

2019

WELCOME TO

WEDDING PREPARATION

AT ST MARY'S MEDIEVAL CHURCH THORPE VILLAGE, SURREY





Congratulations!



Meet the St Mary's Weddings team!

Vicar: **Damian Miles**

Curate: **Gerard Mee**

Verger: **John Brittain**

Deputy Vergers: **Bridgett & Tony Grove**

Parish Organist: **David Howard**

Churchwardens: **Barry Huxley & Margaret Roberts**

Weddings Administration: **Petra Hudson**



Why get married?

A Cambridge University Study suggested the impact of marriage on health and life expectancy was almost equivalent to giving up smoking!*

Comparing a variety of other academic papers, it concluded:

- ❖ Marriage makes people healthier and happier
- ❖ Marriage makes people far less likely to suffer mental health problems
- ❖ Marriage makes people live much longer
- ❖ Both men and women benefit



* *How does marriage affect physical and psychological health? Cambridge, 2015*

Why get married in church?

Churches are special places and there are some things about a church wedding that you just can't get anywhere else.

Christians believe that marriage is a gift from God and is not to be taken for granted.

Churches offer a sound basis for building family life and community.

Getting married in a church means making promises before God.

Getting married in church involves a public declaration of love and commitment.

St Mary's offers over 1000 years of continuity and spirituality.



Your wedding ceremony explained...

Some elements of the service in church are set by law and are not optional:

- ❖ **Set vows & legal declarations**
- ❖ **Set prayers and the Lord's Prayer**
- ❖ **Two witnesses are required**
- ❖ **At least one NT bible reading**



You choose your music and hymns, poem and bible reading(s).

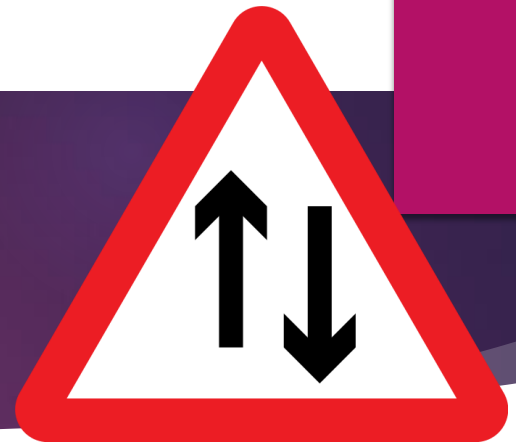


Your draft service sheet must be approved by the Vicar and Director of Music **BEFORE** you have it printed.



What is marriage all about?







Being prepared for marriage...

The three C's of Marriage!

- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Constructive Conflict
- ❖ Commitment



**‘Marriage is like a garden...’
and the Vicar’s wife would smile
as she saw the bridal party
marching down the aisle.
For while he praised the gardener’s
work, the Vicar quite forgot,
that in the Vicarage garden
his wife did all the lot.**



Eat, drink, chat and explore!

How well do you know your partner? Happy ever after!

Complete the questionnaire independently of each other – rating your answers for yourself and your partner!

1 = Highest priority

3 = Neither a high nor low priority

5 = Lowest priority



Then, if you dare... compare your results!

YOUR List

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Give & Take | () |
| 2. Our own home | () |
| 3. Listening to and
understanding each other | () |
| 4. Companionship | () |
| 5. Trust | () |
| 6. Agreement about religion | () |
| 7. Going to church together | () |
| 8. Honesty | () |
| 9. Love | () |
| 10. Getting on with the In-laws | () |
| 11. Sense of humour | () |

Your Partner's List

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Give & Take | () |
| 2. Our own home | () |
| 3. Listening to and
understanding each other | () |
| 4. Companionship | () |
| 5. Trust | () |
| 6. Agreement about religion | () |
| 7. Going to church together | () |
| 8. Honesty | () |
| 9. Love | () |
| 10. Getting on with the In-laws | () |
| 11. Sense of humour | () |

YOUR List

- 12. Satisfactory sex life ()
- 13. Awareness of each other's needs ()
- 14. Having children ()
- 15. Time to oneself (Independence) ()
- 16. Agreeing on money matters ()
- 17. My career ()
- 18. Holidays at home ()
- 19. Holidays abroad ()
- 20. Sport or Clubs ()
- 21. Any other_____ ()

Your Partner's List

- 12. Satisfactory sex life ()
- 13. Awareness of each other's needs ()
- 14. Having children ()
- 15. Time to oneself (Independence) ()
- 16. Agreeing on money matters ()
- 17. Their career ()
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