

What about photographs and video?

Too many cameras, still and video, can be a serious distraction from the service so the church has guidelines to moderate any potential problem. Recording the music and service can create a range of copyright issues, some of which can affect the church fees payable, so it is important to discuss any intended video recording, whether professional or otherwise, with the clergyman conducting your ceremony.

Please ensure whatever guidelines are explained to you get communicated to any photographers and videographer who may be involved on the day.

Confetti

Throwing confetti is a traditional part of many church weddings and your friends are very welcome to shower you as you leave Emmanuel Church. However it is helpful if they use biodegradable/organic types and throw it only when you reach the lych-gate. There is often a nice flower petal based type on sale at the back of church.

Flowers

There are quite a number of florists who sell their services to provide and arrange flowers in church. Liaison with the vergers will ensure the church can look nicely decorated, without flowers getting placed at places inappropriate or inconvenient for the proper running of the service. Flower arrangements in the body of the church can be relocated for use at the wedding reception, though those on the altar are normally left there to provide a helpful prayer link from the wedding to those worshipping in the services afterwards.

The church gets used for a variety of functions so planning a suitable access time should be done with the vergers.

Who is "the vergers"?

The vergers' job is to be at the back of the church during the wedding to help the ushers and function as a "stage manager", providing entry cues and dealing with any unforeseen problems. The vergers need the assistance of your ushers who must be in the church at least 35 minutes before the ceremony to welcome the guests, ensure they sit in the right places and are given the correct books.

The church will provide hymn and service books for the ushers to give out along with any orders of service you may have had printed. If you are having these, it is helpful to bring the full quantity to the wedding rehearsal so they are ready in church and make one less item to be remembered on the day itself! The vergers will be pleased to answer any questions you may have so that the day can be a memorable one.

CONTACT DETAILS

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A photograph of Emmanuel Church, Holcombe, featuring a tall stone tower with a clock face and a spire, surrounded by greenery and purple crocuses in the foreground.

**EMMANUEL
CHURCH,
HOLCOMBE**

WEDDINGS

Who can be married at Holcombe?

We are delighted that you are considering a church wedding at Holcombe. This leaflet should help your planning but please do ask for further details. As a guide; previously unmarried couples are able to marry in Emmanuel church if one or more of the following apply:

- one of them was baptised or prepared for confirmation in the parish;
- one of them has ever lived in the parish for six months or more;
- one of them has at any time regularly attended public worship in the parish for six months or more;
- one of their parents has lived in the parish for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- one of their parents has regularly attended public worship there for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- their parents or grandparents were married in the parish.

The Service of Prayers and Blessings Following a Civil Marriage is available for those couples where either partner has been divorced with the previous partner still living.

More useful information can be found at:
www.yourchurchwedding.org and
www.cofe.anglican.org/lifeevents

How much does it cost?

The fees are set every calendar year and the Rector will discuss them with you at your first appointment. You will be advised an all inclusive total for the payment to the church and that will include the Rector's fee, hire of the Church for the service and the Organist's and Verger's fees.

A £100 deposit is needed at the time the date and time is confirmed with the balance paid a few weeks before the wedding.

WEDDINGS at EMMANUEL, HOLCOMBE

What is the process?

The Rector is available to discuss weddings most Monday evenings between 6:30-7:30pm at the Parish Office which is in the Emmanuel Church Centre on Longsight Road. The ordinary process of being married at Holcombe will involve the calling of Banns. The Banns are part of the legal framework which govern marriage in the Church of England and are called on three consecutive Sundays within three calendar months of the wedding. If either of the couple live in another parish the Vicar/Rector of that parish must be approached so that the Banns can also be called in that church. The Vicar/Rector of the parish in question will charge a small fee for this.

As well as organisational discussions, it is useful to take up the chance to think through the relationship with a marriage preparation course. This is an informal opportunity to chat with your fiancé about various issues with no expectation to talk about your relationship with anyone else.

Do we need a rehearsal?

The wedding ceremony is a simple process but for most people, such an important event creates tensions not only for the couple but for everyone including the best man, bridesmaids and parents. Having a rehearsal reduces these pressures by making everyone comfortable about where they sit or stand at any particular moment and when they have to move. The rehearsal date is confirmed by the Rector and is normally a day or two before the wedding.

What hymns & music should we have?

Either two or three hymns can be included and you should choose ones that have words that are significant to you and that your guests will find familiar and join in singing. Hymns sometimes have alternative tunes so it is important to discuss these with the organist. The music you have for the entry, for exit and whilst the registers are being signed must be suitable for performance on the church organ but this leaves a wide range of choices to reflect your preferences. Other music, visiting choirs and performers can be involved but this should always be discussed with the organist at least two months in advance.

What about an order of service?

If you are having a specially printed Order of Service, it should include an outline of the service itself, together with any hymns and readings. The Rector must be consulted before the final draft of the service is printed. If it is to contain hymns, make sure you get enough copies printed for everyone who might attend or, if some of your guests may need to use church hymn books, make sure the number of verses are the same and all the words match.

Some material you might include, such as hymns and readings, may be copyright protected. The words of hymns can usually be included without any special arrangements being made as Emmanuel Church has a license agreement that can avoid the need for special permissions. If using a commercial printers, they may also have re-printing agreements with some copyright owners. Whatever material you print, including poems, prayers and other items, be sure you are not breaking copyright laws.