

Photography or Recording Policy of St. Columba Anglican Church

It has been the past practice at St. Columba that no one videotapes or records anything in the church or meeting rooms, without prior consent and advance permission given by the parties being videotaped or recorded. Even when conducting interviews for weddings, the couple is asked at their first interview if there will be any videotaping or photographs taken during the service. Privacy issues and the liabilities that go along with recording any public gathering may become issues for us. Even if we were to obtain advance permission from a family or individual to record a church service, it would have to be noted in the Order of Service.

Rarely, perhaps only three times in the past thirty years, has there been a request from a family to videotape a Memorial or Funeral service. In those rare instances, it was due to the fact that a family member was not able to make it to the service because they lived overseas. The practice of videotaping a Funeral or Memorial service has always been discouraged.

Hence, for privacy and security reasons, it is the policy of St. Columba Anglican church that no one shall photograph or videotape people and events at St. Columba Church, nor make audio recordings of events or meetings, without prior consent and advance permission given by the parties being videotaped or recorded.

At no time should any photograph or video of people and events at St. Columba, especially those involving children, be posted to a Facebook or Twitter or Tumblr or any social media site, without prior consent and advance permission given by the parties involved. St. Columba Church itself will always seek prior consent before posting pictures or videos to its own website.

At weddings, baptisms and memorial services, it is the responsibility of the family to take pictures of their loved ones and their event, but only at appropriate moments during the event previously arranged with the clergy involved. They must ensure that others present at the event who are not friends or family, are not included in any pictures or video without their prior consent.

Professional photographers and videographers hired by families know their craft and business well, but even these professionals should always consult with the presiding clergy about appropriate involvement during the service.