

St Margaret's

Catholic Church

Marriage Guide

Paperwork

There are two tracks of paperwork which are brought together on the wedding day so your wedding is both legal in the eyes of the state and sacramental in the eyes of the Church.

The civil documents are normally blue or green Certificates for Marriage issued by the Registrar. Please make an appointment bringing proof of identity and proof of address.

After enquiry the Registrar will issue the certificates which are valid up to a year. Please do not leave obtaining them to the last moment as if they are not available the Church is not able to go ahead with the wedding.

The religious documents are compiled by the Parish Priest where either of you currently live. He will complete a marriage enquiry form asking details of full name, dates of birth, address etc.

The catholic party has to provide the following;

- Baptism Certificate – This needs to be issued within six months of the wedding. These are obtainable from the Parish where you were baptised.
- Confirmation Certificate
- Statutory Declaration of Freedom signed and stamped in front of a solicitor.
- Marriage Course Certificate

The non-catholic Christian has to provide the following;

- Baptism Certificate
- Statutory Declaration of Freedom signed and stamped in front of a solicitor.
- Marriage Course Certificate

If one of you is a Catholic Christian or not baptised some further paperwork is necessary but that will be undertaken by the priest.

Please note that the norms of the Church are for the paperwork to be undertaken by the priest where you currently live and NOT where you are getting married, unless you are getting married in your own parish church.