Your Church Wedding

At St Gregory’s and St Michael’s

****



“…a man shall leave his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.”

Genesis 2: 24

A Warm Welcome

Congratulations

Congratulations on your decision to get married! We are delighted to be involved in such an important occasion. This booklet will tell you many of the things you need to know about getting married at St. James’. Please take time to read it and please keep it handy; it is likely that many of the questions you may have over the coming months will be answered in this booklet. It contains:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
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| 1. | **Practical Details**All those important things you need to know about a wedding. | 3 |
| 2. | **The Marriage Service**We like couples to have a copy of the marriage service in advance of the wedding. This allows you to familiarise yourself with the words that will be used on the day (including the words that you will be saying). It also gives you an opportunity to choose some parts of the service. | 8 |
| 3. | **Bible Readings**You are free to choose any reading from the Bible (all Church weddings must have at least one). However, our experience is that many couples appreciate a bit of a steer concerning some appropriate readings | 13 |
| 4. | **Musical Choices**Music is an essential part of any Church service, but especially a marriage ceremony. This section includes details with suggested hymns and other music. | 17 |
| 5. | **Summary Order of Service**At some stage it is likely that you will want to produce a printed order of service for those who will attend your wedding. Although the minister taking your wedding is very willing to discuss your Order of Service with you. | 19 |

Practical details

**Qualifying Connections =**

In order to be married at any Church of England Church one of you must have what is known as a ‘Qualifying Connection’ (QC) to the Church. The various QCs are listed below:

You can marry in a Church of England church if you can show that one of you:

* has at any time lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months, or
* was baptised (christened) in the parish concerned, or
* is confirmed and your confirmation was entered in the register of confirmations for a church or chapel in the parish (this will usually be the case if you were prepared for confirmation in the parish), or
* has at any time regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months

or

That one of your parents, at any time after you were born:

* has lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months, or
* has regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months

or

That one of your parents or grandparents:

* was married in the parish

This actually means that any couple who has no other connection to a particular Church can gain a QC if they commit to regularly attending the Church in which they wish to marry for a period of at least 6 months. We interpret ‘regular attendance’ to mean at least twice a month. Attending regularly obviously has the advantage that you get to know the minister and Church family who will be praying with and for you as you prepare to be married.

**Legal Preliminaries**

The legal preliminaries for your wedding will usually be by the publication of banns. This is a notice given out in our weekly church services on three consecutive Sundays which states you intend to marry, and therefore gives an opportunity for anyone who thinks there is a reason why you cannot legally be married, to state their objection. Your banns will be read at our 10:45am service on the first, second and third Sundays two months prior to your wedding taking place. It would be great if you could be at the church on at least one of these occasions to hear your banns being read. **Please remember that if one or both of you lives in a parish other than St. Gregory’s or St Michael’s then you must have banns called in your home parish as well and it is your responsibility to arrange this**. The fee for the calling of banns and the issuing of a certificate is enclosed with this booklet. Please ensure that the minister taking your wedding receives this certificate as soon as possible, and at least two weeks before your wedding is due to take place. Without it, the wedding cannot legally proceed.

**Marriage Preparation Courses**

Each year we provide an opportunity for couples who are about to be married to come together to explore some of the issues to do with being married (as opposed to the wedding itself). We aim to make the session useful, fun and interactive. There will be no pressure on you to reveal things about yourselves to others (apart from your name and one or two basic details), unless you really want to! The minister taking your wedding will give you details of our next Marriage Preparation Course. We start at 9.00am and finish at 4.00pm. We’d love to see you there. Please let us know as soon as possible that you’re planning to attend.

**Flowers**

Our church flower arranging team ensures that there are beautiful flowers in church throughout the year (with the exception of Lent - the forty days leading up to Easter and Advent - the four weeks leading up to Christmas). Our team knows what flowers tend to work well with the colours in the church. These flowers can be left in church during your wedding. Should you wish to provide your own flower arrangements you will need to contact a local florist.

**Videos/Photography**

We allow videoing by prior arrangement, although please note that this increases the fees payable to the organist, choir and bell ringers due to copyright issues related to recording the musical work of other composers – please see the fees form enclosed for further details). If you use a professional videographer, please check that they have a licence to cover the recording of hymns and music.



Photographs should only be taken during the service by an official photographer so as not to distract from the significance of the event. There is plenty of scope for family and friends to take pictures after the signing of the register and as you depart down the aisle.

**Minister**

Although it is likely that you will meet the Vicar of St. Gregory’s and St. Michael’s when you visit one of our Sunday services and will probably have your pre-wedding meeting with him, it is possible that another minister will conduct your marriage ceremony. Where this is the case, we will always ensure that you have the opportunity to meet the locum minister prior to the ceremony and it is likely that they will also conduct the rehearsal.

**Service Options**

You will notice from the next section of this booklet that when it comes to your wedding service, there are a number of things for you to choose such as readings, hymns and musical pieces. Please take time to read this section and think about your preferences. When you meet the minister conducting your service, it is helpful if you have an idea of the options you wish to choose.

**Participation**

Although the person taking your service is very happy to lead the whole ceremony, some people like to invite friends or family to participate in the service in some way by, for example, reading from the Bible, reading a poem or by leading the time of prayers.

**Music**

Details about music are enclosed. Our excellent organist is very willing to discuss your musical choices and give you any help you need. We also have a CD which can be used to play pre-recorded music. We recommend that music on CD be copied to one disk in the order in which the tracks are to be played. **Any pre-recorded music must be brought to the church for the rehearsal for checking.**

We also have a choir and hand bell ringing team who can complement your wedding – details enclosed on the booking form.

**Capacity of the Church**

The church has 22 fixed pews each of which can comfortably seat five adults giving a total capacity of 110. They can less comfortably accommodate six per pew and if you do not have a choir, the choir stalls can also be used. This gives a total capacity of 156.

**Confetti**

Please can we ask you to inform your guests to use only biodegradable confetti, flower petals or bubbles. Rice and paper confetti are very difficult for us to remove from the churchyard.

**Limousines**

Chauffeurs of stretched limousines have had considerable trouble in the past negotiating the narrow, no-through lane on which the church is situated, especially once the lane is full of guests cars. For this reason, we would advise against the use of stretched limousines.

**Wedding Rehearsal**

Typically this will take place on the Thursday evening preceding a Saturday wedding and usually takes no more than an hour.

Although anyone is welcome to attend, it is essential that the bride and groom are present! It is also helpful if the ushers (or at least one), best man, bridesmaids (or at least one), the person walking the bride down the aisle and anyone who is participating in a significant way (such as doing a reading) attends. Please inform these people at the earliest possible stage so that they can be available. We are unable to conduct rehearsals on Friday evenings as the church is in use by other groups.

**Wedding Planner**

The Church of England has produced an excellent online wedding planner, which covers many different aspects of wedding preparation. In particular, there is a facility for selecting and listening to samples of common hymns, and producing a printout of the service order. There is also a FAQs section. You can reach the website at [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org).

**Wedding Timetable at a Glance**

Although we will try our best to accommodate your timescale, a typical schedule is shown below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **March prior to your wedding** | Attend wedding preparation course |
| **Three months before your wedding** | Confirm that Banns are to be read in your local church. |
| **Two to three months before your wedding** | Come and hear your Banns being read at St. Gregory’s and St Michael’s |
| **One month prior to your wedding** | Make full payment to St. Gregory’s and St Michael’s. |
| **Minimum of two weeks prior to the wedding** | Arrange to deliver your Banns certificate to St. Gregory’s and St Michael’s.Send a draft of your order of service to the minister for checking prior to printing. |
| **In the week before your wedding** | Attend wedding rehearsal. |
| **On your wedding day** | Turn up looking lovely! |



The Marriage Service

This is the order that the service will follow.

**Pre-welcome**

*The minister welcomes guests.*

**Entry of the Bride**

*You will need to select a piece of music to walk in to.*

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn**

**Introduction to the Marriage Service**

In the presence of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we have come together to witness the marriage of *N* and *N*, to pray for God's blessing on them, to share their joy and to celebrate their love.

Marriage is a gift of God in creation through which husband and wife may know the grace of God. It is given that as man and woman grow together in love and trust, they shall be united with one another in heart, body and mind, as Christ is united with his bride, the Church.

The gift of marriage brings husband and wife together in the delight and tenderness of sexual union and joyful commitment to the end of their lives. It is given as the foundation of family life in which children are [born and] nurtured and in which each member of the family, in good times and in bad, may find strength, companionship and comfort, and grow to maturity in love.

Marriage is a way of life made holy by God, and blessed by the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ with those celebrating a wedding at Cana in Galilee. Marriage is a sign of unity and loyalty which all should uphold and honour. It enriches society and strengthens community. No one should enter into it lightly or selfishly but reverently and responsibly in the sight of almighty God.

*N* and *N* are now to enter this way of life. They will each give their consent to the other and make solemn vows, and in token of this they will [each] give and receive a ring. We pray with them that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen them, that they may fulfil God's purposes for the whole of their earthly life together.

**The Declarations**

*The minister says to the congregation*

First, I am required to ask anyone present who knows a reason

why these persons may not lawfully marry, to declare it now.

*The minister says to the couple*

The vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God, who is judge of all and knows all the secrets of our hearts; therefore if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now.

*The minister says to the bridegroom*

*N*, will you take *N* to be your wife?

Will you love her, comfort her, honour and protect her,

and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

*He answers*

**I will.**

*The minister says to the bride*

*N*, will you take *N* to be your husband?

Will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him,

and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

*She answers*

**I will.**

*The minister says to the congregation*

Will you, the families and friends of *N* and *N*,

support and uphold them in their marriage

now and in the years to come?

*All*

**We will.**

**Giving Away**

*You have a choice of words. Please choose either A or B.*

*Either A*

Who brings this woman to be married to this man?

*The bride's father (or mother, or another member of her family or a friend representing the family) gives the bride's right hand to the minister who puts it in the bridegroom's right hand.*

*He or she responds:*

**I do.**

*Or B*

*N* and *N* have declared their intention towards each other.

As their parents, will you entrust your son and daughter to one another as they come to be married?

*Both sets of parents respond:*

**We will.**

**Second Hymn**

**Readings**

*At least one reading from the Bible must be included in a church wedding. You might like to choose one of those suggested starting on page 14 of this booklet, although please feel free to suggest any Bible reading.*

**Sermon**

**The Marriage Vows**

*N* and *N*, I now invite you to join hands and make your vows,

in the presence of God and his people.

Groom

I, *N*, take you, *N*,

to be my wife,

to have and to hold

from this day forward;

for better, for worse,

for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health,

to love and to cherish,

till death us do part;

according to God's holy law.

In the presence of God

I make this vow.

*Note the groom’s vows remain the same, but the bride’s vows can include “and obey”*

*Either A Or B*

Bride Bride

I, *N*, take you, *N*, I, *N*, take you, *N*,

to be my husband, to be my husband,

to have and to hold to have and to hold

from this day forward; from this day forward;

for better, for worse, for better, for worse,

for richer, for poorer, for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health, in sickness and in health,

to love and to cherish, to love, cherish, **and obey,**

till death us do part; till death us do part;

according to God's holy law. according to God's holy law.

In the presence of God In the presence of God

I make this vow. I make this vow.

**The Giving of Rings**

*The minister receives the ring(s), and says this prayer.*

Heavenly Father, by your blessing

let these rings be to *N* and *N*

a symbol of unending love and faithfulness,

to remind them of the vow and covenant

which they have made this day

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The bridegroom places the ring on the fourth finger of the*

*bride's left hand and, holding it there, says*

*N*, I give you this ring

as a sign of our marriage.

With my body I honour you,

all that I am I give to you,

and all that I have I share with you,

within the love of God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*If rings are exchanged, they loose hands and the bride places a ring on the fourth finger of the bridegroom's left hand and, holding it there, says*

*N*, I give you this ring

as a sign of our marriage.

With my body I honour you,

all that I am I give to you,

and all that I have I share with you,

within the love of God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*If only one ring is used, before they loose hands the bride says*

*N*, I receive this ring

as a sign of our marriage.

With my body I honour you,

all that I am I give to you,

and all that I have I share with you,

within the love of God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**The Proclamation**

*The minister addresses the people*

In the presence of God, and before this congregation, *N* and *N* have given their consent and made their marriage vows to each other. They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands and by the giving and receiving of rings. I therefore proclaim that they are husband and wife. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

*The Bride and Groom kiss.*

*A round of applause follows.*

**The Blessing of the Marriage**

*The husband and wife follow the minister to the altar and kneel.*

God the Father,

God the Son,

God the Holy Spirit,

bless, preserve and keep you;

the Lord mercifully grant you

the riches of his grace,

that you may please him

both in body and soul

and, living together in faith and love,

may receive the blessings of eternal life.

**Amen.**

**Registration of the Marriage**

*We move to the Vestry for the signing of the registers.*

*During which music may play*

**Prayers, including the Lord's Prayer**

*Either Traditional version or Contemporary version*

Our Father, who art in heaven, Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be thy name; hallowed be your name;

thy kingdom come; your kingdom come;

thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who trespass against us. as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation; Lead us not in temptation

but deliver us from evil. but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, For the kingdom, the power and the glory

for ever and ever.are yours, now and for ever.

**Amen. Amen.**

**Final Hymn**

**Prayer of Blessing**

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,

defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The newly married couple are introduced with the words*

Would you please stand and welcome Mr. and Mrs. *N*.

**Exit of the Bride and Groom**

Suggested Bible Readings

**Song of Solomon 2: 10-13; 8.6-7**

My beloved speaks and says to me:

‘Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;

for now the winter is past,

the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;

the time of singing has come,

and the voice of the turtle dove

is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,

and the vines are in blossom;

they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.'

Set me as a seal upon your heart,

as a seal upon your arm;

for love is strong as death,

passion fierce as the grave.

Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.

Many waters cannot quench love,

neither can floods drown it.

If one offered for love

all the wealth of one's house,

it would be utterly scorned.

**Romans 12: 1-2, 9-13**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

**1 Corinthians 13**

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**Ephesians 3: 14-end**

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Ephesians 5: 21-end**

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Saviour. Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, so as to present the church to himself in splendour, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind - yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish. In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, because we are members of his body. ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church. Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect her husband.

**Philippians 4: 4-9**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Colossians 3: 12-17**

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**1 John 4: 7-12**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

**Matthew 6: 24-34**

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life.

And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?' or ‘What shall we drink?' or ‘What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

**Mark 10: 6-9, 13-16**

Jesus said, ‘From the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

**John 2: 1-11**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.'

Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, ‘Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, ‘Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, ‘Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

**John 15: 9-17**

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

Wedding Music

At St. Gregory’s and St. Michael’s, we will do our very best to provide your choice of music to make your wedding day special. We can provide an organist to play the hymns and music before and after the service, or you might have friends or family who are musicians or singers that you would like to include in the service. If you prefer more contemporary music, there is space at the front of the church to accommodate a small music group.

Our local village hand bell ringing group can offer the ringing of a peel of bells at the end of your ceremony should you wish.

We also have the ability to play pre-recorded music from CDs, or digital devices.

The usual order of service for a wedding includes music for the Bride's entry, up to three hymns, music during the signing of the register and a final piece played as the couple leaves the church.

The lists on the attached page might help you in your choice of music. All of the music is easily available to listen to via YouTube or iTunes. These lists are not exhaustive and individual choices can usually be accommodated.

Fees for Musicians

Fees are payable via the Church Office as part of your wedding fee. The standard fee includes three hymns, organ music before and after the service and during the register signing. There is a supplement the hand bell ringers.

If you have your own soloist to sing or play during the register signing, our organist will happily accompany if needed. A small extra fee may be payable, depending on the amount of rehearsal required.

Suggested music is included below, but we can usually accommodate most suitable choices.

Hymn suggestions

|  |
| --- |
| Come down, O love divine |
| Give me joy in my heart (Sing Hosanna) |
| Jerusalem |
| Lead us, heavenly Father |
| Let there be love |
| Lord of all hopefulness |
| Love divine, all loves excelling |
| Morning has broken |
| Now thank we all our God |
| O Jesus, I have promised |
| O perfect love, all human thought transcending |
| Praise, my soul, the King of heaven |
| Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the King of creation |
| The King of love my shepherd is |
| The Lord's my shepherd |

Processional Music

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Traditional entrance: | Bridal March ('Lohengrin') | Wagner |
| Traditional recessional: | Wedding March(from A Midsummer Night's Dream) | Mendelssohn |

Other Suitable Music

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Arrival of the Queen of Sheba | Handel |
| Canon in D | Pachelbel |
| Choral Song | S.S. Wesley |
| Crown Imperial | Walton |
| Finale from 'Organ Symphony' | Saint-Saens |
| Grand March (Aida) | Verdi |
| Hornpipe from Water Music | Handel |
| Nun Danket Alle Gott | Karg Elert |
| Prelude from Te Deum | Charpentier |
| Prince of Denmark's March | Clarke |
| Toccata from Symphony No. 5 | Widor |
| Toccata | Gigout |
| Trumpet Tune | Purcell |
| Trumpet Voluntary in D | Stanley |

Music during the Signing of the Register

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Possible anthems:** |  |
| Ave, Verum Corpus | Mozart |
| Be still, for the presence of the Lord |  |
| Here I am, Lord |  |
| Make me a channel of your peace |  |
| Jesu, joy of man's desiring | Bach |
| The Lord bless you and keep you | Rutter |
| The Lord's my shepherd |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Solos:** |  |
| Ave Maria | Bach/Gounod |
| Ave Maria | Schubert |
| Laudate Dominum | Mozart |
| Panis Angelicus | Cesar Franck |
| Voi che sapete | Mozart |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organ music:** |  |
| Air from Suite No. 3 ('Air on the G string') | Bach |
| Air from Water Music | Handel |
| Ave Maria | Schubert |
| Jesu, joy of man's desiring | Bach |
| Priere a Notre-Dame | Boellmann |
| Sheep may safely graze | Bach |

Summary Order of Service

This summary of the order of service will help you plan your own service booklet. You will need to include the words of any hymns or songs which the congregation will sing together. It is recommended that you send a proof copy of the order of service to the Minister prior to printing.

**Entry of the Bride**

*Music Title and Composer/Artist*

**Welcome**

**Introduction to the Marriage Service**

**First Hymn**

*Include all words*

**Declarations**

*Ending with*

Will you, the families and friends of *N* and *N*,

support and uphold them in their marriage

now and in the years to come?

*All* **We will.**

**Optional Hymn**

*Include all word*

**Readings**

*It is often helpful to print the Bible reading in full*

**Sermon**

**Marriage Vows**

**Registration of the Marriage**

**Final hymn**

*Include all words*

**Prayers**

*Concluding with the Lord's Prayer - either the traditional version or contemporary version*

**Exit of the Bride and Groom**

*Music Title and Composer/Artist*

*You might like to include words of thanks to those involved in the service and directions/details of the reception.*