

**The Christian Wedding  
Old Dutch Church  
Kingston, New York**

*The sanctuary of the Old Dutch Church provides a beautiful space in which to be married. We believe that all the love in the universe is grounded in God's love: "We love because God first loved us." Christian marriage is a covenant made by two persons before God and human witnesses in a service of public worship. By being married in the Church, you begin your lives together with the tangible blessing of the Triune God, and with the support of a community. Your marriage ceremony will seal your life together, not only legally, but also as partners who seek to live from and manifest the grace and love of God.*

**A member of the ministry staff of the Old Dutch Church** will officiate at your wedding, and will meet with you to prepare you for marriage through conversation and counseling, and to plan your wedding service. If you wish to have another member of the clergy share in the service, you can arrange this with the minister you will be working with.

Please complete and return the enclosed Wedding Confirmation form, which will be signed and dated and your ceremony entered on the Church calendar. A copy of the form will then be returned to you. When you receive the copy of the form, your wedding date and time are confirmed and you may proceed with the rest of your wedding plans (e.g. reception, invitations, etc.). Six months prior to your wedding, please arrange to meet with a member of the ministry staff.

**The Organist**

Ordinarily, the organist of the Old Dutch Church will supply the music for weddings within the church, unless alternate arrangements are made. When you and the minister have agreed on a basic plan for your wedding service, you are welcome to meet with the organist who will assist in choosing music. The organist is also willing to select the music for the service if you prefer.

**The Sexton**

The sexton of the Old Dutch Church will place "Reserved Parking" bags over the meters on the day of your wedding. He will open the church an hour or so before the ceremony, be on hand for any floral deliveries, turn on the required heat and lights, and cleanup after the ceremony.

**The Rehearsal**

The rehearsal normally will take place on the evening before the wedding at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise arranged, and should include all principle participants. The marriage license should be brought at that time.

**The Decorations**

The decorations for your wedding are your responsibility but their placement should be discussed with the minister. The candles in the Sanctuary may be used, if desired. For environmental reasons, balloons are not allowed, and no rice or birdseed should be thrown within or outside the church.

### **The Photographs**

In order to assure the decorum of your wedding, experience has taught us some simple rules should be provided for photographers.

1. Photographs may be taken PRIOR to the beginning of the ceremony at any place in the building or church yard.

2. Following the processional, once the wedding party has formed in the chancel of the church, there will be no flash photographs of any kind, by professionals, family, or friends. Non-flash, available-light photographs may be taken by professional photographers from the balcony.

3. The use of video is permitted but must be done in good taste and with discretion.

4. At the conclusion of the ceremony, following the receiving line, the bridal party and relatives may re-form in the Sanctuary for photographs.

### **The Fees**

A non-refundable deposit of \$250 (\$150 for Church Family) may be paid at the time the wedding date is set, but must be paid no later than three months prior to the wedding; the balance must be paid at least one month before the ceremony. Checks should be made payable to Old Dutch Church. The fees are as follows:

Those who ARE NOT a part of the Church Family:	<b>\$1200.00</b>
Which includes:	
Services of the Minister	\$500.00
Use of the Church	\$375.00
Sexton Services	\$150.00
Services of the Organist	\$175.00
Non-refundable Deposit	<u>- \$250.00</u>
Balance due 1 month before wedding	\$950.00
Those who ARE a part of the Church Family*:	<b>\$325.00</b>
Which includes:	
Services of the Minister	No set fee
Services of the Organist	\$175.00
Use of the Church & Sexton Services	\$150.00
Non-refundable Deposit	<u>- \$150.00</u>
Balance due 1 month before wedding	\$175.00

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** In order to qualify for Church Family fee schedule, either the bride or the groom must be an active member of the Old Dutch Church for a minimum of one year.

Informal weddings, at which no more than 12 people will be in attendance (no organist or sexton services), have a set fee of **\$400.00**

**Use of Bethany Hall for a Reception**

Bethany Hall, located behind the Sanctuary, may be available for use for your reception. If you would like to use the church hall, please mention it to the minister at your initial meeting to be sure that it is available on the date of your wedding and to have it reserved on the church calendar. Please bear in mind that the serving of alcohol is prohibited and that the church is a smoke-free facility.

Set-up and all decorating are your responsibility, as are the removal of all decorations, dishes, linens, etc., from the hall and the clean-up of the kitchen and any dishes and utensils used. Following the reception, the sexton will clean the kitchen floor, restrooms and the hall and re-set it for Sunday morning.

**The Fees**

Those who ARE NOT a part of the Church Family: \$500.00

50% deposit required at reservation, balance due two weeks before the event. Fee includes building use, use of the Kitchen and services of the Sexton.

Those who ARE a part of the Church Family\*: \$150.00

50% deposit required at reservation, balance due two weeks before the event. Fee includes building use, use of the Kitchen and services of the Sexton.

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**Contact Information**

Old Dutch Church Office - (845) 338-6759 [info@olddutchchurch.org](mailto:info@olddutchchurch.org)

The Minister - *Rev. Dr. Renee House or Staff Officiant*

The Organist - *Staff or by arrangement*

The Sexton - *Staff*

\*See page above

**WEDDING CONFIRMATION FORM**

Please complete and return this form to Old Dutch Church, 272 Wall St., Kingston 12401. When it is received, your wedding will be entered on the church calendar and a signed copy will be returned to you, assuring that you can confirm other wedding details - reception, invitations etc. Within six months of your wedding date, please contact us to arrange a meeting with the minister to firm up any details regarding the ceremony and to arrange for any counseling sessions s/he may feel are necessary. Please contact the church office, (845) 338-6759, or [info@olddutchchurch.org](mailto:info@olddutchchurch.org) with any questions or changes.

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Are either of you a member of Old Dutch Church?    Yes    No*

**Place of Wedding** - Church \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Day & Date of Wedding** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time** \_\_\_\_\_

**Day & Date/Time of Rehearsal** \_\_\_\_\_

*Do you plan to have music provided by the Church Organist?    Yes    No*

If you would like to use the church hall for your reception, please check here. \_\_\_\_\_  
(A separate request form will be sent to you.)

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**For Old Dutch Church**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Deposit Paid** \_\_\_\_\_