

# Church of Scotland to allow same-sex marriages

## Vocabulary Match

- irrelevance •
- a deacon •
- to officiate •
- prohibition •
- a chaplain •
- a priest
- insignificance
- forbidden
- church officer
- preside over

## Article

The Church of Scotland has voted to allow same-sex marriages, after fresh warnings that its historical opposition had increased the church's decline towards irrelevance.

The church's general assembly, its decision-making body, voted by 274 to 136 on Monday to allow its ministers and deacons to opt in to officiate at same-sex weddings, ending a centuries-old prohibition.

The church's legislation will be updated to remove references to a marriage taking place between a husband and wife, and refer instead to "parties".

Some ministers said within minutes of the vote that they had immediately applied to be registered to carry out same-sex weddings, including the Rev James Bissett, a chaplain to the Royal Air Force's air cadets.

## Quiz

1. Why has the Church of Scotland voted to allow same-sex marriages?
2. How will the church's legislation be updated?

## Twitter Reaction

@mikehenchard: Nobody listens to the faintest thing the church says these days. It is not God's laws but pc woke scripture.

@kevinseaton8: I've never really understood people who form opinions on others' relationships, they should focus their energy into improving and nurturing their own.

## Discussion

1. What are some reasons for and against the Church of Scotland's decision?
2. Is same-sex marriage legal in your country? Discuss.

### Further reading:

<https://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/private-lives/relationships/overview/lawofmarriage-/>

Based on a May 23rd, 2022 article from *theguardian.com*