

Karen Martyn defended against her claims the church was merely a parody and claims it's a legitimate religion

Ms Martyn said the marriage ceremony involves some rather unorthodox equipment in the place of flowers and champagne.

'We have swords, we have noodles and pasta involved in the ceremony. It's a bit of fun.'

The religion only reached mainstream culture about a decade ago, but has made headlines in the past when members won battles to wear colanders in their driver's licence photographs.

The New Zealand Government gave the group the green light to stage weddings under the grounds they 'uphold or promotes religious beliefs or philosophical or humanitarian convictions.'

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The Church thanked New Zealand's Department of Internal Affairs Births, Deaths and Marriages team for their work processing and communicating with it regarding their application for Ms Martyn to become a 'ministeroni'.

On its Facebook page - that has almost 50,000 members - the New Zealand Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster notes it is: 'a real, legitimate religion, as much as any other religion. That is the point'.

Ms Martyn, who also has a full-time job, defended against her claims the church was merely a parody.

'You can make fun of us because we really believe all religions should be subject to scrutiny and to humour. And they should be for the greater good — not something that tears people apart, communities apart, or pits people against each other.'



Ms Martyn, who also has a full-time job, said her new role meant people in New Zealand could marry the 'pasta-ific' way

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In 2005 Bobby Henderson, the church's prophet, revealed the world was created by a flying spaghetti monster - commonly referred to as the FSM

Anyone who does marry with the church can expect an offbeat event, with its website describing the event as involving the ministeroni saying 'whatever floats your boat or sauces your noodles' - as long as those being married have their real names mentioned at some point.

They also say those marrying don't have to give each other a 'ringatoni' - they can exchange anything they want.

Afterwards, it is traditional to hold a pasta feast.

Being a ministeroni involves no personal gain - fees cover only the costs of conducting the marriage and a donation to the church.

In 2005, its prophet, Bobby Henderson, revealed his belief the world was created by a flying spaghetti monster - commonly referred to as the FSM.

Pastafarians dress like pirates because they believe pirates were created by the FSM.

They also wear colanders on their heads to mark important occasions.



Members of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster (the FSM) believe the world was created by the FSM



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New Zealand woman Karen Martyn (pictured) is the country's first legally recognised marriage celebrant - or ministeroni



Pastafarians wear pirate clothing because they believe the Flying Spaghetti Monster created pirates



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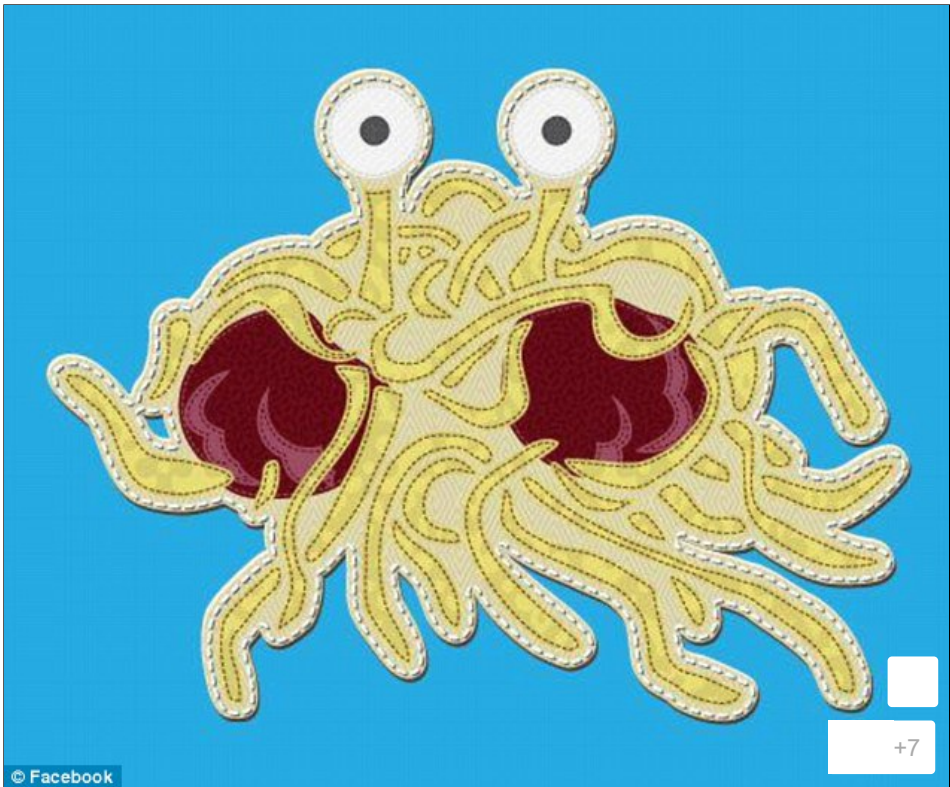
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The followers of the religion are commonly referred to as 'Pastafarians' and wear colanders on their heads during special occasions

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[Ministeroni makes New Zealand history | Stuff.co.nz](#)
[Weddings legalised for Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster in New Zealand - ABC News \(Australian Broadcasting Corporation\)](#)

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The Heart radio presenter, 37, wowed



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New Zealand legalises weddings for The Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster - carried out by the country's first 'Ministeroni'

- **New Zealand** legally recognised Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster
- Government approved church's request to be able to solemnise weddings
- Karen Martyn is a the church's first marriage celebrant for in New Zealand
- Followers of the religion go by the title 'pastafarians' and wear colanders
- Believe the world was created by a god made of spaghetti and meatballs

By [NELSON GROOM](#) and [LEITH HUFFADINE FOR DAILY MAIL AUSTRALIA](#)

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New Zealanders can now get hitched in the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster after the government officially recognised the quirky church's marriages.

The nation's first 'Ministeroni' Karen Martyn, from Wellington on the countries North Island, is certified as a marriage celebrant for the niche religion, whose followers believe the world was created by a god made of spaghetti and meatballs.

The New Zealand government approved the church's request to be able to solemnise weddings last year, and now followers - or pastafarians - are allowed tie the knot in the church's name, reports [ABC](#).

NZ's first celebrant of the church of the flying pastafarian

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