

PHOTOGRAPHY IN CHURCH DURING WEDDINGS



At this church photography during the ceremony is at the discretion of each officiating minister. **Please do ask before assuming.** Some will be relaxed about photography while others will want to limit it to before and after the ceremony.

If the officiating minister permits photography this generally means a person designated for photography rather than everyone in the congregation getting out their cameras, smartphones, camcorders, etc. Photographers are welcome to meet the officiating minister and/or the vergers at the rehearsal or by appointment. We can also open up the gallery windows for shots from upstairs.

We ask that photographers take note of these points having in recent times witnessed a trend towards some indiscreet and unprofessional practices:

1. There should be no flash photography *at all* during the ceremony.
2. Unduly delay of the service or asking the minister to repeat parts of the liturgy. "Could we do that bit again vicar?" is out the question. The pace of the Divine Service is set by the minister not by the photographer.
3. Refrain from moving around the church but rather stick to one or two stations.
4. Do not take photographs or move around *during* the declarations, vows, prayers, and the nuptial blessing. Try to avoid 'clicking' away during silent and poignant parts of the service.
5. Please do not walk or stand onto the red dais or in front of the bride and groom.
6. Do not casually photograph the clergy or the choir without asking beforehand. Do not go up to people's faces and click away.
7. Visual stunts during the service are not appropriate. Like, for instance, asking the congregation to turn around and wave to the gallery.
8. It is against the law to take photographs of the registry book as this is a legal document. You can, however, photograph the bride and groom signing a blank page.

Our hope is that photography should be highly discreet and not interrupt the flow of what is a religious ceremony. We appreciate that photographs have the capacity to be part of the beautiful memento of a wedding day. We have generally in this church been very relaxed and where possible we do want to help but likewise we also want to quell upset and stop indiscretion.