

## A Typical Wedding Order at Christ Church

### **The Entry of the Bride**

[to organ or other music of your choice\*]

Welcome, introduction and call to worship

Prayer of Approach

### **Hymn of your choice\***

The Purpose of Marriage

Prayers

The Legal Declarations

Prayer for assurance and sincerity

### **1 or 2 Readings [of your choice] from the Bible**

[please note we are only able to use readings from the Bible;  
we can suggest some if this would help]

Spiritual Reflection

### **[possible Hymn\*]**

The Promises

The Vows

The Exchange of Rings

The Declaration

The Marriage Blessing

Prayer ending with the Lord's Prayer

### **Hymn of your choice\***

Blessing

The signing of the registers

The final procession

[to organ or other music of your choice\*]

[\* subject to availability and any religious/copyright restrictions]

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For the denominationally minded Christ Church is a part of the  
United Reformed Church and the Presbyterian Church of Wales,  
and of Churches Together in Oswestry.

# Christ Church, Oswestry: your wedding and your marriage



**Helping you to  
make the most of your big day**

**We've been supporting marriages  
for a long time.**

**We believe in them.**

## **Marriage is good for you, and your children\***

[1] Marriage increases the likelihood that parents have good relationships with their children.

[2] Married couples seem to be wealthier on average than singles or cohabiting couples.

[3] Parental marriage appears to increase children's chances of school success and make them less likely to get into trouble

[4] Children who live with their own married parents enjoy better health, than do children in other sorts of families.

[5] Married men and women live longer and healthier lives.

## **If marriage didn't exist, we'd be inventing it.**

\*[Refers to marriage in general compared to being single or co-habiting. Gathered from research collated by Civitas: The institute for the study of civil society]

## What we offer.

An historic venue for a traditional wedding.  
Meetings in your own home with the minister to:  
talk about weddings and marriage from a Christian perspective  
agree the vows, readings and the hymns you want to use;  
to pray for you, and chat with you about God.

## Can you take pictures & video?

Pictures can be taken in and after the service by your chosen photographer as agreed with the minister [please invite your photographer to the rehearsal to check out the details]

In the service we do ask everyone to switch off their mobile phones – this includes switching them off for photos as well as talk.



Video-ing the service is possible but there are copyright rules. This is not covered by the Church copyright licence. To find out if you need a wedding Video-Recording Licence go to the website: <http://www.wvrl.co.uk>.  
[camera picture from freefoto.co.uk]

*[Please note that as part of your wedding being held at Christ Church, the Church may use some pictures of your wedding for church publicity purposes – and we ask you to agree that any such pictures may be used by the church for appropriate publicity at its discretion.]*

*We would also be grateful if we could take and/or have a picture of yourselves as the happy couple for use on our church website and other publicity such as this leaflet.*

## An openness to re-marrying the divorced.

We know that some marriages do not work out, and that divorced people may want to marry again. As a Church we believe in new beginnings, and are willing to re-marry divorced people.

We also believe that your new future will benefit from making a clean spiritual as well as a legal break with the past, so as part of the wedding process we ask you to join in a private prayer for forgiveness for the breaking of previous vows, as well as for future blessing.

## How much does it cost?

We don't want your wedding to be our profit.  
We do charge a fee, currently £250. This covers the hire of the church, minister and organist's fees, certificates, care-taking costs etc.

And the marriage preparation course, what does that cost? It will cost you some time, and some commitment and currently £10 – to cover the price of the book of the course that we provide for you to keep. Couples who have done this course have found it an informative, enjoyable experience. Including those who have been married before.  
[and still - married couples find this course helpful]



## And more than all this we offer you

the chance to get to know the one person who can make your wedding and married life go well – not the minister, but God, the Only God, who through Jesus Christ His Son, and the Holy Spirit, enables us to know Him personally and offers us abundant life.

We don't pressurise you to come to Church but we'd love to help you to explore the meaning of faith and build strong foundations for a healthy, life-lasting marriage. We often run **the Alpha Course** which is an introduction to the Christian faith in a relaxed setting over ten thought-provoking weekly sessions, with a day away. Through a shared meal, video talk and group discussion **Alpha** gives people the chance to ask questions of about life.



# Christ Church, Oswestry: supporting you for life

See our website: [christchurchoswestry.org](http://christchurchoswestry.org)