

**Please consider the following:**

- 1. Why am I getting married?**
- 2. Can I put my partner first all the time?**
- 3. Can I hand over all I own to my partner and trust them with it?**
- 4. Do I respect my partner?**
- 5. What does he/she do that really winds me up?**
- 6. Is sex about me having a good time or me giving of myself to my partner**
- 7. How would I cope with long term illness and being a carer.**
- 8. What does God say about Marriage**

## **The Law**

After October 2008 in order to have the right to marry in one of our churches you will have to show that you:-

- Were baptised in the church you wish to marry in
- Where Confirmed in the church you wish to marry in
- have worshipped there for 6 month at some time or lived here for 6 months

Or

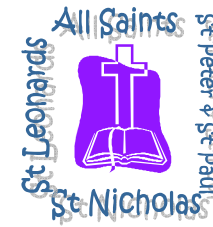
- Your parents live in the parish or have lived or worshipped in the parish for 6 months

Or

- Your Grandparents/Parents were married in the church

It is the duty of the person applying to establish one of the above and swear a Statutory Declaration to that effect. The Vicar can refuse a right to marry

The cost of marrying in one of our churches is approximately £430.00



**The United Benefice of  
Mears Ashby, Hardwick  
& Sywell cum Overstone**



**A Guide to  
Getting Married  
in Church**

**Congratulations on your approaching wedding, please take a moment to write out below why you think it is important to get married in church.**

.....  
.....  
.....

We must start from the point that God is a great fan of marriage and supports you in making this choice. Genesis makes clear that he sees men and women living together in a lifelong, committed, heterosexual union.



We want to do all we can to ensure that as you take this step it is built on firm Christian foundations, and as the marriage service says that it is not entered into lightly, or selfishly. You cannot be self centered and it is not about men being the boss and running the show.

## So what does the bible say

Please take to read the following passages:-

Ephesians 5:22-33

Genesis 1:18-24

Write here you reactions to these passages and what you think they are saying.

The image is one of self giving in the Ephesians passage modeled on the self giving of Christ. That giving took him to the cross where he died for you and me.

## All I have is yours

A very practical aspect of this love is that every penny and asset you have, which is a gift of God's and therefore not yours, has to be shared. There can be no holding anything back. God held nothing back in his love for you and thus we have to act in the light of that.

Ask yourself is there anything you would find it hard to do this with?

## Readings

Please Contact the Vicar prior to choosing readings. Here are some suggestions



*1 Corinthians 13*

*Ephesians 5:21-33*

*Ephesians 3:14-end*

*Matthew 7:21-27*

*John 2:1-11*

These readings all reflect the simple truth that marriage is a gift of God and it is a self giving relationship that models the relationship God has with Christians.

Please try to avoid texts from the other religions texts.

## Hymns

Please choose a maximum of three and you can borrow one of the hymn books closer to the date of the preparation course.