



The Church of Scotland
Kinloss and Findhorn Parish
Practical Guidelines
For
Christian Marriage

Minister - Reverend Duncan Shaw
Manse - 01309 690931

We are delighted that you are planning to have a Christian Marriage. When marriages begin with *God's* Blessing, we believe that loving relationships are enriched and more lasting.

The following notes are guidelines, however do please feel able to contact the Minister as soon as possible to discuss your plans and to ensure that your *preferred* date is available. Although we would prefer you to commit yourselves to married life in the Church, if you are considering an alternative location, please discuss this with the Minister. He may be contacted on 01309 690931.

REGISTRAR

You will need to contact your local Registrar(s) not more than 3 months prior to, and not less than 3 weeks *before*, your Wedding Day. Do take with you Identity (such as a Passport) your Birth Certificates and, if applicable, Certificate of Absolute from a former marriage. Forres Registrar may be contacted on 01309 694000.

MUSIC

It is usual to have Christian hymns/songs during the Service and music to accompany your arrival or departure from the Church. The Church organist is happy to advise and discuss music with you - Mrs June Kirk may be contacted on 01309 673194. You may of course use a competent musician whom you know.

FLOWERS

You may decorate the Church with flowers if you wish. It is a custom to leave a small arrangement in the Church after the Wedding, but this is not obligatory. No large arrangements should be placed on the Communion Table, as this will be in use during the Service. Do please ensure that any fixings used for arrangements do not damage the fabric of the building.

CHURCH OFFICER

Responsibility for the opening of the Church, cleaning, heating and lighting is delegated to the Church Officer: Mrs Oja on 01309 673781. She should be contacted and a time negotiated for access to arrange flowers etc.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography/Video is allowed but restricted during the Service. Please discuss this with Minister first and advise any professional photographer to contact him also. Please check that your video operator has the necessary copyright licence for the recording of music at the ceremony.

REHEARSAL

There is no requirement for a rehearsal! The Minister believes that a wedding ought to be a spontaneous and unique event in your lives. It is not a theatrical performance!

FEES.....

There are no fees payable to or for the Minister !

However, bearing in mind that churches are invariably historic buildings requiring constant upkeep and which also require heating and lighting, you will appreciate we have to make a charge. You should place the respective fees for the Church, the Organist and the Church Officer in suitably larked envelopes and give them to the respective parties in advance or on the day. If one of you is a tax payer, please ask the Minister for a Gift Aid Declaration Form. This allows the church to retrieve an additional tax concession from HM Government.....at no extra cost to you! The current fees are :-
Church £70, Organist £50, Church Officer £35.

AND FINALLY.....

The Registrar will have the Marriage Schedule ready for YOU to collect during the week leading up to the Wedding. This Schedule **MUST** be in the hands of the Minister by the Wedding day. If he does not have it, then by law he is forbidden to proceed! Please also arrange for a reliable person to return the Schedule to the Registrar within 3 working days of the Marriage.

ANY QUESTIONS ?.....

Please feel able to contact the Minister at any time.

With every good wish and blessing to you for tour Marriage and your future together, from the Minister, Kirk Session and Congregation of Kinloss and Findhorn Church.