Weddings at St. Mark's

We are delighted that you are considering being married at St. Mark's. We believe that "marriage is intended for (your) mutual joy" (book of Common Prayer, p. 423). To that end, we are eager to make your wedding a joyful and meaningful experience. And even more importantly, we want to help build a solid foundation for your marriage in the many years to come. In this regard, the Episcopal Church requires all couples to attend premarital counseling with an Episcopal priest and, if desired, with a certified marriage and family counselor. Additionally, weddings at St. Mark's conform to the liturgical practices of the Episcopal Church.

One of the most challenging and rewarding of human relationships, marriage is meant to be lived out in a community of faith where it can be nurtured and supported by others. As you prepare for your wedding, and after you are married, we encourage you to get involved in the life of this parish.

Within a faith community, marriage is regarded as a sacrament – an outward sign of God's love, reconciliation, justice, and compassion for all people. By choosing to be married in a church, you are asking for the blessing of Christ on your union.

Congratulations again on your plans to be married. If you are interested in celebrating your wedding at St. Mark's, it would be our joy to celebrate with you as you make this covenantal commitment. For more information, please contact our Parish Administrator, Julie Petroff at <u>stmarksc@gmail.com</u> or at 843.379.1020.