



# Getting Married at St John's Boxmoor



## THE 2019 GUIDE

# Weddings at St John's Boxmoor

## Congratulations on your forthcoming marriage.

We hope this booklet will be of help to you.

If it doesn't provide the answer, please speak to the Parish Office or a member of the clergy. For more details see [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org)

### 1) Banns of Marriage

Your banns of marriage will be published during the notices of the 9.30am Parish Eucharist Service at St John's on three consecutive Sundays within three months of your wedding. You are invited to attend our Sunday services at St John's both before and after your wedding. Additionally, the church is also open every day (9am-5pm) and every Saturday morning between 10am and 12noon when coffee is served, and there are other services held weekly which you are welcome to attend. Please see our website for details.

### 2) Banns if one or both of you live outside Boxmoor Parish

If either of you live outside the boundary for Boxmoor parish you must approach the appropriate local Parish Church to ensure that the Banns of Marriage are read there too. The priest will give you a certificate of Publication of Banns of Marriage which we must have (at or by the rehearsal) in order to conduct your wedding. A statutory fee is payable to that Church. We cannot marry you without it! Banns will still need to be read at St John's.

### 3) Flowers

Your wedding fee includes the provision of a pedestal of flowers on the step where the marriage takes place. Except in Advent and Lent (the weeks before Christmas and Easter) there will also be flowers up by the Altar. You are permitted to bring in extra flowers so long as they are removed immediately after the wedding. Pew-end arrangements may be fixed with florist's tape but under no circumstances may hooks ever be screwed into the ends of pews. To discuss specific colours for flowers, please contact Sue Brown on 01442 265 246 at least 2 weeks before your wedding.

### 4) Marriage Preparation

A number of evenings are arranged at St John's for those getting married. At these the clergy will be on hand to talk you through the Service and answer any questions you may have. Where possible, the Director of Music will play a wide selection of music to help you make your choices for your service. There is no cost for these evenings and it is important that you attend.

### 5) Wedding Rehearsal

Although strictly optional, it is strongly recommended that you gather in St John's a couple of days or so before the wedding, with your officiating priest, to walk and talk through the wedding service. All are welcome to come to the wedding rehearsal and it is especially helpful if the Father of the Bride, the Best Man, the Bridesmaids (or their equivalents) and any other participants are present. The date and time of the wedding rehearsal needs to be arranged with your priest.

## 6) Fees

The fee for a full wedding including organist and choir in 2019 is **£849**, or without the choir **£734**. We ask that you let us know your requirements as soon as possible.

To secure your wedding booking, a deposit of 25% is required. If you cancel your wedding 6 weeks prior to the date of your wedding, a full or partial refund of your deposit will be available on request—depending on proximity to the date. A full breakdown of the fees is available on request and they include everything except permission to make video or audio recording of the service (see below). The balance is usually payable six weeks before the wedding date.

Fees can be paid by **cheque** payable to “St John’s Boxmoor PCC”, or via **electronic transfer** to Natwest plc, Sort Code: 60-10-33, Account Number: 16418166 using the reference “Wedding: Groom’s surname / Bride’s surname. **NB:** If you are booking your wedding more than a year in advance please note that fees are liable to an annual review and increase at the beginning of January.

## 7) A Printed Order of Service

We can produce an elegant, simple Order of Service for your wedding at a competitive price. If you are engaging a printer or producing your own Service Order please follow our template (including the copyright licensing number) and send us a draft copy before you go to press. Since it is particularly important that we check the words of hymns, we can provide the correct words for you via email on request. Please print an extra 12 copies for the choir (if appropriate) and bring all the copies to the rehearsal.

## 8) Music for your Wedding

Our Director of Music, Mr Keith Beniston, will want to go through the music choices for your wedding with you. You should please arrange to meet at least two months ahead of your wedding. The best time is after any of the 9.30am or 6.30pm services on Sundays by arrangement. Please email - [directorofmusic@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk](mailto:directorofmusic@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk). Lists of often-requested music and hymns are printed towards the end of this booklet to help you begin your planning, this by no means exhaustive.

## 9) Photography

Members of the congregation may photograph the arrival of the bride and the final procession from church, but not during the Service itself. Your professional photographer may take posed photographs after the signing of the registers and - without flash - during the Service from a fixed location assigned by the Vicar. Naturally, we seek to uphold the Marriage Service as an Act of Worship.

## 10) Video Recordings

Video recording of the Service is permitted on the understanding that only one nominated person/professional may record the service from a designated position in church and only after the video recording agreement has been signed, limiting the recording to private purposes only. A further fee of £45 is payable whenever a wedding is video-recorded. Please understand that we do not allow members of the congregation to use camcorders (or camera equipment on mobile phones etc) during the Service.

## **11) Confetti**

If you have the opportunity to encourage your guests to bring biodegradable confetti, rather than metallic, please do so. We ask that it is thrown at a distance from the entrance to the church (this is usually done under the direction of the photographer). Rose petals are available at the back of church for use of your guests for a small donation.

## **12) Parking**

There is limited parking along Heath Lane. However there is a public car park situated in Park Road (HP11JS) which is a couple of minutes walk away. The parking in Heath Lane will be coned off for the wedding party but relies on the consideration of other road users. We therefore cannot guarantee parking but will do all that we can.

## **EXTRACTS FROM THE MARRIAGE SERVICE**

### **The Declarations**

*The minister says to the bridegroom:*

[N], will you take [N] to be your wife?

Will you love her, comfort her, honour and protect her,  
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

*He answers:*

I will.

*The minister says to the bride:*

[N], will you take [N] to be your husband?

Will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him,  
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

*She answers:*

I will.

*The minister says to the congregation:*

Will you, the friends and families of N & N support and uphold them in their marriage now and in the years to come?

*They reply:*

We will

### **The Marriage Vows**

*The bridegroom says to the bride (repeating after the minister):*

I, [NN], take you, [NN], to be my wife,  
to have and to hold from this day forward;  
for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish,  
till death us do part; according to God's holy law.  
In the presence of God I make this vow.

*The bride says to the bridegroom (repeating after the minister):*

I, [NN], take you, [NN], to be my husband,  
to have and to hold from this day forward;  
for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish,  
till death us do part; according to God's holy law.  
In the presence of God I make this vow.

### **The giving of rings**

*The bridegroom says to the bride (repeating after the minister):*

I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage.  
With my body I honour you,  
all that I am I give to you,  
and all that I have I share with you,  
within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*The bride says to the bridegroom (repeating after the minister):*

I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage.  
With my body I honour you,  
all that I am I give to you,  
and all that I have I share with you,  
within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## **A SELECTION OF BIBLE READINGS**

Approved secular readings may also be added to the service and like the Bible readings, may be read either by the Minister or by members of your family or friends. A stipulation of this parish is that you must have at least a reading from the New Testament.

### **From the Old Testament**

**Genesis 1: 26-28**

**Song of Solomon 2: 10-13; 8.6,7**

### **From the New Testament**

*Any translation, approved by the minister, may be used.*

#### **St Matthew 5: 1-10**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.’

## **St Matthew 7: 21,24-end**

Jesus said, 'Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord", will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell - and great was its fall!' Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

## **St John 2: 1-11**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.'

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## **St John 15: 1-12**

Jesus said: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

## **1 Corinthians 13**

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like

a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

### **Romans 12: 1, 2, 9-13**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

### **Colossians 3: 12-17**

As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **Philippians 4: 4-9**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

### **1 St John 3: 18-end**

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR MUSIC AT YOUR WEDDING**

### **At the entrance of the Bride :**

- a) Bridal March *from* "Lohengrin" – Wagner
- b) The Prince of Denmark's March ("Trumpet Voluntary") - Clarke
- c) Trumpet Tune in D – Purcell
- d) Trumpet Tune (from Te Deum) – Charpentier

- e) Hornpipe *from* “Water Music” – Handel
- f) Arrival of the Queen of Sheba – Handel
- g) Chaconne - Pachelbel

**Choir items for during the Signing of the Registers :**

- 1) The Rose – Amanda McBroom
- 2) Jesu joy of man’s desiring – J. S. Bach
- 3) All things bright and beautiful – J. Rutter
- 4) My heart ever faithful – J. S. Bach
- 5) Ave Maria - Schubert
- 6) Ave Maria - Bach/Gounod
- 7) I watch the sunrise - Colin Murphy
- 8) For the beauty of the earth - John Rutter
- 9) The Lord is my Shepherd (“Vicar of Dibley”) - Howard Goodall
- 10) The song of Ruth - David Ogden
- 11) Love one another - S. S. Wesley
- 12) Wings—Carl Strommen

**At the exit of the couple :**

- a) Wedding March *from* Midsummer Night’s Dream Mendelssohn
- b) Toccata *from* Symphony No. 5 – Widor
- c) Hornpipe *from* “Water Music” – Handel
- d) The Prince of Denmark’s March (“Trumpet Voluntary”) - Clarke
- e) Trumpet Tune in D – Purcell
- f) Arrival of the Queen of Sheba—Handel

We shall also be happy to discuss any special requests for music during the arrival of guests before the service.

All of the above are regularly chosen items, but we are very happy to discuss other requests.

**POPULAR WEDDING HYMNS**

- All things bright and beautiful
- Amazing Grace
- And did those feet in ancient time (Jerusalem)
- At the name of Jesus
- Be thou my vision
- Come to a wedding (to the tune: “Morning has broken”)
- Dear Lord and Father of Mankind
- Father hear the prayer we offer
- Give me joy in my heart
- Guide me O thou Great Redeemer (“Bread of heaven”)
- I danced in the morning (“The Lord of the Dance”)
- Lead us, heavenly Father
- Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy
- Love Divine, all loves excelling
- Make me a channel of your peace



- Morning has broken (*But see note below*)
- Now thank we all our God
- O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end
- O perfect love
- O praise ye the Lord!
- One more step along the world I go
- Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven
- The King of Love my Shepherd is *or* The Lord's my Shepherd
- We come, dear Lord, to celebrate
- We pledge to one another

There are many other hymns which are suitable for weddings.

Please do not feel limited to this list. Please run all choices past the clergy.

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***Here are some examples of the above Hymns:-***

**Hymn: Come to a Wedding** (Tune Bunessan - Morning has broken)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Come to a wedding,<br/>Come to a blessing,<br/>Come on a day when happiness sings!<br/>Come rain or sun,<br/>Come winter or summer,<br/>Celebrate love and all that it brings.</p>              | <p>3 Love is the gift,<br/>And love is the giver,<br/>Love is the gold that<br/>Makes the day shine;<br/>Love forgets self to care for the other,<br/>Love changes life from water to wine.</p> |
| <p>2 Thanks for the love,<br/>That holds us together,<br/>Parent and child, and lover and friend;<br/>Thanks to the God,<br/>Whose love is our centre,<br/>Source of compassion, knowing no end.</p> | <p>4 Come to this wedding,<br/>Asking a blessing,<br/>For all the years that living will prove;<br/>Health of the body,<br/>Health of the spirit,<br/>Now to you both we offer our love.</p>    |

Words: Shirley Erena Murray  
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**Hymn: We Pledge to one another** (Tune Thaxted - I vow to thee)

- 1 We pledge to one another, before the Lord above,  
entire and whole and perfect, this union of our love —  
a love that will be patient, a love that will be wise,  
that will not twist with envy, nor lose itself in lies;  
a love that will not falter, a love to hold us fast,  
and bind us to each other as long as life shall last.
- 2 We pray that God will guide us through all the years to be,  
our lives be shaped by courage, hope and serenity.  
Through joy and celebration, through loneliness and pain,  
may loyalty, compassion and tenderness remain,  
that those who share the blessing of love that cannot cease  
may walk the paths of gentleness into the place of peace.

Jill Jenkins (born 1937)

**Hymn: We come, dear Lord** (Tune Repton- Dear Lord and Father of mankind)

- 1 We come, dear Lord, to celebrate the love our friends have found;  
and thank you, God, for their embrace,  
the joy and promise in this place  
which makes it holy ground, which makes it holy ground.
- 2 Help them fulfil the vows made here; let this new family share  
a welcome home, a future blessed  
by love and laughter, space and guest,  
with time enough to spare, to listen, love, and care.
- 3 In seeking what the future holds, in letting go the past,  
we seek for grace to clear a way  
through what must go and what should stay  
if love is meant to last, if love is meant to last.

John L. Bell (b. 1949)

**The Christian Faith**

St John's, Boxmoor, is a busy and popular Church. To discover more about Christian spirituality and the way of faith, please feel free to come to any service at St John's. Discussion groups and refresher courses are also run regularly. Please ask for the latest information.

**Help is at hand**

Our Parish Administrator will be in the office at regular times during the week (contact details over) and our regular "Office Hour" is on Tuesday evenings from 6.30pm.

## Page for Notes

## **CONTACTING US**

**The Parish Office**  
**(Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 9.30am-12.30pm)**

**Mrs Hilary Kemp**  
**Parish Administrator**

Boxmoor Parish Office, St John's Church Hall,  
Station Road, Hemel Hempstead. HP1 1JY  
Tel: (01442) 260299      Email: office@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk

**The Vicar**

**The Reverend Michael Macey**

10 Charles Street, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead. HP1 1JH  
Tel: (01442) 243258      Email: vicar@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk

**Associate Minister**

**The Reverend Canon Dr Ruth Goatly**

23 Beechfield Road, Hemel Hempstead. HP1 1PP  
Tel: (01442) 247503      Email: associateminister@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk

See also

**[www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org)**

for lots more information and help.