

**KNARESBOROUGH
ANGLICAN
TEAM
MINISTRY**

LOVING
LIVING
LEARNING



**St John the Baptist
Knaresborough**



**St Mary the Virgin
Goldsborough**



Information for your
proposed wedding



**Holy Trinity
Knaresborough**



**St Paul & St Margaret
Nidd**



**St John the Baptist
Brearton**



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**Knaresborough Anglicans
Team Website** – www.knaresboroughanglicans.org

We are delighted that you have chosen the Knaresborough Team for your proposed wedding.

We aim to make your day truly special, ensuring you have a meaningful experience of God and His Church through our services.

Every couple will meet at least once with the priest who will officiate their wedding—this is an opportunity to become acquainted and personalise your ceremony. Usually, a day or two before the service, everyone involved gathers at the church for a rehearsal.

The following information is designed to be helpful and to serve as a starting point for your conversation with the priest conducting your wedding.

Getting married in one of the Knaresborough Anglican churches

The churches of the Knaresborough Team Ministry are sought-after wedding venues. Thanks to generous charitable donations, they are beautifully maintained, set amidst historic towns and charming villages, and surrounded by stunning countryside. The main reason for their popularity, however, is the warm and welcoming atmosphere—from our Administrator, Faye Wright, who first assists couples, to our clergy and congregations who take genuine interest in everyone marrying here, whether they're local, returning home, or coming from afar.

To get legally married at a church in Knaresborough, one partner needs to live in the parish, attend services there regularly, or have a "qualifying connection"—such as family links to the area like growing up locally or having parents who were married at the church. If, after filling out the 'Marriage Measures' form, you discover that you don't meet any of these criteria, don't worry; you can still become eligible by attending services at your chosen church. You'll need to go to one service each month for six months, finishing two months before your banns are read.

The church wishes you a lifetime of love under God's protection. We understand, though, that some marriages end for difficult reasons. Since 2002, the Church of England has permitted divorced individuals, under certain circumstances, to marry again in church.

If this applies to you, your first step should be to speak with the Vicar of your chosen church. The Vicar will discuss your history and future hopes with you before giving advice.

All procedures follow English Law, so clergy must comply strictly. Marrying in a Church of England venue is a legal process, requiring documents like official ID (Passport or Birth/adoption Certificate), proof of address (Driving Licence or utility bill), and—if previously married—a Decree Absolute. These copies must accompany your Marriage application form. If your address changes before your banns are read, notify the church office with updated proof of address, or your ceremony may not proceed.

If either partner is not a UK or Irish national, please contact Faye for additional steps needed for your application.

Many people want a church wedding but feel conflicted because they do not attend regular Sunday services. Don't let this concern deter you; what matters most is that you have a meaningful experience of God during our ceremonies.

Attendance at a Marriage Preparation Day is compulsory for all couples and forms part of the qualifying process. Further details are on the next page.

Mandatory Marriage Preparation in the Knaresborough Anglican churches

At the Knaresborough Team Ministry, we aim not only to make your wedding special but also to ensure your marriage is fulfilling and enduring.

To support this, we've asked Revd Canon Francis Wainaina, a priest with extensive experience and his wife, Elaine, to lead marriage preparation for all couples marrying here. You will be informed of your marriage preparation date at the time of booking your ceremony.

Approximately four weeks prior to your session, Canon Francis will ask you to complete an online inventory before you meet with him on Zoom. This inventory should be completed individually, and your confidential results will guide your discussion during the session.

These sessions offer a chance for you as a couple to invest in your relationship. There won't be a group discussion; instead, the facilitator will provide input, and each couple will focus solely on their own partnership.

At a date and time closer to your wedding, the priest who will officiate on the day of your wedding will meet you to better tailor the ceremony itself to your wishes.

Orders of Service

An Order of Service helps guests follow along during your wedding. Designing an Order of Service adds a personal element, and serves as a memorable keepsake. Aim for a format that is organized, easy to read, and clear.

Make sure:

- All elements and their order are agreed with the priest.
- Fonts are large and legible for hymns and congregational parts.
- There are enough copies for each guest and all participants (priest, organist, vergers, bellringers, choir).
- The priest reviews and approves a draft before printing. We can help spot typos and advise on clarity.

Reading of Banns

Banns are a legal requirement before a church wedding and must be read three times both in the parishes where you reside and where the wedding will occur. The Knaresborough Team will arrange for banns to be read in their churches. If either of you lives outside this parish, you must ensure banns are read at your local parish church and provide us with their certificate—fees apply at that church in addition to ours. Banns are typically read at the church where the ceremony is held during the main morning service (10:30am at Holy Trinity or St John's, 9am at Goldsborough) on the first three Sundays of the month, usually two months before your wedding. You must supply the required certificate before your ceremony, or it cannot proceed.

To locate your local parish church, visit: www.achurchnearyou.com

Witnesses

Up to six witnesses, in addition to the bride and groom, may sign the Marriage Document. The main requirement is that each witness should be sufficiently mature to understand their actions.

Marriage Document

As of May 2021, changes to the Civil Partnerships, Marriages and Deaths (Registration etc.) Act 2019 mean you will not receive your marriage certificate on your wedding day. After signing the marriage document with your witnesses and officiating Priest, it must be lodged at the Registry Office within 14 days. Your details are then added to the digital marriage register, and your certificate can be purchased from Harrogate Registrar online at <https://northyorkshire.zipporah.co.uk/Registrars.Live/CertificateProcess>. North Yorkshire Council charges a fee for each certificate.

Hymns and Music for a Wedding

Please contact the organist to talk about your preferred hymns and music. The organist can offer suggestions to help you decide. Make sure you confirm your hymn choices and their sequence with the officiating priest before the service sheets are printed. If you'd like to use recorded music during the ceremony, speak with the minister in charge about this option and your music selections. We highly recommend the bride walks in to live music instead of a recording, as it allows for more flexibility and control. Other performers, such as choirs, are welcome; however, please confirm arrangements with the clergy before booking.

Please note: payment of the church organist fee is required even if another organist is engaged. For further information about hymns and music, please refer to the following websites. Kindly note that not every organ is suitable for all musical selections. www.churchofengland.org/life-events/your-church-wedding/planning-your-ceremony/hymns-your-wedding

Choosing Readings

You are encouraged to include at least one Bible reading in your ceremony, or two if you prefer. Additionally, you may add a passage from another source like prose or poetry. Choose readings that resonate with both of you as a couple.

Consider asking relatives or close friends who would appreciate the honour to take part as readers for your chosen passages.

For inspiration, visit www.yourchurchwedding.org, which offers a collection of suitable readings.

Photographs & Videos

Photography and video are permitted; guidelines will be provided. A copyright fee is required for hired videographers. Photographers must consult their Priest before the service to confirm allowed areas and timing and should arrive early to set up.

Confetti

Please choose organic options like dried rose petals or leaves, which are popular with couples and often cheaper online or at pet suppliers.

Confetti cannons, confetti shooters or party poppers are not permitted. A Clean up fee will be charged if this rule is not followed.

Flowers for your Wedding

The following section is informed by the expertise of our flower arrangers, who are available to provide additional advice if needed.

- You are welcome to take any arrangements you've provided with you to your reception. When doing so, please ensure they are placed on your own or your florist's stands; kindly leave our stands, pedestals, and similar items in the church. The pedestal in St John's can be moved for your service but should be returned afterwards if necessary.
- All waste must be cleared from the church and grounds by the flower arrangers, as we do not offer rubbish disposal facilities.
- In Lent (the six weeks preceding Easter) and Advent (the four weeks before Christmas), please arrange for all flowers to be removed from the church immediately following your wedding ceremony.
- At Easter, Christmas, and Harvest, our own decorations will be displayed; you may not need additional flowers, so please check with the church.
- No items should ever be nailed or pinned to any surface within the church.
- If using pew-end arrangements, remember to keep the aisle clear for walking—florist's ribbon is usually the best option here.
- If in doubt please contact our flower organisers, who are happy to offer guidance and work with you on your plans. Your florist will need to coordinate access to the church if it is normally locked. Kindly inform us if you intend to leave an arrangement in the church after your wedding.

At St Mary's, there is typically an arrangement behind the Altar throughout most of the year; please leave this in place unless you have made plans to provide your own display.

If you'd like to add your own arrangements at St Mary's, you might consider including:

- a pedestal below the pulpit,
- two side windowsills,
- pew-ends (attached with ribbon),
- a small decoration at the base of the font,
- arrangements inside the porch (but not on the external stone entrance arch).

Bells

Bells are available for weddings at St John the Baptist, Knaresborough and St Mary the Virgin, Goldsborough, but not at Holy Trinity, Nidd or Brearton. Bell ringers play for 15 minutes after the service and spend about 25 minutes at the church. A fee is charged and an application is required to have bells at your wedding.

Being fashionably late for your Wedding

It is essential and anticipated that your wedding ceremony begins punctually. If there is a 15-minute delay, the service might need to be shortened. Should the delay reach 30 minutes, the Organist, Bellringers, and Choir will be dismissed, and the Clergy could cancel the ceremony entirely. Please note that all payments remain non-refundable regardless of circumstances.

Unavailable dates within the Church Calendar

Owing to the church calendar, marriage ceremonies cannot be scheduled during the week preceding or following Easter, nor from the week prior to Christmas through the week after New Year.

Contact Details

The Rector

Revd Garry Hinchcliffe

The Rectory
High Bond End
Knaresborough
HG5 9BT
Telephone 07759 614032
Email garry.hinchcliffe@leeds.anglican.org

Team Vicar

Revd Lisa Holland

Telephone (07526) 769193
Email lisa.holland@leeds.anglican.org

Associate Priest

Revd Dr Nicholas lo Polito

Email nlopolito@icloud.com

Team Administrator

Mrs Faye Wright

Parish Office hours
Mon - Thurs
9.00am-1.00pm

Knaresborough Parish Office
The Parsonage
Vicarage Lane
Knaresborough
HG5 9AE
Telephone (01423) 869209
Email knaresbororoughparishoffice@gmail.com

For all other contact information please contact the Faye Wright in the parish office

Charges for your Church Wedding

Parish of Knaresborough Wedding Fees 2026 (there will be a yearly increase)

At the time of booking each couple will receive a unique identification number. Please use this number when paying by BACS.	Amount £	TOTAL TO PAY
Local Church wedding planning & booking tariff (non-refundable)	575	
Marriage Preparation Day	100	
CHURCH MONIES DUE AT TIME OF BOOKING		675
Diocesan Statutory Fee (there will be an increase on 01/01/27)	257	
Church of England Marriage Service Statutory Fee (there will be an increase on 01/01/27)	348	
Verger's Fee	55	
STATUTORY CHURCH MONIES PAYABLE TWO MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING DATE		660
Basic wedding cost £1,335		
EXTRAS - TO BE PAID WITH STATUTORY CHURCH MONIES 2 MONTHS PRIOR TO CEREMONY		
Organist (please note if you bring your own organist, you will still be required to pay the resident organist)	115	
Professional Video Recording Permit (Payable to the Organist)	90	
Choir - St John's, Knaresborough	180	
Choir - St Mary's, Knaresborough	130	
Bells - St John's, Knaresborough	190	
Bells - St Mary's, Knaresborough	130	
<p>All amounts must be paid upon receipt of invoice. All invoices to be paid by BACS - the bank details for the relevant church will be shown on your invoice.</p> <p>DON'T FORGET TO USE YOUR UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION CODE.</p>		
Maximum amount payable for a wedding at St John's, Knaresborough		1,910
Maximum amount payable for a wedding at St Mary's, Goldsborough		1,800
Maximum amount payable for a wedding at Holy Trinity, Knaresborough		1,540
Maximum amount payable for a wedding at St John's, Brearton		1,540
Maximum amount payable for a wedding at St Paul and St Margaret, Nidd		1,540

The Marriage Service - Its Content and Shape



The Preparation

Arrival of the Bride

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Hymn (*Print full words on your order of service*)

The Preface (*Christian Understanding of Marriage*)

The Declarations

A Message for Your Wedding

(*The Ministry of the Word*)

Bible Reading (s)

Another reading you have chosen (*if you wish*)

A hymn (*if you want more than two*) (*Print full words here*)

The Marriage

The Vows - of love and faithfulness

Giving of the ring(s)

Declaration of the Marriage

Blessing of the Marriage

The Legal Formalities

Signing of the Marriage Documents

Either here or at the end of the service

Prayers

We ask for God's love and blessing on your life together

The Lord's Prayer

The Dismissal

Hymn

Final Blessing

For full details of the service and resources that will assist you from now until well after 'The Day' please look at www.yourchurchwedding.org or Google "Church of England Marriage Service"

