



WEDDINGS

at St. Lawrence Bovingdon



St LAWRENCE CHURCH
BOVINGDON

Serving the Community

Congratulations on your forthcoming marriage. This guide is intended to help you through the various stages of planning your wedding service. It should be read in conjunction with the introductory letter and wedding pack sent to you by our Church Administrator.

You will find the website www.yourchurchwedding.org full of useful information.

Please make every effort to attend our Marriage Preparation Day which is usually held on the first Saturday of March each year. The feedback from couples attending is very positive!

1) Banns of Marriage

Your banns of marriage will be published at the 10.00 or 10.30 service at St. Lawrence on three consecutive Sundays within three months of your wedding. You are invited to attend our Sunday services at St. Lawrence both before and after your wedding.

2) Banns if one of you lives outside the Parish

If either of you lives outside Bovingdon parish you must approach the appropriate local parish church to ensure that the banns of marriage are read there too. The priest will give you a certificate of publication of banns of marriage which we must have (at or by the rehearsal) in order to conduct your wedding. A statutory fee is payable to that church.

3) A Printed Order of Service

We can produce an elegant, simple order of service for your wedding at a competitive price. If you are producing your own service order please follow our template (including the copyright licensing number) and send us a draft copy before you go to press. Since it is particularly important that we check the words of hymns we can provide the correct words for you via email on request. Please bring all the copies to the rehearsal.

4) Music for your Wedding

Lists of often-requested music and hymns are printed towards the end of this booklet to help you begin your planning. You can also come and chat to our Organist; the best time to see her is after the 10.00 or 10.30 service on Sundays.

5) Photographs

Members of the congregation may take photographs of the arrival of the bride and the final procession from church, but not during the service itself. Your professional photographer may take posed photographs after the signing of the registers and - without flash - during hymns. Naturally, we seek to uphold the marriage service as an act of worship.

6) Confetti

Please ask your guests to bring biodegradable confetti, rather than metallic. We ask that it is thrown at a distance from the entrance to the church (this is usually done under the direction of the photographer).

EXTRACTS FROM THE MARRIAGE SERVICE

The Consent

The minister says to the bridegroom

[N], will you take [N] to be your wife?

Will you love her, comfort her, honour and protect her,

and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

He answers

I will.

The minister says to the bride

[N], will you take [N] to be your husband?

Will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him,

and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

She answers

I will.

The minister says to the congregation

Will you, the friends and families of N & N support and uphold them in their marriage now and in the years to come?

They reply

We will

The Marriage Vows

The bridegroom says to the bride (repeating after the minister).

I, [NN], take you, [NN], to be my wife,
to have and to hold from this day forward;
for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish,
till death us do part; according to God's holy law.
In the presence of God I make this vow.

The bride says to the bridegroom (repeating after the minister).

I, [NN], take you, [NN], to be my husband,
to have and to hold from this day forward;
for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish,
till death us do part; according to God's holy law.
In the presence of God I make this vow.

The giving of rings

The bridegroom says to the bride (repeating after the minister).

I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage.
With my body I honour you,
all that I am I give to you,
and all that I have I share with you,
within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The bride says identical words to the bridegroom
(repeating after the minister).

READINGS

You will need to choose one Bible reading for your service and a separate list of recommended readings will be provided as a guide.

Approved secular readings may also be added to the service and like the Bible readings, may be read either by the Minister or by members of your family or friends.

Further suggestions for readings may be found at
www.yourchurchwedding.org

SUGGESTIONS FOR MUSIC AT YOUR WEDDING

We can play recorded music from a CD or download your chosen tracks from a streaming service. If you would like some traditional organ music played, here are some suggestions.

At the entrance of the Bride :

- a) Bridal March from “Lohengrin” – Wagner
- b) The Prince of Denmark’s March (“Trumpet Voluntary”) - Clarke
- c) Trumpet Tune in D – Purcell
- d) Trumpet Tune (from Te Deum) – Charpentier
- e) Hornpipe from “Water Music” – Handel
- f) Arrival of the Queen of Sheba – Handel
- g) Chaconne - Pachelbel

During the Signing of the Marriage Document :

- a) Jesu, joy of man’s desiring – J.S. Bach
- b) Amazing Grace – D. Grant
- e) Ave Maria - Schubert
- f) Ave Maria - Gounod/Bach
- g) Panis Angelicus - C. Franck
- h) Love one another - Wesley
- i) The Lord is my Shepherd (“Vicar of Dibley”) - Goodall
- j) Sheep May Safely Graze - Bach
- k) He shall feed his flock from “Messiah” - Handel

At the exit of the couple :

- a) Wedding March from Midsummer Night’s Dream Mendelssohn
- c) Hornpipe from “Water Music” – Handel
- d) The Prince of Denmark’s March (“Trumpet Voluntary”) - Clarke
- e) Trumpet Tune in D – Purcell
- f) Arrival of the Queen of Sheba—Handel

We shall also be happy to discuss any special requests for music during the arrival of guests before the service.

All of the above are regularly chosen items, but we are very happy to discuss other requests.

The Organist can demonstrate these pieces on the organ at your meeting with her.

POPULAR HYMNS

All things bright and beautiful

Amazing Grace

And did those feet in ancient time (Jerusalem)

At the name of Jesus

Be thou my vision

Come to a wedding (to the tune: "Morning has broken")

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Father hear the prayer we offer

Give me joy in my heart

Guide me O thou Great Redeemer ("Bread of heaven")

I danced in the morning ("The Lord of the Dance")

Lead us, heavenly Father

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

Love Divine, all loves excelling

Make me a channel of your peace

Morning has broken (But see note below)

Now thank we all our God

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end

O praise ye the Lord!

One more step along the world I go

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven

The King of Love my Shepherd is or The Lord's my Shepherd

We pledge to one another (to the tune "I vow to thee my country")

There are many other hymns which are suitable for weddings.

Please do not feel limited to this list.

Note: Reproduction of Morning has Broken is subject to a copyright fee, currently £25.

Getting married is one of the most important decisions you will ever take, and it often encourages couples to think about the really important issues in life. To discover more about Christian spirituality and the way of faith, please feel free to come to any service at St. Lawrence. (If you already have young children, our 30 minute Family Praise service at 9.30am each Sunday is specifically geared for families such as yours.) Discussion groups and refresher courses are also run regularly. Please ask for the latest information.

CONTACTS

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Church of England Weddings Website
www.yourchurchwedding.org

