



**The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers**



**Weddings 2026**

[www.eggardoncolmerschurches.org](http://www.eggardoncolmerschurches.org)



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers



I am so pleased that you are planning your wedding in the Parishes of Askerswell, Loders, Symondsbury and Powerstock and that you have chosen to be married in church. Planning and preparation for a wedding is a time of joy and excitement but it can also seem very busy.

We in this group of churches are here to help you in any way we can and the information in this pack is about us and how your plans can be put together for a meaningful and personal marriage service. You might also like to check out the Church of England site, [www.yourchurchwedding.org](http://www.yourchurchwedding.org) which has lots of helpful information.

Don't forget you can contact us whenever you wish if you would like to ask or discuss anything further. Please contact our Benefice Administrator, Jeanette Wedge, whose contact details are on the last page.

With my very best wishes and prayers for your special day.

*Rev'd Chris Grasske*



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers

### Church Fees 2026

The marriage fees for the current year are printed on the next page. The central church fee and local fee are compulsory payments. The fees for the verger will be included in our fee. For weddings between 1st October and the end of March, a small additional fee will be added towards the cost of our rather ancient heating systems.

If you choose to have the bells rang at your wedding, the fees are payable directly by an arrangement between yourselves.

We will provide an invoice about a month before your wedding, along with a document with all the details we hold for you from your original booking, for you to update if required.

Please note that if you are marrying outside your home parish, you will need to pay your parish church to have the banns read there and for a Banns Certificate to be issued, which you should give to the minister at your rehearsal.

If you require a Banns Certificate from another parish and don't have one, you won't be able to marry.



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers

2026 Marriage Fees	
Publication of Banns	£39
Central Church Fee	£257
Local Church Fee	£309
Marriage Certificate	Now ordered by you
<p style="text-align: center;">Dorset Council Registration Services Order online at <a href="http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/certificates">www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/certificates</a> Telephone 01305 225153</p>	
Music Fee ( <i>by arrangement with the organist</i> )	By arrangement (See <b>Organist</b> section)
Verger	£25
Heating ( <i>if wedding is between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 31<sup>st</sup> March</i> )	£45
Bells	By arrangement (see <b>Bells</b> section)
Choir	Please contact the church
Banns at another church	£39
Banns Certificate from another church	£20

Fees for the bellringers are paid directly, but the organist fee is now part of the invoice from the Church.



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers



### Organists

Our organists look forward to helping you plan your music and hymns, in conjunction with Chris. Please telephone or email the organist of the church where your wedding will be, well before your wedding, to discuss choices for two or three hymns and other music for the entrance of the bride, your departure from the church and during the signing of the marriage document.

Please note, if you choose to video your wedding this could double the organist fee. One fee is for playing at the wedding; the other is the pre-performance payment when the video is subsequently shown.

### Contact numbers

Askerswell	Paul Cheater	cheaterprc@gmail.com
Loders	Peter Nardone	07967 883774
Powerstock	Peter Nardone	07967 883774
Symondsbury	Matt Kingston	07719 797893



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers



### Flowers

We want the church to look beautiful for your wedding and at Loders and Powerstock we have people who can help. Please contact them well in advance of your wedding to make arrangements. They will do their best to help with colours and styles and if you visit any of our churches you will see what an excellent job they do. You should arrange payment with them.

Askerswell	Please make your own arrangements	
Loders	Val Brown	01308 456764
Powerstock	Jane Berry	01308 485687
Symondsbury	Please make your own arrangements	

If you prefer to arrange your own flowers, please phone our contacts anyway, in plenty of time, to liaise about colours and other arrangements. In this case we ask for at least the altar flowers and two other arrangements to be left ready for our regular church services. Please remove any other flowers or equipment the day after the service and help us to keep our churches looking beautiful.



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers



**Bells** Approximate fee £80 (once) or £140 for both before and after the service. Please contact your church for confirmation of these fees as they may vary. The bells can create a joyous atmosphere before or after the marriage service. If you would like the church bells rung, please contact the appropriate person from this list, at least three months before the big day.

Askerswell	Geoff Barrett	01308 485513
Loders	Pam Good	01308 424556
Powerstock	Clare Oastler	01308 538138
Symondsbury	Alison Harp	01308 425239

The bell-ringers will begin ringing 25 minutes before your service, for 30 minutes. If the wedding is delayed by more than half an hour they may not be able to ring after the service, although the full fee will still apply.

*Please pay in **cash** on your wedding day. Money should be in an envelope marked 'bells' to be given to the verger on the day.*



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers

<b>Banns Certificate</b> Parish of Marriage Services Date _____ and _____ Baptised _____ Residence _____ Certificate given by _____ Signed _____	To the Clergy and Minister of the church of Date _____ and _____ Baptised _____ Residence _____ and _____ in the parish _____ of _____ of the parish of _____ on Saturday _____ and two hours following, and no impediment was alleged Signed _____	<b>Banns Certificate</b>
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### Your Marriage Banns

For most marriages, the law requires that we 'call the banns' in a church service of The Benefice on three Sundays. This is to make sure you can marry legally. We will do this over 3 weeks, at least one month before your wedding. We will let you know when this will be.

It's very special to hear your banns read, so you may like to plan to come to these services. We will make you very welcome, and you will be prayed for as you prepare for this important step in your life together. However, not everyone can manage to get to church to hear the banns. Don't worry. We will read them anyway if you can't make it.

Please also remember that if you, either one of you or both of you, live in a parish outside this Benefice you need a Banns Certificate to say your banns have been read in the parish church where you live. Speak to the vicar there as soon as possible to arrange for him/her to read your banns. They will charge a small fee. Please pass this to the minister at your rehearsal. You can't marry without it.



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers

### Sample Order of Service (may vary)

The Entrance of the Bride *You might like to include the name of the piece of music.*

Welcome and opening prayer

Hymn *Please print out the words.*

Preface

The Declarations

Readings *You might like to include the names of the readings and where they are from, as well as the name of the person reading if this is one of your family or friends. You can have one or two, but at least one should be from the Bible.*

Address

Hymn *Please print out the words*

The Marriage

The Blessing of the Marriage

Signing of the Register

The Prayers *Prayers end with The Lord's Prayer. You can print out the words if you would like to. We use the 'old fashioned' version.*

Hymn *Please print out the words*

The Blessing

The Bride and Groom leave the church *You might like to include the name of the piece of music.*



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers

Purpose	<b>One of the following Original documents from Group A and Group B must be provided by each of the parties</b>
<b>Group A – one of the following</b>	
Evidence of Nationality and identity	A valid UK passport, or a valid settled status decision letter or share code to enable us to check your status
	A certificate of registration as a British citizen granted by the Secretary of State
	A certificate of naturalisation as a British citizen granted by the Secretary of State.
	A UK birth certificate.
<b>Group B – one of the following</b>	
Evidence of name	A utility bill no more than three months old
	A bank or building society statement or passbook no more than one month old
	A council tax bill dated no more than 12 months or a mortgage statement dated no more than 12 months ago.
	A valid driving licence in the name of the person giving notice of marriage.
<b>Group C (If Required)</b>	
Banns Certificate	If the banns have been read at a church outside the Benefice (even if they have also been read within the Benefice) a Banns Certificate from that church is required. This should be provided at the wedding rehearsal. Without this you cannot marry.



## The Benefice of Eggardon and Colmers



[www.eggardoncolmerschurches.org](http://www.eggardoncolmerschurches.org)

**Rev Chris Grasske**

Email: [revcgrasske@gmail.com](mailto:revcgrasske@gmail.com)

Telephone: 01308 425161

For all other queries, including fees, certificates and required documentation, please contact

**Jeanette Wedge:**

Email: [admin@eggardoncolmerschurches.org](mailto:admin@eggardoncolmerschurches.org)