



# **St Mary's Church Woburn**

## **Wedding Information - 2017**

**Rector of the Benefice:  
The Reverend Stephen Nuth  
The Vicarage  
Park Street  
Woburn, Bedfordshire  
MK17 9PG**

**01525 290225**

**[rectornuth@gmail.com](mailto:rectornuth@gmail.com)**



Dear

Thank you for deciding to have your marriage ceremony at St Mary's Church. We hope that this information will assist in making your wedding day a really happy and successful occasion. Please read the following notes carefully and if you have any questions please feel free to get in touch.

The Reverend Stephen Nuth will deal with any questions that you may have relating to the specific details of your marriage service and I will be able to deal with questions about the administrative aspects.

This information pack contains details on the following topics:-

- Wedding Fees for 2017;
- Banns of Marriage;
- Qualifying Connection;
- General Information and Contacts.

We look forward to speaking to you soon and seeing you at St Mary's Church, Woburn.

With very best wishes.

Ian Wayment

Wedding Administrator

11 London End  
Woburn  
Beds  
MK17 9PU

Telephone – 01525 290670  
Mobile – 07885 756114

Email – [woburnweddings@gmail.com](mailto:woburnweddings@gmail.com)



## Wedding Fees for 2017

Like all other matters related to weddings there are costs involved and this note sets out the fees payable for weddings at St Mary's Woburn during 2017.

The Church of England sets the Statutory Fees which apply to all Church weddings. The Statutory Fees for weddings being held in 2017 are £456.00 and these fees are payable (by cheque to Woburn PCC) one month before your wedding date. There is also fee of £41 payable to the church whose parish you are living in. This is payable to that church for the reading of your Banns and issuing of the Banns certificate. Finally, there is a £50 fee for the vergers who will open up the church, ensure everything is laid up and prepared for the service, and then clear up and close at the end. This is payable in cash at the rehearsal. In total, all of this comes to £547.

There are also fees for other services on the day of your wedding and these are: -

- Church Organist - £100.00 (payable direct to the organist)
- Church Heating (1 October to 30 April) - £100.00 (payable by cheque to Woburn PCC);
- Church Bells (which are optional) - £300.00 (payable by cheque to Woburn PCC).

Apart from the Church Vergers Fee, all fees are payable one month before your wedding date.

Also, you will have realised that St Mary's, Woburn is a very large beautiful and well maintained Church, making it so popular for weddings. The wedding fee of £456 is shared between St Mary's and the Diocese of St Albans meaning we only retain £231.00 of the fee. This does not cover the true cost to the church of hosting and administering a wedding. We therefore ask the congregation at weddings to make a donation to help us fully fund the cost of your wedding. Also, any donation you as a wedding couple would like to make, in recognition of your important day, will be very much appreciated.

If you are a taxpayer it would be appreciated if you would apply Gift Aid to the donation and should you wish to do so please find at Page 6, a Gift Aid Declaration Form.

If you wish to make the payments to Woburn PCC by Bank Transfer as opposed to paying by cheque, then please let me know and I will give you the relevant bank account details.

The costs of other wedding related items such as flowers, photography and additional music or choirs are your own responsibility.



## Banns of Marriage

Please complete and return your Banns of Marriage Application Form as soon as you have confirmed the date and time of your wedding at St Mary's. The information on this form is used for your Marriage Registration details so it is important to advise us of any material changes that occur such as a new address or a different occupation.

Your Banns of Marriage will be read at three Sunday services at St Mary's Church. This is usually the month before your wedding but you will be advised nearer the time of the exact dates.

**Please also note that you will also need to arrange to have your Banns of Marriage read in the parish church where you reside.** If you both live in different parishes you will need to get them read in each church. You will have to arrange to pay your local church for the Publication of Banns and the Banns Certificate – the cost for this service is £40.00.

When Banns are read in your local parish you must obtain from that Church a "Banns Certificate" which must be presented to Reverend Stephen Nuth at the latest one week before your wedding day. Your local parish church may read your Banns on the same, or different, Sundays to Woburn.

## Qualifying Connection

To be married in a parish where you do not reside you need to have or obtain a Qualifying Connection to that parish. Some of the conditions for a Qualifying Connection are –

- if your parents live in the parish,
- you were brought up in the parish and still have connections with it,
- previous family connections with the parish e.g. grandparents married in the parish,
- you are on the Electoral Roll (membership roll) of the church.

However, if none of the above applies, the way to get a Qualifying Connection is to become a regular attender (i.e. as often as you can) at Church from now on until the date that your Banns of Marriage are first read. The service you need to attend is at St Mary's Woburn at 10am each Sunday morning.

This condition applies to all Church of England weddings.



## Marriage Preparation Course

The course is a general requirement, along with regular Church attendance, for those couples who plan to marry at St Mary's Woburn and St John the Baptist's Eversholt. It is run once a year and for 2017 the dates are Thursday evening 9th February from 7-9.30pm and on Saturdays 11<sup>th</sup> & 18th February from 10-3.30pm.

The course includes 5 informal sessions and follows the Marriage Preparation Course DVD. The Thursday evening begins with a meal and provides a valuable time to relax together at the end of a busy day. The meal is followed by short DVD led talks interspersed with questions and discussion topics for you to consider together as a couple. The daytime sessions will follow a similar shape to the evening with one session of short talks and discussion opportunities in the morning and another in the afternoon and opportunity to relax with others over the mid-day meal and during the coffee breaks.

It is important for you both to attend so that together as a couple you can consider the issues raised.

Over the 5 sessions, you will learn about important tools that will enable you to make your marriage work. They will include: -

- the importance of commitment;
- how to recognise and appreciate your differences;
- the art of communication;
- resolving conflict;
- the importance of spending time together;
- nurturing your friendship;
- making each other feel loved;
- developing a good sexual relationship;
- the importance of talking about your goals, values, ambitions and hopes.

The course leader is the Rev'd Steve Nuth, but please contact Ian and Jean Wayment for any details regarding the course, their contact details are [iswayment@btinternet.com](mailto:iswayment@btinternet.com) or 07885 756114

You will receive a separate invitation to this course before the end of December 2016.



## General Information and Contacts

**Wedding Interview** - You will need to contact the Reverend Stephen Nuth (01525 290225) to arrange your wedding interview. This interview will cover a number of important matters including the Order of Service, the wedding rehearsal date and procedures and the arrangements surrounding photographs and video.

**Order of Service** - If you intend to have special Wedding Order of Service printed, although it is not essential to do so, please contact Reverend Stephen Nuth prior to placing your order for these with your printer. **Please bring an Order of Service to your wedding rehearsal.**

**Music and Hymns** – Roger Lander, the organist at St Mary's Woburn, will be happy to discuss with you wedding music and hymns. Please telephone Roger direct on 01908 582958 or email him at [roger@lander.powernet.co.uk](mailto:roger@lander.powernet.co.uk) to discuss your requirements. The fee for the organist is detailed on Page 3. **All arrangements for booking and paying are made directly with the organist.**

**Church Bells** – St Mary's Church has a ring of 8 bells and these can be rung as you leave the church after the service. If you would like to have bells rung at your wedding please contact Raymond Watkin on 01908 675764 or by email at [raymondwatkin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:raymondwatkin@yahoo.co.uk) . The fee for the bells is detailed on Page 3. **All arrangements for booking the bells are made directly with the bellringer.**

**Flowers** – Your wedding flowers are your own responsibility however, we ask that you leave at least one display of flowers in the church which become the 'church flowers' for that wedding weekend. So that the church is aware of your plans for your wedding flowers (and who your supplying florist will be) please contact June Vyse at [junevyse@gmail.com](mailto:junevyse@gmail.com)

**Choirs** – We normally recommend the following choirs.

The Leighton Buzzard Festival Singers – Helen Jones at – [secretary@lbfs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@lbfs.org.uk)

The Danesborough Chorus – Kate Atalay at - [kateatalay@hotmail.com](mailto:kateatalay@hotmail.com)

Please contact them for costs and availability.



## St Mary's Church Woburn Gift Aid Declaration

**In order to Gift Aid your donation you must complete the declaration below:**

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £.....and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to WOBURN PCC.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

### **My Details:**

Title..... First name or initial(s).....

Surname.....Signature.....

Full Home Address.....

.....

Postcode..... Date.....

### **Please notify the charity if you:**

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.