#### The area St George's covers?

St George's parish covers the area below. If you would like to know whether you are in the parish you can either ask us or visit www.achurchnearyou.com where under St George's Hanworth the parish boundary can be viewed in more detail.



Thank you for reading this.

For more information see www.weddingguide.co.uk/articles/ceremonies/cofe.asp

If you want to go a step further towards making a decision about a church marriage, please contact Father Paul – details on the back of this leaflet.

If you would like to know more contact:

Fr Paul Williamson
The Rectory, 7 Blakewood Close,
Hanworth. TW13 7NL

☎(020) 8844 0457

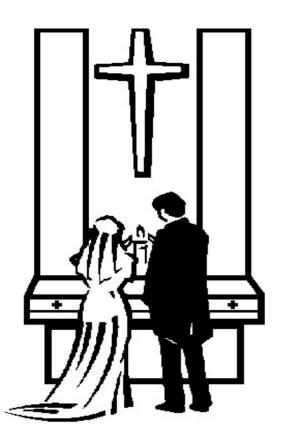
email: rector@s-george.org.uk

or visit: www.s-george.org.uk

April 2009

# Saint George Hanworth Park

### **MARRIAGE**



#### Our marriage policy at St George's

- ♦ to marry, after preparation, those who wish to be married here if one or both partners live in our parish;
- ♦ to marry, after preparation, those who wish to be married here if one or both partners are regular members of the congregation and are on the electoral roll of St George, Hanworth Park;
- ♦ to marry, after preparation, those who wish to be married here if they can demonstrate an exceptional reason for marriage here and if they are prepared to apply for an Archbishop's Special Marriage Licence;
  - however, always ask!.

## We are glad you want to know more

Here are some questions people ask when they talk about marriage in church. The responses given are from a Christian viewpoint.

- **Q.** What is the parish of S George?
- **A.** The boundaries of the parish are shown further on in this leaflet which will help you determine whether you live in the parish or not.
- **Q.** What is the electoral roll?
- **A.** The electoral roll is the list of those who regularly attend worship at S George.

- **Q.** What do I have to do to go on the electoral roll.
- **A.** Names can only be entered on the electoral roll when a person has regularly been a member of the congregation for six months.
- **Q.** Do I have to be baptised to get married?
- A. Yes.
- **Q.** Do you marry people who have been married before and are divorced?
- **A.** No. There are, however, special arrangements for a full wedding service.
- Q. One of us is divorced and we're going to have a civil marriage ceremony. Can we come to St George's afterwards for the Wedding Service?
- **A.** Yes, we welcome this.
- **Q.** How old do I have to be to get married?
- **A.** 16, and if you are under 18 you must have your parents' consent.
- **Q.** How much does it cost?
- **A.** The Church of England lays down set fees for marriage and these are displayed on the church notice board. You have to pay for the organist and other Church costs separately.
- Q. Can we throw confetti?
- **A.** Not within the bounds of the church.
- **Q.** What does marriage preparation mean?
- **A.** Talking to the priest, who will marry you, about your plans, vows, and wedding rehearal.

- **Q.** Can a 'church' wedding take place elsewhere? eg a hotel
- **A.** This is not normally possible.
- **Q.** What are banns of marriage?
- **A.** Banns are an announcement of your intention to marry and a chance for anyone to put forward a reason why the marriage might not be lawful. Banns have to be read in the parish where each of you lives and at the church where you are to be married (if that is another parish).

#### About marriage...

Marriage was instituted by God himself.

'The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him. ..For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh." Gen 2:18-24



This was confirmed by Jesus, see Matt 19: 5-6. Also Jesus' first miracle was performed at the wedding at Cana where he turned the water in six large jars into wine. See the gospel of St John, chapter 2, 1-11.

St Paul beseeched the Ephesians:

'Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.' Eph 4: 2-3

The unity of marriage requires the same.