

Gas Street Church — Weddings Information Pack

Congratulations on your engagement!

We hope that this will give you all the information you need in planning your wedding at Gas Street Church. Please do not hesitate to be in touch with us at any time in the run up to your day if you have any questions.

The Church of England also has a website with lots of information about getting married in a church, so if you are after some more advice please visit yourchurchwedding.org

Locations

Gas Street is one church across two locations - please make it clear in your enquiry which location you would like to be married at:

- Gas Street Central — 41 Gas Street, Birmingham, B1 2JT
- Gas Street St Luke's — Great Colmore Street, Birmingham, B15 2AT

Times of Weddings

Weddings normally take place on Saturdays but they can take place on other days of the week. Legally, marriages must be celebrated between 8am and 6pm. We are unfortunately unable to accommodate weddings on Sundays, or wedding receptions.

Sunday Gatherings at Gas Street Church

If you do not already, you are very welcome to attend worship at any of the gatherings at Gas Street Church. Our gathering times can be found on our website at gasstreet.church. If you have been requested to attend worship for at least 6 months before getting married here, please feel free to choose any of these gatherings to attend.

Marriage Preparation Course & Support Couple

We want to support you as a couple in preparing for your marriage and so we have a marriage preparation course lasting 5 weeks that it is compulsory to attend before your wedding, along with an appointment with a support couple. The clergy member who will be marrying you will be able to give you more information on how to go about completing the course.

Clergy

We won't be able to offer the option for you to request a specific clergy member (another word for a priest) to take the wedding, but we will provide one of our fantastic clergy to oversee preparations for the marriage service and the day itself. Our Clergy Team will only be able to conduct weddings at our church locations and are not able to conduct weddings at different churches.

Production & Band

We require that a member of our production team will be at your wedding to manage all technical elements. This will be charged in addition to the wedding fees. The fee will depend on your requirements, so please discuss your requirements with your Wedding Coordinator who will organise the production on your behalf.

We are also able to help organise a Worship Band for your wedding - if you would like us to explore this then let us know in your enquiry or discuss what you would like with your Wedding Coordinator.

Live Streaming & Recording

We are able to offer a live stream of your wedding, including a digital copy as a recording afterwards. The cost for this varies on the quality of the recording you desire; please discuss this with your Wedding Coordinator if you'd like to explore this option.

Flowers and Decoration

You can arrange a site visit with your Wedding Coordinator a few months before your wedding to plan your decor. We ask you communicate your decoration plans at least 1 month prior to the wedding so that we can see if we can accommodate your wishes, including what time your florist may need access to the building.

Terms and Conditions

You will be sent a copy of 'Gas Street Church Weddings: Terms and Conditions' which we ask you to adhere to.

Legal Information

Where can we get married?

The law assumes that people will normally get married in the parish where they are resident. If the bride and groom live in different parishes they may be married in either parish. If either or both of you, therefore, live in the ecclesiastical parish of St Luke's Birmingham, you may be married at Gas Street Church. You can check if you are within your parish here: achurchnearyou.com

If you do not live within the parish, it is still possible to get married at Gas Street Church if you meet the following criteria ;

- You and your partner are active members of Gas Street Church
- You or your partner are on the electoral roll at Gas Street Church and you have been coming twice a month for 6 months or more

What if one of us is divorced?

If one or both of you are divorced, it can still be possible to marry in church, but you will need to arrange a meeting with one of the Clergy to discuss this, submit your certificate of divorce/anulment, as well as complete the following form to help us understand your circumstances:

churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-11/MarriageAFTERdivorceFORM.pdf

What are the legal preliminaries to a wedding?

Your intention to marry legally has to be given by an announcement in church on three consecutive Sundays, within three months of the wedding. This is called "reading the banns" and we will arrange for you if you are getting married at Gas Street.

If one or both of you are not currently living in the parish, the banns also have to be read in the parish church of the parish(es) in which you are currently living, which you have to arrange and provide a certificate to show this has been done.

For example:

1. If you both live in the parish of St Luke's Birmingham, we will arrange for your banns of marriage to be read at a Gas Street gathering and you need to do nothing more.
2. If one of you lives in the parish of St Luke's Birmingham and your partner lives somewhere else; you will need to have your Banns read at Gas Street Church, and you will need to ask the Vicar of the parish where your partner lives to read them in that parish as well. You will then have to pay a fee to collect a Banns Certificate from the parish, before providing this to the Gas Street Church offices or bringing it to your wedding rehearsal and giving it to the clergy member who will be officiating at your wedding.

3. If you both live somewhere else but are getting married in this parish because you have a qualifying connection through the Marriage Measure 2008, you will need to find out which is/are your local Parish Church(es) and ask the Vicar(s) of those churches to read your Banns of Marriage there as well. You will then have to pay a separate fee to each Parish and collect a Banns Certificate, before providing this to the Gas Street Church offices or bringing it to your wedding rehearsal and giving it to the clergy member who will be officiating at your wedding.

You can't get married unless your Banns are read at Gas Street Church **and** we receive the Banns Certificate from the parish where the bride and/or groom are currently living. You can visit achurchnearyou.com to help you to find out which parish you are living in.

Next Steps

Immediately after confirming your Wedding date

- Return a signed copy of the booking contract and pay the deposit invoice
- Contact your Wedding Coordinator to arrange the logistics of your wedding day, and if you need to discuss special requests for hospitality, production, live streaming & recording and band
- Contact your clergy member to complete the Marriage Prep course and arrange to meet your allocated support couple

From 4 months before your Wedding date

- Make an appointment before your wedding to have a site visit
- Discuss your marriage and Order of Service with the clergy member who will be officiating at your wedding
- Complete the Marriage Legal Details form (please note the spellings given will be used to populate your Marriage Register and Marriage Certificates)
 - Please inform the Church Office of any change of details (including address or telephone number or occupation) as the details on the Marriage Legal Details form will appear on the Marriage Registers.
- Visit the Gas Street Offices to provide Rebekah Evans with your ID and proof of address; and a re-marriage form & certificate of divorce/annulment if one or both of you are previously married
- Make arrangements to have Banns of Marriage read if one or both of you live in a different parish to St Luke's Birmingham, and collect the Banns certificate/s and provide a copy to Rebekah Evans in the Gas Street Offices
- Arrange set-up and rehearsal times with your Wedding Coordinator
- Pay the balance due 8 weeks prior to the wedding

Key Contacts

Gas Street Offices — 0121 643 2795 — events@gasstreet.church

Rebekah Evans (Events Coordinator — Practical & Legal Support)
07957 269596 — rebekah.evans@gasstreet.church

Tim Bateman (Associate Vicar — Pastoral & Clergy Support)
tim.bateman@gasstreet.church

Matthew Smith (Finance Manager)
finance@gasstreet.church