



getting married at
CHRIST CHURCH
WINCHESTER

2018

Congratulations on your engagement!

We are delighted that you are considering booking Christ Church for your wedding and are looking forward to working with you over the weeks and months as you prepare for your marriage. This booklet will not answer all your questions about getting married at Christ Church, but will aim to help you as much as possible with general information.

If you have any queries please contact Sophie Davis, our wedding administrator. She arranges all meetings with ordained staff and liaises with those needed to help the day run smoothly.

How to book Christ Church

The first thing you must do to book the church is contact Sophie to make an enquiry. To be married at Christ Church you must meet a qualifying connection. A person has a qualifying connection with Christ Church if:

you:

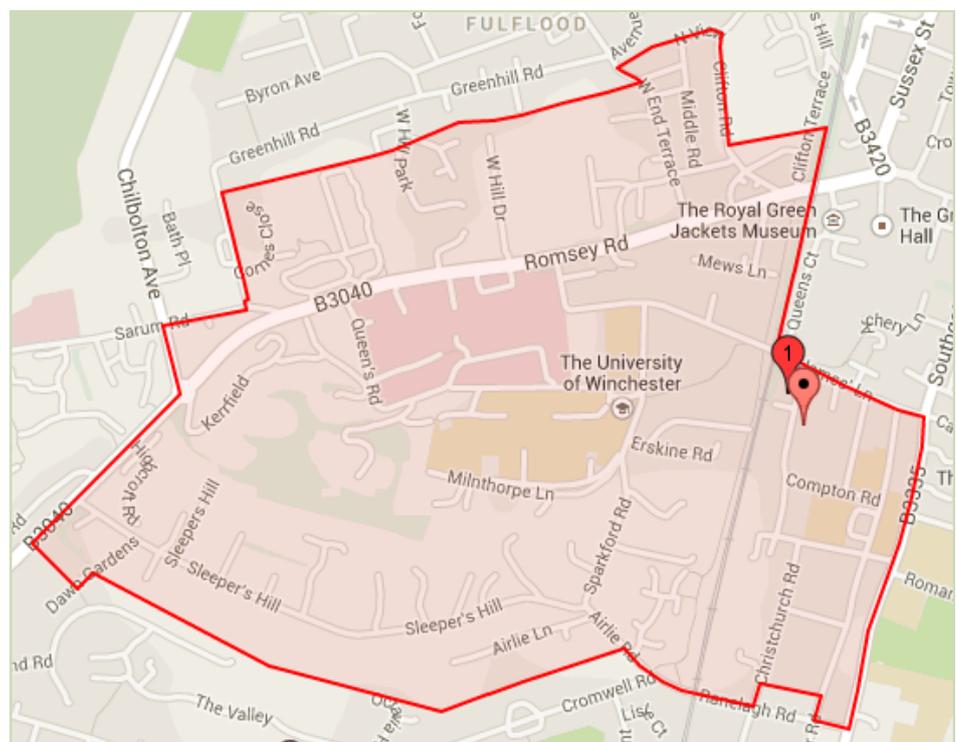
- were baptised at Christ Church; or
- were confirmed at Christ Church; or
- have at any time had your usual place of residence in the parish for at least six months; or
- have at any time habitually attended public worship at Christ Church for at least six months;

or your parent has at any time during their lifetime:

- had their usual place of residence in the parish for at least six months; or
- habitually attended public worship at Christ Church for at least six months;

or your parent or grandparent was married at Christ Church.

To see if you live in this parish, please go to www.achurchnearyou.com and type in your postcode. If you live in 'The Parish of Winchester: Christ Church', you are qualified to get married here.



This map shows Christ Church's parish boundary, as seen on 'a church near you'.

Marriage by banns or licence

Most people are married by banns. This means that your intention to marry is announced at one of our Sunday services. Your banns of marriage will be read for the first three Sundays of the month preceding your wedding date.

Banns of marriage have to be read in the parish church where you both live, as well as the church you are getting married in. If neither of you live in our parish, you must both contact a Church of England church in your local parish to arrange for them to call your banns. If you need any help with this, please do contact us.

We will let you know when your banns are to be read and hope you will both attend the services they are read at.

Some people are married by licence. This is normally required if one of the couple is a foreign national, or there is a reason you cannot be married by banns. If this is the case, arrangements will need to have been made at least three months before the wedding day.

Cost

The cost of getting married at Christ Church is £650.00 (this is the fee for 2018). This cost covers everything including the fee to the Diocese of Winchester, the organist or keyboard player, the sound engineer, AV operator and the vergers. The cost of flowers if you choose to have them is your responsibility. We are happy for you to pay for the wedding fees in instalments over a period of time before the wedding if that helps your planning. We require the full cost to have been paid by 14 days before the wedding. You can pay by either cheque or through internet banking. Christ Church's bank details for internet banking are:

Name	Christ Church PCC
Sort Code	55-81-26
Account Number	73311103

Cheques are payable to 'Christ Church PCC'. In both instances, please write a reference of your surname and 'wedding'.

Meeting the vicar

Once you have sent your initial enquiry about getting married here, a meeting will be arranged for you to meet with a member of clergy. They will fill in a booking form with you and discuss possible dates for your wedding. Should any information from the booking form change, you are required to inform us by 14 days prior to the wedding as the information will be written on the marriage register which is a legal document.

Order of Service

When you meet with the vicar, you will discuss the content of the wedding ceremony and create a draft order of service. At Christ Church we are happy to create the order of service for you, or for you to create it yourself. If you are creating the order of service yourself it is important that you send it to us 14 days prior to the wedding.

A typical order of service would be:

- * **Entrance of the Bride**
- * **Hymn or song**
- * **Marriage**
- * **Hymn or song**
- * **Readings**
- * **Sermon**
- * **Prayers**
- * **Hymn or song**
- * **Signing of the Registers**
- * **Exit music**

Flowers

If you would like someone from the Christ Church flower rota to arrange your flowers, please contact Sophie.

Sophie is happy to arrange your flowers herself, or organise someone else from the Christ Church flower rota to do so. You will need to let her know which flowers and colours you would like and how much money you wish to spend on the flowers. Sophie will need this information no later than a month before the wedding, and payment must be made 14 days before the wedding. Alternatively, if you would like an external florist to arrange your flowers, please let us know so we can sort a time for the florist to arrange or deliver the flowers to the church. This will need to be booked in the church diary to ensure there is a member of staff in the building.

Music

During the wedding ceremony, it is usual to have around 3 or 4 hymns/songs sung. You can choose to have an organist or a keyboard player. Please do let us know what you would prefer. Also, as you enter and exit the church, you can choose to have live music or a CD. The sound desk will be operated to amplify the whole service.

Recording

We will not record a service but if you choose to record it you will need to obtain a licence.

Marriage Preparation

We strongly encourage all couples getting married at Christ Church to attend a Marriage Preparation Course. The course is usually on a Saturday for half a day, including breakfast and refreshments. The day will consist of short talks about different subjects such as communication, commitment, and resolving conflict, followed by time for you to discuss important issues as a couple. The whole emphasis of the day is on enabling the two of you to discuss different issues and prepare together for all that marriage involves.

The Rehearsal

You will be required to attend a wedding rehearsal—this is usually at 6pm the day before the wedding, but can be rearranged if it does not suit you. The only people that have to be there are the couple, however it is advised to have the rest of the wedding party with you to rehearse walking down the aisle and to get a feel for the church.

The Wedding Day

When the groom arrives at Christ Church, the church will be set up ready for the service. There will be a vergger who is there to make sure the ceremony runs smoothly. The vergger will open the church an hour and a half before the ceremony, block off the spaces in the car park to ensure only your guests can park there and be an extra pair of hands where they are needed.

There is on-road parking around the church but only for up to two hours. We recommend that additional cars park in a car park in the centre of Winchester. Tower Street car park is at the top of town and relatively well-priced.

Please ask the vicar if there are other weddings happening on the same day as yours.

Your guests are allowed to use confetti outside of the church, but please ensure it is biodegradable.

If there are not any other weddings on the same day you will be able to have photographs taken inside the church and may be able to have refreshments, but they must be organised by yourself. Please do ask the vicar if this is something you would like.

Here to help you

We hope this booklet has answered most of your questions, but if there is anything we haven't covered, or you would like any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us. Be assured that we are praying for you both as you prepare for your big day and your married life together.

CHRIST CHURCH WINCHESTER

Going deeper with God, each other and the world
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