

Choosing Hymns for your Wedding



*Kirk Christ with
St. Catherine's (Port Erin),
St. Mary's (Port St Mary),
and St. Peter's (Cregneish)*

Parish Website: www.rushenparish.org.uk

C of E Website: www.yourchurchwedding.org

Things to consider ...

There are several opportunities for music during the service. You can choose two or three hymns. You also need to think about the music the bride will enter the church to, and the music to which the couple will leave the church as husband and wife. You may also like to choose some music to be played during the signing of the registers. It is important to consult with the minister and the organist before finalising the music.

It is important to choose hymns and songs which will be known by the majority of the congregation and are not too difficult to sing. You will feel uplifted and supported by a rousing hymn or two. It also makes sense to read through the words of the entire hymn to ensure that it is suitable for the occasion.

You will find it much easier to choose after you have attended Sunday worship at the church where you are to be married. This will give you a feel for the building, the capacity of the organ and the atmosphere of the place.

Many of these hymns can be listened to on the Church of England [website](#).

Listed on the next page are hymns that are often sung at Weddings. This is by no means an exhaustive list. If you don't see a hymn listed don't think it can't be sung at your wedding. *Click on a hymn to be taken to the particular page.*

The modern and traditional versions of the Lord's Prayer are to be found at the end of this document.

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1. All things bright and beautiful,

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings:

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky:

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one:

The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water
We gather every day:

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God almighty,
Who has made all things well:

*Please consider omitting at least one verse (but not the last verse),
otherwise the hymn is very long with effectively 11 verses.*

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2. Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

When we've been there a thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

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3. At the name of Jesus

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of glory now;
'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
who, from the beginning, was the mighty Word.

At his voice creation sprang at once to sight
all the angels' faces, all the hosts of light,
thrones and domination, stars upon their way,
all the heavenly orders in their great array.

Humbled for a season, to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it, spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious when from death he passed.

Bore it up triumphant with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures, to the central height,
to the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast;
filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true;
crown him as your captain in temptation's hour;
let his will enfold you in its light and power.

Truly, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
with his Father's glory, with his angel train;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him King of glory now.

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4. Be thou my Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with me and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my armour, and be thou my might;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r:
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise:
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart;
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art !

High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joys to me, O bright heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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5. Bind us together, Lord

*Bind us together, Lord,
bind us together with cords
that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together with love.*

There is only one God,
There is only one King;
There is only one Body,
That is why we sing:
Bind us together, Lord ...

Made for the glory of God,
Purchased by his precious Son;
Born with the right to be free,
Jesus the victory has won.
Bind us together, Lord ...

We are the family of God,
We are his promise divine;
We are his chosen desire,
We are the glorious new wine.

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6. Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine:
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation purchase of God;
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood:

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love:

Perfect submission, all is at rest -
I in my Saviour am happy and blest -
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

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7. Colours of Day

Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet.
*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.*

Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing our friend.
So light up the fire ...

Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the Son came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.
So light up the fire ...

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8. Come down, O Love Divine

Come down, O love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till Love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

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9. For the beauty of the earth,

For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies,
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light:

For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight:

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild:

For each perfect gift of thine
To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine,
Flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

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10. Give me joy in my heart,

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Give me joy in my heart, I pray,
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
Keep me praising till the end of day.

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Sing hosanna to the King.*

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
Give me peace in my heart, I pray,
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
Keep me resting till the end of day.

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Give me love in my heart, I pray;
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
Keep me serving till the end of day.

Give me light in my heart, keep me shining,
Give me light in my heart, I pray;
Give me light in my heart, keep me shining,
Keep me shining till the end of day.

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11. God is Love

God is love: his the care,
tending each, everywhere.

God is love, all is there!

Jesus came to show him,
that we all might know him!

Sing aloud, loud, loud!

Sing aloud, loud, loud!

God is good! God is truth!

God is beauty! Praise Him!

None can see God above;
we can share life and love;
thus may we Godward move,
seek him in creation,
holding every nation.

Jesus lived on the earth,
life and hope brought to birth
and affirmed human worth,
for he came to save us
by the truth he gave us.

To our Lord praise we sing,
light and life, friend and King,
coming down, love to bring,
pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty.

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12. Great is thy Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever will be.

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

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13. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer.

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim though this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer.
be thou still my Strength and Shield,
be thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
bear me through the swelling current,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

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14. O Lord, my God (How Great thou art)

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed
*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think of God, His Son not sparing;
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And then proclaim, 'My God, how great Thou art!'

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15. Lord of all hopefulness

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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16. Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
 and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
 and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
 At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
 And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
 And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
 But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
 I danced for the fishermen, for James and John
 They came with me and the Dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
 The holy people said it was a shame.
 They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
 And they left me there on a Cross to die.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black
 It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
 They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
 But I am the Dance, and I still go on.

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
 I am the life that'll never, never die;
 I'll live in you, if you'll live in me
 I am the Lord Of the Dance, said he.

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17. Lord the light of your love is shining (Shine, Jesus shine)

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine

Fill this land with the Father's glory

Blaze, Spirit, blaze

Set our hearts on fire

Flow, river, flow

Flood the nations with grace and mercy

Send forth your word

Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

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18. Love divine all loves excelling.

Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

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19. Make me a channel of your peace.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;
And where there's doubt, true faith in you:

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there's sadness, ever joy:

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving of ourselves that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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20. Morning has broken.

Morning has broken,
Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken
Like the first bird;
Praise for the singing,
Praise for the morning,
Praise for them springing
Fresh from the Word.

Sweet the rain's new fall,
Sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall
On the first grass;
Praise for the sweetness,
Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness
Where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight,
Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light
Eden saw play;
Praise with elation,
Praise every morning,
God's re-creation
Of the new day.

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21. O Jesus I have promised

O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
be thou ever near me,
my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

O let me see thy footmarks,
and in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

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22. One more step along the world I go

One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I go.
From the old things to the new
Keep me travelling along with you.
*And it's from the old I travel to the new,
Keep me travelling along with you.*

Round the corners of the world I turn,
More and more about the world I learn.
All the new things that I see
You'll be looking at along with me.

As I travel through the bad and good
Keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go
You'll be telling me the way, I know.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
Keep me loving though the world is tough.
Leap and sing in all I do,
Keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
You are younger than the life in me.
Ever old and ever new,
Keep me travelling along with you.

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23. Praise my soul the King of Heaven.

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
To his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space:
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

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24. The King of Love my Shepherd is

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

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25. Thine be the Glory

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son,
Endless is the vict'ry, thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love:
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

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26. We Pledge to one another

We pledge to one another,
 before the Lord above,
 entire and whole and perfect,
 this union of our love —
 a love that will be patient,
 a love that will be wise,
 that will not twist with envy,
 nor lose itself in lies;
 a love that will not falter,
 a love to hold us fast,
 and bind us to each other
 as long as life shall last.

We pray that God will guide us
 through all the years to be,
 our lives be shaped by courage,
 hope and serenity.
 Through joy and celebration,
 through loneliness and pain,
 may loyalty, compassion
 and tenderness remain,
 that those who share the blessing
 of love that cannot cease
 may walk the paths of gentleness
 into the place of peace.

(To tune 'I vow to thee, my Country)

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27. When I survey the wondrous cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God!
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingling down!
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a off'ring far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

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28. The Lord's Prayer (Modern)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

29. The Lord's Prayer (Traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

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