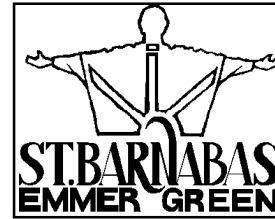


permission as it can be distracting. Once the service is over they are welcome to use them as they wish. Nevertheless, you may wish to have a record of the service, and it would normally be in order to have a photographer, and/or a video recorder, professional or friend. Please ensure that they are asked to arrive at the church at least 30 minutes before the service. When a service is recorded, two copyrights are involved:

- The performance copyright of the organist, (normally included in the fees).
- The composer's copyright. We don't make arrangements for this. It will be your responsibility to meet your legal obligation. If the composer has been dead for 50 years there is usually no problems as the copyrights lapse.



**Part of the
Caversham Group
Ministry**

MARRIAGE

Information for enquirers

Vicar: Rev Derek Chandler
20 St. Barnabas Rd, Emmer Green
Reading, RG4 8RA
Tel: 0118 947 8239

GETTING MARRIED AT ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, EMMER GREEN

Congratulations!

By reading this leaflet you and your partner are taking another step along the road of your commitment to one another. Christian marriage isn't just about the wedding day and saying the right words. It's a lifelong commitment and needs a lot of thought and preparation.

This leaflet is designed to clarify possible questions you may have at this time. Please do not hesitate to contact the Vicar if you would like any further clarification of the relevant issues; a simple chat at this time may help to answer all of your important questions.

Contact details

If you have any other questions that you would like to ask, please contact:

Revd Derek Chandler, Vicar, 20 St Barnabas Road, Emmer Green,
Reading RG4 8RA. Telephone: 0118 947 8239

Your Questions Answered

1. Can we get married at any church of our choice?

The best thing to do is to check with the minister in charge at the church you wish to be married in. Within the Church of England the general rule outside of you or your partner's parish church is no except in special circumstances and only then by application with a common or special licence.

2. What order of service is used, can we write our own words?

Common Worship and the Book of Common Prayer are the orders of service which the Church of England are legally bound to use. At this time the Church of England is still the state church of the country which means that Church of England clergy are allowed to act as marriage registrars and for that reason are obliged by state law to observe that only the orders of service mentioned above are used.

3. What do we need to do now?

In the first instance contact the Vicar. Before your wedding day you need to provide the following:

- All the details for the register and for the service.
- Ask about the current rate of fees for the wedding, which will normally include the organ and the organist's Performing Rights Copyright for audio or video recording.
- A Banns Certificate from the local church for couples where one of you lives outside the parish of Emmer Green.

Banns are the public announcement of your marriage. They are required by law, to enable anyone to lodge any legal impediment.

- Your Banns will be read at St. Barnabas during the main service, 9.30am, on the first three Sundays of the month prior to the wedding. You may wish to hear your Banns being read. It is

suggested that you may wish to attend the first reading, in order to ensure that the process has started, and the details are correct.

- You need to arrange with the other church to read your banns. After they have been read for the third time, you can apply to the Vicar for a Banns Certificate, which confirms that no objection has been raised. You will need to present this certificate before the marriage takes place.

4. When is the rehearsal?

A rehearsal is often arranged about 10 days or so before the event. This is a convenient time to pay the fees and present the Banns Certificate. It is essential for both Bride and Groom to be present at the rehearsal. Others who can benefit are: Best Man and Bridesmaids, Person giving Bride away. The rehearsal takes about an hour.

5. Do you run 'Marriage Preparation' courses?

Arrangements are being made for a course of Marriage Preparation. You are strongly advised to attend one of these sessions, during which it is planned to discuss issues of the formation for good relationships. Details will be forwarded.

6. What about flowers in church?

The fees mentioned above do not include flowers. It is not essential to have flowers. The voluntary church florists provide appropriate flower arrangements every week of the year and are often happy to accommodate any personal tastes you may have on the weekend of your wedding. Alternatively you can ask a member of the family or a professional florist to arrange the flowers. Please ensure that the vicar knows of your arrangements, to avoid a possible conflict with other arrangements.

7. Can we take photographs and use video cameras?

Your marriage is a sacred service. It is not appropriate that members of the congregation use cameras or video cameras without prior