

special reason why the couple should be married here at S. Mary's and not in their own parish church.

To be married at S. Mary's Church neither party can have been divorced. (Although the Church of England has just revised Canon Law to allow the remarriage of divorcees in "exceptional circumstances" Fr. Miller has exercised his right to adhere to the traditional teaching of the Universal Church that marriage cannot be contracted where one of the parties has a former spouse still living.)

### **3. Baptisms (Christenings)**

**Children** whose families are resident in the parish or who are church members may be Baptised in S. Mary's Church. Contact the parish Priest by calling on 020 8808 6644 or e-mail [frmillier@stmarystottenham.org](mailto:frmillier@stmarystottenham.org)

Parents and Godparents attend a preparation session and rehearsal at which the meaning of the service and the responsibilities of bringing a child to Baptism are explained.

Baptisms take place at 4pm on some Sunday afternoons, and may also be arranged to take place during the Parish Mass at 10am on Sunday mornings.

**Adults** are normally Baptised and Confirmed at the same time, or the baptism takes place as part of preparation for Confirmation. Adults seeking baptism should speak to the Parish Priest.

### **4. Thanksgivings**

Contact the parish Priest by calling on 020 8808 6644 or e-mail [frmillier@stmarystottenham.org](mailto:frmillier@stmarystottenham.org)

Thanksgivings may take place as a whole special service, or can be incorporated in the Parish Mass on Sunday s at 10am

### **5. Other services**

Contact the parish Priest by calling on 020 8808 6644 or e-mail [frmillier@stmarystottenham.org](mailto:frmillier@stmarystottenham.org) for **Confessions, House Blessings, Wedding Anniversary Blessings and other special services.**

# Arranging a Service

## **1. Funerals Memorial Services Wake Keepings**

For **Funerals in Church** or at the **Crematorium or Cemetery** the Undertaker will usually agree a date and time with you and the Parish Priest. If you want to contact the church first, please do so, but since the Undertaker will make arrangements with the cemetery or crematorium, it is usually better to speak to the Undertaker first. Tell them that you would like the funeral in S. Mary's Church or taken by Fr. Miller at the cemetery or crematorium.

The Parish Priest will meet with you either at your home or in the Vicarage to discuss the service in detail.

**Wake Keeping and Memorial Services** including **Requiem Masses** are arranged with the Parish Priest directly. Call on 020 8808 6644 or e-mail [fmiller@stmarystottenham.org](mailto:fmiller@stmarystottenham.org)

## **2. Weddings**

Marriages are arranged by contact with the Parish Priest. Call on 020 8808 6644 or e-mail [fmiller@stmarystottenham.org](mailto:fmiller@stmarystottenham.org)

**If you need your Banns to be read prior to marriage in another church** Call on 020 8808 6644 or e-mail [fmiller@stmarystottenham.org](mailto:fmiller@stmarystottenham.org) to arrange three Sundays for the calling of the banns.

**Couples where either or both parties are resident in the parish or on the church electoral roll** may be married by banns. They will be asked to meet with the parish Priest to complete a "banns form" giving their details. The Banns are read out on three Sundays before the wedding, and if no one makes an objection to the marriage which is substantiated, the wedding may take place.

Weddings should be arranged at least six months in advance to give time for the reading of the banns and preparation.

Couples attend three one hour preparation sessions. The first to sort out the dates and time of the service, its content and other practical matters such as flowers and hymns. The second explores the Christian meaning and practical living out of Christian married life. The third looks in detail at the wedding service, and the meaning of the vows and other aspects of the ceremony. In addition, the night before the wedding, there is a rehearsal in church.

**If neither party is resident in the parish** couples may ask the Parish Priest to support them in applying for an Archbishop's license. A License can only be sought if there is a