



Getting married at St Michael's Church, Burtonwood.

Thank you for choosing to arrange your wedding with us!

We would like to make it as easy as possible for you to get married here.

This leaflet gives you some helpful information as you prepare for your big day.

If either of you have been married before you will need to have a meeting with the clergy before a Wedding can be booked in. One of us will arrange to meet with you – you might want to do this a few months before the wedding.

In this leaflet you will have other helpful information about arranging your wedding, if you have any queries do ask, but most things should be covered at your meeting with the minister conducting your ceremony.

You may also find the Church of England wedding website www.yourchurchwedding.org helpful in your preparations.

Veronica Hancock
Curate at St Michael's, Burtonwood

Banns of Marriage

These have to be read on 3 Sundays some time during the 3 months before the wedding. This is a centuries-old legal necessity, giving people the opportunity to raise legal objections to the marriage (e.g. if one of you were under 16 years). The banns are read on 3 Sundays in the Church where you are to be married. We will tell you when this will be and invite you to come along. If one or both of you do not live in this parish, it has to be done in the parish church where you live as well. It is very important that you organise this and bring the certificate to the rehearsal – no certificate, I'm afraid, means no wedding!

Flowers

You are very welcome to arrange flowers for your wedding and may use any of the pedestals and vases available, if you want them. There are often flowers by the altar (except in Lent), provided by one of our parishioners. These may be moved out to the vestry if you want to do your own flowers, but please would you ensure that whoever arranges your flowers know this. Flower arrangers should contact the Reverend Veronica on 292559, to arrange access. If you want to take your flowers with you to the reception you are very welcome.

Printed service sheets

You may want to think about printing your own service sheets for the wedding. We will give you an outline order with all the words that you will need when you meet with the person taking the service. We will also have examples for you to look at.

Confetti

The use of biodegradable confetti is encouraged (please avoid foil-type confetti) and please only use outside.

If you wish to scatter flower petals in the aisle, please do not use real petals as they get wet and stick to/and stain the carpets.

The Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Burtonwood

Wedding fees from 1st January – 31st December 2021

The Service and Banns fees are set by the Church Commissioners and Parliament. The Marriage Certificate fee is set by the Registrar General. The rest are set locally in the parish.

	DIOCESE	CHURCH COUNCIL	TOTAL
Marriage Service	211.00	253.00	464.00
Reading of Banns		31.00	31.00
Verger			30.00
Organist			80.00
TOTAL BASIC			605.00

Most people want our organist to play for their wedding. If you don't – please let us know as soon as possible.

The balance is due one month before the wedding.

Marriage certificates, until very recently, were issued in church on the day of the wedding. Certificates may now be obtained by contacting

Warrington Registry Office.

1 Time Square,
Warrington
WA1 2NT

Phone: 01925 442762)

Popular Wedding Hymns.

Here are some of the most popular and suitable hymns, but your choice need not be limited to these. The person taking your wedding can help you to decide (you can see the lyrics and listen to the tune to many of these at www.yourchurchwedding.org/article/hymns-for-your-wedding/)

All things bright and beautiful
Amazing Grace
Be still for the presence of the Lord
Come to a wedding
Give me joy in my heart (sing hosanna)
God of all living (to the tune of 'Morning has Broken').
God, in the planning and purpose of life (tune: Lord of all
hopefulness) Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer
Immortal, invisible
Lead us Heavenly Father
Lord of all hopefulness
Lord of the dance
Love divine, all loves excelling
Make me a channel of your peace
Morning has broken
Now thank we all our God
O Jesus I have promised
O Lord my God - How great Thou art
O perfect love
O praise ye the Lord
One more step along the world I go
Praise my soul, the King of Heaven
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Tell out my Soul
The King of love my shepherd is
We gather here (to the tune of 'Jerusalem')
We pledge to one another (to the tune of 'I Vow to Thee my
Country').

Readings

You will be given a selection of possible Bible readings when you meet the minister taking your service (or why not visit [www.yourchurchwedding.org/article/bible-readings-for-your-wedding /](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org/article/bible-readings-for-your-wedding/)).

This can be read by the person taking the service or by someone you chose. In addition to the Bible reading some people like to have a poem or a few words, but this is entirely optional and needs to be shown to the person taking the service in advance.

Arrival of the Bride

Traditionally the bride is accompanied down the aisle by her father, but we are aware that there are many different situations in families and this may not be appropriate for you. If there is someone else you would like to escort you, or even no-one at all then that is fine. You can talk this through with the minister taking your wedding.

Best Man

This can be anyone to support the groom and doesn't have to be a man. Some people can't decide who to have and have two – that's fine – as long as we know.

Ushers

It is helpful to have two or three people to help on the day. If there are likely to be many guests, often one usher stays outside to help with parking. The other ushers direct people to their seats and give them the service sheets; check for lost property at the end and generally make sure everything runs smoothly. It is preferable to have all or mainly adults.

Bridesmaids, Flower girls, Maid of Honour, Page boys

You can have any combination of these you want. One of them needs to be allocated to look after the bride's flowers during the ceremony and deal with her veil if appropriate. Traditionally the attendants follow the bride down the aisle but if you would like them to come first this is perfectly possible.

Children

Some couples already have children who will be with them at the ceremony and are part of their family unit. You may like to be prayed for as a family as you set out on this new step of life together and this can easily be included.

Signing the Registers

Two people need to sign the registers as witnesses. These can be anyone over the age of 18. It is sometimes appropriate to ask someone who is a family member who would otherwise be left out of the direct proceedings.

Photography

We strongly suggest that the wedding ceremony (particularly during the vows) is not disturbed with camera flash. We suggest that wedding photographers operate at the back of church during the service. They may come forward to take photographs of you after the registers have been signed, and when you walk down the aisle at the end. If desired, the minister taking your service may give everyone a photo opportunity during the service – to capture the moment when you are declared 'husband and wife'.

Video

We allow video recording of the service for a fee of £30. The recording is subject to laws about copyright and performing rights, but as long as no more than three copies are made and it is not sold or used for public viewing, this should present no problem. There is a form to sign (by the camera operator and the bride and groom). If the camera operator can get to the rehearsal that will help.

Rehearsal

The person taking your wedding will arrange a rehearsal a few days before the wedding (usually one or two nights before). It is important that as many people as possible who will be playing a part in the ceremony are able to attend. So we would suggest that the bride and groom are there (obviously!), together with parents, best man, bridesmaids and ushers.

Suggested music for weddings

There are many other possibilities. You could arrange to meet the main organist, to discuss what you would like. Not all organists play all of these, but the traditional "Bridal March" and "Wedding March" are always possible.

Entrance	1	WAGNER Bridal March from Lohengrin
	2	CLARKE Trumpet Voluntary
	3	PURCELL Trumpet Tune
	4	CHARPENTIER Trumpet Tune
	5	VERDI Grand March from Aida
	6	HANDEL Overture to the occasional oratorio
Going out	1	MENDELSSOHN Wedding March
	2	CLARKE Trumpet Voluntary
	3	HANDEL Water Music (Allegro)
	4	WIDOR Toccata
	5	HANDEL Arrival of the Queen of Sheba

Signing the registers

You may also like to have something in particular played whilst you sign the registers. This could be something by the organist (e.g. Ave Maria; Jesu joy of Man's Desiring; Sheep May Safely Graze), a CD of something special to you or a relative who plays or sings.