



Parish of Wilmslow – St Bartholomew & St Anne Wedding Information Pack and Application Form



Firstly, welcome to church. We are delighted that you are thinking about celebrating your marriage with us here. We would want to say that there is nowhere more fitting and appropriate, and that has nothing to do with it being a beautiful venue!

***“God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.”
(1 John 4:16)***

We hope that this pack will prove helpful as you begin to make your plans and work on the details for the ceremony. We have set it out as a series of common questions and answers but there are contact details at the end of this document which you are free to use if you have further queries.

Q Can we get married here?

A Yes! Provided you are a man and woman of legal age, a UK citizen and one of you lives in the parish. If you live outside the parish but have past family connections with the church, then that may suffice.

- Baptised or confirmed in the parish?
- Parents or grandparents married here?
- Your family currently worship here?

These are examples of what we call qualifying connections.

If you have a different nationality, live outside the parish or are unsure of previous connections then it becomes more difficult. But just speak to us and we will try to help in any way we can. Similarly, if either of you has been married before is not necessarily an obstacle to being remarried in church.

Assuming all is well, before doing anything else, the date and time of your wedding must be arranged. Come along to church one Sunday morning (no appointment is necessary) and the vicar or one of the team will be happy to chat to you. There is a form to complete which is available (below) and we will need to see some identification documents.

Q What are Banns of Marriage?

A Assuming you are both UK citizens, your Banns of Marriage must be read in any Church of England parish church involved (even if you have a Roman Catholic or Free Church background). Banns cannot be read until three months before your wedding and must be read in each parish church where the parties live. This may mean other parish churches and arranging for banns to be read. They do not have to be read out on the same day in each church. Your wedding cannot take place unless the vicar who is marrying you has your Banns certificate beforehand. There is a charge for the certificate, and you need to help us make sure that we fulfill this legal requirement.

Q Do we need to attend marriage preparation & rehearsals?

A Yes but they are not hard work! You will be invited to come one evening to spend some time thinking about what marriage is, and how marriage in church may differ from elsewhere. There will

Updated January 2024



also be a rehearsal in the church, to get the choreography right, about a week before your wedding on a mutually convenient evening. The bride and the groom are essential for this, but the best man, bridesmaids, parents and any other interested parties are welcome too.

Q What will it cost?

A The cost of a wedding in church is rising all the time but we hope that we are going to be instrumental in making your day! What you pay to church is usually less than couples pay for the wedding cars! Please remember the Church of England does not receive state support. The fees we collect from weddings go a long way to keeping your parish church open.

2024

£567 Church of England Statutory Fees inc banns £36 (*Banns and certificate if required £54*)
£ 69* Verger Fees
£636

£ 116* Organist Fees
£ 158* Bells
£ 158* Choir

*Fees marked with * are optional additional fees to be agreed.*

We ask couples to place a £100 deposit with us at the time that forms are submitted and dates are booked, and then the full balance will be due before the reading of the banns - typically 6-7 weeks prior to the marriage ceremony.

We would prefer you to pay by bank transfer (online banking) if possible, but if you prefer you can pay by cash or cheque. Please also note that these fees are liable to change and so the final fee can only be set in the same year as your wedding. All fees need to be paid 60 days before the service for the reading of Banns to proceed.

Q What about photographs? Videos?

A Photographs and videos are important as we capture special moments, and we are happy for professional photographers and videographers to be involved. Please do let them know that there will be some restrictions of their movement in church. Even more important than capturing the moment is that the service runs well and without distractions.

Q What about flowers in church?

A There may be flowers in church anyway, but you are welcome to add some from your own florist and we will be happy to arrange access for them on the day or on the days leading up to the ceremony. Please be aware that you need to arrange for any flowers (other than freestanding arrangements on pedestals that you may wish to leave for church) to be taken away straight after the service e.g. pew ends or arrangements on the lychgate.

Q What about the service? Readings? Music?

A The service is set out in the Church of England's publications but if there are particular things you would like to think about then please speak to us.



If you have poems or a specific bible verse that you would like read, please discuss this with us too. We can almost always incorporate the things you value.

It is usual to have two or three hymns at weddings. Choose hymns that your families and friends will know, and a list of suggestions is available. Familiar, cheerful hymns will set the tone of the whole wedding day. We have hymn books that you may look at covering most styles of music. Sometimes people like to have a CD with 2 or 3 favourite tracks during the signing of the registers. The organist will play suitable voluntaries before and after the service, and during the signing of the register if you like. If you want something out of the ordinary, please shout early!

Q Do I need a printed order of service?

A Not essential by any means and much simpler for everyone if you don't, but you may wish to consider a printed order of service and it is a nice memento for your guests. It is probably a good idea to run these past the vicar before they are printed as mistakes are often made.

Q Are we allowed to use confetti?

A Yes, but outside and down-wind please! We would also really appreciate it if your guests would use biodegradable confetti.

Q What do I need to do next?

A With this information document is a two-page form which you might like to have a go at completing if you are ready to book your wedding now. Please note that any date you may put down is only PROVISIONAL at this stage until confirmed by us. You will notice the form is produced as if we are filling it in for you (and we can if you prefer) but please don't worry. Where it says 'they', 'them' and 'their' please read 'you' and 'your'! Then come and see us in church or contact us on...

TEL: 01625 682485 / EMAIL: office@wilmslowparish.co.uk

But most importantly...

We offer our best wishes for your wedding and your future happiness!





Application for Marriage

Church Location <i>(Name of Church)</i>		Proposed Date & Time	
Groom's Full Name		Bride's Full Name	
Nationality & Passport No		Nationality & Passport No	
Full Address		Full Address	
Email address		Email address	
Phone number/s		Phone number/s	
I have lived at this address for x years x months		I have lived at this address for x years x months	
Passport & Address Verification witnessed by		Passport & Address Verification witnessed by	
Date of Birth		Date of Birth	
Age at date of wedding		Age at date of wedding	
Marital Status Single/Widower/Previous Marriage Dissolved (If Previous Marriage Dissolved – papers attached)		Marital Status Single/Widower/Previous Marriage Dissolved (If Previous Marriage Dissolved – papers attached)	
Are you related to each other in any way?		Are you related to each other in any way?	



Current Occupation		Current Occupation	
Father's Full Name (note if deceased)		Father's Full Name (note if deceased)	
Mother's / Stepparent's Full name (note if deceased)		Mother's / Stepparent's Full name (note if deceased)	
Names of witness 1		Name of witness 2	
I certify that the above answers are correct and I know of no reason in law why I may not marry in the UK - Signature & Date		I certify that the above answers are correct and I know of no reason in law why I may not marry in the UK - Signature & Date	
Banns. To be read at other churches? Dates to be read here?		Music. Organist to be booked? Music during signing registers? Hymns?	
Total Fees?			
Deposit Paid & Date?			
Further Payments & Dates			

Your privacy is important to us, and we want your consent in how we communicate with you, in line with UK law on data protection.

By signing this form, you are confirming that you are consenting to Wilmslow Parish holding and processing your personal data for the following purposes (please tick the boxes where you grant consent): -

In addition to required communication in relation to the marriage application, I consent to the church contacting me to keep me informed about relevant news, events, activities and services in Wilmslow (*please note that you can unsubscribe from the church communication at any time*).

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Signed: _____ Dated: _____



PLEASE NOTE WE NEED HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURES SO PLEASE PRINT THIS FORM OFF, FILL IT IN AND SEND IT BACK TO US ONLINE OR DROP IT INTO CHURCH ON A SUNDAY.

WE ALSO ASK FOR A DEPOSIT OF £100:

Wilmslow Parochial Church Council

NatWest Bank

Account Number: 05591767

Sort Code: 01-09-69

Thank you

Email: office@wilmslowparish.co.uk