



ST FINBARR'S, ASHGROVE ✠ ST MARY MAGDALENE, BARDON ✠ ST JOAN OF ARC, HERSTON
ST AMBROSE'S, NEWMARKET ✠ ST THOMAS MORE, PETRIE TERRACE ✠ ST BRIGID'S, RED HILL ✠ SACRED HEART, ROSALIE

Legal Requirements to be married in the Catholic Church

To be legally married in the Catholic Church you must be able to answer 'yes' to the following:

- I am over 18 years of age.
- I am legally able to get married under the laws of the Australian Government (ie; you are not presently married).
- I am legally able to get married under the laws of the Catholic Church (ie; you have never been married before or, if you have, then you have been through the Church annulment process and have received an annulment from the Church).
- You are both prepared to complete a marriage preparation course before you get married.

Documentation required

The Documents each of you will need to provide a copy of are:

- **Your birth certificate**
- **Recent copies of your baptismal and Confirmation certificates (at least one of the parties to be married must be baptized Catholic)**
- **Any other relevant documentation (i.e.; copies of annulments, divorce decree etc.)**
- **A certificate indicating the completion of your marriage preparation programme (when you have completed your course)**

Church Costs:

The parish asks for a donation of \$1000 to cover our costs. We do not want to place additional financial burdens upon you. The donation covers the church expenses of:

- Donation to the church, which includes offsetting cleaning, electrical, insurance and other maintenance costs.
- Lodgment of all civil and canonical documents.
- The flowers for the church – 1 arrangement in front of the altar. **(the office will ring the florist)**
- The Priest's/deacon's stipend

Frequently Asked Questions - Marriage

What if a Catholic is Marrying a Person Who is Not a Catholic?

When a Catholic marries a Christian from another Church or a non-Christian in a Catholic church, the celebrant is required to complete an application for the necessary permission or dispensation.

Catholic partners are asked to promise to do all in their power to share their faith with their children by having them baptized and brought up in the Catholic Church. The Catholic party must inform the other partner of this promise and sign the declaration. No promise is required of the other partner.

The minister of the non-Catholic partner may be invited to participate in the celebration of the marriage in a Catholic church, for example, by reading from the Scriptures, leading a prayer, or blessing the couple.

Sometimes a Catholic will want to get married in another Christian church or outside a church. When there is sufficient reason, such a marriage for a Catholic may be recognized by the Catholic Church. This is a possibility you should discuss with your parish priest.