

How we do book our wedding with you?

We are open for bookings at Hellingly church from 6pm – 7pm every Friday evening (except Good Friday and the Christmas and New Year period)

We will complete a booking form with you, check that the date and time you want for your wedding is available and make sure you have any additional forms that may be required to be completed.

If you are unable to make a Friday evening, you can come along to the Sunday service at Hellingly, 10.45am and someone will be able to speak to you.

An initial request can be made by telephone or email, but we do require the booking to be done in person so that we can meet you, understand your expectations and make sure we can help you.

The Church of England website has lots of information to help you prepare for your service. <https://www.yourchurchwedding.org/>

We look forward to welcoming you and supporting you through your marriage preparations and your life ahead.

We have a family service on the fourth Sunday of every month at 10.45am Hellingly Church. Our normal Sunday services are at 9.15am at Upper Dicker and 10.45am at Hellingly.

If you have any queries or concerns call our Church administrator, Marian Richards, on 01323 441458, email: csa.hellingly@gmail.com (the office is open Tuesday through Friday) or if you need to speak to someone in confidence then do please contact our Vicar, the Rev David Farey on 01323 440450, or e-mail vicar.hellingly@gmail.com

And to find out about all our activities

Visit our church website at www.hellinglychurch.org.uk

See us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/hellinglychurch/>



St Peter and St Paul , Hellingly , Church Road, Hellingly, BN27 4EZ
Holy Trinity Church, Coldharbour Road, Upper Dicker, BN27 3QB

The Rev David Farey

PLANNING YOUR CHURCH WEDDING

Congratulations on your forthcoming marriage. We wish you all happiness and joy as you plan your wedding and prepare for your life together.



Can we marry in the church at Hellingly or Upper Dicker?

Generally speaking any couples not previously married and now living in the Church parish can marry in the church. You can check whether you live in the parish by visiting “A church Near you” website and entering your postcode. <https://churchofenglandchristenings.org/find-church> The church parish boundary differs from the council parish, so please check your Church parish on the website.

If you do not live within the parish an historic connection has to be made - what is called a ‘Qualifying Connection’. A special application will have to be completed along with your marriage booking form.

If neither of the above apply, but you have attended worship regularly at the church for at least 9 months, you can join the Electoral Roll and as a church member be married there.

Can we marry in church – one/both of us has/have been married before?

It is possible. If you have been previously married there are special rules made by the diocese which have to be followed which may or may not mean that you can marry in church. If not, it may be possible to arrange a service of prayers and dedication after a civil marriage. We can let you have a leaflet and form for you to review and discuss with the Rev. David Farey.

How much does a church wedding cost?

A guide to what you might pay. Fees payable at our churches (2017)

Marriage service, including Banns	£452
Banns only, including certificate	£41
Church Fee	£65 (*1)
Heating (October - April)	£40
Organ\Piano	£80 (*2)
Choir	£95
Bells	£90

(*1) *This fee covers the vergers who will assist on the day to set up the church for your service, welcome your guests, support the Minister and clear away at the end and the sound technician who will ensure that the minister and your service can be heard from any location and arrange for any recorded music to be played.* (*2) *Extra costs if unusual music or video requested.*

(The service fee for a Blessing would be £231)

The fees are reviewed annually and any yearly increase is usually minimal.

In addition to the above you will need to consider the cost of flowers and order of service books that you may require.

There is no deposit required and we ask for payment 6-8 weeks before your wedding.

What Dates and Time can I book?

Most weddings are booked for a Saturday, but we can arrange weekday weddings when the church is not in use for scheduled services and events.

We often have more than one wedding on a Saturday – particularly in the Summer months - and we allow 2 hours between each marriage service.

The marriage service duration is usually 45 minutes and the 2 hour slot gives time for you and your guests to share together and take photographs after the wedding.

We will let you know if there is more than one wedding planned for your chosen date as time-keeping is essential to ensure that all weddings can run smoothly. You may also want to talk to the other couples about sharing the costs of flowers.

What happens then?

Usually your wedding is a number of months away.

Our administrator will keep in contact with you to ensure you have the information you need and answer any questions and concerns you may have.

Who will marry us?

6-9 months before your wedding, a Minister is booked to conduct your wedding service. As our Vicar is not able to cover all weddings, he is supported by other clergy. They will meet with you and guide you through the legal and practical details, arrange rehearsal times and talk to you about the importance of marriage and the implications of the vows you will be making together.

Loving for Life course

Every year, on the first Saturday in February, we invite all couples who have a wedding booked with us that year to attend our “Loving for Life” course. This is a valuable and informal event to help you prepare for your life together and give you the opportunity to meet those who will be supporting your marriage service – the Minister, organist and flower-arranger. You will receive an invite in December – but mark the date in your diary now so you’re prepared. *(10.00 – 15.00 with lunch provided)* If you are unable to attend before your wedding please do ask to be booked on the following year’s course. It will still be relevant and helpful.

Wedding Banns

On three successive Sundays, two to three months before your wedding date, the wedding Banns are called to give notice and to ask if anyone knows a legal reason why you should not be married.

Where one or both of you do not live in the parish, you must arrange for Banns to be called in your parish/es. When called (for which a fee is payable) a certificate is produced after the third reading and that certificate must be given to your Minister so that you can be married.

