



# Your Church Wedding

We are delighted that you have chosen to be married in church. The church is here to support you in the run up to the wedding, on the day and in your married life together. Inside are some things you will want to be thinking about, and might want to do in the run up to your wedding.

**One year -  
before the  
Wedding day**  
If you are  
creating a  
connection  
to the church



**six months  
Wedding day**  
creating a  
connection  
to the church

by attending for six months, this is the time to go along regularly each month.

This is also the time to consider your ceremony. You have choices in this, which you can discuss in subsequent meetings with Rev'd Hannah. You can choose your hymns, other music and readings. A really useful website is [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) Please take time to read

through this website and make the most of the information provided so that when you come to your wedding preparation meeting you have some good ideas about what you would like your service to include. There is the option to have an organist play you some hymns for your service or you can choose to use recorded music. If you are having the wedding filmed you need to tell the vicar now.

### **Three months before the Wedding day**

The majority of marriages require that banns are read out in church for three Sundays during the three months before the wedding. We encourage you as far as possible, work commitments depending, to be in the church when your banns are read. The congregation will be praying for you and your marriage, and this can be a reassuring and special experience. If you do not live in the parish where you are having your wedding you will need to arrange to have the banns called in the parish where you live, Rev'd Hannah can help you work out where this is and help you to get in touch with them if needed.

Also discuss with your photographer their expectations for the church service. See if you can visit the church together with the photographer and introduce them to the Rev'd Hannah, this can even be on the day of the wedding rehearsal.

### **Wedding preparation**

We will offer you the time and space to think about what marriage entails, the meaning of the marriage vows and understanding the service. It is usually offered within the three months before the wedding. You might like to review how your ceremony is shaping up and make any final decisions with Rev'd Hannah at around this time. You will also need to decide whether or not you wish to have an order of service produced for the service, we can help you do this if you wish.

### **One week before the wedding day**

There will be a rehearsal for the wedding, which will usually be during the week before the wedding. This will help you relax and ask any final

questions about where to stand and so on. It's ideal if everyone who has a part to play on the day comes along, as it all helps to make the day run smoothly.

### **The day before the Wedding day**

This can be a nerve-wracking time for both bride and groom, so finding time to relax in the evening may help you sleep better. You may find it helpful to light a candle and say the following prayer:

*This day has been so long coming, so long planned, so long anticipated, Help us relax enough to enjoy it.*

*Help us to concentrate enough to appreciate it.*

*Be with those who have a special part to play and with everyone as they travel to join us.*

*May this day be all we have hoped for.*

*May it be a wonderful start to the rest of our lives. Amen.*

Prayer by Andrew Body from Pocket Prayers for Marriage compiled by Andrew & Pippa Body

### **The Big Day**

When the day finally arrives all that remains is for you to enjoy each moment! Ushers may want to arrive about 45 minutes early to check Orders of Service are in place, or ready to give out as people arrive. A vergers from the church can also help with this.

The groom and best man arrive before the bride too. Everyone (except the bride, her father or the person walking her down the aisle, bridesmaids and/or page boy if you have them), should be seated and ready about 10-15 minutes before the service is due to start. The vicar may have a couple of brief notices to read at this point. When you walk into your beautiful church to make this great commitment, know that God's love and our prayers are with you. Relax and enjoy your day!

### **What will our wedding cost?**

The legal fees for any church wedding are set nationally by the Church of England. In addition to this there are fees for other services the church offers which are optional, such as organist, bells. For full details

of our fees please see the table below. When you have finalised your service details the church will send you an invoice for the total amount, which is then due to be paid in full two weeks before the date of your service.

**Table of Fees for 2021**

		<b>Notes</b>
<b>Marriage Service</b>	£475	The Wedding fee is a legal fee set nationally, and includes the issue of a certificate.
<b>Calling of Banns</b>	£31	The calling of Banns is a legal requirement at All Saints, Higher Walton & Holy Trinity, Hoghton and in the parish where you live unless you are marrying by license
<b>Certificate of banns read in another parish</b>	£15	
<b>Verger</b>	£25	
<b>Organist</b>	£50	This is optional if you wish to have hymns
<b>Bells</b>	£120	This is optional and is currently only available at Holy Trinity, Hoghton but if required at All Saints, Higher Walton we may be able to arrange.

As a church we are here to support you throughout the process, you can come along to church at any time and catch Rev'd Hannah after the service or get in touch: 01772 335138 or email: revhannahboyd@gmail.com