



**Information
for your wedding
in 2011**

Important Dates

Saturday 12th or Saturday 19th February

10:00 am In Parish Rooms

RELATE MEETING

Tuesday 8th or Tuesday 15th February

7:00 pm In Parish Rooms

Saturday 5th March

10:30 am In Church

WEDDING

PREPARATION



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If you still have a query after reading this booklet then please phone Revd Simon Witcombe on **01902 842168**

For more information visit:
www.stnicholascodsall.org.uk

Your Wedding at St Nicholas



Before your wedding, there are two important meetings that you will need to attend. The dates for these can be seen, opposite.

Relate meeting

This is led by a member of Relate and is an important part of our marriage preparation. We have run this course for a number of years, and couples tend to find it very helpful. You will only have to talk to each other, not to other couples!

Enclosed with this booklet is a leaflet with a returnable slip indicating which Relate meeting you would like to attend. We can only accommodate a maximum of 7 couples at each session and you have 3 dates to choose from. It would be helpful if you could indicate your first and second choice of dates please. Once all slips have been returned to the Parish Office you will be contacted with your course date. The meetings take place at the **Parish Rooms** - about 100 metres down Church Road from the church.

Wedding preparation meeting

At this meeting we sort out the details of your wedding, By the end of the meeting, we will need to know what two or three hymns you have chosen, as well as whether you will be having the choir or the bells.

The rest of this booklet should hopefully answer some of your questions and help you to think about the service.

We would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best in your new life together.

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Common Questions



We have tried to provide answers to questions that normally arise during the wedding preparations.

What about Banns?

These are the legal means of announcing your marriage. They must be read in the Parish Church of the parishes in which **both** the Bride and Groom live.

Unless you both live in the Parish of Codsall you need to arrange this!

Banns are only valid for 3 months, and unless the banns have been read we cannot marry you.

At St Nicholas' we read your banns 2 months before your wedding, on the first three Sundays of the month. You are warmly invited to come along and hear them being read.

We usually pray for couples at the third reading. The service starts at 11:15, lasts for about 45 minutes and is fairly informal, with lots of young couples and young families. It is also a good time to bring your family to see the church!

When will the rehearsal be?

We will arrange this on the Wedding Preparation morning, when you meet the minister who is taking your wedding. As well as yourselves, it is good to have the best man, the bridesmaids, the person 'giving away' the bride and anyone else involved in the service.

How much does this cost?

Including the usual £50 deposit, the usual cost of the basic wedding is **£605**, which includes national fees & local donations, which go towards the costs of the church's ministry, the care of the church building, administration and the organist's fees. Optional extras include the Choir for £68 and the Bells for £125. Cheques payable to 'Codsall PCC'. (See also 'Getting married in St. Nicholas' Church - Fees and Costs 2011')

What are the arrangements for flowers?

There are always flowers in church, except during Advent (the 4 weeks before Christmas) and Lent (the 6 weeks before Easter). You therefore do not have to arrange to have extra flowers. However, if you do want to have flowers, these should include pedestal arrangements by the pulpit and by the pillar opposite the door. You can also decorate other areas of the church, including the porch.

Please get in touch with Mrs Pam Plant (01902 843819) as soon as possible to let her know if you will be having extra flowers. Also, flowers have to be arranged on the Thursday before your wedding, after 11am.

If there are several couples getting married on the same day, it is important that the couples work out what will happen about the flowers. You will be able to do this at the Wedding Preparation morning.

Where can our guests park?

There are a number of car parks in the village, within walking distance. Coaches and mini-buses are not allowed to park in Church Road.

How long does the service last?

It usually lasts for about 40 minutes. If there is another wedding after yours, we will let you know and you will have about 20 minutes for photographs. It is very important that you tell your driver and photographer that you need to leave at least 30 minutes before the start of the next wedding, so that there are no problems!

Can our guests throw confetti?

We are happy for **non-metallic** confetti to be thrown, but only outside the church gates.

Can we have the wedding videoed?

Yes, but there are important conditions which you will need to discuss at the rehearsal. Please note there is an additional charge of £24 for this.

Order of Service

You do not need to produce a separate order of service, as we have a variety of hymn books. If you do wish to have your own order of service printed, then please ensure that it follows the order below. If you want to include words from the marriage service, you can find these via the Wedding page from the website. Cards with these words are also available for use in church.

Entrance music

Welcome and opening Prayer

1st Hymn



The Declarations

Readings and Address

The Vows and the Giving of the Rings

2nd Hymn



Signing the registers

Prayers

3rd Hymn



Blessing

Exit music

Please bring a copy of your order of service to your rehearsal. Please make sure that you put our music copyright number

on the back. Please write it like this, CCLI LICENCE 298220.

Hymns & Music

We will provide a run-through of the most popular wedding hymns as part of the Wedding Preparation morning. We do encourage you to have the choir at your wedding to lead the singing.



However, we have also provided a list of the most popular hymns for you to start thinking about them. Two or three hymns are usually chosen.

- Be still
- Give me joy in my heart
(sing Hosanna)
- Morning has broken
- One more step along the world I go
- Praise my soul the King of heaven
- Shine, Jesus, shine
- For the beauty of the earth
- Lord of all hopefulness
- Love Divine, all loves excelling
- O Lord my God
- Tell out my soul

You will need to choose music for the beginning and end of the service - we can advise you at our Wedding Preparation morning, when you will need to give your choice.

The traditional entrance and exit music is

Entrance - The Bridal March by Wagner

Exit - The Wedding March by Mendelssohn

You can also choose music for the organist (and choir) to use during the signing of the register, as long as it is within the usual repertoire. We do have a CD player and we can discuss with you any request for recorded

music at the Wedding Preparation morning.