

# Your Wedding

## ST MARY'S CHURCH

Stone Hill  
Stone  
Worcestershire  
DY10 4BE



### **The Parish of Kidderminster East**

The Churches of St Cecilia's, St Chad's & St George's  
St Cassian's Chaddesley Corbett & St Mary's Stone



# WHETHER YOU ARE

just starting to think about marriage or feel completely ready for married life, we are really pleased you are thinking about getting married at St Mary's.

As well as organising the practical details of when, where, and how the wedding service will happen, we want to help you make sure that together you build a marriage that will last a lifetime.

From setting the date, through marriage preparation, the practice, the wedding day itself and still after you are married, we are here for you. Please do not hesitate to speak to any of us if you have any queries.

Revd.  
David Hildred

*David Hildred*



# WHO CAN GET MARRIED AT ST MARY'S?

Any adult can marry at St Mary's if they either

- Live within the parish boundaries of the church
- Have a legal connection with the Parish
- Or who have attended the church regularly at any time for at least six months



## WHAT NEXT

Most couples are keen to set the date of the wedding. If you are looking to have your wedding on a specific date then do contact us as soon as possible. Please note that days get booked up years in advance! We will want to meet you for an informal chat (please telephone the Parish Office on 01562 822131).

If there are no problems we will offer you a date and time for your wedding service which we will hold for **two**

**weeks pending the deposit.** If we do not hear back from you the wedding date may be given to someone else. The wedding is booked once we have received the **£100 deposit**, we will send you a letter to confirm your booking and reminding you what you need to do next.

## WHAT IF I HAVE BEEN MARRIED BEFORE?

It is the preference of the clergy of the Parish of Kidderminster East not to conduct weddings where a previous marriage has ended in divorce and the ex-spouse is still alive.

However, we do want to celebrate new beginnings and would be happy to discuss, as an alternative, a church service of Blessing, Prayer and Dedication shortly after your Civil Ceremony.

For some couples this might be a quieter service with just a few guests, whereas other couples may wish to include bells, organ and choir with many guests in attendance.

## BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Banns of marriage have to be read at the parish church where you live. If either of you don't live in the Parish of Kidderminster East, it is vital that **you** contact the vicar of the parish church where either of you live a few months before your wedding. If you move, please check with us what you need to do. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO GET THE BANNS CERTIFICATE FROM THE VICAR (FOR WHICH YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY A FEE). OTHERWISE WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GO AHEAD WITH THE SERVICE!**

## PREPARING FOR MARRIED LIFE

Your next step is to book on to a Marriage Preparation Course which is essential for all couples who want to get married at St Mary's. The course is a chance amongst all the plans for your big day to prepare for married life! We ask for a contribution of just £25 per couple towards the cost of running the course (payable at time of booking).

The aim of The Marriage Preparation Course is to help couples lay the foundations for a relationship that will last a lifetime

## GETTING STARTED CHECK LIST

- Initial meeting with the Vicar
- Deposit (£100) paid
- Signed up for The Marriage Preparation Course
- Found out where my Banns need to be read

# PLANNING THE WEDDING SERVICE

We will meet with you a couple of months before the wedding day to advise you what is possible and to ensure that all the parts of the service are in place. In the meantime feel free to look around for ideas of what you would like in the service.

## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

We will discuss what happens in each part of the service. Generally it follows the outline shown here.

There are some parts of the service that can be changed according to your taste and some parts that have to stay the same.

You can help to choose

- The music in the service
- The readings in the service
- Who will witness the signing of the marriage document

*Hymn,  
Marriage  
(optional hymn)*

*Reading(s)*

*Sermon  
(optional hymn)*

*Prayers*

*Signing of the marriage  
document*

*(optional hymn)*



We are very happy to discuss ideas you have for the service and are keen where possible to make the service personal for you and your families.

**ORDER of SERVICE** You may want to produce a printed order of service (we will need to check this before printing) or alternatively you can use the church hymn books.

## MUSIC IN THE SERVICE

You will want to have music as the bride enters the church during the signing of the registers and at the end of the service as well as two or three hymns. For suggestions of hymns other than those shown here see [rscm.com/wedding](http://rscm.com/wedding)

Whether you want the Bridal March or other music during the service you will need to discuss this with the Clergy.



### POPULAR HYMNS FOR WEDDINGS

All things bright and beautiful  
 Jerusalem  
 Be thou my vision  
 Come down, O love divine  
 Father, hear the prayer we offer  
 For the beauty of the earth  
 Give me oil in my lamp  
 King of glory, King of peace  
 Lead us heavenly father, lead us  
 Lord of all hopefulness  
 Love divine all loves excelling  
 Make me a channel of your peace  
 Morning has broken  
 Now thank we all our God  
 O Jesus I have promised  
 Praise my soul, the King of heaven  
 Praise to the Lord the Almighty  
 The King of love my shepherd is  
 The Lord's my shepherd

**YOURCHURCHWEDDING.ORG** is a fantastic website packed with tools and information for couples planning a church wedding. Please don't get too concerned about the over complicated instructions on producing an order of service though - the clergy will assist you!

## READINGS FOR THE SERVICE

There will be a Bible reading in the service. You might also want to consider if you would like to choose a poem or other reading.

### POPULAR BIBLE READINGS

Ephesians 3:14-20, Ephesians 5:21-33  
1 Corinthians 13, 1 John 1:7-12,  
John 2:1-11, John 15:9-12.



## FLOWERS FOR THE SERVICE

Most weeks there are flowers arranged in church. You may want to supply your own flowers as well. If you have any questions please contact a Churchwarden. Please note only biodegradable confetti is allowed and this must be used away from the church entrance. Scattering petals in or outside church is not allowed.

## BELLS

If you would like the church bells to be rung for your wedding service then please discuss this with the Clergy.

Please note, providing bell ringers mid-week may not always be possible.

## PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO

Photography and video recording can be very distracting during a wedding service. If you are keen to have photographs taken or video recorded we are very happy to discuss how this may be possible.

## PLANNING THE SERVICE CHECK LIST

The hymns we would like in the service

The reading (s) we would like in the service

Other music we would like in the service

We have spoken to the organist



We have spoken to the flower secretary



We have met with the vicar



We have sent the draft order of service to the vicar



We have contacted the vicar of the church where we live (if we don't live in the Parish of Kidderminster East)



The fees we need to pay are

# THE COST OF YOUR WEDDING

There are the same basic fees for every wedding. On top of these fees there are charges that depend on choices you make. For example you can choose whether you want an organist and bell ringing. Please note that parking can be difficult here - please consult with the clergy and aim to have a minimum of cars at the service.



The table below sets out the costs for weddings taking place in **2026**. We will confirm what the costs will be for your service.

Weddings taking place in **2027** and later will be subject to increases. We will inform you of these as soon as we are able.

## HOW TO PAY

Cheques:

Payable to

PCC of Kidderminster East

Fees account.

Internet Banking:

Contact us for account details

We require **payment in full three months** before the wedding day.

**Basic Fee** £655

Incl. Publication of Banns, Verger

**Bells** £250

**Organist** £160

**Marriage Preparation** £25

**Heating (Oct-Apr Incl.)** £75

**Use of CD player** £0

## PLEASE NOTE

fees may be subject to increase on 1st of January each year.

## FINAL CHECK LIST

We have paid the fees in full

Our wedding rehearsal is on

We have confirmed the order of service with the vicar

We have given the Banns certificate to the vicar  
(if we don't live in the Parish of Kidderminster East)

We have confirmed the music with the Clergy / Organist

## A FINAL NOTE ON TIMINGS

Weddings generally last around 45 minutes. We expect the bride to arrive on time, so that there are a few minutes for photographs on arrival. There may be other weddings or events taking place that day. Where the bride arrives late there may be no time to take photographs on arrival, and the service may need to be shortened, e.g. taking out a hymn, etc.

### KEEPING IN CONTACT

If you change your postal address, e-mail address or phone number (or want to change anything to do with the wedding service) please let us know as soon as possible.

## CONTACTING US

If you have a general enquiry about weddings then please email:  
weddings.parishofke@gmail.com

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# YOUR NOTES

