

Church Regulations

A couple marrying in the Catholic Church is required to give a **minimum** of three months notice to their priest and, for Catholics, complete a Pre Nuptial Enquiry Form. This form records the particulars of your baptism into the Catholic Church (thus establishing your canonical right to the sacrament of marriage). It also records details of your Confirmation, establishes whether or not you are free to marry in the Catholic Church and if any special conditions or permission is required. It establishes that as a mature adult you understand the nature of marriage and accept the duties and responsibilities of married life. The forms for both bride and groom (or whoever is a Catholic) are sent to the parish priest of the place where the wedding takes place and after the wedding are secured in the parish archive.

Both of you (or the Catholic party, if only one is Catholic) will have to make an appointment to have a Prenuptial Enquiry Form completed with the priest of the parish you live in. At this meeting you should have with you:

1. A copy of your Baptismal Certificate (issued within 6 months of presenting it).
2. A copy of your Confirmation Certificate.
3. A Letter of Freedom from each parish you have lived in for 6 months or more since you were 18.

Where applicable, the following additional certificates are required:

4. *Widows/Widowers must supply a Death Certificate of previous spouse*
5. *A Decree of Nullity (and Decree Absolute of Divorce) if you were granted an annulment*

These forms establish your canonical right and freedom to marry in the Catholic Church.

State Regulations

In the Republic of Ireland, according to the Family Law Act 1995, you must notify the Registrar of Marriages, in person, at least three months before the date of the marriage. An appointment is necessary. It is the responsibility of the couple to ensure that all civil requirements are fulfilled. Gorey Registrar, The Health Centre, Gorey: 053 942 1374 or the General Register Office, Government Buildings, Convent Road, Roscommon: Tel LoCall 1890-252076. See also www.groireland.ie

Marriage Preparation

Attendance at a Marriage Preparation Course is mandatory for couples who present requesting marriage in the Ferns diocese. The diocese wishes to ensure that couples are afforded the opportunity to give marriage itself and their relationship core priority as they embark on what will be the most significant relational choice they make in their lifetime. Courses are delivered by trained and accredited facilitators who are available to provide first rate input in pre marriage courses. For more information on Marriage preparation courses please contact: Family Life Services, St. Brigid's Centre, 12 Roches Road, Wexford. 053 9123086 / Email: flswexford@eircom.net

Booking the Church

Your first task is to find out if the church of your choice (St. Michael's, Gorey or St. Kevin's, Tara Hill) is free to facilitate your wedding according to your wishes. A booking presumes that you fulfil the canonical and civil requirements for marriage, i.e. that you are free to marry in the Catholic Church. The diary is kept in the Parish Office, so please contact the Parish secretary either in person, by phone: 053 942 1117 or email:

goreyparish@gmail.com. Office hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 -1:00 & 2:00-5:00.

Gorey parish has a policy concerning the celebration of weddings in its churches. Non-parishioners must provide a priest who is a Registered Solemniser to officiate at the ceremony.

Weddings are not celebrated on Sundays or Holy Days.

Fees

A Church Booking Form needs to be completed. A booking fee of €400 applies to all non parishioners. This fee is payable when returning the completed Booking Form and secures the date. It is non-refundable in the event of a cancellation.

The Church booking fee is entirely separate to the stipend for the priest, which is your personal appreciation of the service he gives you for your wedding.

The Ceremony

Marriage is a Sacrament in its own right and is valid and complete whether it is celebrated during a Wedding Mass or during a Wedding Service. Couples have a choice. There are circumstances when it may be more appropriate not to include the celebration of the Eucharist. This is something you should discuss with your priest.

Texts for a Wedding Mass and a Wedding Service are available from the parish either in hard copy or via email. Another useful resource can be found on the web at <http://gettingmarried.ie>

Music

Music should give dignity to the celebration of your Marriage which is a Sacrament –a sacred and solemn event. Not all musicians can be depended upon to assist in making appropriate selections. Check with your priest before making any final decisions and before putting anything into Wedding Booklet (if you decide to have one).

Additional Notes

- For a wedding to take place in a Catholic Church at least one of the couple must be Catholic and both must fulfil the requirements of Church and State law. The wedding rehearsal should be arranged with the celebrant. People taking a leading part in the ceremony are asked to attend.
- No rice, confetti etc. in the Church grounds. They are a litter nuisance!
- Location of Photographers / Videographers must be approved by the priest – please advise them accordingly.
- **Punctuality** shows respect to guests and celebrant. **It is expected.** Your wedding may not be the only scheduled event on the day for the priest or in the church. Tardiness may result in your wedding having to be deferred!
- A wedding booklet is optional and entirely at the discretion of the couple.
- Floral arrangements or other decorations should be free-standing, not obscure the altar or ambo and never affixed with nails or thumb-tacks! Floral arrangements donated to the church are gratefully accepted. For further advice contact the relevant church sacristan.
- Your wedding necessitates extra work for the Church sacristan. An appropriate consideration would be in order.

Gorey Priests Contact Details	
	V Rev William Howell PP St. Michael's Presbytery St. Michael's Road Gorey Co. Wexford
Tel:	(053) 9421112 (House) (053) 9421117 (Office) (087) 6408683 (Mobile)
Email	whowell@eircom.net
	Rev Matt Boggan CC St. Patrick's Presbytery St. Michael's Road Gorey Co. Wexford
Tel:	(053) 9421117 (House) (053) 9421117 (Office)
Email:	goreyparish@gmail.com
	Rev William Flynn CC St. Patrick's Presbytery St. Michael's Road Gorey Co. Wexford
Tel:	(053) 9421117 (House) (053) 9421117 (Office)
Email	fbillyf@gmail.com
Sacristan Contact Details	
Gorey:	John Woodbyrne (086) 8687533
Tara Hill:	Ciss Doyle (053) 9421068

Gorey Parish



Saint Michael's Church, Gorey



Saint Kevin's Church, Tara Hill

Wedding Information