

St Blasius Old Parish Church Shanklin

Applications to Marry at St Blasius' Church Shanklin

Dear Applicants,

Thank you very much for your enquiry about getting married at St Blasius' Church Shanklin. This paper sets out the current position regarding eligibility to marry here.

If either of you **reside** within the **ecclesiastical (church) parish of Shanklin St. Blasius** (*see below*), then you are entitled and very welcome to marry at St Blasius Church, provided neither of you has been married before and has a former spouse still living.

If neither of you reside within the parish of Shanklin St. Blasius, then unfortunately you are not eligible to marry at St Blasius' Church unless you have a **'qualifying connection'** with this church as defined in the **Church of England Marriage Measure 2008**. This has widened the criteria for marrying in a parish other than that in which applicants actually reside, if any one of the following 'connections' apply:

- one of them was baptised or prepared for confirmation in the parish;
- one of them has ever lived in the parish for six months or more;
- one of them has at any time regularly attended public worship in the parish for six months or more;
- one of their parents has lived in the parish for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- one of their parents has regularly attended public worship there for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- their parents or grandparents were married in the parish.

If any of these 'qualifying connections' with St Blasius' Church applies in your case then you are also entitled and very welcome to marry here.

If you do not reside in the parish of Shanklin St. Blasius, and you do not otherwise have a 'qualifying connection' with St Blasius' Church, then it would still be possible to marry here if one of you were to 'regularly attend public worship in the parish for six months or more' beforehand.

In order to satisfy this condition, it would be necessary to attend a Sunday service at St Blasius' Church at least once a month during the six-month period. We would 'pencil in' your wedding in the Church Diary at the outset, and make it a firm arrangement at the end of the six months' churchgoing.

However, **if either of you has been married before, and has a former spouse still living**, then we shall be unable to conduct a Marriage Service for you at St Blasius' Church. It may be possible for us to offer you a **Service of Prayer and Dedication after Civil Marriage** (usually known as a 'Service of Blessing') at St Blasius' Church instead of a Marriage service, if this seems appropriate, but only if you reside within the parish of Shanklin St. Blasius or else have a 'qualifying connection' with St Blasius' Church, as defined above. Please do enquire if you would like to explore this possibility further.

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THE PARISH OF SHANKLIN St BLASIUS

The parish is fairly small and covers part of Shanklin.

It is contained within these boundaries:

(West) Hungerberry Close and part of Windsor Drive and Victoria Avenue east of East Mead

(South) Part of Cowleaze Hill and part of Lucombe Road

(East) Chine Avenue (southern side) and Everton Lane (southern side)

(North) Garfield Road and part of Brook Road

- To identify whether you live in the parish of Shanklin St. Blasius please see the official parish boundary map: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/parish.php?p=290147/>
- Zoom into this map ('+' sign) to view the street name where you live – if it is within the red shaded area, then you are in the the parish of Shanklin St. Blasius.

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CHARGES

Charges are made up of the 'statutory' national Church of England fees together with certain 'local' fees for optional 'extras'

The following are the national Church of England fees:

Publication of Banns of Marriage:.....	£28.00
Marriage Service:.....	£424.00
Marriage Certificate:.....	£13.00
Total:.....	£465.00

OTHER CHARGES

'Local' fees for 'extras' (*where required*) include:

Organist.....	£75.00
Heating in winter months.....	£25.00

If you would like the church building to be heated for your wedding there will be a charge of £25.00 for providing this service.

The above charges are subject to change.

Fees will be collected by the Priest conducting the Service at the Wedding Rehearsal. Payment for all Statutory Fees should be made by way of a cheque payable to "St. Blasius Church PCC". This cheque should also include the costs for heating the church if so requested. Payment for any other services (such as the organist) should also be made to the Priest at the wedding rehearsal in cash so that it can be passed on directly to those providing the services.

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WEDDING FLOWERS

There are several options for you to consider:

1. Throughout the year, except in Lent, there are always floral displays on the altar, side-table and near to the pulpit. These are arranged by volunteers and, without exception, look lovely. You are welcome to use these flowers as decoration for your wedding service but you would not, however, have a choice in either the colour or type of flower used. Should you choose this option, we would welcome any donation to the church you feel is appropriate.
2. You could employ your own florist.
3. We could buy and arrange your flowers. There would be a minimum charge of £75 and the final total would depend on the type of flowers chosen and the number needed. The form and timing of the payment for any flowers we buy and arrange for you should be co-ordinated with the flower-arranging volunteer.
4. You and your family may wish to arrange the flowers yourselves. In all cases, the flowers on the altar, side-table and by the pulpit must remain for the Sunday services and cannot be taken away.

When you have decided on your option, please contact:

Jenny Wright on (01983) 863455 to finalise the arrangements.

CONTACTS

Queries relating to: Banns and Marriage services. Should be addressed to:

Revd. Tony Richards Local Minister

Tel: 01983 863607

email: tbrichards@btinternet.com

Churchwardens:

Mr Robert Crawley

01983 868436

Mr Brian Hardy-Bishop

01983 866303