

Thinking about Marriage

Local C of E churches work together to offer an opportunity to all couples getting married to take a little bit of time out to think about the step they are taking. It's a single Saturday morning session, including refreshments. Invitations will be sent at the start of 2020.

Photos & Videos

Photos are permitted in church, subject to the guidance of the minister taking the service. We ask people to be sensitive and to avoid flash photography during the service itself. If you have an official photographer, they should speak to the minister before the service. Videos require an additional fee (see separate fees table).

Confetti

We're happy for bio-degradable confetti - as long as it's not thrown just outside the Church door (it blows into church and makes a mess!). Please ask guests not to use plastic confetti as it is *not* permitted and is harmful for the environment and wildlife.

Reception

Most people will have their reception booked already. If you are still looking for a venue, St Nicholas' Community Centre may be able to accommodate you as a cost-effective option. For availability and prices, please contact the office on 01482 863542 or email stnicksoffice@gmail.com

And Finally

There will be lots more to talk about, but we hope that gets you started. If you have any questions, please get in touch.

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Getting Married At St Nicholas' Church, Beverley



Information to help you with your preparation and planning for your big day.

There are lots of things you need to think about for a wedding day. This takes you through the basic things you need to know for planning a wedding at St Nicholas' Church, Beverley.

Can we get married at St Nicholas'?

You can be married at St Nicholas' if you can prove that one of you:

- has at any time lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months **or**
- was baptised in the parish concerned **or**
- was prepared for confirmation in the parish **or**
- has at any time regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months **or**

That one of your parents, at any time after you were born:

- has lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months **or**
- has regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months **or**

That one of your parents or grandparents:

- was married in the parish

*NB. If this is the second marriage for either partner, you must discuss this with us, as an additional process is involved. **Marriages of people who are divorced cannot be registered without the original Decree Absolute being seen by the person booking the marriage.***

Please also note the Church of England is not authorised by law to register the marriage of same-sex couples.

Banns

Banns are the usual preliminary to marriage in the Church of England. Banns must be read at 3 consecutive main Sunday services during the 3 months before your wedding. You will be told your banns dates, and please try to be at church for them. We recommend you come to ensure that they have been read correctly. If you are not a citizen of the EEA or Switzerland, you will require a special marriage licence instead. (The EEA is the EU plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway).

This may change after the UK leaves the European Union.

If you both live in our parish, this only needs to be done by us. If either of you live in other parish(es) the law requires that banns must be read

there also. You must pay each church a fee (not included in our fees) and we *must* receive the certificate from the other church(es).

Go to <http://www.achurchnearyou.com> and enter your post-code. Your parish will be highlighted. Any problems, please get in touch.

Music

You now have some choices to make. We assume you will require an organist to be on duty for your service. The fees sheet says what this will cost. You will need to think about music for coming into church, music for the end as you leave, and music, hymns or worship songs during the service. Pre-recorded music can be used.

Order of service

We will need to agree a running order with you. There are a number of options available, so look at <http://www.yourchurchwedding.org> (the Church of England wedding website). It has ideas for readings, hymns, music and more. If you get stuck, we have some suggestions to help you. Most people have an order of service printed (although you don't have to). **N.B. please don't** go to print until you have shown a draft order to the minister taking your service. Mistakes can be expensive!

Fees

The fees sheet tells you the core costs and the optional extras. All fees **must** be paid before the service. Cheques are payable to: **PCC St Nicholas**

Flowers

If you wish to have special flowers in Church, you can either use a florist, or do it yourself. Just let us know in good time, so that we can arrange access.

Rehearsal

These are arranged a few days before the wedding. We walk couples through the service, and talk about how it will run. It's helpful, but not essential to have others who are involved there. You don't have to learn any words – it's just to make sure everything feels OK and familiar on the day. It's also an opportunity to ask any final questions.