

Photography and Videography at St. Mark's Weddings

Posed portraits taken prior to or following the wedding ceremony are encouraged. Please schedule time carefully to allow for seating of guests to begin at least 20 minutes prior to the scheduled beginning of the service. If the Celebrant is to be included in any portraits taken after the service, those shots should be scheduled first. The use of other locations indoors or out are encouraged. The Celebrant or Event Host should be consulted prior to the wedding day of the photographer's schedule and locations to be used.

The taking of photos by members of the congregation during the ceremony is to be discouraged. A notice should be included in the bulletin that reads something like this:

Please refrain from taking photos during the ceremony.

The official photographer is *name* who will make photographs available for purchase through his/her website www.PhotographersWebsite. After *date* click on _____ link and enter password _____.

During the service (which includes the opening and closing processions), there shall be no flash photography permitted in the sanctuary. Photographers shall dress in attire appropriate for the wedding. Photographers shall stay to the rear of the church or with prior arrangement, behind the pulpit area, keeping distracting movement to a minimum. At the opening procession, we recommend photographing the bridal party as they traverse the back of the church before turning down the main aisle. In no case shall the photographer be positioned between the groom and the bride during the opening procession! The taking of photographs during the recitation of vows, exchange of rings or blessing of the vows is strongly discouraged. These can easily be restaged following the ceremony. Generally candid photographs are best taken during the playing of music and strongly discouraged during sacred prayers and vows. Any questions or exceptions should be taken up with the celebrant well in advance of the ceremony.

Videography is encouraged, but should be from fixed camera positions along the back or sides of the church. There are jacks to allow sound to be picked up from existing microphones and fed to video cameras. Compatibility of the system should be established well in advance of the ceremony, as well as answering any questions.