

Your Local Marriage Service

Weddings

IN THE J22 GROUP OF CHURCHES



ST PETER'S
CHURCH, COPT
OAK

ST MICHAEL &
ALL ANGELS'
CHURCH,
MARKFIELD

ST PETER'S
CHURCH,
THORNTON

ST MARY & ALL
SAINTS' CHURCH,
STANTON UNDER
BARDON



Your Local Marriage

GETTING MARRIED IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Have you considered making your local church building the venue for your special marriage service? Here, in the Junction 22 Benefice, we have four beautiful churches in the villages of Markfield, Copt Oak, Thornton and Stanton Under Bardon.

Our church buildings are special places, and there is something special about the weddings that take place here. Every marriage service is different, and can be a blend of modern and traditional that is just right for your special day. People of all ages are welcome to be involved in services, even 'fur babies' have taken part in recent years!

We hope that the following information will help you in the consideration and planning of your wedding. There is a team of clergy working in the Benefice, all of whom are licensed to carry out services of marriage.

Please go to www.j22churches.org.uk for contact details.



MARRIAGE? BLESSING? WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

In our churches you can receive a fully legal marriage service, providing you with all legal documentation.

Others choose to be married elsewhere, and receive a 'Blessing' of their commitment to each other in a short Christian ceremony. This can take place on the same day, or at any point in your married life together. Later blessings are often called a 'renewal of vows', and special liturgies can be arranged to reflect your life together.

BUT I'VE BEEN MARRIED BEFORE!

In the J22 Benefice it is appreciated that we all come with a history. It is quite common for previously married people to be married or receive a marriage blessing in a church. Please contact a member of the clergy team to arrange an appointment to discuss this.



Service - Weddings

CAN WE BE MARRIED IN CHURCH?

There are legal requirements for a marriage service in an Anglican Church, but these may be easier to meet than many may realise.

You can marry in a Church of England church if you can show that one of you:

- has at any time lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months, or
- was baptised (christened) in the parish concerned, or
- has at any time regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months.

or

That one of your parents, at any time after you were born:

- has lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months, or
- has regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months.

or

That one of your parents or grandparents:

- was married in the parish.

If you do not meet any of the above, arrangements can be made to attend church services prior to your wedding to gain a qualifying connection. If you are unsure about any of the above, please contact one of our team for an informal conversation.

MUSIC AND BELLS

All of our buildings have traditional church organs, and most have traditional bell towers, which we can arrange to be played on your special day. Pre-recorded music of any style, and provision for visiting musicians can also be arranged.

HOW MUCH DO CHURCH WEDDINGS COST?

The fees for marriage services are set nationally, with some additional fees for organists, etc. These fees change annually, so a full breakdown of up to date fees can be provided at your first enquiry.

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COME AND VISIT US

Please visit j22churches.org.uk to arrange a first visit and conversation with a member of Licensed Clergy. Alternatively, you can also find our list of regular Sunday services on the website.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7

4 LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND. IT DOES NOT ENVY, IT DOES NOT BOAST, IT IS NOT PROUD.

5 IT DOES NOT DISHONOUR OTHERS, IT IS NOT SELF-SEEKING, IT IS NOT EASILY ANGERED, IT KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS.

6 LOVE DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL BUT REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH.

7 IT ALWAYS PROTECTS, ALWAYS TRUSTS, ALWAYS HOPES, ALWAYS PERSEVERES.