

PARISH OF ST. SWITHUN WELLS



Churches

Holy Cross, Eastleigh
St. Edward the Confessor, Chandler's Ford
St. Joseph's, Romsey
St. Andrew's, North Baddesley
St. Swithun Wells, Fair Oak
Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Bishop's Waltham

Parish Priest

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Wedding Arrangements in the Parish of St Swithun Wells

If you live in the parish and would like to get married either in one of the parish's churches or in a Catholic Church outside the parish you will need to contact the priest at least 6 months before the date of marriage and preferably a year before. The two requirements for marriage in a Catholic Church are:

1. Completion of marriage paperwork with the priest or deacon (with supporting documents as necessary);
2. Completion of a parish marriage preparation course.

Marriage Paperwork

The marriage paperwork will involve an initial meeting with the priest or deacon who will help you fill out a form giving the necessary details. He will also tell you the supporting documentation which will be needed. This will include a recently issued copy of your Baptismal Certificate (note that to be married in a Catholic Church one of you at least must be a Catholic).

Marriage Preparation

The marriage preparation consists of 8 sessions with the priest and the other couples getting married setting out the particular position of the Catholic Church on marriage as a Vocation and a Sacrament.

Marriage Preparation dates

Saturday 3.00pm-4.30pm

Venue: St Edwards the Confessor Church, 191-193 Winchester Road, Chandlers Ford
SO53 2DU

**19 October, 16 November, 18 January, 15 February, 21 March, 16 May, 20 June,
18 July**

Civil Requirements

Each church in the parish has its own Authorised Persons for the civil registration of your marriage. They will enter your details into the civil Marriage Register and give you your Marriage Certificate. You will need to give notice at the local Registry Office from 12 months before the date of your marriage but no later than 28 days before your marriage. The Registry Office will provide licence forms (Blue Forms) which should be given to the priest or deacon or given to the Authorised Person at your wedding rehearsal.

Church Arrangements (for Marriages in the Parish)

The priest or deacon will discuss with you both the wedding liturgy and the choice of readings, prayers and church music. He will discuss with you also the arrangements for organists/music and for church flowers as well as photographs and the use of confetti. It is normal to arrange a wedding rehearsal at the church the evening before.

Wedding expenses

The following are suggested amounts to cover the costs to the church and the associated fees for Authorised Person, organist/flower arranger etc. If these might cause difficulty for you please speak to the priest or deacon.

Church fees and administration (including Marriage Preparation)	Free donation
Priest or Deacon's stipend – suggested donation	£100.00
Authorised Person's fee (statutory)	£55.00 [^]
Church Organist (if required - approx)	£100.00*
Church flowers (if required - approx)	£150.00- £200.00*

[^] This is an amount laid down in civil law and should be paid direct to the Authorised Person either in cash or cheque.

* To be agreed with organist/flower organiser and paid direct to them.

All amounts should be paid at least one month before the wedding date or as required.