

## ANY QUESTIONS?

*Please feel free to contact the Rector, the Rev. William Feus, or the Parish Administrator, Mrs. Christine Trucco, to discuss the particulars of your wedding plans.*

*We look forward to working with you as you plan your wedding and pray that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will richly bless you along the way!*

## ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH

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Bernardsville, New Jersey 07924  
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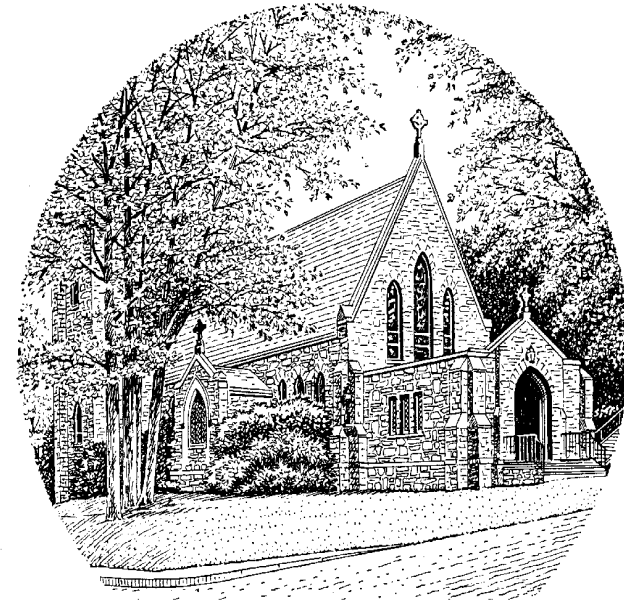


## Information About Weddings



ST. BERNARD'S  
CHURCH

*Soli Deo Gloria!*



Tel: 908-766-0602

# Weddings at St. Bernard's Church

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## Welcome!

Nestled in the lovely Somerset Hills of New Jersey, historic St. Bernard's Church has been a worshipping community for over a century. Founded originally by affluent New Yorkers seeking summertime refreshment St. Bernard's, a parish of the Episcopal Church, has

over the years become both a vital congregation in the Diocese of New Jersey but also an integral part of Bernardsville.

The church building was designed by renowned New York architect Napoleon LeBrrn. Built in 1898 in the Gothic Revival style, the building has been renovated over the past century and features stained glass windows in the nave and chancel crafted by Kempe Studios in England. A series of fires have made their mark on the building as well; the October 2004 fire devastated the building resulting in the reconstruction of the "oculus" window depicting an ascending Christ above the altar table in the chancel.

The 2004 fire provided the church with the opportunity to install a brand-new organ, designed by the firm of R. A. Colby of Johnson City, Tennessee as well as the installation of a state-of-the-art HVAC system. *The church building appears on both the National and State Registers of Historic Places.*

For those planning weddings in the often hot and humid New Jersey summer, the HVAC system is a welcome addition to St. Bernard's Church!

## Weddings

Members in good standing of St. Bernard's Church are given first priority when scheduling weddings. Our "peak season" for weddings is from May to September, but parishioners and guests are welcome to schedule weddings anytime of the year. For those who are not members of St. Bernard's Church weddings are scheduled in consultation with the Rector and based on availability. To be married in the Episcopal Church the following requirements must be met:

- At least one person (bride or groom) must be a baptized Christian;
- The ceremony must be attested by at least two witnesses;
- The marriage must conform to the laws of the State and the canons of this Church.
- A priest or bishop normally presides at the Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage.

However, there are instances (subject to the Rector's discretion) where a minister or pastor from another Christian church may officiate at a marriage held in St. Bernard's Church. In those instances, different rules often apply. The Episcopal Church, for example, requires that a priest or bishop preside at the marriage service; other traditions do not provide for bishops, or refer to their ministers of the Gospel as simply pastor or minister.

What is essential is that whatever your denomination or tradition that you and your minister affirm the essentials of the Christian faith outlined in the Apostle's and Nicene Creeds.

## Fees

To rent the church building for a wedding the fee is \$2500. This fee covers the use of the church building and property (exclusive of the Parish House) for a rehearsal and for the wedding service. The building is made available for the florist the day of the wedding; specific scheduling must be worked out with the St. Bernard's Parish Administrator. A deposit of \$200 is required to secure the church building for your wedding. You may arrange for your own musicians or organist; if you would like the St. Bernard's organist to perform at your wedding music must be selected well in advance of your wedding day. The fee for the St. Bernard's parish organist is \$350. If you desire to be married by the Rector of St. Bernard's Church and according to the canons of the Episcopal Church, the Rector is paid an honorarium of \$350. The couple must also meet with the Rector for pre-marital counseling. Additionally, if the services of the parish wedding coordinator are desired, her fee is \$100.

## Flowers and candles

Flowers are most appropriately displayed on the altar table beneath the oculus window. Flowers also may be placed in the narthex or entrance to the church building. Candles are only allowed on the altar table and as arranged at the lectern and are to be extinguished immediately following the service.