

Buckingham Parish Church
2023 Wedding Information
Bpchurch.uk

We are delighted that you would like to be married in church and are here to help you prepare for your wedding day. A church is not a wedding venue, it is a worshipping community where throughout the generations couples have come to have their love for each other blessed by God and to make solemn vows of lifelong commitment in front of God and his people. The community here at BPC will be praying for you as you prepare for your wedding. Hopefully you will join with us at the 6pm Sunday worship as part of your wedding preparations.

We will help you plan your service so that your friends and family can take part and witness you making your vows of love to each other. If you have a dream for your wedding then don't be afraid to ask, it might just be possible! This leaflet contains important details about your wedding, you might also like to visit yourchurchwedding.org for further information and inspiration!

*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.*

Clergy

Revd Will Pearson Gee, rector@bpchurch.uk

Revd Kate Pellereau, curate@bpchurch.uk

Wedding Coordinator

Sue Fox, parector@bpchurch.uk

Organist and Choir

Ray Mitchell and Rob Tucker, choir@bpchurch.uk

Bells

Andrew Spencer, andrew.j.spencer1@gmail.com

Flowers

Susan Mileham, susan@mileham.net

Please remember that it is your responsibility to contact these people to confirm the details of your wedding. You must confirm with them no later than two months before your wedding, what is required.

Marriage is both a religious and legal ceremony. It is important that we follow the correct legal procedures. The normal legal process is for banns of marriage to be published in church. Banns may be published for:

1. anyone who lives within the Buckingham Parish;
2. anyone with a 'qualifying connection' with the Buckingham Parish;
3. anyone on the church electoral roll of the Buckingham Parish.

Law means that both of you will need to show something to confirm your identity (passport, photo card, drivers' licence etc.) to the minister before your wedding to prove your nationality, this can be done at one of your meetings. If you are not a British or European National, please let the minister know as soon as possible so that a superintendent registrar's certificate can be arranged in good time. If in any doubt at all, please call the minister. If you are planning to change your name and get a new passport for the honeymoon, there is a form the clergy can sign to enable this.

The Publication of Banns

Your banns will normally be called at BPC at the 9am Service on the first three Sundays one month before your wedding - i.e. if your wedding is in June the banns will be called on the first three Sundays in May. You should attend at least once when they are read. Where one or both of you, live outside the parish, you must contact the vicar of the parish in which you live to arrange for banns to be called in that parish church. After they have been called a certificate will be issued (for which you will have to pay a fee). You must give the certificate to the minister conducting your wedding. The certificate has to be seen before the wedding can go ahead.

Marriage in Church after Divorce

The Church teaches that marriage is a lifelong commitment. However, we recognise that for number of reasons marriages can fail. Since 2002 the Church has made it possible, in some circumstances, for there to be a subsequent marriage after divorce. If either of you has been married before, please mention this at an early point, and see further information [here](#). There will need to be a frank and open conversation about the previous relationship.

Marriage Certificate

From 4th May 2021 marriage certificates are no longer issued at the time of marriage. After your wedding you will need to apply online. The cost will be £11 for each copy and will be posted to the address you request via 1st Class Post. Your application will be processed within seven days.

Officiating Minister

It may not be possible for the minister who first meets you to conduct your service, however we are part of a Team parish and there are other priests who can conduct your service. The minister will let you know well in advance.

Church Music

Our organist will help you with your music choices for the wedding. There are recordings of entrance and exit music, recordings of hymn tunes and the words, and suggestions for the signing of the registers at yourchurchwedding.org. Please also note that if you are using CD music and you wish to video the wedding you will probably need a licence (please see www.ccli.co.uk). Please make contact with the organist at the earliest opportunity.

What happens next?

Space to Think we would like to meet up with you to think about the vows you are going to make. We would also like to invite you to join us at our Sunday morning or evening services so you can get used to the church and to have an opportunity to think about the vows you will take in the presence of God.

The Order of Service we will arrange to meet with you to help you plan your service, but before it is printed to make sure everything is in place and to answer any of your questions.

Banns we will invite you to hear your banns being called on the first three Sundays two months preceding your wedding (i.e. if you are married in August it will be the first three Sundays of July)

Rehearsal we would like to have a rehearsal one evening in the week before your wedding

A Final Word

We are not a wedding business, we are a church. If your plans change, please do let us know. And remember we are here to help you so don't hesitate in calling for more information or speak to someone after the services in church.

