

Wedding Information Sheet 17

More than a Wedding Venue....

- ⊙ St Mary's Church is far more than a beautiful wedding venue, but a lively and active community of people united by their desire to worship God and explore what it means to follow Jesus Christ in the 21st century.
- ⊙ We are a diverse and varied group of people, with a commitment to being truly inclusive. We believe that our difference - be it in gender, social background, race, sexuality, approach to spirituality, age, personality or life-experience – is all part of God's gift to the church and the world.
- ⊙ We take seriously our commitment to share in worship, prayer and the reading of the scriptures; and we also take seriously our enjoyment of one another's company, with a varied (and sometimes hectic!) social programme for all ages in the church.
- ⊙ We work in closely with Brookside Methodist Church as the East Barnet Anglican-Methodist Partnership (established in February 2007). We also share in regular events through the year with East Barnet Baptist Church, and the Church of Christ the King, Cockfosters (Roman Catholic).
- ⊙ We recognise that the pattern of church going has changed drastically over the years, as our culture has adapted to increased work pressures and greater mobility between communities. As a result, there are relatively few who appear in church every week with a significant number of people attending once or twice a month as work and family commitments allow....and that's ok!
- ⊙ Our regular pattern of Sunday services over the month tries to include something for everyone:
 - 8am on the first Sunday of the month: quiet service of **Holy Communion** according to the Book of Common Prayer (1662);
 - 10am on the first Sunday of the month: **All Age Eucharist** – more informal worship incorporating a music group in addition to the organ for musical accompaniment;
 - 10am on other Sunday's: **Sung Eucharist** (with incense on special occasions) with crèche and Sunday School;
 - 6.30pm on the first, third and fourth Sunday of the month – **Evensong** according to the Book of Common Prayer (1662) led by the choir;
 - 6.30pm on the fifth Sunday of the month – **Taize Service** using the reflective chants of the ecumenical community in France;
 - 7.00pm on the second Sunday of the month – **'alternative worship'** seeking to pray in tune with 21st century culture.
 - www.brokenworship.org.uk
 - Check the church website for details of these and other activities and groups
 - www.stmarys-eastbarnet.org.uk

east barnet parish church
st mary the virgin