### SERVICES AT THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

We welcome worshippers of all ages to any of our services. (All services are held at the Community Centre, Highfield Lane)

### <u>Sunday</u>

10am Parish Eucharist & 'Sunday am' (Sunday School)
 (10am All Age Service, usually first Sunday of each month) \*
 3pm Maidenhead Deaf Church, 4th Sunday in month
 6pm Shared services with All Saints and St. Luke's \*

### **Thursday**

10am Holy Communion, usually at The Vicarage

For \* and other events, look on our website, Facebook page, or our notice board

For all enquiries please telephone the Revd. Joan Hicks at the Church Office on 01628 632567 or call in at the Church Office in the Community Centre

# Thinking about a Church Wedding...?



## The Church of the Good Shepherd

The local Parish Church serving Cox Green at Cox Green Community Centre

## **Marriage Matters**

If you live in Cox Green and are considering getting married in church, it may be helpful to know the procedure for those living in this parish.

Anyone who lives within the boundaries of our parish, who is on our Church Electoral Roll, or who has a 'qualifying connection' is entitled to be married at the Parish Church. The Parish Church of the Good Shepherd is located in the Community Centre on Highfield Lane.

As our Parish Church is based in the Community Centre, we have the somewhat unusual legal situation whereby couples from Cox Green may be married either at the Good Shepherd, or in one of the following churches in our neighbouring parishes:

St Mary's, White Waltham All Saint's, Boyne Hill St Michael's, Bray St John's, Littlewick Green St James the Less, Stubbings

Whichever church is chosen, couples should make contact with the Revd Joan Hicks (Vicar of Cox Green) in the first instance. If you would like to be married in one of our neighbouring parishes, we will make the necessary arrangements with them. Usually marriage preparation and the marriage service is taken by clergy from this parish, even when one of the neighbouring churches is used. The Vicar can be contacted at the Church Office by email: <a href="mailto:goodshepherd.coxgreen@gmail.com">goodshepherd.coxgreen@gmail.com</a> or on 01628 632567.

Changes in Marriage Law in recent years mean that you can be married in or through our parish if you have a 'qualifying connection' such as:

- If one of you has been baptised and/or confirmed here
- If one or both of you has lived in the parish for 6 months or more, at any time during your life
- If one or both of you has attended worship in the parish for at least 6 months
- If your parents have lived or worshipped in the parish (during your lifetime)
- If your parents or grandparents were married in the parish.

More details about getting married in church can also be found on the church website: www.chogs.org.uk or the Church of England's special weddings website: www.yourchurchwedding.org. You could also visit the marriage page of the Oxford Diocesan website www.oxford.anglican.org or the weddings page on the Church of England's website www.cofe.anglican.org/lifevents

Marriage Preparation is offered to all couples getting married in, or through our parish. Most attend a Marriage Preparation Day with other couples getting married in the coming year. This is usually held on a Saturday (from 9.15am – 2.30pm) either in the Community Centre, or at St Luke's or All Saints Churches – our three parishes work together on Marriage Preparation. The day is very relaxed and informal. If you are not getting married in church, but would be interested in attending our Marriage Preparation, do make contact with the Church Office, and we will do our best to accommodate you. Details of our marriage preparation can be found on our website, as well as feedback from couples who have attended. You would be very welcome.

#### **Special Anniversaries**

If you are interested in a church service to celebrate a significant Wedding Anniversary, or if you wish to consider renewing your marriage vows, do contact our Church Office (Tel. 632567).

If you would like to know more about Weddings, Blessings, celebrations of special anniversaries or your local church, please contact the Church Office (Tel. 632567) at the Community Centre (open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings) or ask after any of our Sunday or weekday services. Messages may be left on our answerphone.

You can also contact us by email: <a href="mailto:qoodshepherd.coxgreen@gmail.com">qoodshepherd.coxgreen@gmail.com</a>

visit our website: www.choqs.orq.uk

or our Facebook Page: goodshepherd.coxgreen