



ST STEPHEN WALBROOK

# *Weddings*

A PLACE OF CELEBRATION





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## ST STEPHEN WALBROOK

*Congratulations on your engagement!*

We are delighted that you are considering St Stephen Walbrook for your church wedding. We know how important your wedding day is and we are proud of the rich history of celebration that St Stephen Walbrook can offer our couples.

For your special day, we offer a truly special 'Place of Celebration'

Located in the heart of the City, the spectacular architecture of the church with its magnificent dome, offers couples who choose to get married at St Stephen Walbrook, the perfect backdrop to bring together friends and family for this most important occasion.

Over the next few pages we will guide you through planning your wedding at St Stephen Walbrook and the options available to you.

Once you have had a chance to read through the information, we look forward to hearing from you to begin discussing your wedding plans.

*all the best,  
the team at St Stephen Walbrook*

THEREFORE WHAT GOD HAS JOINED  
TOGETHER, LET NO ONE SEPARATE.

Mark, 10:9





BE DEVOTED TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE.  
HONOUR ONE ANOTHER ABOVE YOURSELVES.

Romans, 12:10



## Church Weddings

A CHURCH IS SO MUCH MORE THAN A VENUE FOR  
YOUR WEDDING. A CHURCH WEDDING WILL ADD  
A SPIRITUAL DIMENSION TO YOUR MARRIAGE.

The ceremony includes God and looks to him for help and guidance. God's blessing is the main attraction for many couples, whatever their beliefs.

For some people, a church simply seems like the proper place to get married. Churches can be described as 'peaceful', 'serene', or having an atmosphere that makes marrying there a particularly special experience.

These vows made in public are a foundation that will support you and help your love to keep growing. God and your church are there for you to help you keep your vows.

The Priest has a very particular role to play in your wedding. They can blend ancient tradition and modern experience to reflect your story. Because of the relationship you will build with the Priest, your wedding can be made personal, memorable, meaningful and beautiful.

You can be involved in making choices about your ceremony. You can even use the Church of England's online ceremony planner to get you started (see [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org)).

And after your wedding, you'll realise that a church is more than simply a wedding venue. We'll always be here for you.





# Qualifying for a Church Wedding

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IS HISTORICALLY ARRANGED INTO GEOGRAPHICAL PARISHES, AND AS THE LAW CURRENTLY STANDS, YOU ARE ENTITLED TO BE MARRIED IN THE CHURCH OF THE PARISH IN WHICH YOU LIVE.

Very few people live in the parish of St Stephen Walbrook; so if you would like to be married here, there are some simple formalities that need to be observed to meet the criteria, which we have detailed below:

A couple may be married here if either of you can show one of the seven connections with the parish.

1. Was baptised in the parish
2. Was prepared for confirmation in the parish
3. Has at any time lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months
4. Has at any time regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months and if they intend to continue doing so.
5. That one of your parents, at any time after you were born has lived in the parish for a period of at least 6 months or has regularly gone to normal church services in the parish church for a period of at least 6 months.
6. That one of your parents or grandparents was married in the parish.

## ALTERNATIVELY:

At least one of you needs to attend services regularly for six months. It is usual for one of the parties to have been baptised. There are plenty of services to choose from at various times on weekdays. Discover the services available for you to join on our website [HERE](#).

If you are unsure if you meet the criteria to get married at St Stephen Walbrook, please contact the team at St Stephen Walbrook who will be able to advise you.





# How to book your wedding at St Stephen Walbrook

## CONTACT DETAILS

1

If you think you may be entitled to marry here the next step is to ring the Priest, Stephen Baxter on **020 7626 900** or email on [priest@ststephenwalbrook.net](mailto:priest@ststephenwalbrook.net). You will need to let the priest know:

- The names of the couple
- Your preferred wedding date(s) and times
- Number of guests
- Your qualifying connection to St Stephen Walbrook

The priest will take contact details, check the availability and advise whether we can take your booking.

## SWEAR AN OATH

2

Because St Stephen Walbrook does not have Sunday services, we can't publish 'Banns of Marriage'. Instead, you'll need to swear an oath saying that there's no reason you shouldn't be married.

There are certain fees, some of which are set by the Church of England for the whole country, and some of which pay for other aspects of the service. These change from time to time, the team at St Stephen Walbrook will be able to advise on the fees once you enquire with them.

## INTERVIEW

3

A booking interview will then be booked. This meeting will take around an hour to sort out all the paperwork. You will need to bring your passports and proof of address. It will also give you the opportunity to visit the church and ensure it is the perfect location for your wedding day. Please note, these meetings usually take place on weekdays, as St Stephen Walbrook is closed at the weekend unless opening for a special occasion.

## CONTRACT

4

Once you decide you would like to move forward with your wedding ceremony at St Stephen Walbrook a venue hire agreement will be issued and a deposit invoice will be sent to you to confirm your booking. The final invoice will be sent to you 6 weeks prior to your wedding.

As things move along we have lots of resources to help you plan your wedding. We aim to make it as easy as possible. Remember, we have done all of this before.



# How to book your wedding at St Stephen Walbrook

## MEETING WITH THE PRIEST

5

Prior to the wedding there are usually four meetings with the couple and the priest which involve discussion of how your relationship has developed, plans for your life together, any concerns they have and preparation for the service, including reviewing the full text of the service and helping choose readings and music. These meetings provide space for the couple to discuss anything they wish to explore.

## PRE-WEDDING MEETING 6

We would recommend having a planning meeting at the church 1 month prior to your wedding day, with the St Stephen Walbrook team and your suppliers to run through the ceremony details and timings to ensure the day will run smoothly. This gives suppliers the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the space, check operational details and give you peace of mind so you can enjoy one of the most important days of your life.

## WEDDING REHEARSAL 7

St Stephen Walbrook is available for a rehearsal in the days running up to the ceremony. This is subject to availability and may incur an additional charge if the venue has to open outside of normal opening hours.





# Wedding Ceremonies

Up to 260 guests

## WEDDING CEREMONIES AT ST STEPHEN WALBROOK ARE A TRULY SPECIAL EXPERIENCE.

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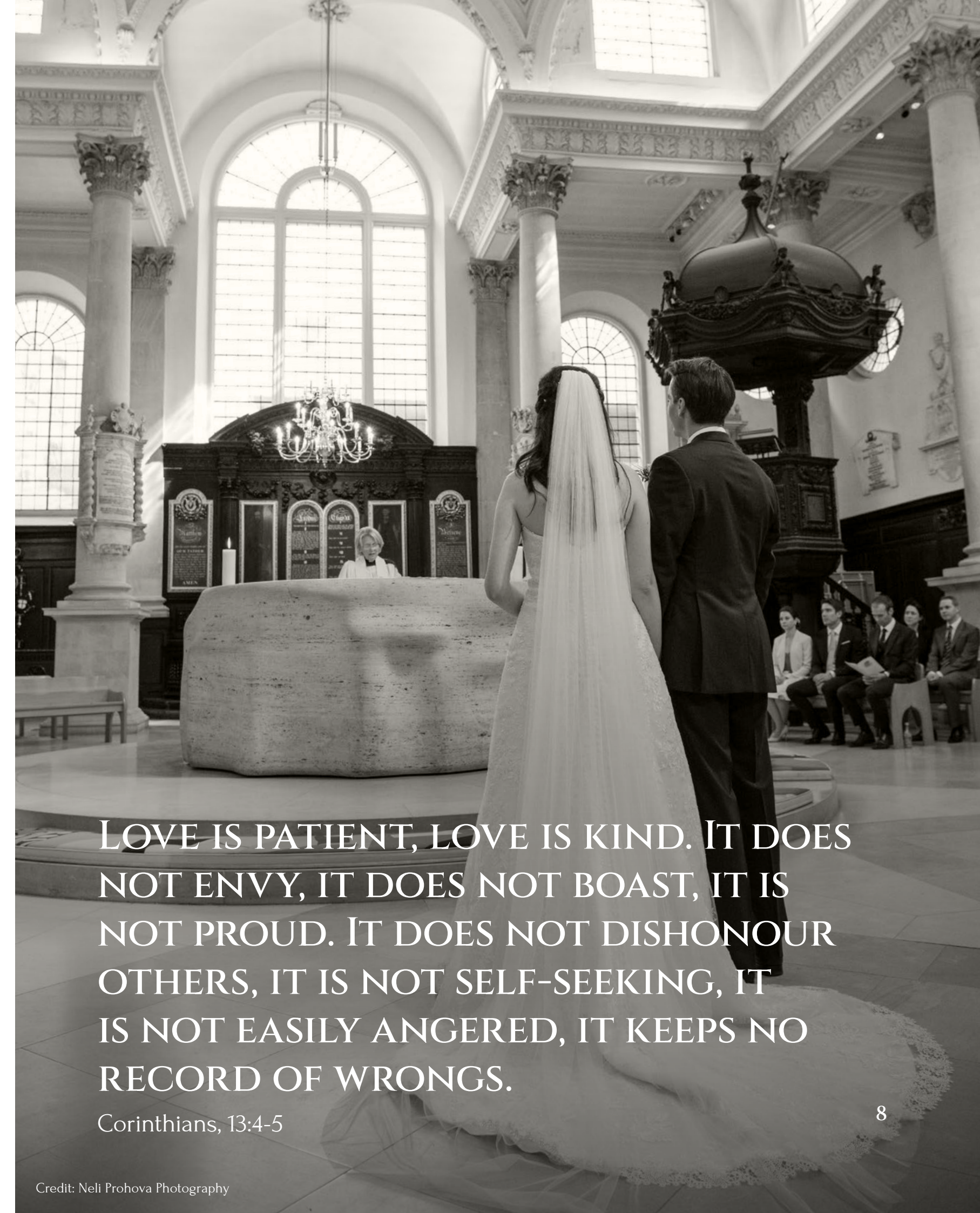
The central circular altar serves as the focal point for your wedding ceremony, providing an intimate and spiritual ambiance that reflects your love and faith.

At St Stephen Walbrook, we believe in tailoring your wedding ceremony to your unique love story and spiritual journey, ensuring that your special day is a reflection of your love, faith, and individual preferences. We work collaboratively with couples to create a ceremony that is a true reflection of your love and faith.

Prior to the big day, our priest will meet with the couple, assisting them in selecting each element of the ceremony.

Each wedding is individual to the couple and last approximately 50-55 minutes but will usually include:

- Two or three readings from the Bible.
- Three hymns to be sung by the guests.
- Two or three pieces performed by the choir.
- The option to have majestic organ music and/or the church choir perform during the bride's arrival and the procession of the bride and groom, although we also welcome other musicians should you desire a different musical accompaniment.



LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND. IT DOES NOT ENVY, IT DOES NOT BOAST, IT IS NOT PROUD. IT DOES NOT DISHONOUR OTHERS, IT IS NOT SELF-SEEKING, IT IS NOT EASILY ANGERED, IT KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS.

Corinthians, 13:4-5





# *Ceremonies & Drinks Reception*

*Up to 150 guests*

CONTINUE THE CELEBRATION AT STEPHEN WALBROOK AFTER YOU SAY 'I DO' WITH A GLASS OR TWO OF FIZZ.

Once you have said your vows, and had your 'confetti moment', invite your guests back into the church for a drinks reception before making your way to your Wedding Reception venue to continue the celebrations.

Treat your guests to a drinks reception under the dome or on warmer days guests can spill out into our private courtyard.

Drinks and canapes must be provided and served via one of our approved caterers, we are very happy to make recommendations based on your budget and style to ensure you and your guests have a seamless service.

## *Your Wedding Reception*

For those who choose to say their 'I do's' elsewhere, there is the opportunity to host your drink reception, dinner and dancing for up to 80 guests at St Stephen Walbrook. St Stephen Walbrook is a spectacular setting for dinners under Sir Christopher Wren's magnificent dome. For further details, please ask the Events Team for a copy of the Events Brochure.



# Photography & Videography

## ST STEPHEN WALBROOK NEOCLASSICAL ARCHITECTURE OFFERS THE PICTURE PERFECT BACKDROP FOR COUPLE PORTRAITS.

St Stephen Walbrook is located in the heart of the City of London and there are a variety of iconic London locations on our doorstep for you to capture memories that you will treasure forever. The beautiful architecture also lends itself perfectly to group shots with family members and your bridal party.

Professional photography is permitted in the church during marriage services, by agreement of the Priest-in-Charge. We ask

that you confirm your photographer and videographer at your final meeting 4 weeks prior to your wedding to receive approval.

Audio and video recording (including the use of mobile phones) is not permitted in the church without advance written permission. Exceptions can be made a minimum of four weeks in advance by permission of the Priest-in-charge.







# Suppliers

WE HAVE CENTURIES OF EXPERIENCE HOSTING WEDDINGS AT ST STEPHEN WALBROOK AND LOVE TO SEE HOW COUPLES DECORATE THE SPACE TO SUIT THEIR TASTES AND STYLES.

Due to the historic and delicate nature of St Stephen Walbrook, we have a responsibility to ensure that events are delivered safely and that the venue is treated with the utmost care. Therefore, we have a carefully curated Approved Supplier List for catering, floristry, production, entertainment and furniture hire.

All suppliers must come from the list, and we are very happy to make recommendations for suppliers depending on your style and budget, just let us know!

The Approved Supplier List can be found as an email attachment in the email sent to you by the St Stephen Walbrook events team.



# How to Find us



## TRANSPORT LINKS:



BANK STATION (Exit 8) 1 minute



CANNON STREET 2 minutes



MANSION HOUSE 4 minutes



MONUMENT 5 minutes

## GET IN TOUCH:



020 7626 9000



@ststephenwalbrook



[www.ststephenwalbrook.net/  
exclusive-hire](http://www.ststephenwalbrook.net/exclusive-hire)



[priest@ststephenwalbrook.net](mailto:priest@ststephenwalbrook.net)



@StStephenEC4N



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ST STEPHEN WALBROOK  
VENUE HIRE