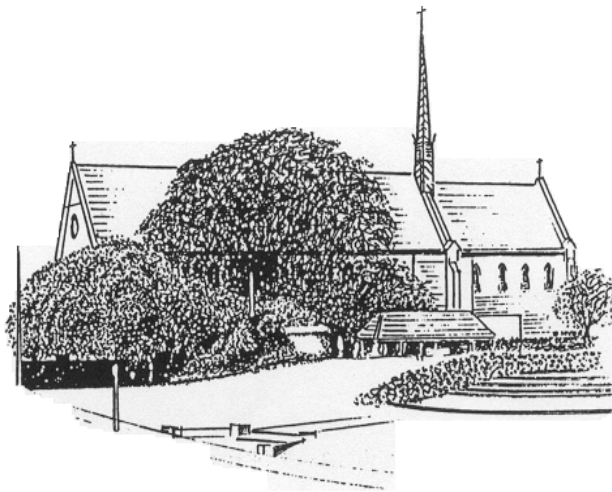


A Guide To Getting Married at St John's Knoyle Road Preston Brighton



Congratulations on choosing marriage!

Whether it is held in a church, a registry office, or anywhere else, the marriage ceremony is a public declaration of your love for and commitment to each other.

This leaflet tells you more about getting married at St John's.
(The medieval church of St Peter in Preston Park is no longer used for weddings.)

Can we be married at St John's?

Under the laws of the Church of England, you can be married at St John's if one of you lives in the ecclesiastical parish (ie that part of Brighton served by St John's.)

If neither of you resides in the ecclesiastical parish, it is still possible to be married at the church through enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll. This involves attending public worship at St John's at least once a month for a period of six months. Your name has to be enrolled before your Banns are called - see *back page*. Thus there needs to be a minimum of seven months between the time of booking your wedding and the day itself.

If you cannot satisfy either the residence requirement or the Church Electoral Roll option, it is *sometimes* possible to be married by a Special Licence from the Archbishop of Canterbury. However, it should be noted that such Licences are not granted automatically and they are expensive: £145 in January 2008. The Archbishop's office advises that a licence will not normally be issued if a party has a former spouse still living.

The Church of England teaches that marriage is for life. It also recognises that, sadly, some marriages do fail. Under the laws of the Church of England, it is sometimes possible for a divorced person to marry again in church - but only in exceptional circumstances. The priest is willing to explore such a request with the couple - a separate leaflet outlines the policy at St John's.

By choosing to be married in church you are acknowledging that God is in some way important to you.

We therefore look forward to welcoming you as part of the regular worshipping community at St John's on
Sundays at 9.45 am
and getting to know you better before your wedding!

What can St John's offer you?

- An attractive building with a light, spacious interior
- The option of hiring the Knoyle Hall for your reception
- A warm, friendly and supportive community
- Our prayers as you prepare for your wedding day
- A chance to think about God and his place in your life
- Talented musicians and flower arrangers
- An opportunity to think about your future life together
- A walk-through rehearsal before your wedding

How much is the wedding service likely to cost?

A simple, basic wedding at St John's will cost £292.50 in 2008. This includes the cost of Banns, one marriage certificate, and the services of our vergers.

There are small additional charges if you would like music at your wedding: £60 for the organist (£85 if you wish to video the service) and £55 for the choir. We recommend having the choir if hymns are to be sung.

Our experienced church flower teams are always pleased to discuss possible wedding flowers with you directly. As a guide, pedestal arrangements cost around £50 each and small arrangements on the pillars around £20 each.

Full payment is due no later than 4 weeks before your wedding . For the wedding service, cheques should be made payable to 'The Revd A V Bowman'.

What are Banns?

A wedding in the Church of England is a legal as well as a religious ceremony. Therefore certain preliminaries are necessary before the wedding can take place. The priest will explain the process to you at the time you book your wedding.

If you are eligible to be married at St John's, Banns of Marriage will usually be called for three consecutive Sundays a month or two before your wedding. If one of you lives in another ecclesiastical parish, Banns will also need to be published there. The priest will help you to arrange this.

However, if either of you is a national of a country outside the Old Commonwealth (Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa), the European Union and the United States of America, then a Common Licence is required instead of Banns. The priest will advise you how to apply for a Common Licence.

And finally.....

HOW TO CONTACT US:

The Priest-in-Charge:
(01273) 555033

The Parish Administrator:
(01273) 553311
info@brightonstjohn.org.uk

Knoyle Hall Enquiries:
(01273) 550077

Church Website:
www.brightonstjohn.org.uk

HOW TO FIND US:

Church Website:
www.brightonstjohn.org.uk

St John's Church is on the corner of Knoyle Road and London Road, opposite Caffyns Vauxhall Garage, near Preston Park.

The 5 and 5A buses go past the front door.