



Wedding Enquiry

Welcome to St Mark's
and St Luke's,
Scarborough



St Mark's
NEWBY
pray · love · serve



ST LUKE'S

Firstly Congratulations!

Before booking a Church Wedding there are some Church of England and legal requirements to complete:

Establishing a connection with the Church

- Do you/have you lived in the parish (geographical location) of your local Church for a period of 6 months or more, or have your parents?
- If not, were you Baptised (Christened) or Confirmed in the Parish Church?
- Or, have you attended the Church regularly for a period of 6 months, or have your parents?
- Or, have your parents or grandparents been married at the Church

Non British Couple

- If one or both of you are not British citizens you must first apply for a Superintendents Registrar Certificate at your local Registry Office. This will need to be done well in advance of your Wedding

Legalities

- You will need to bring your passports and proof of address(es), usually a utility bill or bank statement, at your first booking meeting. The parish office at St Mark's (for both churches) is open most Wednesday afternoons from 1pm–3.30 pm (a Wednesday evening from 7 to 8 pm may be available by appointment) for the preliminary enquiry and presentation of documents.
- If you have been married previously the Priest will ask you about the circumstances in which the marriage failed and it is their discretion as to whether to offer a Wedding ceremony in Church. You will need to produce your Decree Absolute as part of the documentation requirements

Procedures

- You will need to notify your local community of your intention to marry, in the Church of England this is called 'Reading your Banns'
- This is to ensure that the local community is aware that if there is a legal reason why you may not marry there is an opportunity over 3 separate weeks to inform the Priest. If you are marrying in a different Church from where you live you will also need to have your Banns read in that Church too

Costs

- In 2022 the cost of booking the Church is £490.00. This must be received at least 1 month prior to the Wedding

- Banns - if you live in the same parish as the Church where your ceremony is taking place the cost of reading the Banns is £32.00. If your ceremony is in a different parish from where you live the cost is £32.00 in each additional parish and £16.00 for the Banns certificate which is legally required for the Vicar in the parish where you are being married
- Musician costs - approx. £70.00, to be booked and paid separately directly to the musician. Costs vary per musician

Preparation for the Service

- Your Church Wedding Website <https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/your-church-wedding> is a good start in planning and choosing:
- Hymns and music as the bride walks in and as the Bride and Groom leave
- Bible reading
- Any additional poetry / song words / reading
- Order of Service

Wedding Document

- You will be asked to complete a Wedding booking form well in advance of your Wedding, usually at your booking appointment
- Changes in British law mean that your Vicar now completes a Wedding document (in place of a Wedding Certificate) which you will sign on the day. It is important that all the facts are checked and re-checked prior to the Service - this document will go to the local Registry Office and you can apply online with the National Registry Office for your Wedding Certificate a few days after the Church ceremony

Order of Service

- The marriage ceremony at St Mark's and St Luke's will be around 40/45 minutes. The Priest will send you a running order with brief headings of the parts of the Ceremony from which you can produce your Order of Service for your guests, if you require one
- As mentioned you can choose your own hymns / songs and any favourite poem or song lyrics as a reading as well as a Bible reading. The Priest will help with this but it's helpful to think about this well in advance as it's your opportunity to personalise your ceremony

Wedding Rehearsal

- The Priest will arrange a Rehearsal for you and others with key roles - Best Man, Bridesmaids etc. - a couple of evenings before the event as this is an important opportunity to try out your plans and often it's where both tears and laughing will help with the emotional rollercoaster of planning
- It is an opportunity for the Bridal party to all meet the Priest and often other family members have questions or can be a bit nervous about their role.

We hope this information will help you, we know there are many things to plan and we are here to support you.