

## Useful Links

Here are some useful links when thinking about getting married and getting married at St Matthew's.

### Find out more about Church of England weddings.

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

### Are you in the parish?

[www.achurchnearyou.com/parishfinder.php](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/parishfinder.php)

### Planning your wedding

[ceremonyplanner.yourchurchwedding.org](http://ceremonyplanner.yourchurchwedding.org)

## Contact

### Jim Trood - Rector

Email: [rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:rector@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

Phone: 07939 587 208  
(Day off Tuesday)

### Church administrator

Email: [office@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](mailto:office@stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

Phone: 01922 626039

### Social Media

Facebook: St Matthew's Walsall

Twitter: @StMattsWalsall

Instagram: @stmattswalsall

[www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk](http://www.stmatthewswalsall.co.uk)

### Sunday Services

8.00am: Book of Common Prayer

9.00am: Parish Communion

10.45am: Morning Praise

4.00pm: Asian Congregation

6.30pm: Church Hill Praise

St matthews  
walsall

# Weddings



St Matthew's loves weddings! And it can be a beautiful backdrop to your special day.

### **Can I get married in St Matthew's?**

To get married in St Matthew's you need to meet one of the following criteria:

- You, or one of your parents, have lived in the parish for six months or more after you were born.
- You were baptised in St Matthew's or were entered for confirmation at St Matthew's.
- You, or one of your parents, regularly attend/attended church services for 6 months or more after you were born.
- One of your parents or grandparents got married in St Matthew's.

Other cases, for example marriage after divorce, will need to be discussed with the Rector.

St Matthew's is a beautiful place to have your wedding. If you'd like to get married in St Matthew's, please contact the Church Administrator in the church office about your potential wedding date. She'll collect contact details from you and pass the relevant people to discuss marriage preparation. They will also contact the Rector who will look forward to seeing you at services as you become part of the St Matthew's congregation during your preparation and beyond.

### **Why marry in Church?**

There are many reasons to get married in a Church. Some would like to get married in a Church because they are beautiful buildings. Others get married in Church because of the spiritual aspect of including God in their marriage and making vows to each other in front of God. Marrying in Church also provides you with continued support from the Church throughout your marriage, whenever you need it.

### **Marriage preparation**

Here at St Matthew's we have a marriage preparation course that consists of two evenings where you get to meet couples getting married at a similar time to you. During the two evenings there is chance to get to know one another better and discuss scenarios and say how you would deal with them in your marriage. There is also a session to support you in planning your wedding service and making it individual to you.



### **Service planning**

Having a church wedding means that you can plan the service in a way that works for you. Hymns or songs can be your choice, but you can also be guided with this if you are not sure. Services can range from traditional to more modern services.

[www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) has a ceremony planner and a walk-through service that can help you plan your service.

### **Banns of marriage**

Banns of marriage are a legal tradition that has occurred in the Church for centuries. It involves announcing your intention to get married three times in the months before your wedding so that if someone knows a reason why you can't get married, it can be put forward. If you live outside the boundaries of the Church (Parish) that you are getting married in then they will also need to be read in both of your nearest Church of England Churches. It is an exciting thing to hear your names being read out, and many invite their close ones to hear the Banns being read. It also provides a time for people attending that service to pray for you.

If there is not enough time to read out Banns of marriage, or you don't live in England or Wales, then a common licence can be used instead.