

We wish you every happiness as you prepare for your marriage and will be praying for you in the period leading up to the actual service. Try not to get stressed! Here is one of the beautiful blessings used - and remember - the words will be said for you!

*Blessed are you, O Lord our God,  
for you have created joy and gladness,  
pleasure and delight, love, peace and fellowship.*

*Pour out the abundance of your blessing  
upon N and N in their new life together.*

*Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts  
and a crown upon their heads.*

*Bless them in their work and in their companionship;  
awake and asleep,  
in joy and in sorrow,  
in life and in death.*

*Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that banquet  
where your saints feast for ever in your heavenly home.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen*



# MARRIAGE AT HOLY TRINITY CUCKFIELD



## Details and Guidelines to help you plan your special day



**Dates to note:**

**Wedding Day** .....

**Marriage Workshop** .....

**Marriage Preparation**.....

**Banns 1..... 2..... 3 .....**

**Rehearsal** .....

- The Giving of Rings**
- The Proclamation**
- The Blessing of the Marriage**
- Hymn**
- Prayers**
- Hymn**
- The Dismissal and Final Blessing**
- Signing of the Registers**
- Recessional Music**

Please note that other items (like poems or extra readings) may be inserted by agreement with the Vicar, although the basic main order remains the same.

## CHECK LIST

Send the required completed paperwork given to you by the Vicar back to the Parish Office in the Old School

Arrange Banns if they need to be called in another parish or parishes

Remember to bring/send the Certificate of Banns from the other parish/s to the Parish Office.

Book the bells with Jennifer Constable email: jenniferconstable100@gmail.com as soon as possible

Contact the Parish Office about the music at your wedding.

Send your Service Sheet (if you are having one) to the Parish Office so that it can be checked before you print

Remember to pay the fees before the wedding in good time and as specified on the fees list.

## Normal Running Order

*(for the printing of an Order of Service)*

*Entry Music*

*The Welcome*

*Hymn*

*The Preface*

*The Declarations*

*The Collect (Special Prayer)*

*Reading(s)*

*Sermon*

*The Marriage*

*The Vows*

Congratulations! We are delighted that you have chosen to start your married life together by asking God's blessing on your union at Holy Trinity, Cuckfield. Please do contact us about any aspect of the actual service or arrangements for it. It will be our privilege to pray for you and your families at this very special time of joyful celebration.

Contact: **The Parish Office, The Old School, Cuckfield.**  
**01444 456461**  
**office@holytrinitycuckfield.org**

## Our responsibilities:

Checking your qualification to be married at Holy Trinity

***You have a right to be married at Holy Trinity if:***

Either of you is resident in the parish of Cuckfield **or**

Either one of you is on the electoral roll of the parish of Cuckfield (to be on the electoral roll, you must worship regularly at the church for at least six months) **or**

Either of you has a qualifying connection with the parish.

*You will receive a form explaining the qualifications allowable and this will need to be completed and returned to allow us to process your application. Documentary evidence of qualification will need to be provided.*

## **Banns of Marriage:**

These are a legal requirement and must be read in Holy Trinity by the Vicar on three consecutive Sundays at the main 9.45 service in the three month period leading up to your wedding. If you live in another parish or parishes, you must also have them read there. It is **your** responsibility to contact and meet with the Vicar(s) involved, and we will need the certificate of proof which they will provide (a fee is payable for this). **We are unable to proceed with the wedding without receiving this certificate.**

## Interviews:

The first stage in your marriage preparation starts with an interview with the Vicar, where you will be informed about the Marriage Workshop—a valuable course we provide about married life for all of the couples who intend to marry in Holy Trinity. There will also be a marriage preparation meeting. At the latter, the Vicar will arrange the rehearsal for your wedding, normally a day or two before the actual service. It is strongly recommended that you attend both. Please note that you will be informed well in advance if the Vicar is unable to officiate at your wedding, and you will be put in touch with the priest taking the service, with the opportunity to meet them.

## Marriage after divorce:

At Holy Trinity, we marry people who have been divorced; this is not, however, an automatic right. Parish clergy must abide by the House of Bishops' guidelines in these cases. We try to be as welcoming and as accommodating as possible, but if either you or your partner is divorced, before we can agree to the wedding, we must ask some questions about your first marriage. In many cases this is a simple process. We try to be as sensitive as we can be.

## Your responsibilities:

Choosing various aspects to do with the Marriage Service:

### Music

Choosing the hymns (usually two or three) plus any special music which you will wish to have played as you enter and leave the church, together with music you wish performed at the signing of the registers. Please contact the Parish Office regarding this.

### Choir

The church choir may be available to sing for the wedding by arrangement, for which there will be a charge. That said, we welcome the involvement of other choirs, singers and musicians for weddings although you will be responsible for organising in this situation. Please liaise with the office on this.

### Order of Service Sheet

This is your own responsibility if you wish to have one. We are able to provide a booklet with the words of the service. If you wish to print the whole service along with the hymns, we are able to send you the text electronically for you to adapt. You will find a skeleton order at the back of this booklet to enable you to plan.

- |    |                     |         |                                  |
|----|---------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| 7. | Air (Water Music)   | Handel  |                                  |
| 8. | Cantilena Romantica | Dunhill | <i>not well known but lovely</i> |

### Recessional

- |    |                               |             |                                   |
|----|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Wedding March                 | Mendelssohn | <i>The traditional classic</i>    |
| 2. | Toccata in F                  | Widor       | <i>Popular, joyful triumphant</i> |
| 3. | Final (from Symphonie I)      | Vierne      | <i>Also joyful and triumphant</i> |
| 4. | Arrival of the Queen of Sheba | Handel      | <i>Also used for the entry</i>    |
| 5. | Hornpipe (Water Music)        | Handel      | <i>Uplifting, well-known</i>      |
| 6. | Marche Triomphale             | Karg-Elert  | <i>Strong and dignified</i>       |
| 7. | Trumpet Voluntary             | Stanley     | <i>Longer than entry tunes</i>    |
| 8. | Grand March (Aida)            | Verdi       | <i>As for entry, but more!</i>    |

### Notes on music:

It is possible to have **recorded music** at certain points, but we recommend keeping things 'live,' This gives maximum flexibility on timings, etc., and avoids awkward fades or cuts, or the possibility of an embarrassing overrun or shortfall in the music.

If the choir is booked, the organist will choose an anthem to fit in well with the chosen music, and to suit the number of singers present. Wedding bookings are notified to the choir about eight weeks in advance of the event, Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like the choir to be present.

It is also possible to book professional singers or instrumentalists - perhaps a solo vocalist or quartet to sing during the Signing of the Registers, or a live trumpeter, etc. Please let us know if you would like more details.

The list of pieces on the Menu List is certainly not exhaustive. However, if you choose other music, the we would need to know well in advance. It is important that music chosen 'works' on the organ, and you may be asked to provide the sheet music.

*Finally - Holy Trinity has a fine organ and music tradition; we look forward to providing the music for your special day, and the church musicians wish you well in all your preparations, and for the future.*

Lead us, heavenly Father	702
Lord, for the years	715
Lord of all hopefulness	713
Lord, the light (Shine, Jesus, shine)	719
Love divine, all loves excelling	721
Make me a channel of your peace	725
Morning has broken	545
Now thank we all our God	739
One more step along the world I go	757
Take my life and let it be	787
The Lord's my shepherd	799 & 800

## Wedding Music Menu

We hope that you will find this useful and interesting as you plan the music for your wedding.

### Entry of the Bride

1.	The Bridal Chorus	Wagner	<i>The traditional classic</i>
2.	Trumpet Voluntary	Clarke	<i>Well known trumpet piece</i>
3.	Trumpet Tune in D	Purcell	<i>A very stately piece</i>
4.	Grand March (Aida)	Verdi	<i>Fanfare, then the big tune</i>
5.	Rondeau (Abdelazar)	Purcell	<i>Fine tune</i>
6.	Coro (Water Music)	Handel	<i>Three time but works well</i>
7.	Arrival of the Queen of Sheba	Handel	<i>Lively but stately</i>
8.	Trumpet Prelude	Charpentier	<i>'Eurovision' theme tune</i>

### Signing the Registers

1.	An anthem or solo item(s)	See notes	
2.	Jesu, joy of man's desiring	Bach	<i>also a favourite anthem</i>
3.	Canon in D	Pachelbel	
4.	Ave Maria	Schubert	
5.	Ave Maria	Bach/Gounod	
6.	Adagio in G minor	Albinoni	

## Bells

If you wish the bells to be rung at the end of the service, please contact **Jennifer Constable** email:[jenniferconstable100@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferconstable100@gmail.com) as soon as possible. There is a fee payable for use of the bells as six to eight people are required to ring them. The wedding duration (usually about 40-45 mins.) is taken into account by the ringers. Please note therefore that **the bride must not be unduly late** for the wedding in case the ringers have to curtail ringing if they are required to ring elsewhere.

## Flowers

The church is unable to provide flowers for your wedding. However, if you wish to have arrangements, these may be placed anywhere within reason within the building (or over the porch door) other than on the altars. Please note that no sticky tape, nails or any other forms of fixture other than ties may be used in the building. If you are having flowers we would be very grateful if you left a pedestal arrangement in the church for our Sunday services; however, all flowers must be removed by the following Wednesday. If there is more than one wedding in the church that day, we will give your contact details of the other couple(s) so that you are able to liaise costs and colours. Please contact the office if you have further queries.

## Photography

We are happy to liaise with any photographer employed to record your wedding. However, they would be expected to be discreet in movement and to reflect the solemnity of this happy occasion. Please note that if the service is filmed, then a licence **may** be required from the Performing Rights Society (02075 805544 or [www.prsformusic.com](http://www.prsformusic.com)) particularly if you are using recorded music. Please note permission must be gained from both the Vicar and the Organist to have the service videoed or sound recorded. There is also an additional payment applicable to the organist and choir. We are able to livestream your service by arrangement and for a fee, but please note that this may also require a licence.

### **Parking**

Alas, we are unable to guarantee any parking for the wedding other than that for the bridal car and disabled parking spaces (in the Old School Car Park). Please advise your guests that it is inadvisable to consider parking anywhere within the immediate environs of the church.

### **Confetti**

Please advise your guests that confetti may be thrown in the churchyard as long as it is **biodegradable**.

### **Fees**

You will receive a separate sheet in regard to the fees.

## **Particulars of the wedding:**

### **Readings**

There must be at least one reading from the Bible at your wedding, because it is taking place in a church and you have chosen a religious ceremony. Some suggestions follow, but if you have a favourite passage of Scripture, then that is absolutely fine. You are also very welcome to have non-Biblical readings (including poems) during the service by agreement with the Vicar.

### **Suggested Bible Readings:**

1 Corinthians Chapter 13 Love at the centre of all (The most popular reading for weddings)  
Genesis 1: verses 26-28 God creates humanity to look after the earth.  
Song of Solomon 2: 10-13; 8: 6&7 A love poem between two lovers.  
Matthew 5: 1-10 Jesus teaches of a life that brings true happiness  
Mark 10: 6-9 and 13-16 Jesus talks of marriage, welcoming children  
John 2: 1 – 11 What happens when Jesus attends a wedding reception  
Ephesians 5: 21-33 Committing to each other  
Philippians 4: 4 – 9 Seeing the good side of the other  
Colossians 3: 12 – 17 Working towards the perfect relationship  
1 John 4: 7 – 12 Loving each other

### **Other Bible Readings:**

Tobit 8: 4-8 Tobias and Sarah pray for a good marriage  
Romans 12: 1,2,9-13 Genuine love transforms those you know  
Matthew 5: 1-10 The Beatitudes - guides to life  
Matthew 7: 21, 24-end Building on good foundations  
John 15: 1-8 Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches  
John 15: 9-17 Jesus commands us to love one another

### **Wedding Music**

You will need to choose music for three points in the service - the entry of the bridal party, the signing of the registers and the procession of the marriage party at the end of the service. You may choose to have recorded music (emailed to the office) for one or more of these, but if you are employing the Director of Music, it makes sense to use the organ as much as possible. You will find more details over leaf. There is usually an opportunity to discuss music with the organist.

### **Organ Music**

You will find details regarding organ music, with several suggestions about possible pieces on page 9 of this booklet.

### **Hymns**

Hymns enable other people to feel part of your service. Here are some suggestions. If you have particular favourites, you are very welcome to submit them to the Vicar for approval. Hymn numbers apply to the hymnbook we use at Holy Trinity. (*Ancient & Modern 2013*)

All things bright and beautiful	533
And did those feet (Jerusalem)	576
Be still for the presence of the Lord	358
Come down, O Love divine	238
Dear Lord and Father of mankind	621
Father hear the prayer we offer	629
For the beauty of the earth	537
Give me joy in my heart	638
Guide me, O thou great redeemer	652
I danced in the morning (Lord of the dance)	667

*(continued overleaf)*