

## ***Your Wedding***

This is your wedding and we believe that our role is to help you to have the wedding that you want in church.

Marriage is not something done by us to you, but by you. Our task is to enable this to happen, to ask for God's blessing on your marriage and to support you as you take this momentous step of joining your lives together in the presence of God.

## ***Legal Entitlement***

If either or both of you live in one of our parishes, you are entitled to be married in church. This takes place after the Publication of the Banns of Marriage, that is the priest announces for three consecutive Sundays your intention to marry and asks if anyone knows of a legal objection. If one of you lives in another parish, you must arrange for the Banns to be called in that parish also.

If neither of you lives within one of the parishes of the Benefice, then it may still be possible to be married here. You can do this either by establishing a Qualifying Connection e.g. you or your parents have resided or been baptised here. Alternatively you may qualify by worshipping here for six months in order to become a member of the Church Electoral Roll.,

## ***Preparation & Rehearsal***

The priest who is going to officiate at your wedding will want to meet you in order to get to know you and to go through the service with you and discuss some of the things that the church believes about marriage.

We will also expect you to come to our Marriage Preparation Day if we hold one.

There will also be a rehearsal in church in the week before the wedding.

## ***Fees***

There are a number of statutory charges which we are obliged to make and optional ones which depend on your choices. All fees are payable at or before the rehearsal and will be explained to you when we meet.

## ***Photography***

We are happy for you to arrange for both stills and video photography, and ask that you talk to us about this as part of the preparation. We may require you to sign an agreement which covers Performing Rights and governs the future use of the videos in respect of Copyright. There is a fee for this. We ask people to be discreet and not to use flash. There will always be opportunities for photographs after the service.

## ***Music***

Music can make a great contribution to the occasion and our organist will be happy to discuss your ideas with you and to advise you and make suggestions. You will need to consider music for the Entry of the Bride, the Signing of the Registers and at the end, in addition to hymns. .

## ***MOST POPULAR HYMNS***

We suggest that you choose two hymns and it is important that they should be well known. Below is a list of some of the most popular ones, but again please talk to our organist.

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind  
Give me Joy in My Heart (Sing Hosanna)  
Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer  
Immortal, Invisible God only Wise  
Jerusalem  
Lead Us Heavenly Father, Lead Us  
Lord of all Hopefulness  
Love Divine all Loves excelling  
Morning has broken  
Now thank we all our God  
O Perfect Love  
O Praise Ye the Lord  
Praise my Soul the King of Heaven  
Praise to the Lord the Almighty  
The Lord's my Shepherd

The internet is a very good place to search for music, hymns and readings.

## **Readings**

We invite you to choose one or two readings and ask at least one should be from the Bible as this forms an important element in the Marriage Service. The priest taking the service will be happy to read but would prefer you to ask members of your family or friends.

The list below contains a selection of some of the most appropriate Bible readings.

Genesis	Ch 1 v 26 - 28 & 31
Matthew	Ch 7 v 21 & 24 - 27
John	Ch 15 v 9 - 12
Ephesians	Ch 3 v 14 - end
1 Corinthians	Ch 13
Colossians	Ch 3 v 12 - 17
Romans	Ch 12 v 1, 2, 9 - 13
1 John	Ch 4 v 7 - 12

## **Flowers**

There are usually flowers in church, except during Lent (six weeks before Easter) and Advent (four weeks before Christmas). If you want additional flowers and/or a chosen colour scheme you can ask our flower arrangers to provide them or arrange to have these provided these for yourselves.

## **Orders of Service**

If you decide to have a printed Order of Service please follow the pattern shown here. We also ask that you show us a draft before you go to print.

WELCOME

HYMN

OPENING PRAYERS

PREFACE AND DECLARATIONS

READING/S

THE MARRIAGE VOWS

ADDRESS

SIGNING OF THE REGISTERS

HYMN

PRAYERS

BLESSING

## **KEEPING IN TOUCH**

Please do not hesitate to call us.

**Fr David Nixon**

01392 667192

rev.dave@virgin.net

**Parish Office**

01392 437486

e-

# **St Thomas Church, Exeter**



***We are delighted that you  
are thinking of getting  
married in one of our  
churches.***

***This leaflet is designed to  
help you and to provide  
some important information***