

YOUR WEDDING DAY



In The Church Of
St. Mary's, Kingswinford
Kingswinford Parish

Your Rehearsal

Your rehearsal has been booked in the church for

Date:..... at.....am/pm

The following people need to be there if possible: the bride and groom; the person giving the bride away; the best man; ushers; any bridesmaids and/or pageboys; people you have asked to read. Other close family members may also attend.

The practice lasts for about an hour and is designed to take away some of your pre-wedding nerves. Although we hope you will feel relaxed it's important that you take it seriously, so please make sure that the people who come with you act sensibly and do not interrupt the rehearsal. Anyone causing a distraction will be asked to leave.

If the church is still in use, when you come to the rehearsal, please wait in the church porch.

If for any reason we need to change the date of your rehearsal we will contact you as soon as possible. Should you need to change the date please contact Mr. Colin Corbett the weddings' verger on 01902 701699 or 07971 399380; email: colincorbett123@btinternet.com.

Your Banns

You will be told a date when your banns will be read in St. Mary's. They are read at about 9.55am just before the start of the 10am service and you should be in church on those Sundays.



If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact:

Revd. Giles Kendall

Tel. (01384) 273716

e-mail: info@stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

or see our website:

www.stmaryskingswinford.org.uk

Readings

During your wedding service a reading of Holy Scripture is read out, hopefully by a friend or member of your family. In this booklet we have listed some of the most popular readings from which you can choose, or maybe you would prefer another extract from the Bible; the choice is yours.

In addition to the Bible passage you may also add a suitable reading such as a poem, but your choice does need to be checked with Revd. Giles first.

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### **A Reading From The Book Of Genesis, Chapter 1**

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

This is the word of the Lord.

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A Reading From The Gospel According To Matthew, Chapter 7

Jesus said, 'Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord", will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

'Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell - and great was its fall!'

Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

This is the word of the Lord.

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### **A Reading From The Gospel According To Matthew, Chapter 19**

Jesus said, 'From the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.

### **Other Possible Readings Include:**

- ⊕ *A love poem between two lovers* (Song of Solomon, Chapter 2, verses 10-13; Chapter 8, verses 6&7)
- ⊕ *Jesus teaches how to live life that brings true happiness* (Matthew, Chapter 5, verses 1-10)
- ⊕ *Jesus teaches about marriage, and welcomes children* (Mark, Chapter 10, verses 6-9 and 13-16)
- ⊕ *What happens when Jesus attends a wedding reception* (John, Chapter 2, verses 1 - 11)
- ⊕ *Seeing the good side* (Philippians Chapter 4, verses 4 - 9)
- ⊕ *Getting the perfect relationship* (Colossians Chapter 3, verses 12 - 17)

If you would like a second Bible reading this psalm could be used.

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Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

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**A Reading From St. Paul's First Letter To The Corinthians, Chapter 13**

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

This is the word of the Lord.



But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

This is the word of the Lord.



**A Reading From The Gospel According To John, Chapter 15**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

This is the word of the Lord.



**A Reading From The First Letter Of St. John**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

This is the word of the Lord.



**A Reading From St. Paul's Letter To The Ephesians, Chapter 5**

Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the head of the church, the body of which he is the Saviour. Just as the church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to be, in everything, to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, in order to make her holy by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word, so as to present the church to himself in splendour, without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind - yes, so that she may be holy and without blemish. In the same way, husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife

loves himself. For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes and tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the church, because we are members of his body. 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church. Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself, and a wife should respect her husband.

This is the word of the Lord.



**A Reading From St. Paul's Letter To The Ephesians, Chapter 3**

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord.

