

Who May Marry at The Falls Church Anglican? | April 13, 2022

Men and women desiring to be married at The Falls Church Anglican must affirm and adhere to the following:

Affirmation. Both the bride and the groom must acknowledge God's creation of humankind as male and female and the unchangeable standard of Christian marriage between one man and one woman as the proper place for sexual intimacy and the basis of the family. ¹

Baptism. Both the bride and the groom must be baptized Christians.

Faith. Both the bride and the groom must profess faith in Jesus Christ.

Church membership. Either the bride or the groom (or a parent of one of them) must be a member of The Falls Church Anglican and both bride and groom must be active in a local church.

Commitment to sexual purity. The bride and groom must commit to a biblical standard of sexual purity, refraining from sexual activity prior to their marriage. A TFCA staff member is ready to meet with a couple and help them commit to a celibate relationship going forward, if necessary.

Declaration of Intention. Each couple must meet with a clergy member and sign a Declaration of Intention to Marry, which is the formal application to be married in the Anglican Church in North America.

Clergy approval. Each couple to be married at TFCA must receive the endorsement of a member of our clergy team.

Marriage preparation program.² The bride and the groom must be prepared for marriage by the TFCA pre-marriage program, or a program approved by TFCA.

Remarriage approval. If either the bride or the groom has been previously married, the remarriage must be approved by the Bishop, unless former spouse is deceased.

Marriage license. Each couple must obtain a license to marry in state where marriage will take place.

¹ TFCA's position on marriage adheres to the doctrinal position of The Anglican Church in North America:

Jesus Christ teaches that God is the author of marriage from the beginning of time (Matthew 19:4-6). God's design for marriage has always involved a man and a woman: "a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). These truths have ordered civilization for thousands of years. Where God's designs are followed in any society, including his designs for marriage and families, the result is the greatest possible blessing and abundance of life. ("From the Beginning": God's Design for Marriage, A statement from the Anglican Church in North America)

² <https://www.tfcanglican.org/sacramental-ministries>