



Getting married at St Michael and All Angels Church, Sowton: useful further information!

The address of the church is simply Sowton EX5 2AF. It is open by arrangement with the Churchwardens through the Church Office.

The capacity of the church is 210.

By this stage, you will need to have established already your right to marry in the church, and if this is through monthly attending for six consecutive months then it's simplest to do this straight away if you can. Not only is it a requirement if you do not have a separate Qualifying Connection for marrying at this church, but also, equally significantly, you will get a feel for, and an affinity with, the place where you will be getting married.

We will arrange an initial meeting with the clergy, to discuss the format of the ceremony, get to know one another, complete a form together, you'll confirm your ID, and make your £100 deposit payment [by transfer, cheque or cash].

We will be able to inform you in the New Year of the year in which you have your wedding what the final fees will be, and you will then have the opportunity to confirm which options ['extras'] you have chosen.

Checklist for next steps [please copy in the CMC Church Office]:

- Organise [contact that parish six months in advance] the separate reading of your banns in the parish[es] of your place[s] of residence if you do not live in the parish of Sowton; NB there will be a separate fee for this, payable to that/those parish[es]; by the Rehearsal, our wedding clergy will need to see your resulting Banns certificate[s]
- Pay the balance of your fees one month before your wedding day [for payment information please see our separate fees-listing]
- Liaise in plenty of time with the church / clergy / organist / vergers about your plans for your order of service – choice of hymns, Bible and other readings, etc.
- Attend the marriage preparation day [look out for separate details]
- Attend the Sowton reading[s] of your Banns if you are able to do so [NB 3 readings, to be read within 3 months of your wedding day]
- Liaise with clergy about your wedding rehearsal date and let those involved know when it will be, including the CMC Church Office
- Liaise about flower arrangements / church access on the day [see also below re Flowers]
- Consider car-parking for guests [the church has no car-park, but roadside parking is available close by]
- Think through transport-arrangements and timings so that the wedding can begin punctually [the clergy – not to mention the bell-ringers – may well have another wedding that day to attend!]
- Finally, but vitally, let us know if ever your contact-details change!!

Music

The organist will be very happy to talk to you and help you think about music for the start and end of the service, plus take on board any other musical requirements you may have.

Organist contact details:

Please contact the office in order to receive this information.

Additionally, and subject to availability / notice, we can organise a choir.

Our choirmaster is:

Marius Rudnick, 01392 460202

mariusrudnick@gmail.com

For music-licensing purposes, the CMC Church Office will need to know your finalised choice of hymns. We do have an appropriate license and we are required to report what is sung from either printed or digital text. Remember that if you record the wedding ceremony the organist will be due an extra recording fee. Please also report via the verger any recorded music played at the wedding.

If you have other music requirements, including queries about the sound system, please get in touch with the CMC Church Office, and we can then put you in contact with the verger, who helps things run smoothly on the day, and whom you may meet at the Rehearsal.

A reminder that having the bells rung at the end of the wedding is a popular extra. This is again subject to availability so please give us plenty of notice.

Flowers

It helps our Churchwardens to know whether you are intending to put flowers in the church so that we can plan our regular rota in conjunction with you. Please let the CMC Church Office know. If another wedding is to take place on the same day, we are happy to put you in contact with the other couple so that you can make joint arrangements and work together if you wish to. We can put you in contact with our flower-arranger if you would like, and that will be a private arrangement: please get in touch if you require her contact-details.



Please see the CMC Church Office as your first port of call in case of any query, as our role is to be of practical assistance at this time, and individual circumstances can, and do, vary [there's a first time for every question!]. Our contact-details are at the bottom of each page of our website, so send us a message at any point – email preferred as we're only open part-time – and we will get back to you!



Your Notes
