bride or groom and brought to me as soon as possible. This is the document that we will sign on the day, and without it the marriage cannot go ahead. It's as important as that! After the ceremony the Schedule must be returned to the Registrar within 3 days and a **Marriage Certificate** will be issued in due course. The fee for this process is currently £70.

Most couples like to arrange a rehearsal, usually late afternoon or early evening a day or two before the wedding. This is a good opportunity to bring along the Marriage Schedule, and also the other fees required for a Church wedding. These are currently £150 for the organist and a donation of not less than £600 to the church. Ideally this should all be combined in one cheque made payable to Canongate Kirk. If you are a taxpayer and kindly sign a declaration form, we can claim Gift Aid on this at no further cost to you. Our resident organist, Simon Leach, would be happy to meet with you to discuss the music for your wedding. His fee is still payable in the rare event that you bring your own organist or musicians. Also, it is customary to leave flowers in place for the following Sunday service. Prior access for florists should be arranged through the Kirk office. Please be aware there may be another wedding the same day – this is not uncommon and just requires an extra degree of co-ordination. Parking in the Kirkyard should be restricted to official cars, and to vehicles transporting elderly or disabled guests. However, parking nearby can be found at: Holyrood Palace Broad Pavement, Holyrood Drive, EH8 8AZ (*6 minute walk*), Waverley Station Car Park (*5 minute walk*), NCP Car Park Edinburgh, St John's Hill, EH8 9UL (*6 minute walk*).

It is essential that we meet up to discuss such details as the music to which you will come in and go out, and the hymns and readings to be incorporated into the service. You might like to consider the suggestions on the back of this leaflet and/or contact our organist through the kirk office on 0131 556 3515 or e-mail canongatekirk@btinternet.com Please let me see the final proof of the Order of Service before it goes to print. You'd be amazed at the number of errors that get past the spell-checker!

You might like to be aware of the vows that are exchanged at a traditional Church of Scotland wedding:

I, A...now take you, B..., to be my wife/husband. In the presence of God and before these witnesses I promise to be a loving, faithful and loyal husband/wife to you, so long as we both shall live.

I will prompt you phrase by phrase - you don't need to learn the words by heart! But think about them, for they sum up the deep commitment you will make to each other on your wedding day.

As time goes on you will need to make arrangements for flowers and photographs etc. Please note that photographs are generally only permitted before and after the ceremony, and during the signing of the register. The day you get married should be the most important day of your life, and the ceremony is more important than the reception! If you have any requests or questions - and soon you will have lists of them - don't hesitate to get in touch with me at the address below. Those getting married are encouraged to consider becoming communicant members of Canongate Kirk as a means, amongst other things, of maintaining a link beyond the date of your wedding and this too is something we can discuss. In the meantime you would be warmly welcome at one of our Sunday services.

The Reverend Neil Gardner:
Manse of Canongate,
Edinburgh EH8 8BR.
Tel 0131 556 3515.

email: nng22@btinternet.com

The Church Hymnary (Fourth Edition):

- 63 All people that on earth do dwell
124 Praise to the Lord
127 O worship the King
132 Immortal, invisible, God only wise
147 All creatures of our God and King
153 Great is thy faithfulness
159 Lord, for the years
160 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven
166 Lord of all hopefulness
167 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
181 For the beauty of the earth
182 Now thank we all our God
189 Be still, for the presence of the Lord
200 Christ is made the sure foundation
212 Morning has broken
213 Every new morning
214 New every morning is the love
336 Christ is our light! the bright and morning star
462 The King of love my shepherd is
519 Love Divine, all loves excelling
528 Make me a channel of your peace
555 Amazing grace
562 Through the love of God our Saviour
598 Come Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire
696 We come, dear Lord, to celebrate
697 Let's praise the Creator
698 The grace of life is theirs
699 God beyond glory
700 As man and woman we were made

Suggested Scripture Readings

- St John 2: 1-11
I Corinthians 13
Ephesians 3: 14-21
Colossians 3: 12-17

www.canongatekirk.org.uk