

**GETTING MARRIED**



at

**CHRIST CHURCH**

**Colliers Wood**

**SW19 2NY**



### **Who can marry here?**

Anyone who has lived in the parish for at least 26 weeks or who has been on the Electoral Roll of the Church for six months. If you are not sure then please visit the Church on a Sunday, the morning service begins at 11am and from 12:15-12:45 the parish office is held in the hall to answer questions about services at Christ Church.

### **When can we marry?**

Consult with the Vicar about dates and times for your marriage and also about the calling of your banns.

### **What are the Banns?**

The most usual way to be married in the Church of England is after banns have been called. The names of the couple wishing to be married are called out three times in the Sunday service and the congregation are asked if they know any reason why the individuals should not marry one another. Usually there is no objection but if there is there must be an investigation before a marriage can take place.

### **What form does the wedding take?**

There is a set form of service for weddings in the Church of England but within that framework there is plenty of room to make the service very personal by choosing your own hymns, readings, prayers and music.

### **How long does the service take?**

The service itself takes about three quarters of an hour.

## How much does it cost?

The Church of England has certain fees for weddings which are then shared out between the Parish Church and Diocese. They are:

- **Publication of Banns** £22
- **Certificate of Banns** £12
- **Church & Diocese** £390

In addition to this you may choose additional features:

- **Organ** £80
- **Bells** £80
- **Flowers per stand** £30

(Videoing the wedding is discouraged and will incur double charges)

## When do we need to book?

It is wise to consult the Vicar as soon as you have an idea about dates. Do not book your reception before you have made sure the date is available at the Church.



## **What do Christians believe about marriage?**

Whether it is held in a Church of a Register Office, or anywhere else, the marriage ceremony is a public declaration of your love for each other. It will give you a new legal status as a wife and husband and a new stability in which your love can grow and flourish. If you choose to get married in Church then you are also saying that you want God to be part of it all.

The Bible says a lot about love. Christians believe that the love you have for each other is a reflection of God's love for all God's people on earth.

Including God in your marriage does not mean that you will avoid all the usual ups and downs but you will know that you can look to God for help and guidance and that God's love will sustain you in the years ahead. You will also have the help and encouragement of the Christian Church family.

The Bible compares married love with the love Jesus has for his followers. He expressed his love by being prepared to sacrifice himself, even to die, for the people he loved. This is amazing, unconditional love. In a Christian marriage a couple can try to follow Jesus' example by loving each other in this way, putting each other's needs first.

**Have a wonderful wedding day and a long and happy marriage.**