

Weddings at St Peter's Church, Dunchurch

Congratulations, and thank you for choosing St Peter's for your wedding. We are delighted to welcome you and look forward to supporting you as you prepare for your special day. This guide is designed to help you plan your wedding with confidence and answer some common questions along the way.

Preparing for Marriage

Marriage is about far more than the wedding day itself. As part of your preparation, the priest taking your service will spend time getting to know you, talking through your hopes for marriage, and helping you plan a service that feels right for you. We will also make sure that all legal and practical arrangements are in place.

Legal Requirements

Church law requires us to confirm identity, nationality, date of birth, and address. You may be asked to provide documents, and we will guide you clearly and carefully through what is needed.

Who Can Be Married Here?

- 1 • If one of you lives in the parish and has done so for at least six months.
- 2 • If one of you has worshipped regularly at St Peter's or St Edmund's for at least six months.
- 3 • If one of you has a qualifying connection with the parish, as defined by the Church of England.

If either of you has been married before, a confidential conversation with the priest will be needed before a date is confirmed.

Reading of Banns

The reading of banns is a legal requirement which makes your intention to marry public. Banns are normally read on three Sundays before the wedding. If banns are read in another parish, a certificate must be provided before the wedding.

Wedding Blessing

If a wedding in church is not possible for legal or pastoral reasons, we are often still able to offer a service of Prayer and Dedication after a Civil Marriage.

Church and Legal Fees

When booking your wedding, we kindly ask for a non-refundable deposit of £50, to help cover the administration and planning that takes place once arrangements begin.

Payment may be made by cash, cheque payable to The PCC of Dunchurch Parish, or by bank transfer (account number 01089602, sort code 30-97-17). Please send proof of payment if paying by bank transfer. All fees must be settled before the wedding. Fees for organists and bell ringers are arranged and paid separately.

The Wedding Service

Weddings at St Peter's use the Church of England's Common Worship service. Most services include two or three hymns, readings, and music at key moments. The service usually lasts around 45 minutes.

Rehearsal

A rehearsal usually takes place shortly before the wedding and helps everyone feel relaxed and prepared. Please bring any outstanding paperwork, certificates, or fees, and your order of service if you have one.

Photography and Video

Only the official photographer and videographer may record the service. They must remain in one place and may not use flash during the service. Please ask them to speak to the minister or verger before the service begins.

Music, Bells and Flowers

An organist and bell ringers can usually be arranged, subject to availability, and are booked separately. Flowers should be discussed with the Wedding Coordinator in advance. Artificial flowers are not permitted.

Confetti

Biodegradable confetti may be thrown in the churchyard near the main gates only. Confetti and rose petals are not permitted inside the church.

Contact Details

Vicar: reviandavidsweney@gmail.com

Churchwardens: dunchurchstpeters@gmail.com