

Getting married on the island

The two of you have narrowed those marriage plans down to a date and a place. The place is Put-in-Bay, somewhere on the lake with the beautiful harbor with its sailboats anchored on the water below the Monument. It all sounds wonderful, but who do you talk to to organize the most important day of your two lives and make it a resounding reality.

You're in luck because Put-in-Bay has Island Wedding Service to help you. The owner, island resident Maisie Ruchala, has been helping people with their island weddings for the last 14 years and has personally married 500 couples who wanted an alternative to a big church wedding. Maisie is an ordained chaplain from the World Christian Ministries and is licensed by the State of Ohio.

Maisie performs wedding ceremonies, vow renewal and same sex marriages. Maybe you want a small ceremony for just the two of you. Maybe you want a large one with attendants and many guests. In any case Maisie can help you.

Maisie offers a variety of ceremonies or you can customize your own. She can help you write your vows, give a special blessing and suggest readings and music. She can make your ceremony unique with the opening, exchange of vows and exchange of rings, etc.

Maisie can marry you at a variety of places on the island. She's married many couples at Oak Point State Park, a favorite location with the boats, the lake, the harbor and the Monument in the background. She's also married people at the South Bass Island Lighthouse, at the Crew's Nest, the Keys, at the Gazebo in DeRivera Park, at the BayShore Hotel, the winery and at private venues here on the island. If there's a special spot you want on the island, Maisie can help make it happen if it's possible.

She can also help make your dreams come true by hooking you up with a caterer, a florist, a photographer, accommodations and anything else you might need for your great day.

It's best if you call ahead so Maisie can plan everything with you to a T, but if you must elope, she can help you at the last minute, too.

To contact Maisie, give her a call at (419) 285-2505. You can also check out her website at www.putinbayweddings.com.