



HOLY TRINITY TWICKENHAM

## A Guide to Getting Married at Holy Trinity



**We are delighted that you are considering being married here at Holy Trinity Twickenham and hope this leaflet will be helpful in planning your big day.**

Contact us on 0208 898 1168 or at 1 Vicarage Road, Twickenham, TW2 5TS

[tim.garrett@holytrinitytwickenham.org](mailto:tim.garrett@holytrinitytwickenham.org)

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

We warmly invite you to attend our main Sunday morning services which are held at 10.30 a.m. This will give you a good feel for the church where your wedding will take place. We would ask that you attend at least one of the three services where your banns are called (see below). We hope that the following information will answer any questions you may have, but please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries.

### Can I be married at Holy Trinity?

There are legal conditions for being married at Holy Trinity. You need to fulfil just one of the six criteria below (evidence may be needed).

1. At least one of you currently lives in the parish
2. You have been attending worship here for at least six months before the banns are called. This means we can put you on our electoral roll, giving you the right to be married at Holy Trinity
3. This is the church where you were baptised and/or confirmed
4. You have lived in the parish six months or more, at any time in your life
5. Your parents lived in the parish or worshipped here during your lifetime
6. This is the church where either your parents or grandparents were married

### What if neither of us fulfils the criteria and we want to be married at Holy Trinity?

You can apply for a special licence, however these are not automatically granted. You will need to give a strong reason why you have chosen Holy Trinity. This would involve, for example, demonstrating a close personal or family link with the church over the years. There is a fee for a special licence which is currently around £310.00.

### What age must I be?

You must be aged at least 16 to get married and, if either of you is under 18 at the time of your wedding, written parental consent is required.

### What is the policy on divorcees?

It is not normal practice to marry divorcees in the Church of England. However, there may be rare occasions and specific circumstances where this could be appropriate. This will involve a full and honest discussion of the circumstances surrounding the break-up of the previous marriage.

### What if I am a foreign national?

If one or both of you is a foreign national (you do not have a UK passport) different rules apply. If either of you is a citizen of any EU or EEA country, the marriage should be preceded by a Common Licence rather than by banns.



If one of you is a national of any country outside the EU or EEA, you need to obtain a Superintendent Certificate from the Richmond Register Office (for which you need to present passport/s, visa/s or Home Office document giving permission to stay in the UK). This is valid for one year.

### What advance notice is needed?

Please try to contact us at least three months before your wedding date to leave time for the necessary preparations.

## Requirements

### Banns

A legal requirement in the Church of England is that, at some point within three months of the wedding, banns are read on three Sundays in the church where you wish to be married AND in any parish where either of the couple lives. This means that on three Sundays, the clergy will ask the congregation if anyone has any legal objection to your marriage.

This rather quaint practice dates from an era when populations were less mobile and bigamy was more prevalent!

### How do I get my banns called at Holy Trinity?

This will be dealt with by the clergy when you fill in your application form.

### How do I get banns called at my fiancé/ée's parish?

You must approach the minister of that parish yourself (we can advise on contact details) and, when the banns have been called, obtain a certificate (valid for three months) from him/her. This must be received by the clergy of Holy Trinity not less than two weeks before the wedding.

### Marriage preparation

This involves three or four sessions, each of just over an hour. We will not only look at preparing the wedding service together but also be addressing important issues facing married couples today.

You may join other couples to be married in church around the same time as you but there is never any group work! The sessions aim to be practical and down-to-earth. All couples to be married at Holy Trinity need to attend the sessions.

## Rehearsal

We often have a rehearsal for the service during the week before the wedding, usually early evening (time to be arranged with us).



## The Service

**Duration:** The service normally takes 50-60 minutes, depending upon variables such as the number of hymns and readings.

**Timing:** It is important that the service begins on time. The church reserves the right to charge extra for excessive delays. Photographs after the service, transport for guests etc. all take time that needs to be factored in. Leave around two hours from the start of the service to the beginning of the reception meal, depending on travel time.

**Photography/video:** Please, no photographs during the service except at the signing of the register and as the couple processes out at the end. We would prefer that the service is not filmed. However, if you feel a video is essential, the camera-person must not move about or be up at the front, facing the congregation. He/she must stand in one place at the side of the congregation as directed by the minister.

*Note on copyright: If someone videos a wedding that features music still in copyright (i.e. songs more recent than traditional hymns, or any pre-recorded music), they may need a Wedding Video Recording Licence. This costs around £18 - full information at [www.videolicence.co.uk](http://www.videolicence.co.uk)*

**Hymns/readings:** If you are having hymns, we recommend you choose well-known ones. It is normal to have two or three hymns and one or more Bible readings during the service. We will discuss your choice of hymns/readings during the marriage preparation sessions.

**Organist:** We can provide an organist at the rate below, or you can provide your own. However, your organist (or other musicians) must discuss the service well in advance with the minister. Our organist will need to know what other music you will want and will provide you with a list of the most popular hymns and entrance and exit music.

**Flowers:** You are responsible for any flowers in church on the day of your wedding (there are good florists locally, or you can make other arrangements). Flowers are usually put in place on the morning of the wedding and we do ask that some of the



flowers are left in church afterwards so that the church is not left entirely bare on a Sunday morning as a result of the wedding.

**Service sheets:** These can be produced from the cut-down version of the service that we have already agreed. You can provide them yourself or, alternatively, you can approach a company which produces wedding stationery - John Lewis, Kingston is popular locally. Others include WH Smith.

**Confetti:** Please ask your guests to avoid standard paper or foil confetti, but biodegradable confetti, rice paper or rose petals are fine.

## Wedding Fees for Holy Trinity Twickenham

### Rates for 2017

	£
1. Service fee (national church rate)	424.00
2. Banns read in Holy Trinity*	28.00
3. Marriage certificate**	4.00
4. Local church expenses***	150.00
<b>Total payment</b>	<b>606.00</b>

**Payment should be made to Holy Trinity Church two weeks before the wedding, either by cheque or online:**

#### E Banking details:

**Account number: 20445479**

**Sort code: 40-44-39**

**Reference: Wedding**

**Additional Fees:** The fee for our regular organist is £90. This fee should be paid in cash two weeks before the wedding.

\* If both of you live in Holy Trinity parish, this fee is payable at the same time as the rest of your fees. If either or both of you lives in another parish, you must also arrange banns and pay £41 to the other parish/es - £28 to read the banns and £13 for a banns certificate which is then given to you to give to the vicar or Holy Trinity.

\*\* Additional certificates, if required will be £4 each.

\*\*\* Includes costs relating to lighting, heating, preparation sessions, rehearsal, contribution to church cleaning, maintenance, grounds maintenance, copyright licence to reproduce hymns in the service sheet, PRS licence etc.