



THE PARISH OF
ST WILFRID
H A R R O G A T E



Getting Married at The Parish Church of St Wilfrid

Guidance notes for couples
& application forms
2022



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ST WILFRID
H A R R O G A T E

From the Team Rector
Fr Gary Waddington

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Dear friends,

Getting Married at St Wilfrid, Harrogate

I'm delighted that you're enquiring about arranging for a Marriage Service to be held here. This pack will give you comprehensive information to help you with the legal and practical procedures you need to follow.

It does contain a lot of information, but I hope it will help you. **Please read it carefully. It will help you consider the nature, meaning and commitment of Christian marriage as well as the legal aspects you must follow.**

We remind everyone that St Wilfrid's isn't a 'venue', it is a working parish church – what we offer is a religious service (not a 'ceremony') in which you are married.

It's written to help you avoid common pitfalls and problems so, please read it all. Couples tell us that saves them a lot of time, anxiety and in some cases, money.

Like most parish churches, we don't offer a Marriage Service to those who have been previously married where a former partner is still alive. We know this can be a very sensitive and delicate issue. For couples in this circumstance we are able to offer a service of Blessing and Dedication following a Civil ceremony, and this is often an acceptable and popular solution. The Church of England is excluded in law from being able to offer a Marriage Service to same sex couples. Again, this can be a sensitive issue. The Church of England as a whole has widely divergent views on this issue – but we're always available to talk through what can be done instead.

Please read through the various parts of this information pack. If you wish to make a booking or if you have any questions, please contact the Parish Administrator, Mrs Linda Harrison on (01423) 504629 or at office@stwilfrid.org.

With best wishes & blessings

Fr Gary Waddington
Team Rector

Guidance Notes

General Information

Finding St Wilfrid Harrogate

The post code for Sat-Nav users is **HG1 2EY**.

The Full postal address is: **The Parish Church of St Wilfrid, Duchy Road Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 2EY**

The Parish Office telephone number is: **01423 504629**

The Parish website is: www.stwilfrid.org

Contacting us

Mrs Harrison, the Parish Administrator usually works **Wednesday to Friday, 9.30am to 12.30pm**. She can only help you during these hours. The office can be very busy. Over 1000 services are held here every year as well as concerts and other events. We appreciate that your marriage service is important, but administering all the services and events, with limited staffing can at times be frustrating for everyone.

It really helps us to help you if you can you keep your emails organised. This will help us to answer your questions, especially in the month before the wedding takes place. The office can easily be inundated with questions from a number of couples, and it becomes impossible to deal with. **As ever, the sooner you are able to make your choices, the easier it is for all involved.**

When you can and can't get married at St Wilfrid Harrogate

Couples can marry on any day of the week between 8am and 6pm. That includes Sundays – but weddings on a Sunday cannot start before 1pm. You can get married as part of the main parish mass if one or both of you are regular communicants, but there are some special considerations for this and you'll need to talk this through with one of the clergy here.

The seasons of Advent (the four weeks before Christmas) and Lent (the six weeks before Easter) are seasons of penitence and abstinence for the Church and have a special character, noted by the absence of flowers the use of much more subdued music. You may want to also avoid these times, unless you are happy to join in the nature of the season.

There are a few unique times of the year when we cannot offer a Marriage service: Good Friday and Easter Eve (the two days before Easter Day) are, by tradition days when this is not possible. We also cannot offer Christmas Eve and ask you to avoid the week before and after Christmas.

Getting Married in an Emergency or in a place other than the parish church.

Special rules in a genuine emergency – for example if bride or groom is very seriously ill (this includes when the wedding service might need to take place in a place other than here). This is a rare event and you should contact one of the clergy directly in such an emergency.

We currently cannot conduct a wedding in any other place (including our own church hall) except in exceptional emergency circumstances for which very strict rules also apply, in which case you should contact one of the clergy as soon as possible.

Parking

There is car parking at the rear of the church. **No vehicles are allowed to wait or park outside the main door, or on the driveway to the main door. Anyone parking there will be asked to move.**

The bridal car alone may be parked by the west door in time for the end of the service.

If guests arrive by bus or coach from a pre-arranged 'pick up point' you are asked please to make sure that the coach driver does not park in front of the Church (which has double yellow lines).

Guests

Guests are always welcome, but are asked to respect the building and what it stands for and behave and dress appropriately. We'd be very grateful if guests are reminded that **they are coming to an act of worship in a church** – a holy and special place.

Mobile phones must be turned off during the service itself.

Anyone who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be asked to leave.

Safeguarding is really important – and there is a special section of advice about this later on in this pack. If you are aware that you want to invite a guest and this has been or is an issue or where there might be conditions you are aware of, please do talk to us about it well in advance so we can make sure all the proper advice and steps are taken.

Marriage Services in winter months

This is a special and unique time of the year. Please bear in mind that, an additional fee is payable towards heating the church if you marry between the start of October, and the end of April. Even if you do ask for heating, warm clothing is still advisable.

For weddings in months where there is a risk of snow, please plan extra time for your arrival and departure. We have had one bride who needed to arrive in Wellies!

Covid-19 and Biosecurity

Much has changed in our normal way of life because of the Coronavirus pandemic. This has obviously also had a significant impact on Marriage Services.

Whilst St Wilfrid's is a major parish church, we do not have an infinite capacity for people to attend services. We follow any advice and restrictions that are in place – and we cannot make exceptions to that. Whatever local decisions are made, allow us to make consistent and clear protocols to keep everyone safe.

So our advice for **any** wedding in 2022 is:

1. Keep it simple
2. Have a 'backup' plan – in case something changes.
- 3.

Please be aware that we will ask you to follow any protocols are in place at the time of your wedding, which may include social distancing and the wearing of face-coverings.

We really sympathise with everyone who has attempted to plan a wedding in the period of the pandemic. It has been a great strain for everyone. However, it reminds us of the power of nature, and asks us what our priorities really are.

For every couple who wants to be married here, there is a simple question that needs to be carefully thought through: Why do you want to get married? Is it because you want to express a life-long commitment to each other before God, or to have a party? We can help you with the former, but not the latter is more difficult.

How to apply to be married at St Wilfrid Harrogate

You can informally discuss options for dates and times in advance with the parish office staff. We cannot 'pencil in' dates. Entries are only made in the parish diary when we receive a completed application form and deposit and then confirm the details with you.

So first, you need to fill in, in full, the application form which comes with this wedding pack.

Please only fill in the form after you have read all the information we've provided – this is designed to answer many of the questions you might have and to establish if you are legally able, and indeed want, to be married here.

When we receive your completed application form and receive your (non-refundable) deposit, we will check your application to make sure it meets the legal qualifications.

We will then confirm with you if your requested date and time are available. If they are not, we will offer you other options.

You **must** let us know, on your application form, the time and date you are requesting your Marriage Service to take place. We **cannot** accept an application where the time or date boxes are filled in with "TBA" or "TBD" or left blank.

If another couple applies to be married on the same day, and/or at the same time, and we receive their application form first, their application will take precedence, without question.

Once we've confirmed the date and time, any change will need the approval of the Team Rector, who in law has the right to decide at what time services may take place. Where we can accommodate you, we always try to – but there can be other services or events taking place on the same day as your wedding which can restrict our flexibility and we reserve the right to refuse.

The priest who will be conducting the service will ask to meet you – depending on the time of year that can be anything from six to one month in advance. He will explain how the service works, why it is important and ask your input on readings and music. If you know you might be out of the country during this time for any extended period, please let us know when you make your application.

In between your application and meeting the priest in charge of your wedding service, please keep referring to this information pack. If you have a question which needs answering before you meet one of the clergy or which isn't answered in this pack, please contact the parish office in the first instance. We'll try to answer it – or point you in the direction of the person you need to speak to.

Please be aware that as the pandemic continues to unfold, the time-scales may change significantly as we attempt to 'juggle' with local and national conditions and advice. Again, we do appreciate this is disruptive – we will do our best – but we very much need you to help us as much as possible.

The Legalities

The legal Preliminaries to Getting Married.

Getting married in church is a legal process as well as the celebration of a religious service.

To marry legally, the correct 'preliminary to marriage' process has to be followed. In most cases, at the moment, this is the reading of Banns of Marriage. In the wedding application form is a list of qualifying connections: provided that you fulfil the criteria for one of them, this is the route you will need to follow.

Banns are read at St Wilfrid's during the notices towards the end of the 10am Sunday Parish Mass on the first 3 Sundays of the month, 2 months before the wedding (i.e. for a June wedding, banns are read in April).

If either of you is not a UK or Ireland national (and don't hold EU settled or Pre-Settled status), or if you currently live in Scotland or Northern Ireland, then your marriage can only take place by a different process – you will need to obtain a Superintendent Registrar's Marriage Schedule (SRMS). Please make sure that we know you need to take this route, and we will help you. It isn't complicated!

Without the correct preliminary a wedding cannot go ahead. No registrar from the civil registry office is required to attend, in normal circumstances. Part of the process of meeting you before the Marriage takes place is to make sure that the legal preliminaries are in place.

Your Parish of Residence

If either of you don't live in this parish, we need to the parish(es) you live in. You may already know this, in which case put the name of the parish in the box. If you do not know, enter your address into the search at www.achurchnearyou.com and you will be able to find the information. Please be careful not to just enter your postcode as this can be shared by more than one parish.

Banns must be read here, **AND** in the parish in which you each usually live **on the day on which you will be married**. You must arrange for your banns to be read, and for the certificate that proves your Banns have been read, from each parish, to be collected and brought to our parish office in advance of your marriage.

Changes of details after submitting your application form

If you change your address it is important you tell us well in advance. If you move to a new house, your banns may need to be read in a new or different parish – and this **must** be completed before your marriage service can take place. The correct address is required on the legal paperwork we complete. Any change of contact details or occupations should also be given to the parish office. In all of these cases, please notify the parish office as soon as possible.

“Signing of the registers”

Since 2021 there are no longer registers to sign – and we no longer issue marriage certificates. The details you provide in your application will be used by us to produce a “Marriage Document”. We will also now need to know in advance who your witnesses will be.

During your Marriage Service, both Bride and Groom, as well as two witnesses will sign the Marriage Document. (The witnesses should be over 18 and competent to witness a legal document. The choice of who they are is entirely up to you.)

The Marriage Document is NOT a Marriage Certificate. You will be responsible for obtaining a Marriage Certificate – which you will need to change your name(s) on any official or legal documents. We send the Marriage Document to the local Registry Office. They then enter your details into the online Marriage Register. You can then apply for an official Marriage Certificate via the North Yorkshire County Council online system.

The Service itself

Introduction

The Wedding Service is set down in law by the Church of England – and for your marriage to be legally valid it must follow the form of service the Church of England approves.

There are still choices about readings and music – but you cannot change the ‘format’ or ‘order’ of the service itself. So, for example, you cannot write your own vows, or change parts of the service if you don’t particularly like them, or ‘just miss bits out’.

And yes, from time to time we’re even asked if we really have to mention God. It’s a church, so the answer to that is “YES”. **You’re asking to get married in a church, not a ‘venue’** – so God is actually very important. If you want a non-religious wedding, there are plenty of places which offer that. What we offer is a religious marriage service. Even if you don’t go to church often, or at all – we do ask you to remember that that’s what you will get here.

To help you, the advice about the service itself is divided into two sections. “The Essentials” deals with what **has** to be done and thought about. These are the really important bits we have to get sorted out and get right. “The Extras” is really about those things which are less important – or if they didn’t happen, wouldn’t affect the Marriage being legal.

That’s a good place to remind people that your photos, no matter how nice they might look on your Instagram page, are not the primary reason for getting married here.

A note about the building

St Wilfrid’s is a busy working parish church. It’s the 38th largest parish church in England. It’s very beautiful. And it’s also a grade 1 listed building. That’s the highest category of designation for buildings of historical or architectural importance. We have to follow a lot of rules about what can and can’t be done with the building. Those rules aren’t set by us – but we have to follow them.

So, in the guidance that follows, you’ll find some advice about when we need you to take extra care with the building, perhaps to protect the floor because you’re bringing in flowers or plants or candles (or trees!).

We also ask you not to move any furniture in the building, including chairs. If you have instrumentalists etc who require chairs we will set these out for you.

From time to time we have to move some furniture around for particular purposes or services, or in order for work to the building to be carried out – but we try to keep this to a minimum. It is labour intensive, and often costly.

Please can we remind you therefore that smoking and vaping is NOT allowed inside the church. Food and drinks should NOT be brought into the building. And please would you ask all your guests to make sure they take their orders of service, flowers, and any rubbish or personal belonging away with them at the end of the service.

The Essentials

Readings

With these notes, is a set of bible readings. Two bible readings **must** be chosen: one from section A and one from section B. You are invited to provide a reader for the first reading. The priest normally reads the second (Gospel) reading. If you have alternative bible readings, or want an additional bible reading to be read, this is normally possible and should be discussed in advance with the priest who officiates.

Occasionally couples have a non-biblical reading they would like to be read, such as a poem or piece of prose. Our advice is that this is often better printed at the back of your order of service, rather than read. If you are very keen though to have a non-biblical reading read out, you should discuss this with the priest who is to conduct your marriage service and be able to speak about why this is particularly important for you and what it means to you.

In any such case only one additional piece would be allowed.

Organ Music and Hymns

An organist is required for a Marriage Service. As part of the standard contract for organists, they have a right to a fee for every wedding here, if they are available, whether or not they play the organ themselves. (If our organist cannot play himself, he will arrange for a deputy to play and the fee goes to them instead).

If you supply a family friend, or want to arrange for another organist to play at your wedding, our own organist must still receive the fee to which he is entitled.

Organ Music at your Marriage Service should be discussed with the Organist, who will be able to help and advise you. He can also advise you on hymns, which should then be confirmed by the priest who is officiating.

You will need to decide in consultation with the organist, what music is played:

- before the service begins,
- as the bride enters,
- during the signing of the Marriage Document
- As you leave the church.

We do not allow pre-recorded music to be used at weddings.

There are normally three hymns at a Marriage Service. If the congregation is particularly small – and not great singers (!) you may (wisely) choose to have fewer than three hymns. Again, these may be chosen in consultation with the organist, but must have the approval of the priest conducting the wedding itself. Please remember that not all hymns may be suitable for a marriage service – if you don't know how the hymn goes, it is unlikely that anyone else will!!! Jerusalem sounds great sung by 10,000 people, but with a congregation of 50, only 20 of whom sing....!!

There is information about choirs and other musicians in the 'Extras' section of this pack.

Ushers

Most couples have ushers to help with the flow of people before and after a Marriage Service. It is useful if there are at least two or three (you can have more). They greet people at the main door and distribute Orders of Service, and help direct people to the main body or the Church where the Marriage Service is to take place.

Rehearsal

A rehearsal, lasting 30 – 40 minutes normally takes place at 5pm on the evening before the Marriage, or at some other point in the week. This is arranged with the officiating priest. When a service is to take place on a Sunday, the rehearsal is usually on a Friday evening, rather than a Saturday evening.

Please be mindful that the Church may have other events booked for the week before your wedding, so sometimes we will have to change the rehearsal date or time. We do understand that people often have to travel a distance, or can only come after work. Please speak to those who need to be at the rehearsal well in advance – and let us know if there is a real problem.

The people who **need** to attend are:

- Bride (with the person who is giving her away)
- Groom (with the best man/men)

It is really **helpful** if the following people can also attend:

- Bridesmaids (and any page boys, flower girls etc)
- At least one usher
- Readers of readings

Other family members or friends are welcome to come to the rehearsal, but they play no part in it, and will be asked to sit quietly during the rehearsal itself.

During the rehearsal, you will be taken through who stands where; the entrance procession; the service, including practicing the vows and giving rings; the signing of the Marriage Document and leaving the church at the end of the Marriage Service.

Once the rehearsal has finished there may be a service or event which follows – there is mass at 6pm. Please bear this in mind, and keep quiet as you leave the building.

The Priest who conducts the wedding

The Parish has four clergy who conduct weddings. The Team Rector of St Wilfrid's, Fr Gary Waddington, Fr David Povall our Curate, Fr Terry Buckingham, our Assistant Priest and Fr Gavin Gilchrist a recently retired parish priest. One of them will be looking after you, dependent on their availability.

It is not our normal practice to allow other clergy of the Church of England to come and officiate at a marriage service here. In cases where a priest of the Church of England is also a family member, and you wish to involve them, please let us know. They can be invited to help read, lead intercessions or be invited by us to preach.

If visiting clergy are to take part in the service, there are legal obligations on the clergy here to establish that they are 'in good standing' and have also undertaken the relevant checks and/or training. This must happen before we can invite them to take part (see below).

Safeguarding

We take safeguarding very seriously at St Wilfrid's. We believe though that it's important that everyone is safe while here. With that in mind, we can provide a full copy of our safeguarding policy, and copies can be found on the parish website as well as on the main noticeboard.

As part of that commitment, if you invite a choir or musicians from outside of the parish especially if they include children, we must have written evidence that they have their own safeguarding policy in place and have undertaken appropriate checks and/or training. **Without this, we will not allow them to take part in a service here.**

Please therefore do not invite or book any musicians to take part in the service yourself until you have spoken with the director of music and we have completed any formalities.

Any clergy who are to participate must be officially invited by the parish priest here, rather than by you. By all means informally ask them if they would like to help. But, please do not formally invite them to participate until you've spoken to us so any relevant checks are completed – which we can best do as part of the invitation process.

Essentials On the day itself

Whilst most of the arrangements and requirements for the day itself will be explained in advance there are three essential things that it is really helpful if you can take on board now:

1. The Groom and best man, together with ushers need to be at the Church 30 minutes before the service is scheduled to start. Please try not to be here before this time as another service may be taking place.
2. The Bride and bridesmaids **MUST** be here **5-10 minutes** before the service is due to begin. Whilst the old saying is that it is 'the bride's prerogative to be late' in actual fact it causes distress and bad feeling, and can very much inconvenience many people if your marriage service is late in starting.

If a bride does arrive late, the priest officiating has every right to curtail elements of the wedding service in order to make up time. If a bride were to arrive very late, we have an absolute right (especially if another marriage service, other service, concert or event is taking place that day) to reschedule the service to later in the day or to another day.

3. The officiating priest will ask to see the rings. Practice has taught us that if we know they are in the building, then there won't be a hitch later on!

Service booklets / Orders of Service

We recommend to all couples that a full service booklet is produced containing all the words said or sung during the service. This helps everyone follow what is going on.

If you ask us to print your order of service.

The vast majority of couples ask us to typeset and print their booklets for an additional fee. This is easily arranged through the parish office. Occasionally, couples ask us to print their orders of service, and they produce a bespoke cover which they then attach to the order of service.

If you know in advance that you have any guests with visual impairment who would appreciate a large print copy of your order of service, please let us know and we can produce them for you.

Occasionally, couples ask to print their own orders of service. This is perfectly possible – but if you wish to do this, there are some guidelines to be followed. **The information below must be followed if you arrange to print your own orders of service.**

If your order of service is printed by you or a professional printer.

We can provide you with an electronic template of the order of service which you can then use with your printer. It is important that you include the correct readings and hymns – and we can help you with that.

As a general rule, we typeset in an A4 Word document using 14pt body text with 16pt subheadings and 18pt titles. The ‘house’ font in all our printing is called “Plantin” which is chosen for its legibility for reading. Margins are set at 1.5cm for each page. Colours are limited to black and standard red (used only for titles and rubrics). We avoid block capitals and small capitals. Congregational responses are printed in black bold. Body text is in normal. Rubrics are italicised in red at 12pt.

If you chose a different font, please be aware that your order of service needs to be functional and readable, rather than pretty. Flowery fonts might look nice (or in the case of comic sans, like a 1970s throwback primary school Christmas flyer, a font which should never be used in a church order of service) – but they are incredibly hard to read, even if you have perfect eyesight. If you have guests who are visually impaired, bad fonts can be impossible to read.

Any service booklet you produce **MUST** first be checked by the priest who is to officiate at your marriage service. A proof copy should be supplied **well in advance**. Please **DO NOT** print your booklets until you have received approval to do so. This is so that we can make sure common mistakes are avoided.

You should supply enough copies for all your guests plus an additional 10 copies (for the clergy, organist, bell ringer, vergers etc...). If you have additional musicians and/or a choir, you should also supply enough copies for them in addition to the above.

Copyright infringements and other legal requirements for Orders of service.

The words used at the service are copyright, but provided the correct information is included in your order of service, there is no infringement of copyright. The same is also true for hymns and worship songs. If you include material in an order of service without the correct information, then you may be liable to legal action for infringement of copyright.

Any service booklet MUST contain the following information:

On the front cover you **must** include the Name of the church: **St Wilfrid, Harrogate** and the **date and time** of the service.

We also ask that all front covers include the **parish logo**, which is available electronically for you or your printer.

Either on the back cover, inside it, or at the end of the text of the service, the following must be included EXACTLY as below:

Material in this order of service is taken from *Common Worship: Pastoral Services*
which is copyright

© The Archbishops' Council.

Other material may be included which is copyright

© 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA

and © The Crown/Cambridge University Press: The Book of Common Prayer (1662)

Music in this service is reproduced under copyright license:

CCL License no: 608906

The 'Extras'

What follows is advice about the 'extras' many people ask about. Sometimes it can come as a surprise or shock that these are considered by us as 'extras'. That's simply because none of them are essential. You can have a wedding without any of them – and many people do.

Flowers

Whilst there are often flower arrangements in church, it is not possible for special flowers to be arranged by our 'in house' team. You should, if you require special flowers in church, arrange for these with local professional florists. If so (or you use family or friends for this purpose) it is **your responsibility** to:

1. Check that the church is not being used for other events at the time that arrangements are delivered, installed or arranged in church. You must check with the parish office.
2. Make sure that arrangements are sited so as not to interfere with the normal working of the church.
3. Any arrangements with candles must be carefully lit before the service **and** extinguished afterwards by your ushers.
4. You (or your florist) must provide all materials, stands etc.
5. Make sure that arrangements are not affixed to the fabric of the building (walls, screen etc) without prior written approval from the Team Rector.
6. Make sure that any arrangements, candles etc do not mark the floor or walls. If they do, you will be required to make good any damage, including professional cleaning fees. This is especially the case where freestanding unenclosed pillar candles are used. You **must** ensure that the stone floor is covered underneath them – with enough plastic, foil or non-porous material to catch any wax which 'gutters' from your candles.
7. **Flower arrangements and pew ends are not allowed in Church during the season of Lent, without exception. Flowers are discouraged during Advent and should be kept to a minimum.**
8. It would be helpful if we know if any arrangements will be left in church or removed (immediately) after the service and/or if any stands/equipment will be collected later.

If you are going to ask friends or relatives to arrange flowers, these should be assembled at home and brought to the church preferably on the morning of the marriage service. If you want the arrangements to be assembled in church, then you will need to make a booking and pay the appropriate fee to hire the church for that purpose.

Choirs

We can arrange for a choir to sing at your wedding. This can either be composed of our regular choir, some specially booked semi-professional singers, or a particular choir you may wish to invite. If you wish to have members of our regular choir sing at your ceremony, we ask for a donation to the music foundation of £150. It may not be possible for many of our regular singers to be available for the occasion, and we therefore ask that you let our Director of Music know if you would like our choir at least **6 weeks** in advance of the service. Depending on the numbers available, it may be possible for the choir to sing some music you request, however rehearsal times for this will be very short so it is much more preferable for your chosen music to be relatively well known.

It is also possible to have a group of semi-professional singers from around North and West Yorkshire at your service. The singers would be paid an individual fee of £50, and can be booked by the Director of Music. This can allow a wider range of music to be performed as per your requests. We ask that to enable a good performance, an octet (8 singers) are booked as a minimum meaning a total cost of £400. To enable the booking of singers, we ask that you can let the Director of Music know if you would like this at least **2 months** in advance of your ceremony.

Soloists and Instrumentalists

On occasion, in addition to the organ, you may want to include other instrumentalists in the service. This is not a problem at all but is entirely the responsibility of you as organisers. The music department is very happy to take responsibility for an organist and singers, but further musicians should be booked by organisers. Due to the size of the building, the organ is required to lead hymns and further instrumentalists or soloists can augment other musical aspects of the service.

If further musicians and soloists are required, please set up a dialogue with the soloist/instrumentalist and the Director of Music at least **2 weeks** before your ceremony. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Anthony Gray (Director of Music) on dom@stwilfrid.org. We will do everything we can to fulfil your requests!

Flower Petals and Confetti

Guests are more than welcome to throw things at the newly married! We ask though that confetti or flower petals are only thrown at the gateway to the Churchyard. They must not be thrown by the porch. **Flower petals may not be thrown or strewn in Church itself.**

Bridesmaids, Page boys and 'flower girls'

It is always a joy to have bridesmaids and page boys. They help support both bride and groom. However, there can be a couple of pitfalls. Many brides are happy with two or three bridesmaids. From time to time some brides like more. Please be aware that too many bridesmaids do end up competing for space with the Bride, and ultimately distract from the Bride herself.

If you decide to ask younger children, please be aware that this can be quite overwhelming for them. A big building with lots of people can be quite frightening for a small child, especially when they are exposed to attention at the front. If you do ask younger children to help in this way, please have a suitable grown up (ideally a parent or grandparent) on hand (who is not otherwise involved) who can help if a child becomes distressed or distracting.

This can be especially important if it is your own child. Small children will often want the attention of, or comfort of their parents when they feel stressed, frightened or tired – and those of you who are parents know all too well how difficult it can be to do what you're trying to do and also manage a melt-down!

We will cope with just about anything (and do) – but we ask you for your own sake to think carefully – you after all know what your children are like and can what they can normally cope with.

Bells

Our team of Bell ringers have limited availability. The small fee they receive for assisting at a Marriage service covers their transport, time and experience (and often a great deal of practice). We are sorry that we cannot always provide bell ringers. So, if you do hope to have the bells rung, we will do our best, but cannot guarantee this. If you would like the bells at your marriage service then you must let us know in plenty of time.

Photography

We welcome **professional** photographers to take pictures of your marriage. This is on the understanding that they limit their movements to the back half of the church during the service. They will then be allowed a short period of time to come forward, after the signing of the legal documents, to take pictures at that point. This is so that couples are not distracted from concentrating on actually making their vows etc.

Friends and family may take photographs before and after the service, but they are strictly forbidden to do so from after the entry of the bride until the bride and groom go out.

Please make sure that your guests know that the use of cameras (including mobile and smart phones) and any video recording equipment is strictly forbidden.

We strongly discourage the use of family friends who are ‘amateur’ photographers. Anyone using a camera without permission will cause the service to be halted, and they will be asked to leave the building.

All professional photographers should make themselves known to the officiating priest well before the service begins.

There is an information sheet in this pack for your chosen photographer, so that he/she is clear on what we will or will not allow. **Please make sure this is sent to them in good time, ahead of the service.**

Videography

We do not encourage the use of Video cameras.

If you are absolutely set on this, you may only use a professional company with indemnity insurance. No amateur video capture is allowed. If a video camera is used for any part of the service, additional fees (doubling of fees) for musicians apply. This is because their work qualifies as a copyright performance. This is the case even if a video or CD recording is for private purposes or has limited distribution. Any musicians you engage (other than our own organist and/or choir) must give their written permission and should be informed well in advance. **It is your responsibility to make sure that you or any videographer you employ has obtained any licences required.** Advice is available at http://www.ccli.co.uk/licences/weddings_licences-overview.cfm The officiating priest will also indicate to the videographer what may or may not be allowed in terms of camera position – which will not differ from the advice in the sheet for photographers.

You may find it very helpful to give the sheet for photographers to your chosen videographer, so that he/she is clear on what we will or will not allow. The same conditions apply to them. Please be very clear that video cameras **may only be placed at the back of the church.** This avoids the ‘plea bargaining’ videographers often attempt before the service begins. Experience teaches us that when they say they won’t get in the way – they all too often do.

Dogs, birds, other animals and novelty ideas...

From time to time we’re asked if the family dog, or trained birds can ‘deliver’ the rings. Our answer is ‘no’. We don’t do so to be mean. It’s that this is a large building, with lots of people in it – and the scope for disaster is huge (watch YouTube if you don’t believe us – for every ‘awww’ video, there are far more ‘disaster’ ones). Fr Gary is a dog owner (as those who meet him at the Rectory will discover) – and he wouldn’t trust his own dog not to make a spectacular mess... One exception is, of course, service dogs such as guide dogs. They are always welcome – although we’d very strongly recommend a ‘familiarisation visit’ beforehand – and in advance of the rehearsal. Even so, you should take all the usual precautionary measures – and might need someone on hand to help you supervise your canine...

And if you have novelty ideas, themes etc we’re not against them – but please ask yourself if whatever you’ve thought of is really appropriate for the context of a church service in which you are making solemn vows before God. Please don’t spring surprises on each other (or on us) – they can spectacularly backfire. We’ve had guards of honour with swords, and with hockey sticks; we’ve had kilted pipers, and wandering saxophonists; we’ve had school choirs and opera singers. We will try to accommodate reasonable suggestions.

Lastly, we only agree to anything you as a couple request. We will not agree to any schemes, plans, ideas (however good or fun they might sound) from anyone but you. That's just so you don't have any unfortunate surprises...!

Above all

Getting married is a joyful thing. It can also be stressful. Please remember that a Marriage Service is quite simple – but it is a wedding that gets complicated! We are dealing with a number of Marriage Services at any given time, so please be patient. Our best advice is always the same: keep it simple, there's less then can go wrong.

**In signing the following application form, you acknowledge that:
you have read and understand the information above,
and are happy to be bound by the terms and conditions.**

Guidance for Wedding Photographers: Please Read in advance

We're delighted you've been asked to take photographs at a Marriage Service here. We appreciate this is challenging and you are striving to do the best for the couple. We want to help you and also make sure that the service runs smoothly. **Please read these protocols and follow them.** This will help us to work together to achieve the best that we can. Thank you.

Before the Service starts, please introduce yourself to the officiating priest well before the service begins. He will clarify any additional instructions. The Groom, Best Man and Ushers arrive 30 minutes before we start. Please do take the photographs of them as they gather. We ask the ushers to be in their places with 20 minutes to go and the Groom and Best Man should be sat 10 minutes before we're due to start, to prepare themselves. You may take photographs outside or inside. If you take photographs inside, please do so sensitively, with the minimum of fuss. Brides arrive at least 10 minutes before the start. You will have time to take the photographs of them as they get out of the car. We expect that the Bride and Bridesmaids will be ready inside the Parish Office 5 minutes before the time that the wedding is due to start. **When the priest "calls time" on photographs, please respect this.**

During the Service

- The Marriage service in a Church is particularly special for us as well as for the couple. We ask you to be discreet and not to distract anyone during the service.
- You may use flash as the Bride enters the Church, but you must stop using flash from the moment the Priest starts to speak.
- During the service you must remain west of the rear pillars and/or the outside aisles.
- You may take photographs from the baptistry, but please minimise movements so as not to distract the couple or the priest.
- If you distract the priest, he may require you to stop taking photographs, and you **must** follow his direction, **or you will be asked to leave the building.**
- At the Signing of the Marriage Document we will invite the Bride, Groom and Witnesses to come to the altar to sign. **Only after** will you be invited to come to the altar to take photographs. **You may arrange the group as you wish, but we ask that you move quickly.** The Priest will tell you when it is time to move on, to continue the service. Please then return to the back of church as we say the prayers, give the blessing and say the dismissal.
- At the end of the service, the Bride and Groom will turn to face the congregation and walk straight toward the back of the church. You may use flash to take photographs of the procession out.
- The procession will leave the church by the Duchy Road door.

After the Service

- Once the couple have left the church, you're welcome to use the grounds for group photographs. Confetti must only be thrown at the church gates.
- There may be another service or event following the one that you are photographing, please bear this in mind if people start to arrive for the next service or event.
- Provided there is not another service or event in the church you are very welcome to go back into Church for any additional photographs. The officiating priest will be able to advise you if there is any time restriction.

Photographs of the Priest and Church people

The Priests are happy for you to take photographs of them so long as you do not distract them. Whilst you may have permission to take long range photographs of any choir or musicians, we ask that you do not take close up photographs of them, particularly when these are children. This is part of the child protection policy that the Church is required to follow.



THE PARISH OF
ST WILFRID
H A R R O G A T E

Application Form for a Wedding Service at St Wilfrid Harrogate

Proposed Date of Marriage	
Proposed Time of Marriage	

Personal Details	Man	Woman
Your Full Names <i>Christian Name(s) and Surname</i>		
Date of Birth DD/MM/YYYY		
Age at date of wedding (Years)		
Status (Single/Widowed)		
Your occupation		
Your address on the day of your wedding – including postcode <i>(i.e. your legal address)</i>		
Father's full name		
Father's occupation		
Mother's Full name		
Mother's Occupation		
Name of Witnesses	1.	2.
The parish(es) you live in		

If you are unsure which parish you live in, you can enter the first line of your address at www.achurchnearyou.com and it will tell you which parish you live in. Please don't just enter your postcode – which can be shared by more than one parish.

For your parent's information, please give their full names and occupations. If one or more parents have died, please give their former occupation and write 'deceased' in brackets afterwards: e.g. "Fred Albert Smith" for name, and "Teacher (Deceased)" in occupation. If you do not know, or prefer not to give the name of one or more parent, please put a line through the relevant box.

Additional Information		
	Man	Woman
Your email address		
Your mobile/landline number		
Your nationality		
Have you been previously Married?		
Are you Baptized?		
Are you related to each other?		

Qualifying to Be Married at St Wilfrid's

We need to know your connection to this parish, so that we can be sure that it is legal for you to get married here. If you can answer 'Yes' to A you **do** not have to answer any questions from Section B.

SECTION A	
Does one of you live permanently at an address within the parish of St Wilfrid?	YES / NO

If you cannot answer 'Yes' in Section A above, you must be able to answer "Yes" to *at least* one of the questions in section B – **and provide proof of your answer:**

SECTION B HAS...	
1. one of you been baptised or prepared for confirmation in the parish?	YES / NO
2. one of you has ever previously lived in the parish for six months or more?	YES / NO
3. one of you at any time regularly attended public worship in the parish for six months or more? (more than once per fortnight)	YES / NO
4. one of your parents lived in the parish for six months or more in your lifetime?	YES / NO
5. one of your parents regularly attended public worship here for six months or more in your lifetime? (more than once per fortnight)	YES / NO
6. one of your parents or grandparents been married in the parish?	YES / NO

(All of these refer to Church of England services only)

Regularly attending means the parish mass on a Sunday, or a midweek service at a minimum frequency of fortnightly. "We come every year at Christmas" is not regular attendance at public worship, nor is "we've been for a wedding and a baptism in the last ten years" (!)

Fees for Weddings at St Wilfrid Harrogate for 2022

Fees are compulsory fees and “additional” fees - options you may want. The majority of the basic fees are set by law each year. They rise each year. For a wedding in subsequent years, this years’ fees are only a guide to what the fees might be.

The organist fee is part of his contract arrangement and is payable if he is used or not. A visiting organist or friend (or any other musicians) who comes to play must be paid in addition to the parish organist’s fee. The Verger fee covers any necessary assistance to the clergy in the run up to the service taking place. The cost of administration is met through the standard marriage service fee. £218 of that fee goes directly to the Diocese of Leeds as part of their income. Once our costs (admin, lighting etc) are taken into account, the parish makes less than £200. That helps towards the £250,000 we have to find each year to run this church and its public ministry.

Basic Fees 2022

Fees for 2022	Reason	Cost
Marriage Service	Fixed in law	£ 480.00
Banns	Fixed in law	£ 48.00
Parish Organist	Professional fee	£ 130.00
Verger and staff	Professional fee	£ 50.00
TOTAL		£ 708.00

Additional Fees

Where a wedding is to be video recorded, the organist’s fee is doubled to £260.00.

No heating is normally provided for weddings. If your wedding is to take place between October and April inclusive an additional heating charge is payable. You may choose not to have heating – but St Wilfrid’s is very cold in the winter months without additional heating.

Bells	For bellringing	£250.00
Video	Additional organists fee	£130.00
Orders of Service	Per 100 Orders of Service	£80.00
Wedding heating (May-Sept)	To heat the Church	£150.00

Basic Fees		Yes	£ 708.00
Bells Fees (optional)	£250.00	Yes / No	£
Video Fee (optional)	£130.00	Yes / No	£
Printing (optional)	£80.00 per 100	Yes / No	£
Winter Heating Fee (optional)	£150.00	Yes / No	£
TOTAL PAYABLE			£

**FEES MUST BE PAID IN FULL AT LEAST
ONE MONTH BEFORE THE MARRIAGE SERVICE TAKES PLACE.**

If the wedding is cancelled less than a month before the date, your fee will not be returned.
Failure to pay the fees may result in your service being cancelled.

Declaration

YOU MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION

- The Information we have given is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge.
- There is no reason in law that we know of which prevents us from marrying.
- We have read and understand the guidance notes, and the conditions they impose.
- We will abide by them.
- We understand you will retain this information for the purposes of this application and that our details will not be shared with any third party.
- We consent to you contacting us by email or phone and we may at any time withdraw that consent. All information is handled in accordance with GDPR and Data protection law.

Signed (Bride)	Date
Signed (Groom)	Date

Acceptance of your request to be married at St Wilfrid's

Please return of this form with payment of your non-refundable deposit of £200.

If you wish to pay by direct bank transfer, the Parish Office can let you have our account details. We can also accept payment by debit and credit cards. If you pay by cheque, this should be made payable to "St Wilfrid Harrogate"

Only when we have received your completed form **and** deposit can we confirm that your request can be accepted.

The following is for office use only:

Date Marriage Form received:	
Date Deposit Received:	
Administrator's Signature:	
Accepted by (Clergy)	
Date:	
Confirmation sent:	



THE PARISH OF
ST WILFRID
H A R R O G A T E

Marriage Service Details

This form is for the Priest who will conduct your wedding service – and will be completed during your meeting with him.

Please therefore do not return this with your application.

Please do look through this form – it will help you answer the questions the priest will ask you when you meet.

Proposed Date of Marriage	
Proposed Time of Marriage	

Personal Details	Groom	Bride
Couple's Full Names <i>Christian Name(s) and Surname</i>		
Preferred name		
Names to be used: Throughout the service Vows & Rings (if different from throughout)		

Organist	Yes / No	Who:
Bells	Yes / No	

Readings

Section A	A	Reader:
Section B	B	Read by priest officiant
Other Bible		Reader:
Other (Read before scripture readings)		Reader:

Music

Before the service:	
Entry of the bride:	
Signing of the legal documents:	
As the bride and groom leave:	

Hymns

1		
2		
3		

Additional music / musicians

eg a soloist, instrumentalist, choir, string quartet etc). We need to know who they are, and what they are being asked to do. If they are to play the Organ, the DoM must be consulted first.

Guests and Orders of Service

How many people are being invited:	
Are we printing an Order of service? Yes / No	
If not us, who?	Draft to be provided for approval by:
Any special instructions? E.g. couple to provide own cover	

Detail of the Marriage Service itself

Wedding Rings	
Bride Yes / No	Groom Yes / No
Number of Bridesmaids (check age)	
Are there Page boys / Flower girls, if so, how many:	
Rehearsal date & time:	
<i>Normally this is 5pm the evening before the wedding – for Sundays, on Fridays.</i>	

Photography

Is a professional Photographer being engaged? Yes / No
Name of Photographer/Company:
<i>Only professional photographers are allowed to take photographs. The couple should forward to them a copy of the guidance notes.</i>
Do the couple insist on a Videographer? Yes / No
Name of Company:
<i>Only professional video companies are allowed at St Wilfrid's. A copy of their indemnity insurance certificate must be supplied to us. If the Marriage service is filmed, then musicians' fees are doubled. Musicians other than our parish organist and/or choir must be informed by the couple that the service is being recorded, and pay any additional fees they require.</i>

Flowers

Is a Florist being asked to come and arrange flowers? Yes / No
Name of Florist:
<i>Florist should make appointment with parish office for access</i>

Banns of Marriage for non-resident couples

Are banns to be read in other parish(s)? Yes / No
Bride's Parish:
Groom's Parish:

Any other information

Readings for Marriage Services

Choose ONE reading from SECTION A and one from SECTION B:

A1 *Genesis 1.26-28*

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'
So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

A2 *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.

A3 *Jeremiah 31.31-34*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

A4 *Tobit 8.4-8*

When the parents had gone out and shut the door of the room, Tobias got out of bed and said to Sarah, 'Sister, get up, and let us pray and implore our Lord that he grant us mercy and safety.' So she got up, and they began to pray and implore that they might be kept safe. Tobias began by saying,

'Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors,

and blessed is your name in all generations for ever.

Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you for ever.

You made Adam, and for him you made his wife Eve as a helper and support.

From the two of them the human race has sprung.

You said, "It is not good that the man should be alone;

let us make a helper for him like himself."

I now am taking this kinswoman of mine, not because of lust, but with sincerity.

Grant that she and I may find mercy

and that we may grow old together.'

And they both said, 'Amen, amen.'

A5 *Romans 7.1,2,9-18*

Do you not know, brothers and sisters – for I am speaking to those who know the law – that the law is binding on a person only during that person's lifetime? Thus a married woman is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives; but if her husband dies, she is discharged from the law concerning the husband. I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died, and the very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. For sin, seizing an opportunity in the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good. Did what is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, working death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it.

A6 *Romans 8.31-35,37-39*

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A7 *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.

A8 *Romans 15.1-3,5-7,13*

We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Each of us must please our neighbour for the good purpose of building up the neighbour. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.' May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

A9 *1 Corinthians 13*

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

A10 *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.

A11 *Ephesians 4.1-6*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

A12 *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.

A13 *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.

A14 *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.

A15 *1 John 3.18-end*

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

A16 *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.

Choose ONE from SECTION B: Gospel Readings (to be read by the priest who officiates)

B1 *Matthew 5.1-10*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.’

B2 *Matthew 7.21,24-end*

Jesus said, ‘Not everyone who says to me, “Lord, Lord”, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

‘Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell – and great was its fall!’ Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

B3 *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.

B4 *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.

B5 *John 15.1-8*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

B6 *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.'

APPENDIX 2

Suggested Hymns for use at Marriage Services

- O Worship the King
- Morning Has Broken
- Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven
- Praise To The Lord, The Almighty
- The Lord's My Shepherd
- O Praise Ye The Lord!
- Give Me Joy In My Heart
- All Things Bright And Beautiful
- Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace
- Be Still For The Presence Of The Lord
- Amazing Grace
- One More Step Along The World I Go
- Lord Of The Dance
- Lead us Heavenly Father
- Great Is Thy Faithfulness
- For The Beauty Of The Earth
- Love Divine All Loves Excelling
- Lord Of All Hopefulness
- The King Of Love My Shepherd Is
- Tell out my Soul
- Come down, O Love divine

Other hymn choices are available and should be discussed with the organist and approved by the priest officiating at your wedding