

Weddings – Voting Members

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding!

We look forward to assisting you with your wedding plans. First Parish in Cambridge's historic meetinghouse has been the site of many beautiful weddings. We also have a chapel for a more intimate ceremony and reception space for rent.

All weddings at First Parish in Cambridge must be conducted by one of the congregation's ministers, or by a guest clergyperson approved in advance by First Parish in Cambridge. (Non-resident clergy must file a Petition to Solemnize Marriage with the state of Massachusetts.)

If you are a voting member of First Parish, one of the benefits of membership is that fees for the minister and rental space for the ceremony are waived for voting members. Donations to the Ministers Discretionary Fund are welcome. Reception space is available at reduced costs – see member rental fees.

If you wish to be married at First Parish and you are a voting member of the congregation, contact one of the ministers to discuss your plans. If you are not a member, please see the non-member wedding rental section of the website for information.

All requests to reserve space in the church for the wedding, rehearsal, and reception dates must be made through the Office Coordinator at office@fpcambridge.org

Music Fees

Organist for a Wedding Ceremony: \$250 (includes a one-hour consultation with couple) There is a \$50 additional charge per 15 minute increments for ceremonies beginning more than 10 minutes past the scheduled time.

Wedding Rehearsal: \$75

Rehearsal with soloist or instrumentalist : \$60 (per hour or fraction thereof)

Organ music for weddings at the church is provided by the First Parish organist. If you prefer to engage a guest organist, you must get the approval of the First Parish organist. If the guest organist is approved, the First Parish organist will be paid a bench fee of \$50 for instructing the guest organist on the use of the instrument. To arrange for the services of Jonathan Barnhart, the Church organist, or to discuss approval of a guest organist, you may phone him at 617-524-2447.

You are permitted to engage other instrumentalists at will. Approval is not required for a pianist or other instrumentalists. However, if you want the piano tuned before your wedding, there is

a charge of \$135 for the tuner. Tuning the piano is optional. There is no charge to members for using the piano without a tuning.

Fees for Sexton

A minimum fee of \$120 for the first four hours (rehearsal and ceremony combined), and \$30 for each additional hour or part thereof. The sexton is required for weddings larger than 20 participants/ guests combined or a wedding of any size if a non-staff clergy person is performing the ceremony.

Others (Florist, caterer, etc.)

First Parish in Cambridge does not provide or recommend any particular floral or catering services. However, please make sure that the companies you choose are in touch with our Office Coordinator to coordinate access to the building. Please note that church office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.