

Version 2

You repeat after Andrew

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I ..... do take thee .....to be my lawful wedded wife/ husband.

To have and to hold from this day forward for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part.

This is my solemn vow

Andrew then asks for the rings and as you exchange rings you repeat after him saying:

A..... I give you this ring in God's name, as a symbol of all that we have promised, and all that we share.

### Outline of the Marriage service

Welcome

Hymn

Introduction

*Explaining what the Bible says about marriage*

Prayer

*Giving thanks for the gift of love and asking for God's grace and help to fulfil the marriage vows*

Marriage Vows

Giving of Rings

Declaration of Marriage

Hymn (if applicable)

Readings

*From the Bible and others if desired*

Address

*Short talk based on one of the readings*

Prayer

*Asking for God's blessing on your life together*

Hymn

Final Blessing

Signing of the Marriage Schedule

Wedding Party departs

The service lasts approx 30 minutes

**Please contact Andrew Morrice for more information or to make arrangements for your wedding**

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# Getting Married at Dunfermline East Church



## **Congratulations!**

You've decided to get married - you've made one of the most important decisions of your life!

This leaflet explains what is involved in having a Christian ceremony for your wedding and hopefully answers some of your questions.

### **Where can I get married?**

You can get married in our church building which was opened in 2012 and has good facilities. Andrew is also happy to take wedding services in hotels or other locations. Please speak to him about the different possibilities.

### **What if either of us have been married before?**

The Church of Scotland does allow those who have been divorced to remarry in a christian ceremony, but at the discretion of the minister. Andrew will be very happy to discuss this with you.

### **Do we have to join the church first?**

We do not ask you to join the church in order to get married, though we do recommend that you attend a church service during the weeks leading up to the wedding. This will help you to feel more “at home” during your wedding service and to be more aware of God’s presence and His place in your marriage.

### **What arrangements have to be made?**

Andrew will meet with you to discuss the date of the service and to make the necessary arrangements. He will also explain the format of the service and discuss the kind of things you may want to include. If desired, a date will be arranged for a rehearsal, usually on the day before the wedding.

### **Is there a fee?**

There is no fee for the minister but there will be a fee for the use of the church building to cover costs, as well as for the pianist if you have one.

### **Photographs and Video Recording**

We would prefer it if photographs were not taken during the service but they may be taken when the service is over and during the signing of the Marriage Schedule.

Please let the minister know if you wish to make a video recording of the service.

### **Legal Requirements**

You must each submit a Marriage Notice to the registrar in whose district the marriage is to take place not less than 4 weeks before the wedding (6 weeks if you have been married before) Before doing this, it is important to finalise arrangements with the minister regarding the date of the wedding.

Forms may be obtained from any registrar in Scotland.

You will both require your birth certificate and a note of:

1. Where the marriage will take place and the minister's name
2. The names and addresses of the two witnesses (usually the best man and chief bridesmaid) who must be 16 or over.

When the registrar is satisfied that there is no legal impediment to the marriage, a Marriage schedule will be prepared. The registrar will tell you when this can be issued and one or both of you must attend in person to collect it.

**The Schedule must be handed to the minister before the service starts – we cannot go ahead without it!**

Immediately after the service, you both sign the Schedule, along with the witnesses and the minister. It then has to be returned to the registrar within three days of the wedding.

In the case of someone living outside the UK, there may be extra legal requirements. IN this case, it is advisable to consult the registrar well in advance of the proposed date of marriage.

**What about the vows?**

Below are two versions of vows and you can choose the form of words you both like best. You do no need to memorize them! You simply repeat them after Andrew a few words at a time.

If you would prefer Andrew can also put them in the form of a question, which you then answer "I do"

Version 1

*You repeat after Andrew*

I ..... take you ..... to be my wife/husband.

In the presence of God and before these witnesses, I promise to be a loving faithful and loyal husband/wife to you so long as both shall live.

Andrew then says:

As a token and sign of the covenant into which you have entered, this ring/these rings are given and received.

Rings are exchanged.