Cathedral Weddings

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

PHOENIX, ARIZONA
Dearly Beloved,

we have come together in the presence of God
to witness and bless the joining together of this couple
in Holy Matrimony . . .

These time-honored words announce the beginning of the Episcopal Liturgy for the Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage. The Christian community at Trinity Cathedral understands that relationships are complex and that making a lifelong commitment to a relationship through a marriage or blessing is a significant, exciting, and wonder-filled event in people’s lives. We also believe that a Christian community that agrees to bless such a relationship needs to be intentional about supporting the couple as they prepare for the blessing and as they live out their lives. We understand that committed, lifelong relationships are to be outward and visible signs of an inward, spiritual, and God-given love. In this context, Trinity Cathedral seeks to support all couples in their commitment to one another and to help make the love of God more visible for the whole community.

Those who desire the blessing of God on their marriage choose a religious ceremony because they want the Christian faith to be part of their married life. As such, the Church believes you intend to worship together on a regular basis, you intend to seek guidance for your life together from the teachings of Jesus Christ, and you are open to life in an active faith community.

If this is your desire, you will find an Episcopal wedding meaningful, and Trinity Cathedral’s beautiful worship space is well suited for a wedding service based on our Book of Common Prayer.

The Very Reverend Troy Mendez, Dean, and the Congregation of Trinity Cathedral are pleased you are considering having your wedding with us and extend a warm welcome to you.
Requirements

The following criteria is required for an Episcopal Church wedding.

♦ At least one of the parties must be a baptized Christian;

♦ The couple must obtain a marriage license in accordance with the laws of the State of Arizona. Two witnesses who are 18 years of age or older must be witnesses at the ceremony and sign the license.

♦ If either of the couple have been married previously and divorced, permission to remarry must be obtained from the Bishop of the Diocese of Arizona; generally the divorce decree must be final for one (1) year.

♦ Couples wishing to be married in the Episcopal Church need to complete pre-marriage counseling with an Episcopal priest.

Planning

The first steps...

♦ Contact Mrs. Cheryl Hamati, Cathedral Director of Operations at cheryl@azcathedral.org or (602) 254-7126 ext. 301 for calendar availability.

♦ Complete the Wedding Application.

♦ Submit the completed application with a deposit of $500. The deposit is nonrefundable.

Once the wedding date is scheduled, application and deposit are received, you will receive a Wedding Planning Packet. This packet contains a checklist for preparing for your wedding and information for your attendants and those who provide services for your wedding such as the photographer or videographer.

Wedding services are performed by an Episcopal priest from Trinity Cathedral, or by special arrangement, an Episcopal priest of the Diocese of Arizona may perform your ceremony. If you are having a service, other than Episcopal, you may provide your own officiant, with permission from the Cathedral Dean.
About the Service

The wedding service allows for witnesses, attendants for the couple, ushers and a guest book attendant. In addition, the father, parents or others may “give the bride away”. Family or friends may participate by reading the Bible lessons or offering prayers.

The Episcopal service includes an introduction, a declaration of consent by the couple, readings from the Old and New Testaments from the New Revised Standard Version of The Holy Bible, the marriage vows, prayers and a blessing for the couple. It offers many options regarding Bible readings and there are many opportunities for music to be included in the service. There is also a homily (short teaching) by the priest. The service may include Holy Communion, if you wish.

The wedding package includes a service bulletin which will assist your guests in following the marriage ceremony.

The Rehearsal

The rehearsal is an opportunity to review and practice the logistics involved in the marriage service. It is an important time allowing you to ask questions and go through the actual service. All members of your wedding party should attend, including any family or friends, who are participating in the service.

Generally, the organist does not attend the rehearsal.

You are encouraged to bring your marriage license, wedding rings, and wedding attire to the rehearsal. Cathedral staff may lock these items safely away until they are needed the following day.

Wedding Day

The wedding ceremony is a worship service and requires a sense of reverence. Alcoholic beverages on the Cathedral grounds are not appropriate except as planned for the reception.

To ensure the safety of all, no rice, bird seed, flowers or other objects may be thrown on the Cathedral grounds. If bubbles or other items are used, the wedding party is responsible for cleaning up the grounds, if necessary.

Rooms are available for the wedding party to use. The 2 (two) dressing rooms are separate to accommodate for a traditional ceremony where the groom does not see the bride until she walks down the aisle.

The wedding party should arrive at least 90-minutes ahead of the scheduled service time. If the wedding party wants to have photographs taken before the wedding the photographer can help determine the amount of time necessary for pre-wedding pictures.
**Music**

The wedding package includes the service of our organist. A list of appropriate music for the ceremony is included in the wedding planning packets. If you desire music other than the pieces listed, the organist will discuss the selections with you; however, the Dean has final approval of all music offered in the Cathedral. Choir, soloists or additional instrumentalist may offer music at an additional cost.

**Decorations**

Trinity Cathedral’s architecture, stained glass and other features make the space beautiful without the necessity of additional decoration. Therefore, decoration is limited to the altar flowers and to any personal flower you may wish to have. Aisle runners are not used due to the length of the Nave.

**Flowers**

The wedding package includes altar flowers; these flowers are generally used for church services the following Sunday. The Cathedral Flower Guild representative will work with you on the colors, types of flowers and greens for the arrangements. Bouquet, corsages, boutonnieres may be arranged with the florist of your choice.

**Photography**

To prevent distracting your guests from the wedding service, photographers and videographers are required to limit their movements in the Cathedral. Flash photographs of arriving guests, ushers, attendants, and the wedding couple may be taken before the service, either outdoors or in the Cathedral house. Flash photographs of the wedding party inside the Cathedral are limited to the beginning of the wedding party procession and the retiring processions, and then only at the Great Doors (main entrance to the Cathedral).

No flash photography is allowed during the course of the service. Timed exposures and videotape (natural light only) may be taken from a stationary position at the back of the church, in the balcony. Still photographs of the wedding party and family may be taken either before or after the wedding. The priest or other officiants will be pleased to recreate any special photographic moments you may wish to capture.
Cathedral Wedding Packages

(Including a non-refundable deposit of $500)

(1) Member of Trinity Cathedral  $1,500
(2) Family of Cathedral member  $1,800
(3) Member Episcopal Diocese of Arizona  $2,200
(4) Other  $3,000

Included with each Wedding Package:

Wedding Planning Packet
Facility Use for Ceremony & Rehearsal (5 hours total)
Priest’s honorarium*
Organist’s Fee
Altar flowers**
Service bulletin
Wedding Day Coordinator
Dressing Rooms
Security Attendant for Rehearsal and Wedding Day
Sound Tech and Sexton Fee

*Cathedral Clergy are pleased to provide their services and do not expect compensation. The Priest’s honorarium is donated to the Cathedral Discretionary Fund which is used largely for the support and relief of the poor.

**Altar flowers remain in place for Sunday services.

Available at Additional Cost:

Soloist  $250
Quartet  $800
Cathedral Choir  $2,000
Instrumentalists  tbd

Rehearsal Dinner or Wedding Reception
Facility Fee  $1,000
(includes Atwood Hall, Olney Gallery, Courtyard, Kitchen, Tables/Chairs)

If you would like to be married at Trinity Cathedral, please contact Mrs. Cheryl Hamati (602) 254-7126 ext. 301.

At your initial appointment, please bring the following:
The completed and signed application form,
and the $500 non-refundable deposit.
Important Paperwork
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Wedding Application

WEDDING DATE & TIME DESIRED: __________________________

REHEARSAL DATE & TIME DESIRED: __________________________

Rehearsal dinner at Cathedral? ___ Y ___ N

Reception to be held at Cathedral? ___ Y ___ N

Holy Communion included? ___ Y ___ N

Number of Guests?

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(Please see Wedding Package fee schedule on previous page)

Full Name:

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Address: ____________________________________________________________

E-Mail: _____________________________________________________________

Telephone:

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Age: ____ Occupation: _____________________________________________

Date of Birth: ____________________

Place of Birth: ____________________

Church status or religious background:

Church address & telephone number:

Father’s Full Name:

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Mother’s Full Name (include maiden name):

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Marital Status:  

- Single/Widow(er)  
- Divorced

This wedding is my:  

- First  
- Second  
- Third

Baptized?  

- Yes  
- No

If “yes”, in what denomination?

Confirmed?  

- Yes  
- No

If “yes”, in what denomination?

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TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Wedding Agreement

We understand and agree by submitting a Wedding Application form and non-refundable deposit check, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (100 W. Roosevelt St., Phoenix, AZ 85003) will reserve the following date and time for a wedding:

We understand and agree acceptance of a deposit does not guarantee a wedding will take place at Trinity Cathedral unless all canonical requirements are met, including but not limited to preparation of the bride and groom in the manner prescribed by the priest, consent of the priest and, where applicable, permission to re-marry obtained from the Bishop of Arizona. The staff of the Cathedral reserve the right to cancel a scheduled wedding if the marriage license and payment of the balance due are not received before the wedding rehearsal.

Furthermore, we have reviewed the Cathedral Wedding brochure, and understand its contents. We agree to abide by the requirements and restrictions outlined in the brochure, including, but not limited to, the following:

- The marriage service of The Book of Common Prayer will be used, without addition or exception.
- The Cathedral clergy will perform the wedding. If other clergy are requested to participate, permission must be obtained from the Dean of the Cathedral.
- The wedding rehearsal will begin on time. The rehearsal may be cancelled at the discretion of the officiant if participants are late, or if participants are not respectful of the sacred nature of the Cathedral and wedding service.
- No decorations normally will be used—save the flower arrangements provided by the Cathedral Flower Guild and any flowers worn or carried by the wedding party.
- All music and musicians for the wedding are subject to prior review/audition and approval of the Cathedral organist. A Cathedral wedding is a religious service, and secular songs are more appropriately presented at the reception.
- Photography during the wedding is limited to the entrance and exit of the wedding party. Still photographs taken before and/or after the service are permitted.
- Videotaping of the service, without light enhancement, may occur only from the stationary positions approved by Cathedral staff. No person is to disrupt the service by noise, flash, light or movement.
- No flower petals, rice or other materials, natural or synthetic, may be thrown or strewn at the Cathedral, either indoors or outside.
- The drinking of alcoholic beverages is not permitted on the Cathedral grounds for weddings. Any persons in the wedding party who arrive intoxicated may be asked not to participate in the wedding. The wedding will be cancelled if either of the wedding couple appear inebriated.

Signed: ____________________________________________    ____________________________

Date: ____________________________________________    ____________________________
Declaration of Intention

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We, __________________________ and __________________________ desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly declare that we hold this covenant to be our lifelong commitment as provided by The Episcopal Church gathered in General Convention.

We believe that our covenant is intended by God for our mutual joy, for the encouragement and support given one another in daily life and changing circumstances, for bringing God’s grace to our community, for the deepening of faith as we experience God’s love in our love for one another, and (if it may be) for the physical and spiritual nurture of children. This covenant shall be nurtured and characterized by fidelity, monogamy, mutual affection and respect, careful, honest communication, and the holy love which shall enable us to see in each other the image of God.

And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this covenant and to seek God’s help hereto.

______________________________
Signature

______________________________
Signature

______________________________
Date

Trinity Cathedral

The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona

100 W. Roosevelt Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
(602) 254-7126
TrinityCathedral.com

The Rt. Rev. Kirk S. Smith, Ph.D.
Bishop of Arizona

The Very Rev. Troy Mendez
Dean