



# The Anglican Parish of Burnside-Harewood

St James' Harewood and St Timothy's Burnside

## Getting Married in the Parish

We look forward to sharing with you in the planning and the celebration of your wedding. The Anglican Church celebrates marriage as one of God's good gifts to his creation and having your wedding in church is a way of recognising God's place in your relationship. As well as preparing for your wedding day, we also want to help you prepare for a marriage that is life-giving and lifelong. The following blessing is used in the marriage ceremony, and encapsulates these ideals:-

All praise and blessing to you, God of love,  
Creator of the universe, maker of man and woman in your likeness,  
Source of blessing for married life.  
All praise to you for you have created courtship and marriage,  
joy and gladness, feasting and laughter, pleasure and delight.  
May your blessing come in full upon this couple,  
may they know your presence in their joys and in their sorrows.  
may they reach old age in the company of friends  
and come at last to your eternal kingdom. Amen.

*(A New Zealand Prayer Book)*

### Choice of Service

The New Zealand Prayer Book provides three alternative marriage services. Normally the marriage celebrant will be our vicar or another minister licensed to the parish and you will meet twice with him or her to plan the service and any music you would like. If you know another Anglican minister who you would like to take the service then this can be arranged.

In order to be married in church, at least one partner should be a baptised member of the Christian Church (any denomination). If neither have been baptised, then this should be discussed early on in the planning. If you are interested in being baptised as a sign of your commitment to Christ, then please discuss this with the minister.

### Music

If you wish we can provide an organist or pianist for musical accompaniment for the service. If you wish to have a music group instead, then this is your responsibility to organize. We can provide suggestions for hymns or songs if required. You will also need to choose music for entering and leaving the church, and music during the signing of the register. We have facilities to play CDs at both churches, but you will need to provide someone to operate this.

### Participants in the Service

We encourage you to invite a friend or family member to read a lesson or lead the prayers in the service. If you have some connection with another Christian minister who you would like to invite to be involved please let us know.

## Marriage Preparation

As well as preparing for your wedding day, we want to help to prepare you for a life-giving marriage that sustains you through all the seasons of life. The way in which we do this varies from couple to couple, but we strongly recommend the 4 week DVD based “Marriage Preparation Course”. You can watch a trailer at [www.themarriagecourse.org.nz/preparation/](http://www.themarriagecourse.org.nz/preparation/)

## Licence

A Marriage Licence must be obtained from the Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages - free call 0800-225252. It normally takes four or five days to process an application. The minister taking the service should be given the licence at least 2 weeks before the wedding.

## Booking a date

Our churches are used throughout the week, and in order to work around other bookings, Saturday is the best day for us to host a wedding. If you are planning a wedding in January, you may need to arrange for another Anglican minister to take the service as our vicar is often away on holiday. Please ensure that your date and time is confirmed with us before making other arrangements such as reception venues. We are happy to take bookings well in advance of the proposed date. Please be in touch with the parish office, phone 358-8174 or email [office@burnside.org.nz](mailto:office@burnside.org.nz).

## Decoration of the Church

We have a vergier at each church who oversees the decoration of the building. If you wish to view the inside building before you book a date, then please be in touch with them. In the month before your wedding, please be in touch with the vergier regarding flower arrangements or other decorations you would like to have. We have excellent flower arrangers in the parish who will do their best to coordinate colours if required. If you wish to place other decorations in the church (e.g. bows on the end of pews, etc.) please indicate your intention and ensure that no damage can be caused to the furniture.

Vergier for St James:                    Dorothy Andrew 359-6577  
Vergier for St Timothy's:            Joy Thompson 359-8210

## Photography

It is good to have a record of the occasion but anyone taking photographs or video must remain unobtrusive during the service. It is essential that the photographer and/or video operator are at the rehearsal so they can talk through camera locations with the minister and couple.

## Prayers for the Marriage

On the Sunday preceding the wedding the couple will be prayed for in our regular services of worship. You are encouraged to be present at that time along with any family members who may like to attend.

## Fees and Donations

Please see the separate information sheet “Fees for weddings and funerals”. Fees are waived for worshipping members of the parish .