

What is a Holy Matrimony?

A Holy Matrimony is a Christian wedding ceremony. The sequence of a Holy Matrimony officiated by New Creation Church (NCC) will be:

- Processional (march-in)
- Opening prayer
- Praise and worship (*subject to availability**)
- Exhortation (short sharing by officiating pastor)
- Exchange of vows and rings
- Holy Communion & lighting of unity candles
- Pronouncement of blessings
- Recessional (march-out)

The entire ceremony will take about 30 to 45 minutes.

**Praise and worship support is only available for the first two wedding applications submitted for a particular Saturday, regardless of the timing of the weddings.*

Who can apply for NCC to officiate their wedding?

Our Holy Matrimony is available for couples who:

- are believers (both parties) and have been attending New Creation Church regularly for at least six months.
- reside in Singapore and consider New Creation Church their home church.
- have not registered their marriage with the Registry of Marriages (ROM).

I am attending NCC, but my partner is attending another church. Can I still apply for NCC to officiate my wedding?

We encourage you and your partner to discuss your plans on where to worship as a family in the future. The church that you intend to settle in should officiate your wedding.

Each case will be reviewed individually. Please feel free to contact us at 6338 4555 (Press “3” for Weddings).

When does NCC conduct Holy Matrimony?

NCC officiates Holy Matrimony on **Saturdays*** only (subject to nine months advance notice and availability of dates, public holidays that fall on Saturdays are included too).

Please note that we are unable to take in requests for Saturdays that fall before our Christmas, Thanksgiving, Vision Sunday and Resurrection Sunday celebrations.

**We do not officiate Holy Matrimony on Sundays or weekdays.*

Where does NCC conduct Holy Matrimony?

NCC only officiates Holy Matrimony in Singapore. We do not conduct weddings overseas or off-shore (e.g. onboard a ship or yacht), even if it is within Singapore waters. You can hold the Holy Matrimony, followed by the wedding reception (e.g. lunch or dinner), at a venue of your choice in Singapore.

When should I submit my application for NCC to officiate my wedding?

You can contact the church office to check the availability of your preferred wedding date as early as 18 months before the wedding date and submit your application after that. Do note that your application should reach us no later than nine months before your wedding. We encourage you to get in touch with us as early as possible to secure your preferred date!

What is the application process like?

First, contact our office at 6338 4555 (Press “3” for Weddings) to check the availability of your preferred date. If the date is available, our staff will place a tentative booking on your behalf and send you the application form.

After you have sent us the completed application form and required documents*, we will arrange for you to meet with a pastor for a wedding interview.

The purpose of the wedding interview is for the pastor to get to know you and your partner and your journey together as a couple. Our pastor will also share fundamental biblical principles on marriage and marriage preparation, and address any questions you may have about your wedding application.

If your application is successful, we will send you a confirmation email.

*Required documents:

- both your birth certificates
- both your photographs (can be couple or individual photos, does not need to be passport size)
- deed poll, statutory declaration (if applicable)
- divorce certificate, death certificate (if applicable)



Figure 1. Wedding application process

Is it compulsory to attend a Marriage Preparation Programme with the church?

It is compulsory for our couples to go through our Marriage Preparation Programme before their wedding date. Besides officiating your wedding, more importantly, the church would like to equip you with practical biblical principles for a fulfilling, victorious marriage life!

Our Marriage Preparation Programme consists of the following:

- A marriage preparation seminar, “When Two Hearts Become One”, usually held on a Saturday afternoon (You can sign up for the seminar even if you have not booked a wedding date with us or while waiting for your application to be processed)
- Up to three pre-marital counselling sessions with your officiating pastor, held during our church office hours (Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 6pm). The sessions will commence around three months before your wedding date.

The Marriage Preparation Programme is also available to couples (attending NCC) who may not require NCC to officiate their wedding.

Can I choose my preferred officiating minister?

The pastors are assigned based on a rotational basis and according to their workload and availability. They do not accept personal requests to officiate weddings.

You may like to inform the church staff of your preferred officiating minister when you place a booking for your wedding date. However, we may or may not be able to accommodate your request. Please note that our pastors’ schedule can only be confirmed nearer the wedding date. Thus, we would not be able to advise the pastor’s availability at the point of your wedding application.

What support will we have at our Holy Matrimony?

We will assign each couple:

- **An officiating minister (pastor)**
A pastor will be present at your wedding to officiate the Holy Matrimony and solemnise your marriage. This pastor will also complete the pre-marital counselling with you, prior to your wedding date.

Should the officiating pastor assigned to you is not a licensed solemniser, we will arrange for another solemniser to partner with him at the wedding.

- **A wedding coordinator**
We will assign a wedding coordinator (volunteer) to each couple around two to three months before their wedding date. The wedding coordinator will guide you in preparing and rehearsing for the Holy Matrimony segment. She will also assist you and the pastor at the wedding on the actual day.

However, do note that the wedding coordinator will only be involved in the Holy Matrimony segment. You are encouraged to find helpers/wedding planners for other segments of your wedding celebration, e.g. a coordinator for the entire day’s programme, food catering or banquet arrangement, AV help, bridesmaid, ushers and so on.

- **Praise & Worship team (subject to availability)**

Praise and worship (P&W) support will be provided to the first two wedding applications for that particular Saturday. The church will arrange for one worship server and musician to support your wedding. The songs will be chosen by the P&W team (usually two songs for the P&W and one song item for the holy Communion segment).

Please check with your venue provider if they allow a musical instrument (usually a keyboard) to be patched into their sound system. The venue provider should also provide you with at least two wireless microphones. If the venue cannot support the musical instrument, you will need to source for an external sound vendor at your own expense.

What is the cost of engaging NCC to officiate our wedding?

We firmly believe that marriage is ordained by God, and we are glad to be a blessing to our couples. Therefore, we do not charge any fees for our wedding services.

If you would like to show your appreciation to the NCC team, you are welcome to send them a thank-you note or your praise report!

What should we take note of when looking for a venue?

We recommend that you only confirm or place a deposit with your venue provider once you have completed your wedding interview and have received a confirmation email from us that your application is approved.

You may wish to consider venues that allow you to have a wedding rehearsal prior to your actual wedding day. The wedding rehearsal will usually take place one to two weeks before your actual wedding date. It will take about 1.5 hours (depending on your programme). Most venues provide complimentary slots for wedding rehearsals; however, some venues may require you to pay for them.

For weddings with P&W, you will need to check if the venue provider allows a musical instrument (usually a keyboard) to be patched into their sound system. The venue provider should also provide you with at least two wireless microphones. If the venue cannot support the musical instrument, you will need to source an external sound vendor at your own expense.

Some venues may not allow live music at their premises. It is good to verify this with the venue provider.

Do I need to register with ROM? When should I do so?

If your wedding application with NCC is approved, we will send you the pastor's license number for you to apply with ROM around three months prior to your wedding date.

The application will be done via the ROM website, and your Singpass will be required to log in. You will also need to appoint two witnesses and have their particulars on hand (e.g. full name, NRIC number). Upon sending in your application, the officiating pastor will accept your booking via the ROM portal. ROM will assign you an appointment for the *Verification of Documents & Statutory Declaration (VD/SD)*.

If I do not intend to have a wedding celebration (banquet/reception), what other options are there?

NCC also conducts solemnisation (a simple ceremony consisting of exchanging rings and vows) during working hours on weekdays (Tuesday to Friday, non-public holidays) at our premises. Please note that we do not officiate solemnisation at an offsite venue.

Couples can invite about 25 guests to the solemnisation. Our first slot is at 10am, and the last slot is at 4pm. Couples can choose to put up simple decorations at the venue (e.g. floral table centrepiece, props). However, elaborate decorations (e.g. floral arches), which require more time, will not be feasible as couples have only two hours (inclusive of the ceremony) at our venue. Please note that throwing confetti and sticking items on the wall and furniture will not be allowed.

Couples can opt to play their choice of music from their laptop or handphone (please bring your own earphone jack adapter for newer handphone models). However, please note that there is no AV support for video projection or musical instruments in the room used. (We will not be able to play a video or have praise & worship in the room.)

Food and drinks are not allowed in the solemnisation room. You may like to adjourn to another location for your celebration after the solemnisation.

We will bear the rental cost incurred by our couples who hold their solemnisation at our premises. This is because we firmly believe that marriage is ordained by God, and we are glad to be a blessing to our couples. In addition, we also do not charge any fees for our wedding services.

If you would like to show your appreciation to the NCC team, you are welcome to send them a thank-you note or praise report!

The application process is the same as applying for a Holy Matrimony. We would still require a nine-month advance notice (date subject to availability). Our solemnisation couples will also need to complete the Marriage Preparation Seminar and Pre-Marital Counselling sessions prior to their solemnisation date.

If we do not need NCC to officiate our Holy Matrimony or Solemnisation, can we still go for the Marriage Preparation Programme?

Yes! We would love to equip you with biblical principles for your married life, even if the church is not involved in your wedding celebration. Our counsellor will contact you about three months before your wedding for pre-marital counselling (PMC). Please note that our Marriage Preparation Programme is only open to couples who are **both** believers and attending NCC.

Contact us!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 6338 4555 (Available from Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm, press "3" for Weddings) or write to us at weddings@newcreation.org.sg