

TABLE OF BENCHMARK FEES 2024

The Archbishops' Council produces a standard table of parochial fees for churches in England concerning 'life events'. The question is often asked in our deanery about what fees should be payable, not just for occasional offices but also for services provided by retired or self-supporting clergy with permission to officiate (PTO). This table has therefore been drawn up based on the latest fee schedule and prevailing exchange rate.

Please note that this table is for guidance only and is not binding on incumbents or councils. It is recommended that each church council consider its approach to the charging and/or waiving of fees. They may also consider the possibility of allowing discretion to waive fees in individual cases where pastorally appropriate.

Although Reader ministry is held to be voluntary, it is reasonable that travel expenses incurred by Readers are covered in full. Honoraria may also be paid to Readers when ministering outside their licensed chaplaincy (as with PTO clergy).

The ideal is that all chaplaincies move towards a common approach across the deanery that reflects the practice within the English dioceses, and which ensures that PTOs in particular are fairly remunerated for their services.

Event	Fee normally payable either to the chaplaincy council of the licensed priest or directly to the PTO or visiting minister.	Fee payable to the Chaplaincy Council where the service occurs	Total fee payable
Baptism Registered/Certified copy whenever issued	€0.00	€21.00	€21.00
Marriages in Church (service only) ⁱ	€281.00	€339.00	€620.00
Funerals ⁱⁱ			
Service in Church	€145.00	€121.00	€266.00
Burial in cemetery/crematorium following a service in Church	€39.00	€0.00	€39.00
Service in crematorium or cemetery	€266.00		€266.00
Searches in Church Registers	€0.00	€42.00 Per hour ⁱⁱⁱ	€42.00
Services of Morning or Evening Prayer or Holy Communion ^{iv}	€148.00	€0.00	€148.00
Travel expenses ^v	€0.23 Per km or public transport costs		

This version: March 2024

ⁱ Although this fee appears high, it is based on that set centrally by the Church of England.

ⁱⁱ No fee is payable in respect of a burial of a still-born infant, or for the funeral or burial of a person dying within sixteen years of birth. If a vigil/wake is included, the fee is doubled.

ⁱⁱⁱ To include the provision of one certified copy of any entry. Each additional copy is €21.00.

^{iv} Applicable only for non-stipendiary clergy ministering (locums) outside their licensed chaplaincy. Stipendiary clergy are expected to cover for their colleagues. This fee takes into the account the local predominant (PKN) fee of € 148 for a similar service. If more than one service is conducted on the same day, an appropriate increase (e.g. € 70 per extra service; the PKN pays €148 per service) of the benchmark figure must be agreed. Please note that in the past two years a higher figure was given for the locum fee (€163 in 2022 and €170 in 2023). This was an administrative error whereby the PKN fee was inadvertently multiplied by the prevailing GBP/Euro exchange rate. In 2024 we revert to the PKN fee (€148). However, chaplaincies are advised that they have the discretion to continue paying the higher fee if they choose to.

^v To be paid in all cases outside the licensing chaplaincy