

Grace Episcopal Church
123 West Washington Street
Lexington, Virginia 24450
540-463-4981

Requirements of the Church

Weddings celebrated at Grace Episcopal Church must be approved by the Rector. Permission for non-staff clergy to use the church for a wedding must be obtained from the Rector.

An active affiliation with Grace Episcopal Church is required. If you are not a pledging parishioner, a fee schedule for use of the church is available from the Parish Office.

At least three pre-marital counseling sessions are required between the priest celebrating the marriage and the couple. If either party has been divorced, the consent of the Bishop of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia is required before an Episcopal priest can officiate. At least one partner must be an active member of the parish. The Parish Office will complete the form necessary for the Bishop's approval. Please allow at least three months for this process.

Weddings are not scheduled during the season of Lent.

For the Rehearsal

Wedding directors are welcome, but it is understood that the priest conducts the rehearsal and the marriage service.

For the Ceremony

Candles

Use of candles in the chancel area is limited to Eucharistic candles, if there is communion, and two candelabra supplied by the Altar Guild. Candles may be placed in the windows, if used with globes.

Flowers & Ribbons

Flower arrangements are limited to two altar arrangements-one vase on either side of the cross. Please notify the Administrative Assistant of your choice of florist and whether you desire to leave the flowers for Sunday morning. Any decorations other than altar flowers must be approved by the Rector.

Photographs & Videographers

No photographs are permitted during the ceremony. Stationary video cameras may be used when approved by the Rector. Photographs may be taken in the church before and after the ceremony. The church will remain open for one hour following the service.

The Reception

The Parish Hall is available for receptions, with the following stipulations:

- Diocesan guidelines restrict the use of alcoholic beverages on parish premises.
- Caterers must contact the Administrative Assistant to confirm arrangements.
- The throwing of rice, birdseed, or flower petals is not permitted on parish grounds.

Fee Schedule

Clergy

There is no fee for services of clergy of this parish; however, an honorarium is appropriate. Clergy not associated with this parish may set their own fee.

Parish Organist

The Parish Organist has right of first refusal for all weddings performed at the church. The fee for the Parish Organist is \$300. The fee for the Parish Organist Friday night rehearsal is \$50. If the wedding party desires alternative accompaniment or an alternate organist, the Parish Organist approves the musician(s), and all musical selections. Special music which she must learn for a service, or additional rehearsing with a soloist, warrants a higher remuneration. Guest musicians specify their own fees.

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild prepares the altar for the wedding and also prepares for Holy Eucharist. A contribution of \$50 to the Altar Guild Fund is appropriate.

Sexton

The sexton's fee is \$150 (\$250 if the Parish Hall is used for a reception). In addition to her services in preparing the church for the wedding and cleaning up after, she also is on hand to assist the wedding party and clergy during the rehearsal and the wedding.

*Please make checks payable to Grace Episcopal Church.
Musicians and others contracted by the family should be paid directly.*