

Wedding Ceremony Planner

Congratulations on your engagement! We are eager to assist you in making your commitment before God and your loved ones. Now that you have scheduled your wedding at the Church of St. Mary and St. Peter, Bagillt, we want to provide you with the tools you need to create a meaningful service. Below are suggestions for processional and recessional music, hymns, and readings, as well as the photography policy.

STAGE I: MUSIC FOR ENTERING AND LEAVING THE CHURCH

The bride's entrance and leaving the church as a married couple are special parts of any wedding, and usually music is played to reflect the mood of these moments. Traditionally, music is played by an organist, and organ music suits a church's acoustics, but recorded music from a CD or MP3 player is also a possibility. Ask your vicar about what the church can offer.

Bride's entrance

Music for this moment might be gentle, dramatic, emotional and touching, but always positive. The type of music you choose may depend on the size of the church and which songs or music really mean something to you both. These are some popular, classic pieces, but you can also choose a hymn.

- Clair de Lune, Debussy
- Canon in D, Pachelbel
- Arrival of the Queen of Sheba, from 'Solomon', Handel
- Trumpet Voluntary, aka the Prince of Denmark's March, Jeremiah Clarke
- Salut D'Amour, Elgar
- Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin, Wagner
- Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring, J S Bach

Recessional/leaving the church

Music for this part of your ceremony is always upbeat and cheerful. These are some popular, traditional classics, but you can also choose a hymn.

- Clair de Lune, Debussy
- Canon in D, Pachelbel
- Trumpet Voluntary, aka the Prince of Denmark's March, Jeremiah Clarke
- Wedding March- Incidental Music No. 9 from Midsummer Night's Dream, Mendelssohn
- Salut D'Amour, Elgar
- Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring, J S Bach
- Toccata from Widor's 5th Symphony in F (recorded)

STAGE 2: CHOOSE YOUR HYMNS

It is usual to have two or three hymns at a wedding. The suggestions below are popular ones. You can also select the order in which the hymns are sung, but the vicar may make alternative suggestions for this when you meet.

- All Things Bright and Beautiful
- Amazing Grace
- As Man and Woman We Were Made
- At Cana's Wedding Long Ago
- Be Still for the Presence of the Lord
- Come to a Wedding
- For the Beauty of the Earth
- Give Me Joy in my Heart
- God in the Planning and Purpose of Life
- Great is Thy Faithfulness
- Jerusalem
- Lead us Heavenly Father
- Lord and Lover of Creation
- Lord of all Hopefulness
- Lord of the Dance
- Love Divine all Loves Excelling
- Make me a Channel of your Peace
- Morning Has Broken
- One More Step Along the World I Go
- Praise Ye the Lord!
- Worship the King
- Praise my Soul the King of Heaven
- Tell Out my Soul
- That Human Life Might Richer Be
- The Grace of Life is Theirs
- The King of Love my Shepherd Is
- The Lord's My Shepherd
- We Pledge to One Another
- Praise to the Lord

STAGE 3: CHOOSE YOUR READINGS

You can have up to three readings in a church wedding. Below are some options. If there is to be a celebration of the Eucharist, one of the readings must be from one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John). These are the ones most commonly used, but you are welcome to use other scripture. Your vicar is happy to help and advise you on your choices!

Old Testament Readings

- A love poem between two lovers (Part 1)

Song of Solomon, Chapter 2, verses 10-13

My beloved speaks and says to me:

‘Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;

for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtle-dove
is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.

Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.

- A love poem between two lovers (Part 2)

Song of Solomon, Chapter 8, verses 6-7

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;

for love is strong as death,
passion fierce as the grave.

Its flashes are flashes of fire,
a raging flame.

Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.

If one offered for love
all the wealth of one’s house,
it would be utterly scorned.

New Testament Readings

- The Beatitudes: Jesus teaches how to live a life that brings true happiness
*Matthew, Chapter 5, verses 1-10 *Gospel reading*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- Jesus attends a wedding reception (*John, Chapter 2, verses 1-11*) *Gospel reading

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

- Love is patient, love is kind (*1 Corinthians, Chapter 13*)

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part;

then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

- Seeing the good side (*Philippians, Chapter 4, verses 4-9*)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

- Getting the perfect relationship (*Colossians, Chapter 3, verses 12-17*)

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- Love is from God (*1 John, Chapter 4, verses 7-12*)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

- Let love be genuine (*Romans 12:9-18*)

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly;^{*} do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Photography/Videography Policy

This is a wonderful occasion, and we fully understand the desire to capture the joy of this day in pictures and video. Due to the sacred nature of the wedding service, photography inside the church must honor the sanctity of the service, the building, and the liturgy. The guidelines listed below should be shared with your photographer and/or videographer prior to the day of the wedding to ensure the expectations of the couple as well as the clergy are met. It is highly recommended that the photographer/videographer meet with the clergy and see the church prior to the wedding day.

- No flash photography of any kind is allowed and persons other than the photographer are not allowed to move around during the service to take pictures. This is a firm requirement and is expected to be communicated to friends and family.
- The photographer may not come down the center aisle or be in the front of the church during the service at any time (with one exception: the photographer may come up to take pictures of the signing of the registry). The photographer may walk down either of the side aisles, but must not run or distract from the service in any way.
- Please have the photographer discuss with the vicar before taking photos of the registry (due to data protection issues around photos of the registry, it is imperative that we do not photograph any confidential information).
- Posed photographs may be taken up to 30 minutes before or after the service. We may pose any parts of the wedding service. If pictures are taken in the church before the service, they must be completed before the congregation arrives. Remember, posing pictures after the service delays the wedding party's arrival at the reception.
- There may be one stationary video camera on a tripod placed in the church behind the last pew. There may be an additional video camera on a tripod placed next to the organ console. It may be supervised, but the videographer should be dressed in keeping with the wedding party. Artificial light for photography is inappropriate for a wedding. The videographer may not move about in the church during the service and must remain stationary during the recessional.

Thank you for assisting us in maintaining a joyful and worshipful atmosphere throughout the wedding ceremony.

Blessings on your preparation for this sacred day. We look forward to celebrating it with you! Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the vicar.