

What's special about a church wedding?

All marriage is about a public, permanent promise of exclusive commitment – one man, one woman, for life. A marriage in church takes place within an act of Christian worship. The Word of God is read from the Bible. Praise to God is sung in the hymns. God's blessing is sought in the prayers. The vows are made 'according to God's holy law', and 'in the presence of God'. The rings are exchanged 'within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit'.

Now is a good time for you to think about where you stand with God. Christian faith is about the basic direction of your life, and the fundamental values you live by.

In the Bible, marriage is used as a picture of God's relationship with us. He loves us even more deeply than man and wife love each other. He has promised to be ours, whatever happens, in a covenant of love. This covenant was made through his Son Jesus when he died on the cross and rose again.

If we break this covenant, by ignoring or turning our back on him, he reluctantly allows us to go our own way. But he never turns his back on us. He is faithful. It is good for you to consider your relationship with God as you build your relationship with each other. Every person should worship God regularly. Our understanding and our living are shaped by the words of Scripture and the prayers we pray. The best way to keep in touch with God is:

- Come to Church and worship each week.
- Read the Bible and pray each day

The Bible says, *God is love* (1 John 4:16). God is in that wonderful feeling of love that you have for each other. The way you delight in each other – that is how God delights in you. If you receive his love into your hearts and lives, his love will never let you down.



Check list

- First steps*
- Check you are eligible to be married here
 - Book the date
 - Pay deposit & visit the church within 1 month of booking
- Three months before your wedding*
- Apply for Banns
 - Arrange details of service (hymns etc.)
 - Apply for Banns in other parish (if applicable)
- About a week before your wedding*
- Rehearsals are usually held the Monday before the Wedding at 6.30pm (book this with the minister)
 - Bring Banns certificate & fees
- On the day*
- Groom arrive 40 minutes before the service
 - Bride arrive 5 minutes before the service
- Afterwards*
- Love one another

Sunday Services

You're very welcome to come to any Sunday Service at any of our churches: we'd love to welcome you! Services take place every week as follows:

St Andrew's, Oakenshaw

| | | |
|------------|---------|------------------|
| Weekly | 10.30am | Morning Service |
| 2nd Sunday | 8.30am | Breakfast Church |

Holy Trinity, Low Moor

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
| Weekly | 9.30am | Café Church |
| | 10.45 am | Morning Service |
| Alternate Weeks | 6.15pm | Evening Service |

St Mary's, Wyke

| | | |
|-------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Weekly | 10.30am | Morning Service |
| 1st & 3rd Sundays | 9.00am | Holy Communion |

Contact Details

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| St. Andrew's: | Rev Chris Shedd | 01274 678 859 |
| | Email | c.shedd@btinternet.com |
| Holy Trinity: | Rev Chris Shedd | 01274 678 859 |
| | Rev Dorothy Ellis | 01274 679 048 |
| St. Mary's: | Rev Margaret Lyons | 07940 558 062 |

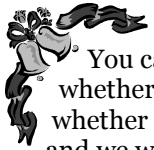
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Getting Married...



Touching Christ
Touching Lives

...in the Parish Churches of:
Holy Trinity, Low Moor,
St. Andrew, Oakenshaw,
and St. Mary, Wyke.
www.southbradford.org



Congratulations!

You can be married in the Church of England whether or not you have been christened and whether or not you go to church, and we welcome you!

Before we make a booking

...we need to make sure you are eligible to get married here. You will need to be able to establish a connection with us from the list below:

- One of you, or your parents, is resident in this parish, or on the church electoral roll, or
- One of you was baptised or prepared for confirmation in this parish, or
- One of you, or your parents, has at any time lived in this parish 6 months or more, or
- One of you, or your parents, has attended one of our parish churches for 6 months, or
- One of your parents or grandparents was married in one of our parish churches.

and there are a few other questions which we need to consider:

- Has either of you been married before?
- Are either of you in a civil partnership?
- Are you both over eighteen years old?
- Are you both British citizens?
- Are you related to each other in any way?

If the answers to these questions are satisfactory, we can start to make arrangements.

Confirming Your Booking and Visit the Church

To confirm your booking, bring your deposit form to any church service **within one month of your original booking** and give it to a Church Warden with £50.00 deposit. You'll be given a receipt and be shown around the church if you wish. If you don't pay your deposit within this timescale, your booking will not be confirmed and the church may be offered to another couple at your preferred date/time.



Publishing the Banns

Very Important!!!

You need to come back three months before the wedding so that we can complete the Banns application form. We will also discuss details of the service. We will 'call the banns' on three Sundays before you plan to marry. This gives anyone who knows a legal reason why you may not an opportunity to say so. Ring the minister who is conducting your wedding to arrange this.

Banns in another parish

Very Important!!!

If either of you lives in another parish, you **must** get banns called there too. You need to go to the parish church where you live and speak to the clergy. There will be a fee. You **must** bring to us the certificate stating that banns have been called as soon as possible: **we cannot marry you without this!**

Marriage Preparation Days

We will invite you to attend an event at which we'll help you to think about various things relating to your marriage as well as looking at practical details of the service.

The Rehearsal

In the week before the wedding at we will conduct a brief rehearsal. As well as the bride and groom, the people who should attend are:

- The best man
- The bride's father, or whoever is 'giving her away'
- Bridesmaids and pageboys (except the very young)
- Ushers

You don't need to bring anyone else, and it's probably best to keep it to the minimum.



Paying the Fees

Please bring the fees to the rehearsal. It's helpful to bring cash, as it has to be divided between various recipients. Current fees are as follows, but please check with us for the correct fee in the year of your wedding:

| Marriage Service Fees 2012 | £ |
|---|---------------|
| Publication of Banns | 22.00 |
| Wedding Service inc Minister, | 265.50 |
| Wedding Certificate, Registration and preliminaries | |
| Verger's Costs | 40.00 |
| Organist Fee | 60.00 |
| We also suggest a Voluntary Contribution towards the upkeep, repairs and running of your church | 150.00 |
| TOTAL | 537.50 |

Any optional extras available at the relevant church, such as:

- Pew ends at St Mary's (£25)
- Bell ringer at St Mary's and Holy Trinity (£20 in both churches)
- Choir at Holy Trinity (£30).

The Marriage Service

There are three essential things you have to do in the Marriage Service.

1. **The Declarations**
2. **The Vows**
3. **The Rings**

Other details

Confetti: we ask that confetti is not thrown inside the church, but your guests may throw it outside.

Flowers: our own regular flowers will be in place. You are welcome to bring more flowers if you wish. If flower arrangers would like access to church, arrangements can be made.

Photographs: your photographer will normally take pictures at the very beginning of the service, during the registration, and as you leave the church. We ask that no one takes photographs during the service.

Video: you are welcome to make a video recording of the service. We ask that one camera only is used, in a fixed position, operated very discreetly. (You may need to obtain a license to ensure compliance with copyright laws—please ask for details.)