

Getting married at
All Saints Church



Thank you for choosing to arrange your wedding with us!

We will be praying for you in all your preparations for your wedding.



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

Team Rector: Rev Chris Stafford Tel: 01925 271421

We would like to make it as easy as possible for you to get married here with us. This leaflet gives you some helpful information as you prepare for your big day.

If either of you have been married before you will need to have a meeting with the Rector *before a Wedding can be booked in.*

Our Rector, the Rev Chris Stafford, will arrange to meet with you – a few months before the wedding.

In this leaflet you will have other helpful information about arranging your wedding, if you have any queries do ask, but most things should be covered at your meeting with the minister conducting your ceremony.

You may also find the Church of England wedding website (available at www.yourchurchwedding.org) helpful in your preparations.

Chris Stafford

Team Rector, Newton-le-Willows

The Parish of All Saints Church, Newton

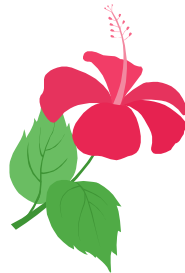
Wedding fees from 1st January – 31st December 2025

The Service and Banns fees are set by the Church Commissioners and Parliament. The Marriage Certificate fee is set by the Registrar General. The rest are set locally in the parish.

Banns of Marriage These have to be read on 3 Sundays some time during the 3 months before the wedding. This is a centuries-old legal necessity, giving people the opportunity to raise legal objections to the marriage (e.g. if one of you were under 16 years). The banns are read on 3 Sundays in the Church where you are to be married. We will tell you when this will be and invite you to come along.

If one or both of you do not live in this parish, it has to be done in the parish church where you live as well. It is very important that you organise this and bring the certificate to the rehearsal – no certificate, I'm afraid, means no wedding!

Flowers You are very welcome to arrange flowers for your wedding and may use any of the pedestals and vases available, if you want them. There are always flowers by the altar (except in Lent), provided by one of our parishioners. These may be moved out to the vestry if you want to do your own flowers, but please would you ensure that whoever arranges your flowers know this. Flower arrangers should contact the Rector, Chris Stafford, on 271421, to arrange access. If you want to take your flowers with you to the reception you are very welcome.



We do ask that tape *is not used* as it can damage the furniture.

Printed service sheets You may want to think about printing your own service sheets for the wedding. We will give you an outline order with all the words that you will need when you meet with the person taking the service. We will also have examples for you to look at.



Confetti The use of biodegradable confetti is encouraged (please avoid foil-type confetti).

	DIocese	CHURCH COUNCIL	TOTAL
Marriage Service	247.00	300.00	547.00
Reading of Banns	-	37.00	37.00
Verger			45.00
Organist			60.00
TOTAL			689.00

(most people want our organist to play for their wedding. If you do not require an organist – please let us know a.s.a.p)

The balance is due 10 days before the wedding.

Please note: if either party is a national of a country outside of the EEA, you will be required to give notice of marriage at a designated register office.

Marriage certificates

Please note that, since a change in the law in 2021, we are no longer able to issue a marriage certificate in church on the day of the wedding. Certificates may be obtained after your marriage has taken place, by contacting the St Helen's Registry Office located at the Town Hall, Victoria Square, Saint Helens WA10 1HP (or go online at www.sthelens.gov.uk). Marriage certificates cost **£12.50** each (copy certificate fees are set to increase from 28th May 2024). We suggest you obtain two copies.

Popular Wedding Hymns

Here are some of the most popular and suitable hymns, but your choice need not be limited to these. The person taking your wedding can help you to decide (you can see the lyrics and listen to the tune to many of these at www.yourchurchwedding.org/article/hymns-for-your-wedding/)

All things bright and beautiful
Amazing Grace
Be still for the presence of the Lord
Come to a wedding
Give me joy in my heart (sing hosanna)
God of all living (*to the tune of 'Morning has Broken'*).
God, in the planning and purpose of life (*tune: Lord of all hopefulness*)
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer
Immortal, invisible
Lead us Heavenly Father
Lord of all hopefulness
Lord of the dance
Love divine, all loves excelling
Make me a channel of your peace
Morning has broken
Now thank we all our God
O Jesus I have promised
O Lord my God - How great Thou art
O perfect love
O praise ye the Lord
One more step along the world I go
Praise my soul, the King of Heaven
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Tell out my Soul
The King of love my shepherd is
We gather here (*to the tune of 'Jerusalem'*)
We pledge to one another (*to the tune of 'I Vow to Thee my Country'*).



Readings You will be given a selection of possible Bible readings when you meet the minister taking your service (or why not visit www.yourchurchwedding.org/article/bible-readings-for-your-wedding/). This can be read by the person taking the service or by someone you chose.

In addition to the Bible reading some people like to have a poem or a few words, but this is entirely optional and needs to be shown to the person taking the service in advance.

Arrival of the Bride Traditionally the bride is accompanied down the aisle by her father, but we are aware that there are many different situations in families and this may not be appropriate for you. If there is someone else you would like to escort you, or even no-one at all then that is fine. You can talk this through with the minister taking your wedding.

Best Man This can be anyone to support the groom and doesn't have to be a man. Some people can't decide who to have and have two – that's fine – as long as we know.

Ushers It is helpful to have two or three people to help on the day. If there are likely to be many guests, often one usher stays outside to help with parking. The other ushers direct people to their seats and give them the service sheets. They will also show people to the toilet, check for lost property at the end and generally make sure everything runs smoothly. It is preferable to have all or mainly adults.

Bridesmaids, Flower girls, Maid of Honour, Page boys You can have any combination of these you want. One of them needs to be allocated to look after the bride's flowers during the ceremony and deal with her veil if appropriate.

Traditionally the attendants follow the bride down the aisle but if you would like them to come first this is perfectly possible.

We would prefer you not to scatter petals down the central aisle as these (especially if wet) can be slippery and tend to stain the carpet.

Children Some couples already have children who will be with them at the ceremony and are part of their family unit. You may like to be prayed for as a family as you set out on this new step of life together and this can easily be included.

Signing the Registers Two people need to sign the Marriage Document as witnesses. These can be anyone over the age of 18. It is sometimes appropriate to ask someone who is a family member who would otherwise be left out of the direct proceedings.

Photography We strongly suggest that the wedding ceremony (particularly during the vows) is not disturbed with camera flash. We suggest that wedding photographers operate at the back of church during the service. They may come forward to take photographs of you after the registers have been signed, and when you walk down the aisle at the end. If desired, the minister taking your service may give everyone a photo opportunity during the service – to capture the moment when you are declared ‘husband and wife’.

Video We allow video recording of the service for a fee of £30. The recording is subject to laws about copyright and performing rights, but as long as no more than three copies are made and it is not sold or used for public viewing, this should present no problem. There is a form to sign (by the camera operator and the bride and groom). If the camera operator can get to the rehearsal that will help. We ask the operator to remain in one agreed place throughout the service.

Rehearsal The person taking your wedding will arrange a rehearsal a few days before the wedding (usually one or two nights before). It is important that as many people as possible who will be playing a part in the ceremony are able to attend. So we would suggest that the bride and groom are there (obviously!), together with parents, best man, bridesmaids and ushers.

Suggested music for weddings There are many other possibilities. You could arrange to meet the main organist, to discuss what you would like. A good time to meet him is at one of our Sunday 11am services. Not all organists play all of these, but the traditional “Bridal March” and “Wedding March” are always possible.

Entrance

1	WAGNER	Bridal March from <i>Lohengrin</i>
2	CLARKE	Trumpet Voluntary
3	PURCELL	Trumpet Tune
4	CHARPENTIER	Trumpet Tune
5	VERDI	Grand March from Aida
6	HANDEL	Overture to the occasional oratorio

Going out

1	MENDELSSOHN	Wedding March
2	CLARKE	Trumpet Voluntary
3	HANDEL	Water Music (Allegro)
4	WIDOR	Toccat
5	HANDEL	Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

Signing the registers You may also like to have something in particular played whilst you sign the Marriage Documents. This could be something by the organist (e.g. Ave Maria; Jesu joy of Man’s Desiring; Sheep May Safely Graze), a recording of something special to you or a relative who plays or sings.