



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
wedding  
faith • hope • love



St Mary's

Ferndown

Wedding Information Booklet

## INDEX

"Congratulations!"	p. 3
A Guide To Your Wedding	pp. 4-7
Template Order of Service	p. 8
The Marriage Service	pp. 9 - 16
Bible Readings	pp. 17- 22
Additional Prayers	pp. 23 - 28
Music For Your Wedding	p. 29
Hymns	pp. 30 - 50
A Check List	p. 51
For Your Notes	pp. 52 -53

## ***Congratulations!***

*We are delighted to congratulate you on your engagement  
and on choosing to be married in church.*

This booklet will give you all you need to make your preliminary wedding preparations and to understand the Marriage Service. It also provides useful information for making preparations for your wedding as well as the texts of prayers, vows, readings and possible hymns for your wedding service.

We hope this resource will help answer your questions and give you the information you need for when you sit down with your minister and discuss the arrangements for your special day.

If you have any queries or concerns about your wedding booking or arrangements please contact our Operations Manager, Tracey Nicholls, who will be very happy to help you. Tracey can be contacted on 01202 897087 or via e-mail: [tnicholls@stmarys-ferndown.org.uk](mailto:tnicholls@stmarys-ferndown.org.uk)

We pray that as you look at the powerful words of the wedding service, your relationship will be strengthened, and that you will experience God's love.



**Rev. Sarah Pix**  
Rector



**Rev. Patches Chabala**  
Associate Minister

*"Therefore what God has joined together,  
let man not separate."  
Mark 10: 9*

# **A Guide to your Wedding at St Mary's Church**

## **Booking your Wedding**

When you have completed and returned your marriage application form a member of our leadership team will contact you to arrange to meet with you. Please note that you will need to bring the following documents with you to this meeting:

- your birth certificate
- passport or driving licence
- a utility bill as proof of address
- proof of your qualifying connection if neither of you live in Ferndown Parish.

If either of you have been married previously you will also need to bring your “Decree Absolute” documentation.

After this meeting and provided that everything is in order we will be able to confirm your booking and help you plan your wedding.

If any of your details on your marriage application form should change (e.g address, occupation etc.) please contact us as soon as possible. The address(es) entered on your application form must be the address(es) where you are resident at the time of the calling of banns (please see overleaf).

## **Marriage Preparation**

It is our privilege to help you prepare for married life together as well as for your wedding. We hold a Marriage Preparation Day every Spring which all our wedding couples are warmly encouraged to attend. All previous couples who have attended this day have found it a helpful and enjoyable experience - and the food is always good too! By signing your marriage application form you agree to commit to attending this Marriage Preparation Day. If for any reason you are not able to attend please let us know as soon as possible so that we can make alternative arrangements for you.

## **Banns of Marriage**

Banns are a public announcement of your marriage which have to be made 3 times before your wedding can legally take place.

Your banns will be called at St Mary's Church over the course of x3 Sundays, 2 months before the date of your wedding at our 10.45am service. Don't worry, we will give you the dates and send you a reminder nearer the time.

*If either or both of you don't live in Ferndown Parish:*

You must also arrange for your banns to be called in the parish where you live. We will give you the name and contact details of your local vicar who will be happy to help you. Once your banns have been read there they will give you a banns certificate which you should then give to us at least one week before the wedding. Please note that this is a legal requirement and your marriage cannot take place without it.

## **Video**

If you are taking a video of your wedding, please ask for an permission form. The person taking the video should report to the minister and then to the verger before the service for directions. They are welcome to attend your wedding rehearsal.

## **Music**

If you would like an organist to play at your wedding please let your minister or Tracey know and we will put you in touch with one. The church sound desk has the facility to play CDs if you would prefer. Ideas for your music and hymn choices can be found on pages 28 - 49 of this booklet

## **Signing for the deaf and hard of hearing**

If any of your guests are deaf or hard of hearing we may be able to arrange for someone to sign at your wedding. Please contact Tracey for further information.

## **Decorating the Church**

You are very welcome to decorate the church for your special day with flowers and/or pew ends. Please speak to the person who is decorating the church for you and let us know when they need access and we will make sure the church is available. Flowers should be removed from the church after the Sunday and no later than the Wednesday of the week following your wedding. Due to allergies we ask that if you have lilies in your arrangements to remove them immediately after your wedding.

## **Orders of Service**

We recommend that you have an order of service to give out to your guests as this will help guide them through the service and includes the words of your hymns. If you are designing your own orders of service please use the template on page 7 of this booklet as a guide. Please make sure that you check your order of service through with your minister before going to print. If you would like us to produce your orders of service we will be very happy to help you. We can prepare them for you in black & white on white or cream card at a cost of £45 for the first 50 copies and then 40p per copy thereafter. We can also print your orders of service in colour at a cost of £55 for the first 50 copies, and 50p per copy thereafter. Sample copies are available on request.

## **Wedding Rehearsal**

Your minister will be in touch with you directly to arrange your wedding rehearsal. This is normally held in the evening, a couple of days before your wedding. We recommend that you encourage as many members of your wedding party to attend so that they are less nervous on the “big day”.

## **Confetti**

Your guests are very welcome to throw biodegradable confetti but please wait until you are outside the church building (it really clogs up the Hoover!)

## **Bells**

We do not have any bells in our church tower but we do have the facility to play a recording of bells through a speaker in the church tower which sounds very realistic – and best of all, it's free!

## **Wedding Fees**

We will send you an invoice a month before your wedding day. We ask that you pay your fees two weeks before the date of your wedding. Please make your cheque payable to “PCC Ferndown” and hand it to your minister or into the Church Office.

Below are the fees chargeable for weddings in 2021. If your wedding is booked for 2022 we will contact you as soon as the fees have been set but we do not anticipate any large increases.

	<b>2021</b>
Basic Fee	£555.00
Organist/Worship Band	£ 60.00

*Please note that these fees are subject to review each year by The Church of England and St Mary's Church.*

## **Any Questions?**

We hope that you find this information helpful. However, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Tracey Nicholls on 01202 897087 or via e-mail on [tnicholls@stmarys-ferndown.org.uk](mailto:tnicholls@stmarys-ferndown.org.uk)

Any correspondence should be sent to:

St Mary's Church  
Church Road  
Ferndown  
Dorset  
BH22 9EU

# Template Order of Service

*Pre-service Notices*

Music for the entry of the Bride

Welcome

Hymn

The Marriage

*(declarations, vows, rings, pronouncement and blessing)*

(Extra space for a hymn when three are chosen)

The Bible Reading

The Address

Hymn

Prayers

Signing of the Marriage Document

*(Organist normally plays during this or you may have other preferences. You can sign the Registers either in the church or in the clergy vestry. Your minister will go through this with you.)*

The Blessing

Final Music as the Bride and Bridegroom leave the Church



# The Marriage Service

## The Welcome

*This sentence may be used*

God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them. *1 John 4.16*

## A Hymn is Sung

### An Introduction about Marriage

We have come together in the presence of God, to witness the marriage of *N* and *N*, to ask his blessing on them, and to share in their joy. Our Lord Jesus Christ was himself a guest at a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and through his Spirit he is with us now.

The Bible teaches us that marriage is a gift of God in creation and a means of his grace, a holy mystery in which man and woman become one flesh. It is God's purpose that, as husband and wife give themselves to each other in love throughout their lives, they shall be united in that love as Christ is united with his Church.

Marriage is given, that husband and wife may comfort and help each other, living faithfully together in need and in plenty, in sorrow and in joy. It is given, that with delight and tenderness they may know each other in love, and, through the joy of their bodily union, may strengthen the union of their hearts and lives. It is given as the foundation of family life in which children may be born and nurtured in accordance with God's will, to his praise and glory.

In marriage husband and wife belong to one another, and they begin a new life together in the community. It is a way of life that all should honour; and it must not be undertaken carelessly, lightly, or selfishly, but reverently, responsibly, and after serious thought.

This is the way of life, created and hallowed by God, that *N* and *N* are now to begin. They will each give their consent to the other; they will join hands and exchange solemn vows, and in token of this they will each give and receive a ring.

Therefore, on this their wedding day we pray with them, that, strengthened and guided by God, they may fulfill his purpose for the whole of their earthly life together.

## **The Declarations**

### *The minister says to the congregation*

First, I am required to ask anyone present who knows a reason why these persons may not lawfully marry, to declare it now.

### *The minister says to the couple*

The vows you are about to take are to be made in the presence of God, who is judge of all and knows all the secrets of our hearts; therefore if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now.

### *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 families and friends of *N* and *N*, support and uphold them in their marriage now and in the years to come?

*All*     **We will.**

**Giving Away (*optional*)**

*The minister asks*

Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

*The person giving the bride away answers*

I do.

**The Vows**

*The minister introduces the vows in these or similar words*

*N* and *N*, I now invite you to join hands and make your vows, in the presence of God and his people.

*The bride and bridegroom face each other.*

*The bridegroom takes the bride's right hand in his.*

I, *N*, take you, *N*,

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.

*They loose hands.*

*The bride takes the bridegroom's right hand in hers, and says*

I, N, take you, N,  
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.  
*They loose hands.*

### **The Giving of Rings**

*The minister receives the ring(s) and says this prayer*

Heavenly Father, by your blessing let *these rings* be to N and N  
a symbol of unending love and faithfulness, to remind them of the  
vow and covenant which they have made this day through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.

*All*     **Amen.**

*The bridegroom places the ring on the fourth finger of the bride's  
left hand and, holding it there, says*

N, 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.

*If rings are exchanged, they loose hands and the bride places a ring on the fourth finger of the bridegroom's left hand and, holding it there, says*

N, 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.

*If only one ring is used, before they loose hands the bride says*

N, I receive 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 Proclamation**

*The minister addresses the people*

In the presence of God, and before this congregation, N and N have given their consent and made their marriage vows to each other. They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands and by the giving and receiving of *rings*. I therefore proclaim that they are husband and wife.

*The husband and wife kneel.*

*The minister joins their right hands together and says*

Those whom God has joined together let no one divide.

## **The Blessing of the Marriage**

God the Father,  
God the Son,  
God the Holy Spirit,  
bless, preserve and keep you;  
the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his grace,  
that you may please him both in body and soul,  
and, living together in faith and love,  
may receive the blessings of eternal life.

*All*     **Amen.**

## **Bible Readings**

*At least one reading from the Bible is used.*

*A selection of readings is found on pages 16-21*

## **The Address**

## **A Hymn is sung**

## **Prayers**

*Your minister will write special prayers for your wedding.*

*However, if you would like to include one or two of the prayers from pp. 22-27 you are very welcome to.*

*The prayers usually include these concerns and may follow this sequence:*

*Thanksgiving*

*Spiritual growth*

*Faithfulness, joy, love, forgiveness and healing*

*Children, other family members and friends*

*The prayers conclude with the Traditional Lord's Prayer.*

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All     Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name,  
Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

*The Contemporary Lord's Prayer may be used instead*

**All     Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Registration of the Marriage

### The Dismissal

*The minister says*

God the Holy Trinity make *you* strong in faith and love, defend *you* on every side, and guide *you* in truth and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among *you* and remain with *you* always.

*All*     **Amen.**

*After the dismissal the couple head back down the centre aisle and leave the church by the south door (on your left). The rest of the congregation leave the church via the north door. This will give your photographer opportunity to take some photos and talk to you before your family and friends join you for the group photographs.*



## Bible Readings

*One of the following, or another suitable Bible reading is used.  
These are in Biblical order*

### **Genesis 1:26-28**

26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

27 So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

### **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**

9 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: 10 If one falls down, his friend can help him up.

But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

11 Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.

But how can one keep warm alone? 12 Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

## **Mark 10:6-9, 13-16**

6 "But at the beginning of creation God `made them male and female.' 7 `For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." 16 And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

## **John 15:1-8**

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

## **John 15:9-17**

9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. 17 This is my command: Love each other.

## **Romans 12:1-2,9-13**

1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

9 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honour one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality

## 1 Corinthians 13

1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.

*(OPTIONAL.....But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. 11 When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. 12 Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.)*

13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

## Philippians 4: 4-8

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

### **Ephesians 5:21-33**

21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. 28 In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- 30 for we are members of his body.

31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery--but I am talking about Christ and the church. 33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

### **Colossians 3:12-17**

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. (*continued*)

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him

### **1 John 4:7-12 (13-21)**

7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

*(OPTIONAL 13 We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.*

*17 In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*

*19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.)*

## Additional Prayers

*Some of the following may be used*

### Thanksgiving

#### **1 For the sharing of love**

Father of all, in Jesus Christ you open to us the treasures of your kingdom; guide us by your Holy Spirit that we may receive your redeeming grace and reflect the perfect unity of your love, for you live and reign Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *All: Amen.*

#### **2 For the sharing of love**

God of love, we thank you for the gift of marriage and for the joys it brings. Bless us as we share in this wedding. We thank you for the love which has brought *N* and *N* to each other and for their desire to share that love for the rest of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### Spiritual Growth

#### **3 For the home**

Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: reign in the home of these your servants as Lord and King; give them grace to minister to others as you have ministered to them, and grant that by deed and word they may be witnesses of your saving love to those among whom they live; for the sake of your holy name. *All: Amen.*

#### **4 For the Holy Spirit**

Almighty God, you send your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of all your people. Open the hearts of these your servants to the riches of his grace, that they may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

## **5 For grace to live well**

Faithful God, giver of all good things, give *N* and *N* wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their life together. May they dwell together in love and peace all the days of their life, seeking one another's welfare, bearing one another's burdens and sharing one another's joys; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

## **6 For discipleship**

Eternal God, without your grace nothing is strong, nothing is sure. Strengthen *N* and *N* with patience, kindness, gentleness and all other gifts of the Holy Spirit, so that they may fulfil the vows they have made. Keep them faithful to each other and to you. Fill them with such love and joy that they may build a home of peace and welcome. Make their life together a sign of Christ's love in this broken world, that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy conquer despair; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

## **7 For a glimpse of eternal love**

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer, as you once enriched the wedding at Cana when your Son turned water into wine, so by his presence now bring your joy to this day. May we drink deeply from your boundless love and know in our hearts the delights of your Holy Spirit. As we honour the union of a man and a woman, let the love we celebrate today be a sign of your eternal love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. *All: Amen.*

## **8 For the gift of love**

God of wonder and of joy: grace comes from you, and you alone are the source of life and love. Without you, we cannot please you; without your love, our deeds are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, that we may worship you now with thankful hearts and serve you always with willing minds; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*



## **9 For marriage as a sign to the world**

Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, look graciously upon the world which you have made and for which your Son gave his life, and especially on all whom you make to be one flesh in holy marriage. May their lives together be a sign of your love to this broken world, so that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy overcome despair; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

## **Faithfulness, Joy, Love, Forgiveness and Healing**

### **10 For the joy of loving**

God our creator, we thank you for your gift of sexual love by which husband and wife may delight in each other and share with you the joy of creating new life. By your grace may *N* and *N* remain lovers, rejoicing in your goodness all their days.

*All: Amen.*

### **11 For the healing of memory**

Loving God, you are merciful and forgiving. Grant that those who are suffering the hurts of the past may experience your generous love. Heal their memories, comfort them, and send them all from here renewed and hopeful; in Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### **12 For the joy of companionship**

All praise and blessing to you, God of love, creator of the universe, maker of man and woman in your likeness, source of blessing for married life. All praise to you, for you have created courtship and marriage, joy and gladness, feasting and laughter, pleasure and delight. May your blessing come in full upon *N* and *N*. May they know your presence in their joys and in their sorrows. May they reach old *age* in the company of friends and come at last to your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### **13 For grace and delight**

God of love, ever gracious and kind, we pray for *N* and *N* as they make the promises of marriage. Let them know you as the God of mercy and new beginnings, who forgives our failures and renews our hope. May the grace of Christ be poured into their wedding for celebration and for joy. God of love, ever present and faithful, may *N* and *N* know that their marriage is your delight and will. May the promises they make govern their life together. as your presence surrounds them, and your Spirit strengthens and guides them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### **14 For faithfulness**

God of all grace, friend and companion, look in favour on *N* and *N*, and all who are made one in marriage. In your love deepen their love and strengthen their wills to keep the promises they have made, that they may continue in life-long faithfulness to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### **15 For faithfulness**

Gracious God, as you have brought *N* and *N* together in love, enable them through the power of your Holy Spirit to make and keep the solemn promises of marriage; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### **16 For faithfulness**

O gracious and ever-living God, male and female you have created us in your image: look mercifully upon this man and this woman who come to you seeking your blessing; assist them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honour and keep the promises and vows they make; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *All: Amen.*

**17 For faithfulness and peace**

O God of love, look mercifully upon *N* and *N* in the new life which they begin together this day. Unite them evermore in your love. Keep them faithful to the vows they have made one to the other; strengthen them with every good gift; and let your peace be with them, now and always; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

**18 For daily following of Christ**

Heavenly Father, we thank you that in our earthly lives you speak to us of your eternal life: we pray that through their marriage *N* and *N* may know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly, day by day; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

**Children, other Family Members and Friends**

**19 For children and home**

Heavenly Father, maker of all things, you enable us to share in your work of creation. Bless this couple in the gift and care of children, that their home may be a place of love, security and truth, and their children grow up to know and love you in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *All:* **Amen.**

**20 For children and family**

Lord of life, you shape us in your image, and by your gracious gift the human family is increased. Grant to *N* and *N* the blessing of children. Fill them with wisdom and love as they care for their family, so that they and their children may know and love you; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *All:* **Amen.**

### **21 For an existing family**

God of all grace and goodness, we thank you for this new family, and for everything parents and children have to share; by your Spirit of peace draw them together and help them to be true friends to one another. Let your love surround them and your care protect them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### **22 For the families of the couple**

Gracious Lord, bless the parents and families of *N* and *N* that they may grow in love and friendship. Grant that, as they have witnessed these vows today, they may find their lives enriched and strengthened and their loyalties confirmed; in Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

### **23 For the support of friends**

Holy Spirit of God, you know our strength and have compassion on our frailty. Be with *N* and *N* in all they undertake. And grant that we their friends, with all who become their friends, may sense and understand their needs; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All: Amen.*

## Music for your Wedding

The Marriage service is an act of worship, and in particular a time to thank God for bringing you together as a couple and to ask Him to bless your marriage in the future.

Usually there are three times in the service when instrumental music is required. Under each section there is a list of suggested pieces that you may wish to consider:

### When the bride makes her entrance to the church (Processional)

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba (Handel)  
Bridal March from Lohengrin (Wagner)  
Hornpipe in F from The water Music (Handel)  
Prelude to the Te Deum (Charpentier)  
Trumpet Tune (Purcell)  
Trumpet Voluntary (J Clarke)

### During the signing of the marriage document and register

Adagio (Albinoni)  
Air from the Water Music (Handel)  
Brother James' Air (Macbeth Bain)  
Jesu, joy of man's desiring (JS Bach)

### When the couple leave the church (Recessional)

The Wedding March (Mendelssohn)  
Finale from The Water Music (Handel)  
Tocatta from Symphony No. 5 (Widor) -- *available on CD only*  
Crown Imperial (Walton)  
Chorale—Improvisation on “Now thank we all our God”  
(Karg-Elert)

## Hymns

Usually two or three hymns are sung at a church wedding service. The opening hymn will normally be upbeat and will say something about the love of God. The middle and/or final hymn(s) may either be celebratory or reflective.

The 20 hymns on the following pages are used most frequently at weddings, but this list is not exhaustive. If you are not sure what hymns to choose do feel free to speak to your minister who will be happy to help you.

All things bright and beautiful	p. 30
Amazing Grace	p. 31
At the name of Jesus	p. 32
Bind us together Lord	p. 33
Colours of Day	p. 34
Give me oil in my lamp	p. 35
Great is Thy faithfulness	p. 36
Lord of all hopefulness	p. 37
Lord of the dance	p. 38
Lord, the light of your love is shining <i>(also known as "Shine, Jesus, shine")</i>	p. 39
Love divine	p. 40
Make me a channel of your peace	p. 41
Morning has broken	p. 42
Now thank we all our God	p. 43
O Jesus I have promised	p. 44
O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder <i>(also known as "How great thou art")</i>	p. 45
O worship the King	p. 46
Praise my soul the King of Heaven	p. 47
The King of love, my shepherd is	p. 48
You shall go out with joy	p. 49

# 1

*All things bright and beautiful,  
All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful,  
The Lord God made them all.*

1. Each little flower that opens,  
Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colours,  
He made their tiny wings.

2. The purple-headed mountain,  
The river running by,  
The sunset, and the morning  
That brightens up the sky.

3. The cold wind in the winter,  
The pleasant summer sun,  
The ripe fruits in the garden,  
He made them every one.

4. He gave us eyes to see them,  
And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty,  
Who has made all things well.

*Cecil F. Alexander. (1818 – 1895)*

2

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed!
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.
5. Yes, when this heart and flesh shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil  
A life of joy and peace.
6. When we've been there a thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.

*John Newton. (1725 – 1807)*



### 3

1. At the Name of Jesus  
Every knee should bow,  
Every tongue confess Him  
King of glory now;  
'Tis the Father's pleasure  
We should call Him Lord,  
Who from the beginning  
Was the Mighty Word.

2. In your hearts enthrone Him;  
There let Him subdue  
All that is not holy,  
All that is not true;  
Crown Him as your  
Captain In temptation's hour;  
Let His Will enfold you  
In its light and power.

3. Brothers, this Lord Jesus  
Shall return again  
With His Father's glory,  
With His angel train;  
For all wreaths of empire  
Meet upon His brow,  
And our hearts confess Him  
King of glory now.

*Caroline M. Noel*

*Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together  
With cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together,  
Bind us together with love.*

1. There is only one God,  
There is only one King;  
There is only one Body,  
That is why we sing:
2. Made for the glory of God,  
Purchased by His precious Son;  
Born with the right to be clean,  
For Jesus the victory has won.
3. You are the family of God,  
You are the promise divine;  
You are God's chosen desire,  
You are the glorious new wine.

*Bob Gillman.  
Copyright © 1977 Kingsway's  
Thankyou Music.*

5

1. Colours of Day dawn into the mind,  
The sun has come up, the night is behind.  
Go down in the city, into the street,  
And let's give the message to the people we meet.

*Chorus*

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,  
Open the door, let Jesus return.  
Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,  
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.*

2. Go through the park, on into the town;  
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.  
The light of the world is risen again;  
The people of darkness are needing a friend.

*So light up the fire ...*

3. Open your eyes, look into the sky,  
The darkness has come, the sun came to die.  
The evening drawn on, the sun disappears,  
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.

*So light up the fire ...*

*Sue McClellan, John Paculabo & Keith Rycroft  
Copyright 1974 Kingsway's Thank you Music*

6

1. Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.  
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.  
Give me oil in my lamp, keep my burning,  
Keep me burning till the break of day.

*Chorus:*

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
Sing hosanna to the King of kings.  
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
Sing hosanna to the King.*

2. Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.  
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.  
Give me joy in my heart, keep my praising,  
Keep me praising till the break of day.
3. Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.  
Give me peace in my heart, I pray.  
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,  
Keep me resting till the break of day.
4. Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.  
Give me love in my heart, I pray.  
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,  
Keep me serving till the break of day.

*Author unknown*

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
 There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
 Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
 As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness!*

*Great is Thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
 All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,  
 Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

2. Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
 Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
 Join with all nature in manifold witness  
 To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
 Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
 Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*T. O. Chisholm (1866 – 1960)*  
*1982 Jubilate Hymns / Hope Publishing Company*

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
     Whose trust, ever child-like,  
     No cares could destroy;  
     Be there at our waking,  
     And give us, we pray,  
     Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
     At the break of the day.
2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
     Whose strong hands were skilled  
     At the plane and the lathe;  
     Be there at our labours,  
     And give us, we pray,  
     Your strength in our hearts, Lord,  
     At the noon of the day.
3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
     Your hands swift to welcome,  
     Your arms to embrace;  
     Be there at our homing,  
     And give us, we pray,  
     Your love in our hearts, Lord,  
     At the eve of the day.
4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
     Whose voice is contentment,  
     Whose presence is balm;  
     Be there at our sleeping,  
     And give us, we pray,  
     Your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
     At the end of the day.

*Jan Struther. (1901 – 1953)*  
 Copyright © Oxford University Press

1. I Danced In The Morning when the world was begun,  
 I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
 I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:  
 At Bethlehem I had My birth.

*Chorus:*

*'Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
 I am the Lord of the dance,' said He,  
 'And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
 And I'll lead you all in the dance,' said He.*

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
 But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow Me.  
 I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -  
 They came with Me and the dance went on.

3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;  
 The holy people said it was a shame.  
 They whipped and they stripped and they hung Me on high,  
 And they left Me there on a cross to die.

4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
 It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
 They buried My body and they thought I'd gone,  
 But I am the dance, and I still go on.

5. 'They cut Me down and I leapt up high;  
 I am the life that'll never, never die.  
 I'll live in you if you'll live in Me;  
 I am the Lord of the dance', said He.

*Sydney Carter*

## 10

1. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,  
In the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Chorus:*

*Shine, Jesus, shine,  
Fill this land with the Father's glory;  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,  
Set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow,  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
Send forth Your word, Lord,  
And let there be light.*

2. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,  
From the shadows into Your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display Your likeness,  
Ever changing from glory to glory;  
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Graham Kendrick*

*Copyright © 1987 Make Way Music, Used by permission.*



## 11

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down!  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.

2. Come, Almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy grace receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

3. Finish then Thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee!  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place;  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love and praise.

*Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788)*

## 12

1. Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred let me bring Your love;  
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord;  
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

*Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand;  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

2. Make me a channel of Your peace.  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;  
Where there is darkness, only light;  
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

3. Make me a channel of Your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving to all men that we receive,  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

*Sebastian Temple.  
Copyright © 1967 Sebastian Temple/  
OCP Publications/Adm. by Calamus.*

## 13

1. Morning has broken  
Like the first morning;  
Blackbird has spoken  
Like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing!  
Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing  
Fresh from the Word!

2. Sweet the rain's new fall  
Sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall  
On the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness  
Of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness  
Where His feet pass.

3. Mine is the sunlight!  
Mine is the morning  
Born of the one light  
Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation,  
Praise every morning,  
God's re-creation  
Of the new day!

*Eleanor Farjeon. (1881 – 1965)*  
*Copyright © David Higham Associates Ltd.*

## 14

1. Now thank we all our God,  
With hearts and hands and voices;  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms  
Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

2. O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessèd peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be ever more.

*Martin Rinkart. (1586 – 1649)  
Tr. Catherine Winkworth*

## 15

1. O Jesus, I have promised,  
To serve Thee to the end;  
Be Thou forever near me,  
My Master and my Friend;  
I shall not fear the battle  
If Thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway  
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

2. O let me hear Thee speaking  
In accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion,  
The murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me,  
To hasten, or control;  
O speak, and make me listen,  
Thou Guardian of my soul.

3. O let me see Thy footmarks,  
And in them plant mine own;  
My hope to follow duly  
Is in Thy strength alone.  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
Uphold me to the end;  
And then in heaven receive me,  
My Saviour and my Friend.

*John Ernest Bode*

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Chorus:*

*Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art!  
How great Thou art!*

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

3. And when I think that God His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die - I scarce can take it in.  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin:

4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home-what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

*Stuart K. Hine*

*Copyright © 1953 Stuart K. Hine/ Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

1 O worship the king,  
All glorious above;  
O gratefully sing  
His power and His love:  
Our Shield and Defender,  
The Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendour  
And girded with praise.

2. Thy bountiful care  
What tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air,  
It shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills,  
It descends to the plain,  
And sweetly distils  
In the dew and the rain.

3. Frail children of dust,  
And feeble as frail,  
In Thee do we trust,  
Nor find Thee to fail;  
Thy mercies how tender,  
How firm to the end,  
Our Maker, Defender,  
Redeemer, and Friend!

*Robert Grant*

1. Praise, my soul, the king of heaven;  
     To His feet thy tribute bring.  
 Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
 Who like thee His praise should sing?  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Praise the everlasting King!
  
2. Praise Him for His grace and favour  
     To our fathers in distress;  
 Praise Him, still the same forever,  
 Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Glorious in His faithfulness.
  
3. Father-like, He tends and spares us;  
     Well our feeble frame He knows;  
 In His hands He gently bears us,  
 Rescues us from all our foes.  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Widely as His mercy flows.
  
4. Angels in the height, adore Him;  
     Ye behold Him face to face;  
 Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
     Dwellers all in time and space.  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Praise Him! Praise Him!  
     Praise with us the God of grace!

*Henry Francis Lyte (1793 – 1847)*



## 19

1. The king of love my Shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His  
And He is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow  
My ransomed soul He leadeth,  
And where the verdant pastures grow  
With food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
But yet in love He sought me,  
And on His shoulder gently laid,  
And home rejoicing brought me.
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.
5. Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
Thy unction grace bestoweth:  
And O what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
6. And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever.

*From Psalm 23*  
*Henry Williams Baker. (1821 – 1877)*

1. You shall go out with joy  
And be led forth with peace,  
And the mountains and the hills  
Shall break forth before you.  
There'll be shouts of joy,  
And the trees of the field  
Shall clap, shall clap their hands.

*Chorus:*

*And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
And the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
And you'll go out with joy.*

*Steffi Geiser Rubin/Stuart Dauermann  
Copyright © 1975 Lillenas Publishing*

*All hymns are reproduced by permission  
CCLI Copyright Licence 1445*

## A Check List

You may find the following check list useful as you make arrangements for your wedding at St Mary's.

Marriage application form completed	
First meeting arranged - Date:	
Diary updates - our wedding day and marriage preparation day	
Banns arranged at our local parish church (if applicable)	
Banns certificate received and sent to St Mary's (if applicable)	
We'd like an organist/worship band - Booked (if applicable)	
We'd like to use recorded music - Arranged (if applicable)	
Music chosen (bridal entry, marriage registration, leaving church)	
Hymns chosen	
Bible Reading(s) and any other readings chosen	
Additional Prayers chosen	
Meeting with Minister booked - Date:	
Orders of Service arranged /checked with minister before printing	
Bells - We'd like them! St Mary's contacted (if applicable)	
Flowers/Decorations - Florist put in touch with St Mary's	
Wedding rehearsal booked - Date:	
Video - permission form completed and returned to St Mary's	
Photographer - Given guidelines & invited to rehearsal	
Invoice - payment sent to St Mary's 2 weeks prior to wedding	

Your Notes: