

St. Simon the Apostle Parish

2 Taylor's Lane, Rowville, Victoria, 3178

Telephone: 9764 4058
www.stsimonsparish.com.au

Email: office@stsimonsparish.com.au
YouTube Channel: tinyurl.com/s36hstf

INFORMATION BROCHURE. TO HELP YOU PREPARE AND CELEBRATE YOUR MARRIAGE AT ST. SIMON'S



CONGRATULATIONS

The Parish Community of St Simon's congratulates you.
On your engagement and prays that God will bless you on your
growth, in love at this stage of your life.

In preparing for your wedding at St. Simon's and for your married
life, there are a number of requirements and a number of practical
details you will need to know. These are-outlined in this leaflet.

PREPARATION FOR MARRIED LIFE

As your marriage approaches, there are many things happening in your life. You are however, preparing for the rest of your life, and we wish to help you in that. The FOCCUS program prepares individual couples and is highly recommended. There is a fee for this form of preparation. With a "Focus" questionnaire that will help you explore your relationship at a greater depth. This takes an hour at a time over three sessions to suit your convenience.

The fee is:

- \$370.00 per couple (if both are employed)
- \$320.00 per couple if one or both is unemployed or a student.

PAPERWORK TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CELEBRANT

Your marriage ceremony at St. Simon's is both a church sacrament and a State service. Consequently, although there is one ceremony, there are two separate sets of forms to be filled in. These forms are completed by the priest at the church but you need to produce certain certificates.

❖ Evidence of Birth

This must be your birth certificate, either an extract or full certificate.

❖ Baptism

Your certificate of Baptism. If you do not have one, contact the parish of your Baptism, include a stamp-addressed envelope, and the date around which you were baptised. They will send a copy on to you. If you were baptised in a church that is not Catholic, they will also supply you with the similar form of certificate.

❖ Divorced

If you are divorced, you will require your Decree Absolute, plus the Annulment of Marriage from the Archdiocese. We will assist you in this matter.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

❖ Fees

The fee is \$300.00 (priest) + \$500 (church) + \$200 Bond.

This covers Fr. Mark Reynold or Fr. Samuel Pearson's service, the church building and grounds and insurance.

If you have your own priest, the fee is \$500.00 for the church. You will need to make arrangements with the celebrant for his fee. If you or your family are in the Thanksgiving Program, the church fee is only \$100.00.

A deposit of \$100.00 is payable at the time of your booking. This amount is deducted from the fee and the total cost needs to be paid at least two weeks before the ceremony.

❖ Confetti

Confetti, rice, flowers or such items are NOT to be thrown around the church. We would be pleased if you informed your guests of this practice to avoid embarrassment at the wedding.

❖ Flowers

Contact our floral decorator, **Beatrice Polydor** on **0400 750 608** at least one month prior to your wedding date to make arrangements and confirm your requirements.

❖ Music

You may wish to have your own musicians or organist. If so, please make these arrangements yourself. We have an excellent set-up for CD's combined into our public address system. You will need to arrange for someone to operate this system during the ceremony.

THE WEDDING CEREMONY

- ❖ The wedding is arranged by, you in association with your priest. You may choose a Nuptial Mass or just the wedding ceremony.
- ❖ Many couples prepare their own wedding booklets. There are many readings, prayers and a great variety of music available for you to choose for your wedding liturgy. Your priest will be able to refer, you, to wedding liturgy books, which you may use to make the occasion memorable.
- ❖ **TIME** - It is important that the ceremony commence at the time arranged so that other people and any ceremony to follow will not be inconvenienced.
- ❖ **WITNESSES** - The law requires two witnesses over the age of 18 to sign marriage certificates and the register.

PRAYER DURING TIME OF ENGAGEMENT

Loving God, you are the source of all love
and you have brought us together.
As we prepare for the sacrament of Marriage,
we ask your assistance.
Strengthen us with your blessing,
May we grow in respect for each other
and cherish each other
with the hope of a lifetime of loving.
We ask this through Christ the Lord.

Amen.