

## Your Wedding at All Saints Church

We are delighted that you wish to be married at All Saints Church. These pages contain some general information about the decisions that you will need to make over the coming few months, usually jointly with the clergy. The clergy marrying you will go through a separate “Wedding Checklist” which you will fill in with information specific to you. **If you move before the wedding please let us know your new contact details.**

### **Marriage preparation**

In the months before your wedding you will be invited to attend a marriage preparation workshop on a Saturday morning. These workshops are held jointly for at least three couples. You will work mainly as a couple, looking at issues such as expectations of marriage, communication and the form of the wedding service itself. When you are informed of that date, please book it in your diaries as a priority and let the Parish Office know immediately if you are likely to have any problem with attending. Before that workshop we will confirm which minister will conduct your wedding and they will then arrange a meeting just with the two of you to discuss your particular service requirements. Please do not have your order of service printed until after this discussion has taken place.

### **Banns**

Your banns will be read at All Saints Church at 9.30am or St Mary’s Church at 11am (as appropriate) on three consecutive Sundays in the three months prior to your wedding and it is expected that you will be present on at least one of those occasions. If either of you live outside the parish of Crondall and Ewshot, you will need to arrange for your banns to be read there within the three months prior to the wedding. We will need to see your banns certificate from that parish before we can proceed with the wedding.

### **Witnesses**

The Marriage Document must be signed by two witnesses. Parents’ names will already be included. You are free to choose any two adults. It is helpful for us to have their full names in case their signatures are illegible.

### **Fees**

Fees are increased in January of each year. We will confirm the exact amount due three months prior to your wedding, and would appreciate payment of the full amount by BACS to Crondall & Ewshot PCC CAF Bank Account 00030521 sort code 40-52-40. Please let the Parish Office know you have made the transfer. If the service is videoed, whether privately or professionally, the fee payable to the organist is doubled.

### **Service Details**

The wedding service is taken from the Anglican book of services known as “Common Worship”, which uses modern language to express deep insights into the nature of Christian marriage. These are the vows that you will each make:

I, *name*, take you, *name*,  
to be my wife/husband,  
to have and to hold  
from this day forward;  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
to love and to cherish,  
till death us do part;  
according to God’s holy law.  
In the presence of God I make this vow

*Name*, I give you this ring  
as a sign of our marriage.  
With my body I honour you,  
all that I am I give to you,  
and all that I have I share with you,  
within the love of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**“Giving Away”:** Years ago, a woman was regarded as a piece of property to be handed from one man (her father) to another (the groom) and the wedding service reflected this. Most couples today feel they

are a long way from that idea – but do value the contribution that both sets of parents have made to their upbringing and wellbeing. There is therefore an optional additional question that can be asked after you have made your declarations and said “I will”. The minister may ask ‘Who brings this woman to be married today?’ and the person giving the bride can say ‘I do.’ This is purely optional, so please tell the minister if you would like to include it.

### **Wedding Readings**

You may have a poem or piece of writing that you want to be read, if so please let the minister see it in plenty of time so that it can be placed at the appropriate point in the service. Bible readings could include one of the following:

#### ***1 Corinthians 13***

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

#### ***Philippians 4.4-9***

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

#### ***Colossians 3.12-17***

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

#### ***1 John 3. 18-end***

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

#### ***1 John 4.7-12***

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that

he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

### **Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6,7**

My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise my love, my fair one and come away." Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave. Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame. Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If one offered for love all the wealth of one's house, it would be utterly scorned.

There are plenty of other readings that could be used – please discuss your selection with your minister. Suggestions for other readings can be found in many places including

[www.weddingguideuk.com/articles/wordsmusic/poems/lovepoems.asp](http://www.weddingguideuk.com/articles/wordsmusic/poems/lovepoems.asp). You may also find helpful the Church of England's own wedding website at [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org)

### **Your Wedding Music**

The choice of music at your wedding is very important because it sets the whole tone of the service. Care should be taken in the choice of hymns which should have suitable words and tunes which the congregation can sing and enjoy. The minister taking your service will work with you on your music requirements, and arrange for a suitable organist, and, if requested, a choir and/or soloists. You will need to choose the entry music, normally up to three hymns, the music during the signing of the register, and the music for going out.

- 1 **The Entry of the Bride**. The traditional choice is 'The Bridal March' from Lohengrin by Wagner better known as 'Here comes the bride'. However there are a lot of other suitable pieces such as 'The Trumpet Voluntary' by Jeremiah Clarke.
- 2 **The Hymns** – usually two or three
  - a. The opening hymn which should be bright and cheerful. For example:  
Praise my soul the king of heaven  
Praise to the holiest in the height
  - b. The hymn after the vows and before the prayers, which should be rather more reflective.  
For example:  
The Lord's my shepherd  
Lord of all hopefulness  
Love divine all loves excelling
  - c. The final hymn which is the place for your favourite hymn if you have one or a hymn which is a prayer for your life together. For example:  
Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
Guide me, O thou great redeemer  
Now thank we all our God
- 3 **During the Signing of the Marriage Document and register** – You may want the choir to sing, or ask the organist to play, or you may have friends or family who can play or sing a piece of music at your request. Please inform the minister if there is something specific you have in mind, to find out if it is in their repertoire.
4. **Going out Music** – e.g. 'The wedding march' by Mendelssohn but there are many other suitable pieces.

These are just a few suggestions from a vast range of music which we hope will help you to choose what is right for your special day. You will need to make contact with your organist through the minister to arrange a time to meet and discuss music.

## **Printed Order of Service**

If you decide to have a service sheet with hymns and readings on then you will need to arrange this, in consultation with the minister, who will also need to see a final proof before printing takes place. You will need one for each guest plus 4 for church use (15 if the choir are attending).

## **Photographs and video recordings**

Photographs are an important record of your big day, but more important still is your experience and your memory of the day which you will carry with you for ever. So it is important that there are no distractions, either for you or your guests, and for this reason photography is limited to your photographer during the service. The minister will have a chat with your photographer about what is appropriate and unobtrusive during the service. The obvious shots are as you enter and leave the church, and during the signing of the register. If the service is recorded on video, either by a professional or by your guests, then an additional fee is payable to all musicians.

## **Car Parking**

Space for cars is at a premium around All Saints, especially if there is also a function taking place in the Village Hall. Should you wish to hire the school car park, which is nearby, please contact Crondall School on 01252 850291.

## **Confetti**

Please only use biodegradable confetti

## **Flowers**

See separate information sheet. Julie can be contacted at [juliebinks7@gmail.com](mailto:juliebinks7@gmail.com) or [juliebinks777@virginmedia.com](mailto:juliebinks777@virginmedia.com)

## **Accommodation locally**

You may like to let your guests about some options for staying in Crondall for the wedding. Info can be found at:

<http://www.erlands.co.uk>

[www.vine-cottage-bandb.co.uk](http://www.vine-cottage-bandb.co.uk)

[www.crandallbandb.co.uk](http://www.crandallbandb.co.uk)

[www.plumecrandall.co.uk](http://www.plumecrandall.co.uk)

## **Contacts**

If you have any questions or worries, however insignificant they may seem, please do not hesitate to get in touch. You will also be very welcome at any of our church services – the 9.30 am Sunday service at Crondall is the most popular, but we can give you details of other services if you wish, or see our website. [www.assm.org.uk](http://www.assm.org.uk)

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