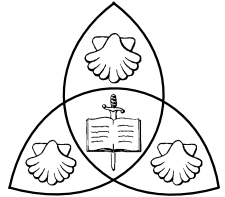
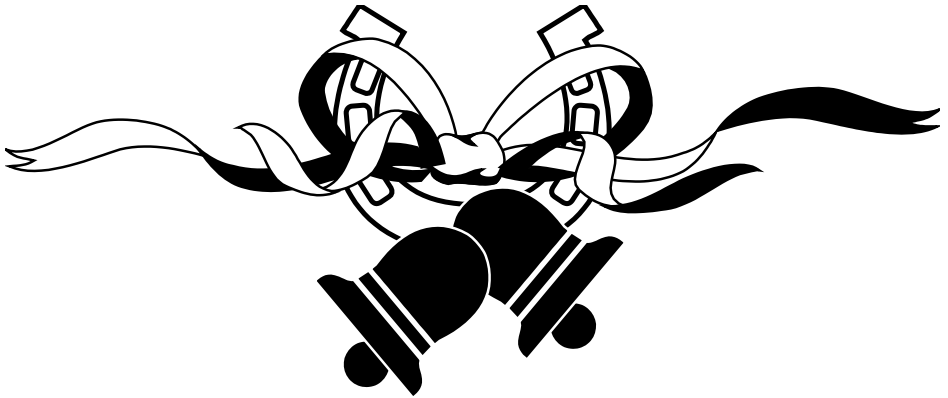




THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



PARISH OF BUSHEY



# WEDDING INFORMATION BOOKLET



## WEDDING INFORMATION

Congratulations on deciding to get married! We are delighted that you have chosen to book your wedding at St James's Church. We look forward to working with you over the coming months as you prepare for this important occasion and we assure you of our prayers.

With this booklet you will have received a *Wedding Information Form*. Please complete this and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible. When we receive the form the clergy person who will conduct your wedding will invite you for an individual face-to-face meeting to get to know you, and begin to discuss how we can conduct a really personal and special wedding for you.

You will also receive an invitation to a Saturday morning wedding preparation course, along with the other couples getting married around the same time. This will help you consider the longer- term aspects of marriage, deepen your communication with each other and build a lasting marriage. The course will involve input and information and some general discussion, but you will only discuss more personal issues with your partner. In the past, people have found these sessions fun, thought-provoking and helpful, and we ask you to make it a priority to attend this event.

We hope that you will find this booklet helpful as you continue with your planning for the wedding day. You might also like to visit the website [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) which offers a very useful wedding ceremony planner.

Of course a booklet like this can provide only very general information, so there are people here who are very willing to help you with the particular arrangements for your wedding. Please feel free to contact one of the clergy at any time if there are particular matters you want to discuss.

Rev. Guy Edwards (Rector)

0208 950 1546

[rector@busheyparish.org](mailto:rector@busheyparish.org)

Rev. Guy's PA: Jacqueline Birch

0208 421 8192

[office@busheyparish.org](mailto:office@busheyparish.org)

Fr. Tim Vickers (Associate Rector)

01923 464 633

[tim.@busheyparish.org](mailto:tim.@busheyparish.org)

Revd. Andy Burgess (Parish Curate)

07539 409 959

[andy.burgess@busheyparish.org](mailto:andy.burgess@busheyparish.org)

Our Parish Office Manager, Jacqueline Birch, is available in the Parish Office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. She can be contacted on 020 8421 8192 or [office@busheyparish.org](mailto:office@busheyparish.org)

## Legal Arrangements

When you booked your wedding, you provided us with the details we need in order to complete the necessary legal formalities. If any of these details have changed since you made the booking (for example, one of you has changed your address or your occupation), please let us know immediately. And if any details change between now and the day of your wedding, please inform us as soon as possible.

Most people are married by **banns**. This means that a couple's intention to marry is announced at the principal service in the relevant church or churches (see below) on the first three Sundays of the month preceding the date of the wedding at the **9.30am Sung Eucharist**. *(there are plans in place nationally to change the system of banns, but at time of going to press – Jan 2020, the information above is correct)*

If you are being married by **banns**, then these have to be read in the church(es) of the parish(es) in which you are resident. If both of you will be living in the Parish of Bushey when the banns are called, then you need take no further action – we shall make all the arrangements. If only one of you will be living in the Parish of Bushey, then the other person must arrange with their Church of England parish church for the banns to be called there. If both of you will be living outside the Parish of Bushey, then you must arrange with the relevant parish church(es) for the calling of your banns. If you need help with this, please contact us – it is important we get this right!

We shall let you know when your banns are to be called at St James's and we hope you will attend the 9.30am Sung Eucharist when they are read.

If your banns are also being read at other church(es), then you will need to arrange to collect a certificate which states that the banns have been called. Please let us have this certificate as soon as you receive it.

You may have told us, at the time you booked your wedding, that you intended to start worshipping at St James's in order to qualify for enrolment on our Church Electoral Roll and in this way acquire the qualification to be married in St James's. If this is the case, then, once you have been worshipping with us regularly for 6 months, you will need to ask us for a form so that you can apply for enrolment on the Church Electoral Roll. Once you are enrolled, the requirements for having your banns read will apply (see above).

Some people are married by **licence**. This is normally required if one of the couple is a foreign national, or there is some reason why they cannot be married by banns. If you are to be married by licence, please make sure that you have spoken to us about making the necessary arrangements for this no less than three months before the date of your wedding.

### **The Wedding Information Form**

It is possible for you to make changes to this after you have sent it to us – for example, you may decide to change a hymn or a reading. If so, please inform the Parish Office as soon as possible.

### **Divorce**

The Parish of Bushey does conduct weddings of those who have been previously married and are now divorced. If one of the parties to the marriage has been previously married, please arrange to see the Rector who will explain the process involved.

### **Fees**

Details of the various fees (which change each year) are available on a separate sheet. We are very happy for you to pay for your wedding in instalments over a period of time if this helps with your planning.

### **Flowers**

Many couples like to use a florist of their own choice (or perhaps a family friend, or provide their own).

If you do not have your own florist our Church Flowers Team can provide some flower arrangements in church for you. This can be discussed at the “wedding preparation evening” that you will be invited to attend.

Please note that during the periods of Lent (preceding Easter) and Advent (preceding Christmas) there will be no usual flower arrangements in church.

At all times other than Lent and Advent there is a pedestal of flowers at the left of the main altar and also at the right of the altar in the Youth Chapel and an arrangement by the memorial book.

### **Bridesmaids and Attendants**

It is the custom at St. James's to follow the traditional convention of the Bride entering church first, followed by her bridesmaids and attendants.

### **Photography & Video Recording**

You have permission for one photographer to take photographs at certain points during the service in church (please see details on page 10). Please ensure the photographer talks to the priest taking your wedding before the service begins. If you wish to have a video recording we strongly urge you to hire a professional videographer. The priest taking your wedding must see the camera-person before the service to settle the position where s/he may stand. For music copyright reasons, both you and the videographer will have to sign the undertaking on the back of the *Wedding Information Form* that the recording is for private purposes only. The extra fee payable to the organist, choir and bellringers is in accordance with the Royal School of Church Music regulations for recording a video.

### **Order of service**

We recommend that you have an order of service printed. We can produce these for you if you wish at very reasonable rates. The contents and the format for the order of service will be agreed at the interview with the priest conducting your wedding (see below); once this is done you can then contact Revd. Guy to discuss printing requirements.

### **Mixed Marriages**

If one of you is a member of another denomination and would like to have another Minister or Priest from that denomination take part in the service, please discuss this with the Rector and then approach the person you would like to be involved and make the request to him/her. Please ask him/her to then contact Revd. Guy at least six weeks before the marriage to arrange the service

### **Interview and Rehearsal**

The priest officiating at the service will arrange to meet with you around two to three months before the wedding. If you would like a meeting sooner than that, please contact him/her. This will be the time when the order of service

is agreed and finalised before printing. A rehearsal will also be arranged to take place, probably within the week before your marriage.

### **Confetti**

Confetti and rice are not permitted in the grounds of Saint James's. We encourage your guests to use soap bubbles, which are available from both toyshops and wedding suppliers.

### **Church Seating**

Saint James's seats 300 people comfortably, but more than that is a tight squeeze.

### **Wedding Planners**

Saint James's is happy to work with your Wedding Planner, if you choose to hire one. Please speak to our clergy about this if appropriate.



## **BIBLE READINGS AT YOUR WEDDING**

1. At least one reading from the Bible must be used at your Wedding. In addition, other suitable readings or poems are permitted but please discuss this with the priest taking the service.
2. Members of your family or your friends are welcome to read. It is desirable for them to attend the Wedding Rehearsal and practise their reading but not essential. Please make sure you ask someone who is comfortable with speaking in public – not everyone is!
3. If you have no particular preference, then the priest conducting your service will be happy to choose a reading for you and to read it if you so wish.

Readings from the Bible that are recommended are found in the separate booklet: ***SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR YOUR WEDDING SERVICE***



# MUSIC FOR YOUR WEDDING

## Music

Included in the **WEDDING MUSIC** booklet is a selection of popular hymns, organ and choral music for your wedding. You may choose up to three hymns for the service. We would also like you to choose music for the bride's procession into church, during the signing of the register and your wedding procession at the end. If you would like advice, please get in touch with our organist, James Mooney-Dutton, [jmd@busheyparish.org](mailto:jmd@busheyparish.org). If none of the music listed is what you want, then please speak to James who can offer other suggestions.

If your music is on a CD, please ensure that you pass this to the Parish Office or officiating priest in good time.

Recommendations for music are found in the separate booklet: **MUSIC FOR YOUR WEDDING**

## PUNCTUALITY

Please ignore pagan superstition about brides needing to be late! Our clergy, musicians and bell-ringers are often involved in other weddings in other churches on the same day. Please make sure you arrive in good time as a courtesy to all involved, so that we can start on time. If the wedding starts late then there may not be time to take photographs before the service or afterwards. So do please be respectful to others involved in other weddings on the day.



# PHOTOGRAPHY INSTRUCTIONS FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

**Please ensure these are passed to your photographer before the wedding**

The following instructions have been prepared in consultation with a professional photographer. They are intended to offer good opportunities for photographers to take photographs during the service while maintaining a proper atmosphere for an act of worship in the church. Please pass the copy of these instructions, included with this booklet, to your photographer.

- ❖ Please **MAKE YOURSELF KNOWN** to the priest who will be officiating at the service.
- ❖ In general there are no restrictions on photography **OUTSIDE THE CHURCH BUILDING**.
- ❖ However, **DURING THE SERVICE INSIDE THE BUILDING** we ask photographers to remain as invisible as possible and to move only when taking up positions for the following photographs:
  1. From the central aisle, facing the North Door, at the entry of the bride into the Church.
  2. From the same position, facing the front, as the bride takes up her position beside the bridegroom.
  3. From the back of the Church, beside the font, photographs may be taken during the service **provided that flash is not used**.
  4. In the north aisle chapel, during the signing of the registers.
  5. From the same position as at (1), as the bride and groom leave the Church.
- ❖ **OUTSIDE THE BUILDING AFTER THE SERVICE** you may take photographs anywhere in the churchyard, but please keep the porch area clear if there is another wedding.
- ❖ **IN THE EVENT OF WET WEATHER**, and if there is no wedding following, photographs may be taken inside the
- ❖ Church building after the service.



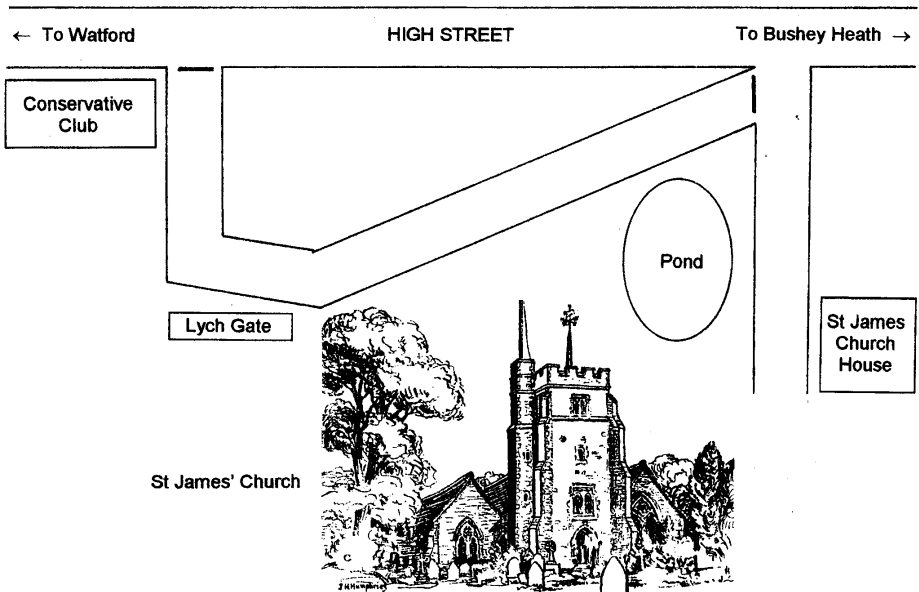


# CAR PARKING FOR YOUR WEDDING

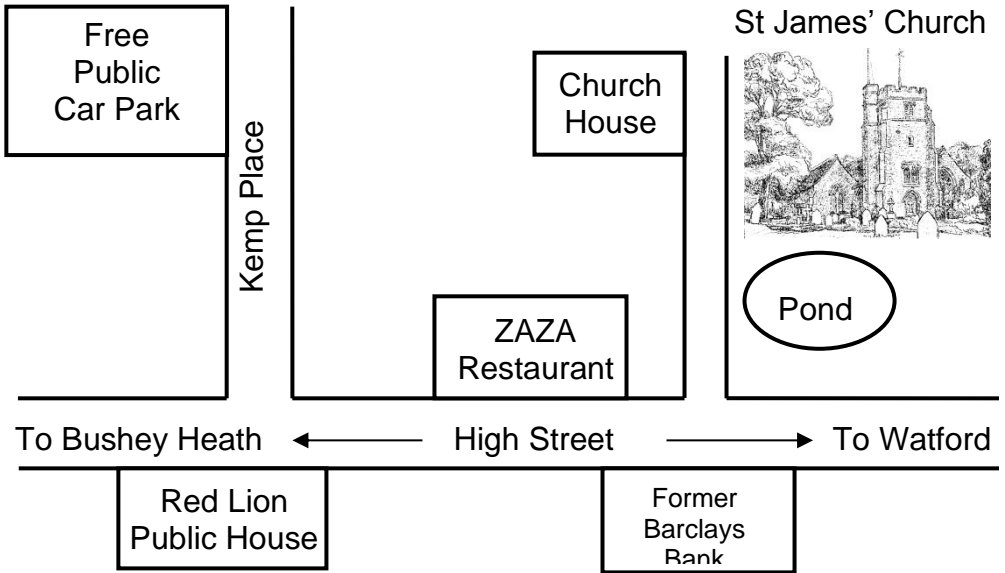
Car parking is a problem near St James's, particularly on Saturdays in the Summer. Wedding guests should use the free public car park in Kemp Place (opposite the Red Lion public house). The map on the following page can be photocopied to be included with invitations to wedding guests, if you wish.

Wedding limousines and carriages have permission to use the road in front of the Lych Gate next to the pond. Entrance is best from the gate near Church House and exit by the gate adjoining the Conservative Club. The gates may not be opened but **will be unlocked**. Please make sure your vehicles do not block access for subsequent wedding vehicles.

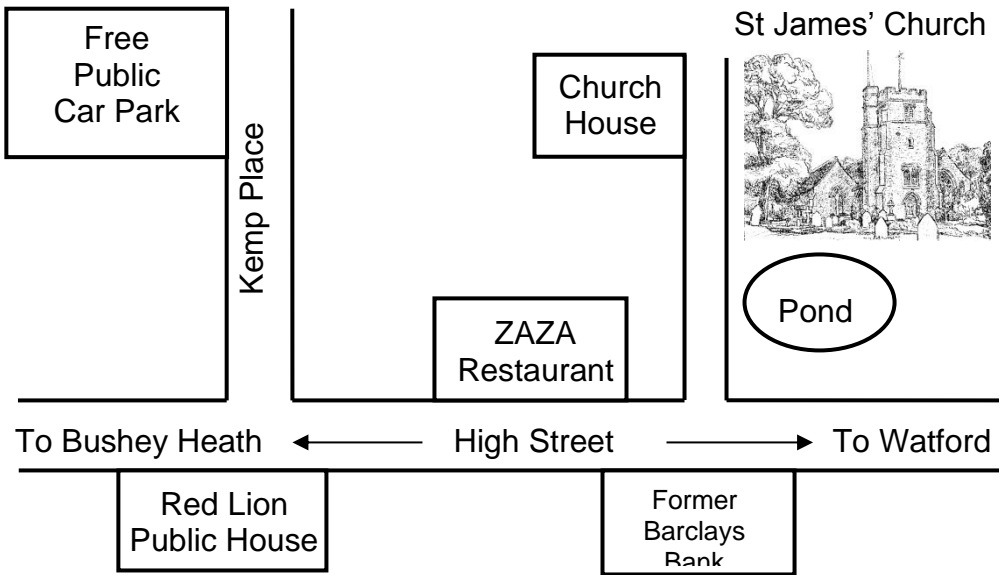
Church Postcode: WD23 1BD



Dear Wedding Guest,  
Please park your car in the free public car park in Kemp Place  
(opposite the Red Lion public house)



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Please park your car in the free public car park in Kemp Place  
(opposite the Red Lion public house)



**THE PARISH OFFICE**  
Church House  
High Street  
Bushey  
Hertfordshire WD23 1BD

**Tel: 020 8421 8192**

**Email: [office@busheyparish.org](mailto:office@busheyparish.org)**

***A prayer for you to use as you prepare for your wedding day***

**God our Father,  
from the beginning  
you have blessed creation with abundant life.**



**Pour out your blessings upon us that we may be joined in  
mutual love and companionship,  
in holiness and commitment to each other.**

**We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**