



Getting Married

at

St Andrew's Church



Congratulations!

Here at St Andrew's we believe that married is a live giving, joy bringing commitment which is God given and that God loves to bless.

We believe that a church wedding will add a spiritual dimension to your marriage, seeking God's blessing for your relationship sealed by the bonds of love you share. Your wedding is ***Your Wedding*** and we will seek to make it as personal, memorable, meaningful and beautiful as we can within a Church building which has been at the heart of this community for 700 years.

We look forward to getting to know you both over the time between now and the big day and preparing for it. We also look forward to helping you prepare for every day of married life - and like to think that we can support you through all of life's up and downs.

This little booklet serves as a very quick reference for you once you've met with one of our ministry team to book your wedding. It's not meant as a definitive guide.

One of the best places to find out lots of really helpful information is the Church of England's wedding site on the internet you can find this here:

www.yourchurchwedding.org



Your special church welcomes
you for a wedding



"In Church it's marriage in the eyes of God, which makes the commitment a bit stronger, I mean not in yourselves, it doesn't change your feelings, but for some reason it puts that cloud over you- not a nasty cloud, a different cloud. It's more than legal. It's different - it's proper." -Quote from YourChurchWedding.org

The practical bits

What's the cost?

The basic legal fee for getting married in any Church of England church is: **£474**

To that there are a couple of optional extras you can add:

Organist - your organist will play the hymns, the music for your entrance and exit from the church as well as playing during the signing of the register. **£65**

Verger - the verger at your service is there to take care of practical details, such as making sure that the heating is switched on in good time, that the church is clean and tidy, will assist any ushers in helping welcome family and friends into the church **and will ring the bells** at the end of the service. **£50**

That's a total of: **£567**

If you live in another parish there will be an additional fee of payable to them to read your Banns. **£43**

* If you live separately in different parishes from each other, we may need to arrange for your banns to read at another church as well, in which case a further £43 will be payable.

Fees are payable either by Cheque payable to: "St Andrews Great Cornard Fees" or preferably by bank transfer using the following details: Sort Code: 20-83-50 Acc no: 00588504 using your name as the reference.

These fees are correct for 2018, there will be a slight increase in 2019

Who will take my service

99% of the time it will be our Vicar, Rev'd Chris Ramsey, there may be occasions when Chris is unavailable on a particular date in which case we will arrange for someone else to take the service and will make sure you have plenty of opportunity to meet with them and get to know them

Photo's and videos

At St Andrews we have all the necessary licenses etc to allow you to video the service. We do ask that any videographer's and photographers are discreet

however – it is your wedding that people have come to witness, not the photographer leaping around

Can we choose our own readings/hymns/vows/etc

You have a lot of choices to make – it is YOUR wedding after all.

You have the choice of :

- **Hymns** – how many (1,2 or 3 usually) and even none if you wish
- **Music** – to come in to, to go out with and for while we sign the marriage registers – it can be traditional organ music or anything on CD (we do reserve the right of veto on inappropriate lyrics)
- **Readings** – You can choose the bible reading (we can help you choose by suggesting popular readings) and you can also have any other poems or prose which you would like to have. These can be read by friends and family.
- **Vows** – In addition to the formal vows which we must legally use, you are welcome to add your own promises to say to each other if you so wish. These are used in addition to, and separately from the formal wedding vows.

There are some great resources on www.yourchurchwedding.org which can really help you make some of these choices and your vicar will help you as well.

Parking, Toilets and Children

Parking can be difficult at St Andrew's, however we do have a good relationship with Bob and Wendy who run the 5 Bells Pub who are happy to let folk use their car park most of the time. We do have a toilet at St Andrews, though not in the building itself (we have a church "room" behind the church). We love children at St Andrew's and understand the difficulties of having them in church, to that end we have a play area at the back with toys and books for restless children.

Contact

If you have any questions at all at any time just drop our vicar Chris a line. You can contact him on 01787 376293 or email: vicar@standrews-gc.org.uk. The address of the vicarage is: 95 Bures Road, Great Cornard, CO10 0JE