



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin

No.433

February 2009

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

HOLY SPIRIT OR UNHOLY MESS

God is struggling desperately to help human beings. In His way are human beings struggling desperately to help themselves.

Christians can be at odds with the material world because they believe in other people while most other people believe in efficiency.

Efficiency can be judged from one standpoint only whereas people can be viewed from a million standpoints.

The present world situation makes no difference at all to Christians' attitudes but gives those who worship material efficiency no firm ground on which to stand.

We see this on every side. There is probably not a neighbour nor a country for whom we do not need to pray, so uncertain do they feel the future to be. Efficient firms, jobs, investment (which used to render material life possible) have become most inefficient, even disappeared. This applies right across the globe, for rich and poor together.

Unless we are very fortunate, the entire political class worldwide will face revolt in about a year's time. At the moment they are hanging on to government by the skin of their teeth but going nowhere. Maybe God will work a miracle through them.

Each one of us will have to make key decisions about which particular people (relations, friends, colleagues, acquaintances) we will prioritise in our prayers. It is here that The Holy Spirit can be our sanest guide. The present writer is so conditioned by temperament, loyalty, duty, ignorance, fear, guilt, forgetfulness, prejudice, that a Snakes and Ladders shift-board of names can sometimes result from apparent thought. We need The Holy Spirit's direction.

Prayer will certainly be the key arbiter of all our futures. Apart from the personal material selfishness which has brought us to where we are, there is no other arbiter immediately in sight.

What a lot this means for us in St Mary's!

Without a vicar we are truly thrown upon our own lay resources.

Maybe God has a purpose for us. As a congregation, we will be facing up to that very uncertainty which others are feeling in their material lives. It will be worth our looking up and studying all that Jesus said about money, work, the state, and our relationship with others.

Our present Special Prayer is a useful focus:-

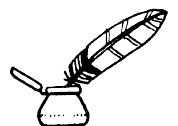
GOD OUR FATHER

You have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be His Body in this place;

Send us your Holy Spirit,
at this time of uncertainty and change,
to fill us with vision, energy,
and faithfulness in prayer,
that we may be true to our calling
to bring new life to our community;

And guide with your heavenly wisdom
those who are to choose a new Incumbent for this
parish,

that the one whom we receive
may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people:
ready to serve us with joy,
to build us up in faith,
and to lead us by example
in loving obedience to your son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.



CANON HANFORD writes

Dear people of St Mary's:

I said a formal 'Parish Goodbye' in the pulpit on the morning of 11 January, and a much less formal series of goodbyes (with lots of hugs and things) by the west door after a memorable Solemn Evensong and Benediction. It was good to have the Archbishop of Canterbury with us, and to have a thought-provoking sermon from him on the nature of priesthood. We were his first engagement after his annual Retreat, which very sensibly he always takes at the beginning of the calendar year. As he said in church, he and I go back the best part of forty years, all the way back to my time at Llandaff Cathedral, when I was a much younger priest, and he a very brilliant student. We are indeed blessed with a godly, learned and approachable leader of the Church of England at this time. He was very much at home in the Church Hall, meeting many people with charm and courtesy, and was also quite at home in the formality of what was a fairly elaborate rite, by St Mary's standards. He spent some time after the service speaking to people in church, and afterwards spent a short while at the Vicarage, before returning to Lambeth. Many photographs will doubtless be appearing in the near future. I need to express my thanks to all who did so much to make it something very special. The morning Eucharist was as normal, except for the arrangements at communion-time, which were designed so that everyone on this occasion received the sacrament at my hands. The evening rite had been well rehearsed, the Warden of Ascot Priory (Canon Philip Ursell) coming over for the rehearsal, and bringing with him some very beautiful vestments for the occasion, and a singularly striking monstrance. Some other vestments, the ones for the Archbishop's chaplains, were borrowed from the cathedral. The choir spent much time getting the music right, and on the evening itself we had many appreciative comments from visitors, who were unfamiliar with the musical tradition here, and very pleasantly surprised at the excellence of the singing, and the dignity of the liturgy. We are much in Jonathan Holmes' debt (certainly I am) for his skilled direction of the music over this period, following, as it did, so closely upon a very demanding Christmas; and the same goes for Jeremy Cole, who was at the console for the greater part of the proceedings. The altar servers found themselves doing several unaccustomed things, and I am most grateful to Philip Archer-Lock (the Master of Ceremonies for the occasion) and indeed to the whole team for doing everything so reverently, professionally, and without fuss. It was good to have the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell and the

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

CLERGY

Canon W R Hanford MA BD LLM retired on 11 January 2009

The Reverend Patrick Miller MA PhD (Honorary)

READERS

Mr Reginald Saunders MA MEd 020 8393 5550

Mrs Wendy Varney 020 8393 5212

CHURCHWARDENS AND SEQUESTRATORS

Mr David Crick 07850 709461

Mr Jonathan Gocher 020 8224 5942

SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

The Wayfarers and the Sunday School meet in conjunction with this service, and there is a Creche provided in church.

There is coffee in the church hall between the Eucharist and Mattins on Sunday mornings, and a chance for members of the congregation to meet or visitors to be welcomed to St Mary's.

1100 MATTINS

(Third Sunday in each month SUNG EUCHARIST to the Book of Common Prayer Rite)

1830 EVENING WORSHIP

1700 - Choral Evensong (2nd Sunday in the month)

1830 - Evening Prayer at the United Reform Church on other Sundays
Details are on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes.

Occasionally there are variations from this pattern; details are given in this paper, on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes available on Sundays.

ON WEEKDAYS

The Eucharist is normally celebrated at present on Tuesdays at 1000, and at other times as printed on the Weekly Notes. Most of the Weekday services take place in the Parish Room (entry through the door on the Church Street side of the Church).

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

St Mary's Church is in London Road, Ewell, and the Parish Office is in the Sacristy on the south side of the church.

The Office hours are normally 9.30-13.00 Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

The postal address is:

C/O Ewell Vicarage, Church Street, Ewell KT17 2AQ.

CHURCHWARDEN'S SURGERIES

The churchwardens normally hold two surgeries each month. Please see the calendar on the back page for details.

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LENT COURSE 2009
 This year's course is
 about **Patterns of**
Ministry in the Chris-
tian Church. See p7
 for details.

Mayoress with us for the occasion, the Rural Dean of Epsom, a number of local and visiting clergy, as well as a contingent from Ewell United Reformed Church, representatives of the Guides, and Canon Peter Bruinvels, representing the Royal British Legion in Surrey, of which I have been the Chaplain for over thirty years. He is also the Lay Chairman of the Diocesan Synod. It was a lovely occasion, and I shall always remember it.

I suppose there is no harm in sharing the one diverting, if somewhat alarming, blip, which happened at the beginning of the evening service. There were two processions at the beginning, and the second one was routed outdoors from the sacristy (collecting churchwardens on route), and was meant to arrive at the west door as soon as the Introit began. All went to plan, and out we went, and I closed the outer door - to which we now have new keys - and started to move off. I only got about six inches, before the dreadful truth was revealed that my cope was caught in the door, and I couldn't move. Tugging was of no avail, and, horror of horrors, no-one had a key. Meanwhile the Introit began, and we had a Vicar still stuck in the door. Eventually one former churchwarden returned to church, got into the sacristy, and released the door on its catch, and finally managed to release the Vicar. The second procession finally arrived at the west door just in time to move through the nave, but there were less than a few seconds in hand. It was a close run thing.

I am very grateful for the many kind things have been said to me and written to me in recent weeks, and I shall retain many warm memories of individuals here, whom I have been privileged to know, and to whom I have been privileged to minister. Several people have reminded them that my time here has spanned many family occasions of joy or sorrow. The actual countdown to my departure turned out to be more protracted than was originally planned (all to do with the Archbishop's timetable, and the dates of the availability of Mercator House), but all in all this has probably been for the best. We were able to have the splendid Gala Dinner in Mercator House on 3 January, and I am immensely grateful to the Social Committee and all who were involved in making it so splendid and so special. Indeed, the Social Committee laid on a magnificent tea on 11 January before the final service; Rosemarie Henson and all her team deserve our warmest thanks. St Mary's food has always been good; no crumpled ham and limp lettuce, but always something to be enjoyed. I am also very grateful for the commemorative book, and for the substantial cheque which accompanied it. The following day, Sunday 4 January, had a slightly unreal feel about it, since I was still here for an ordinary Sunday, even if it was the celebration of the Epiphany of Our Lord. However, this extra week gave me the opportunity for several Votive celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. On the Monday I was able to offer the Eucharist for all those whom I had baptized in my forty-six year ministry; on Tuesday it was the calendrical date of the Epiphany anyway; on Wednesday it was my twenty-sixth anniversary of my induction to St Mary's, and so on that day we had a votive mass of Our Lady; on Thursday it was the turn of those at whose weddings I had officiated over the years, and the Eucharist was offered for them; and finally on the Friday, there was a general Requiem for the great number of those whose funerals I had conducted between 1963 and 2009. I am most appreciative of those who came to one or more of those celebrations of the Eucharist during that week. It seemed *Continued on page 4*

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Continued from page 3 Canon Hanford writes

the right and proper thing to do in my last week of full-time ministry.

There is much more I could say, but since members of the regular congregation will have heard me on the morning of 11 January, when I preached my last sermon at the Sung Eucharist, there is no real need to repeat what I said then. What I can re-iterate, however, is my confidence that I shall be leaving a parish which has changed very positively in character over the years, and is now a place both of warm-hearted fellowship and also with a degree of openness to what the future holds. During the interregnum (and its length cannot be predicted) the parish will be in safe hands under the guidance of two very able Churchwardens, David Crick and Jonathan Gocher, and with Dr Miller and our Readers looking after the services, with some help from others. I should say once again that over the years I have had some splendid churchwardens, and that is why I wrote them into the evening service on 11 January; they came in with me at the start of the rite, and I was able to thank them and shake hands at the front of the nave, before moving into the chancel. The final service had built into it a 'Liturgy of Continuing Pilgrimage'; we are all moving on: in my own case also geographically, but all of us as individuals and as a local church share in that wider journey of the whole Pilgrim Church, a fact which was brought out in the Welsh hymn which I translated specifically for the service. The Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at the very end of the rite (apart from a concluding hymn) was a visible reminder that the Christ of the Eucharist is our constant source of grace, and we journey onward in his strength alone. We are all going along our different paths, but they are all pointing in the same direction, and by the grace and mercy of God all those paths will finally converge, and our hope is (as I pointed out in the morning sermon on 11 January) that one day - as St Thomas More famously said - we shall 'all merrily meet in heaven.'

There is one other thing I need to say. I have always taken the view that the function of a predecessor is to predecease (at least so I was taught at school), and I have always considered it very improper for a priest to get in his successor's way. Not all priests have learned that lesson, and quite often much mischief has been caused thereby. In my own case there is the delicate situation that members of my own family will still be living here, so I am bound to be seen from time to time. All I can say is that I shall keep a very low profile, and will endeavour to respect the proper clerical convention in this respect, and particularly so when the new Vicar is in post. If I meet any St Mary's folk, then obviously we can talk, but equally obviously we ought not to be talking about what is happening at St Mary's. We all have to move on; I move on away from St Mary's, and St Mary's people move on within St Mary's. We have been on our Christian pilgrimage together for a very long time, and the time has come for our ways to part.

I hope that before long you will be given a good and faithful pastor to lead you on the next stage of your Christian journey. Meanwhile, like St Paul, I wish you all joy and peace in the Lord, and I commend you to his grace.

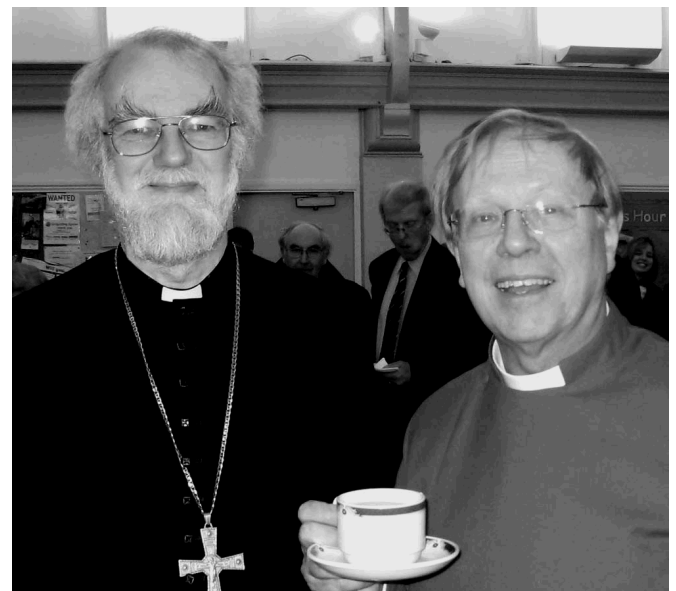
With my love and affectionate remembrance,

Richard Hanford, priest

THE WAY AHEAD SOLEMN EVENSONG OF 11 JANUARY

Tea at four-thirty, an Archbishop arriving at five, at six a Service where the congregation could give thanks and praise for their pastor, retiring after forty-five years of ministry, the most recent twenty-six in St Mary's, Ewell.

The tea was so good, the Archbishop so obviously saintly and human, and the service so well organised that it made its own way to becoming more of a launching pad for a new vicar and a great step forward, than a farewell at which two clearly fine minds returned to a friendship of forty years, their intellects and antennae more alive.



The Archbishop's sermon could not but be the centre-piece, and he did not shirk the centrality of Baptism. It was the First Sunday after Epiphany and exactly seventy years on from our departing vicar's baptism. The Archbishop talked of the waters of baptism and the later deep waters of our lives, the deepest, darkest, most difficult places of our souls, and God's entry there. He linked the Vicar's background as a Naval Chaplain and now in his retirement, with St Paul's departure from the Christians at Miletus, accompanied by them "to the ship"! Continued on p8

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SUGGESTED PRAYERS

Fill every part of me with praise...

So shall each fear, each fret, each care

Be turned into a song

And every winding in the way

The echo shall prolong.

Horatius Bonar

Almighty Father, enter Thou our hearts, and so fill us with Thy love, that, forsaking all evil desires, we may embrace Thee, our only good. Show unto us, for Thy mercies' sake, O Lord our God, what Thou art unto us. Say unto our souls, I am thy salvation. So speak that we may hear. Our hearts are before Thee ; open Thou our ears ; let us hasten after Thy voice, and take hold on Thee. Hide not Thy face from us, we beseech Thee, O Lord. Enlarge Thou the narrowness of our souls, that Thou mayest enter in. Repair the ruinous mansions, that Thou mayest dwell there. Hear us, O Heavenly Father, for the sake of Thine only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

St Augustine (354-430)

O Heavenly Father, the Author and Fountain of all truth, the bottomless Sea of all understanding, send, we beseech Thee, Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, and lighten our understandings with the beams of Thy heavenly grace. We ask this, O merciful Father, for Thy dear Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Bishop Ridley (1500-1555)

Evening Prayer

Watch, dear Lord,

with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight,
and give your angels charge over those who
sleep.

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ,
rest your weary ones.

Bless your dying ones.

Soothe your suffering ones.

Pity your afflicted ones.

Shield your joyous ones.

And all for your love's sake,

Amen.

Augustine of Hippo

A WELL - DRILLED PARISH OCCASION FOR CANON RICHARD

What is a "Parish Occasion"? It is when people from the various congregations at St Mary's come together to celebrate or commemorate. Each year, we have a Village Fair to celebrate and a Festival of Remembrance to commemorate but there are also one-off events which will "vibrate in the memory" over the years. I recall some thirty odd years ago the Barn Dance in the actual Village Barn, and more recently the Dinner to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of "new" St Mary's. I am sure that another will be the Gala Dinner held on 3 January 2009 in Mercator House, the TA Drill Hall, to celebrate with Canon Richard his 26 years as Vicar of Ewell and to wish him and Susan well on his retirement from the stipendary ministry in the Church of England.

It was a very cold but clear midwinter night when we drove up to the Drill Hall gates (locked for security reasons) to be vetted by one Churchwarden and shown to our parking places by the other; they had clearly reserved the



coldest duties for themselves! The Hall is very large but had been artfully divided by a camouflage curtain into a reception area and a banquetting suite. We enjoyed pre-dinner drinks and were delighted by the ladies in their finery with sparkling jewelery; the male of the species was well (but more soberly) attired except for our Toastmaster, Arthur Mathews, who was resplendent in white tie and red coat-tails. The Vicar ceremonially cut a very large square white-iced cake and we proceeded into dinner.

The room, with one top table, and ten round tables named after church music composers, had an Oxford blue and white theme, with centre flower decorations to match on each table. Around the walls were various banners with Welsh dragons. Dr. Patrick Miller said grace and the meal began with the welcoming warmth of vegetable soup, followed by excellent duck breast and appropriate vegetable, and the choice of fruit salad for the health conscious and chocolate truffle dessert for those who didn't care! And, of course, the wine flowed freely.

The meal was accompanied by music from the Kingsmead String Quartet, who provided a most pleasant agreeable background, including a goodly selection of Welsh



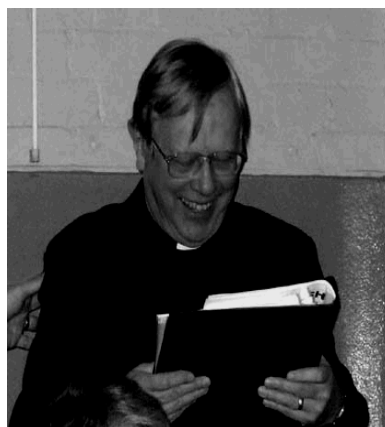
tunes such as "Men of Harlech". The company included not only members of the present congregations but also welcomed visitors who had previously been at St Mary's but who had moved away from Ewell. It was good to renew old ties and exchange news. The courses were interspersed with toasts, led by the Toastmaster, to Richard and Susan, to past and present Churchwardens and their spouses, to members of the enthusiastic and hard-working members of the Social Committee who had organised the evening so well and, finally, to "everyone present".

After coffee and mints, the Churchwardens introduced the presentations with their own interpretation of "the Modern Major General" (how suitable in a Drill Hall!) from the "The Pirates of Penzance". The flavour of the rendition can be gathered from the first verse-

*"He is the very model of a modern parish minister
With knowledge of theology and liturgy and trivia
He's memorised the Bible and can quote the book historical*

*From Genesis to Timothy in order categorical
He's well acquainted too with all affairs linguistical
He knows his Greek and Hebrew text both modern day
and classical*

*In giving all his sermons he has written up a lot of notes
With many cheerful references and lots of witty anecdotes."*



We all then joined in a repetition of the last line in the proper Gilbert and Sullivan manner. Clearly the Wardens had spent time and ingenuity in collecting ideas and putting them into proper form and they received a suitable ovation for their pains.

On a more serious note the senior Churchwarden, David Crick, then spoke eloquently about the Vicar's 26 years in the parish and our debt to him for his devoted ministry and for the developments at St Mary's during his incumbency. He also thanked Susan for the support she had given to the Vicar and for her role in raising the family at the Vicarage. It was good that their three daughters and their son-in-law were able to be at the top table for this special occasion; their grandson, Michael was not there - at 7 months

Continued on page 8

THINKING OF THE FUTURE

Now that the Vicar has retired and the interregnum is upon us it's time to look at what the future has in store for St Mary's.

This is certainly a time of change which brings with it a level of uncertainty. Things have been very stable here for a long time and people have got used to and grown comfortable with the way things have been done.

The challenge for the next few months is to try and maintain the routine at St Mary's before the new incumbent arrives. This is a challenge which faces us all, and a lot of hard work will be needed to hold things together during the interregnum.

We should take heart! There are many positive aspects about our parish which will stand us in good stead for the future. As January's Gala Dinner showed, we are at our best when pulling together as a community. The common bond we shared that evening is exactly the spirit we will need over the coming months. What a great evening it was!

The Churchwardens have already appealed for help with various administrative matters and have been very pleased with the response. People are now taking initiatives in key areas which will help us enormously. However, there will be much more to be done as the interregnum carries on, and some of the tasks may not be spotted by the Churchwardens who, as always, are very busy. Please be our eyes and ears and let us know if something needs doing, or even better try and get it done yourself.

The immediate priority for the Churchwardens is to make sure we have enough visiting clergy to cover our range of services. A lot of progress has been made and our services are now fully staffed up to and including Easter. We are very grateful to all members of the clergy who have so enthusiastically offered their help. As a result we should be able to maintain the routine at St Mary's with which we are familiar.

The next priority, of course, is the selection of our new Vicar. This process starts in earnest following the PCC meeting at the end of January. We will be advertising the post in the Church Times and 'putting the word out on the street' that the position is vacant. Both these methods will hopefully yield a crop of candidates for interview.

Once applications have been received the interview process will begin. Candidates will be interviewed by a panel consisting of the Bishop, the Archdeacon of Dorking and the Churchwardens. To carry out this task we are greatly assisted by the response to the Questionnaire we sent out last summer. As a result of the replies we received (nearly 100!) we have been able to put together a detailed Statement of Needs laying out the qualities we are seeking in our new Vicar. We will make this document available very shortly. Thank you to everyone who completed the Questionnaire. Your replies are critical to the selection process and your views will certainly be taken into account.

We have no real idea how long the interregnum will last, but at a best guess it will be between six and twelve months. We're sure everyone will agree that it is better to wait for the right candidate rather than rush to appoint the first applicant we see.

The Churchwardens are doing everything they can to carry on the routine at St Mary's. We need your help and in particular we need to maintain the spirit of cooperation which makes us so strong as a parish. With everyone's cooperation and good faith we have no doubt that we will come out of the next few months as a happy and fulfilled community.

Over the next few weeks we will be running 'churchwardens' surgeries' on certain Saturday mornings when members of the congregation can talk to us about issues they feel are important. More news about these shortly but we hope these sessions will provide a better opportunity for people to talk to us than on Sunday mornings when time is often short.

Although the short-term may appear a little uncertain there is a tremendous opportunity to prepare St Mary's for the future. We are greatly looking forward to the challenge and the journey ahead. Please join us!

Jonathan Gocher
Churchwarden

David Crick
Churchwarden

LENT COURSE

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- | | |
|----------|---|
| 3 March | The Early Tradition |
| 10 March | <i>Canon Chris Vallins</i>
Advisor for Hospital Chaplaincy
In the Guildford Diocese |
| 17 March | <i>Padre Stephen Dunwoody</i>
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| 24 March | <i>The Reverend Sue Bull</i>
Mental Health Chaplain for
Epsom |
| 31 March | <i>The Reverend Rosie Deedes</i>
Prison Work and Rehabilitation |
| 7 April | "What Future for the Parochial
Ministry?" |

*For further information, please phone
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Continued from page 6 A WELL-DRILLED PARISH OCCASION...



it was well past his bedtime! David then presented to the Vicar, on behalf of the parish, a cheque and a souvenir album of photographs recording his time in Ewell, together with letters from his many well-wishers. Susan was given a large bouquet of flowers.

The Vicar, who was clearly very moved by the occasion, gave his thanks, on behalf of himself and Susan, to all assembled and spoke of his time in Ewell; he was now retiring as Vicar but would retain links with the area through his family. After a long round of applause, we all drank his health and that of his family in champagne, and enjoyed a piece of the delicious celebration cake which he had cut earlier.



There was a final musical surprise; a group of senior choristers and the Director of Music, sang "We'll keep a welcome in the hillsides" in token of the Vicar's return to the "land of his fathers" in Wales. The Toastmaster then led Canon Richard and his family from the room to prolonged applause. It was a fitting climax to a well-planned and well-executed event to commemorate what might well be the second longest incumbency (a word Canon Richard dislikes!) since the Elizabethan Settlement (for no-one is going to match these days Sir George Glyn's 50 years in the nineteenth century).

As we drifted out into the Reception Area to collect our coats we agreed that the Social Committee had done an excellent job in arranging and carrying through such a thoroughly enjoyable and appropriate event. We left the Drill Hall for the very cold night well satisfied that we had taken part in a "Parish Occasion" we should long remember with great pleasure.

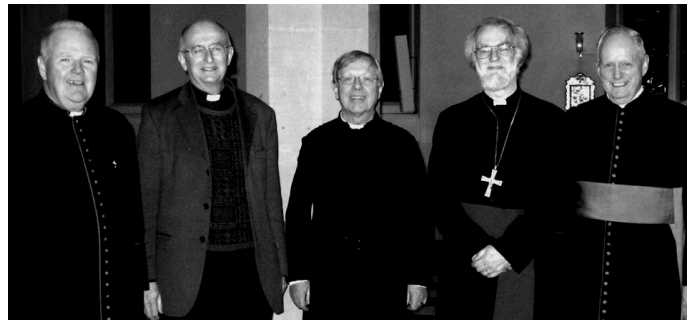
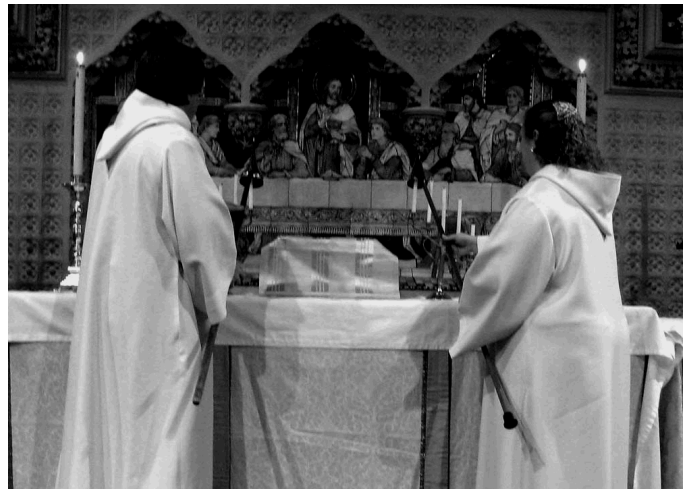
NMH



Continued from page 4 THE WAY AHEAD...

As that ship carried Paul on to further ministry, so his retirement would carry our vicar on to more service.

In all this, and by God's grace, the Archbishop included each separate member of the congregation at a level well below the surface of their lives.



This, in the middle of a service which, by its very nature, had all those wonderful trappings of vestment, movement and music which shine on the surface of our lives. Somehow the preacher managed to let us value them as fine covering for the deepest things in our hearts, things to which Richard (our vicar's baptised name) had ministered this last quarter of a century here, and which are recorded nowhere except in the gratitude of those so served, and in heaven. They are many.

This very attempt at an account of so wonderful a Service illustrates the distance between the surface (always seen) and the depth (never shown) of our vicar's time here, and his success in both.

This was not only a Solemn Evensong, it was a great step forward.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE is on page 10

ESTATES COMMITTEE! - WHAT'S THAT??

It is at this time of the year that the Estates Committee begins to consider what tasks will need to be undertaken within the church, church hall and churchyards. To some extent this has already been given some thought in the preparation of budget costs for consideration by the Finance Committee, but now we have to assess in more detail what resources we are likely to have available during the coming months to carry out some of, or part of, the planned tasks ourselves.

What always has to be borne in mind is the knowledge that whatever we may plan, other matters will arise that will divert us from our good intentions; we had, for instance, intended redecoration of the church hall toilets last year, but this didn't happen. Why? Well, hardly a week goes by without some occurrence that demands attention (and often precedence over planned items) from one or more (and usually more!) members of the Committee, either within the two buildings or their environs. These, often mundane, tasks will generally be known only to those involved, but, as a case in point, it will be appreciated that changing light bulbs is, in the church, not merely a matter of standing on a chair! Two men are required to position the very tall steps over and between the pews, involving the better part of two hours (including travelling), which is why we usually allow two or three bulbs to fail before replacement!

Another routine weekly task involves setting the boiler clocks to coincide with the various events scheduled to take place in the church or church hall, and similarly for the external lighting around the church. On this subject, the Sunday School recently had cause for complaint that the Hall was cold. A lapse on the part of our timing-clock setters? Absolutely NOT!

A previous hall user had apparently considered the hall too hot and, instead of turning down the radiators, had entered the boiler cupboard and over-ridden the system by interfering with the boiler. Steps have now been taken to prevent a recurrence of such action.

We are also occupied, inter alia, in keeping the church hall in working condition for ourselves and fee-paying users, weeding and grass cutting around the church, obtaining and vetting quotations for works we cannot undertake ourselves, checking the stability of memorial stones, correspondence and discussions with the architect, surveyors, insurers, and the diocese, and making various items of furniture and other equipment!

Additionally, the clearing of blocked gulleys and soakaway pipes, or blocked toilets in the hall, are tasks that would not appeal to many, but they have to be done, and they do get done, and I, as chairman, don't even have to ask! (Thanks, chaps.)

Members of the congregation will be aware that we had our Quinquennial inspection in April last year, and we are fortunate that no major items of work were highlighted in the report by the architect. However, most will not be aware of the detail contained within the report, and risking

being thought to 'blow our own trumpet' (heaven forbid!) I will include below a paragraph from it, as I believe the members of the Committee deserve the recognition implied therein.

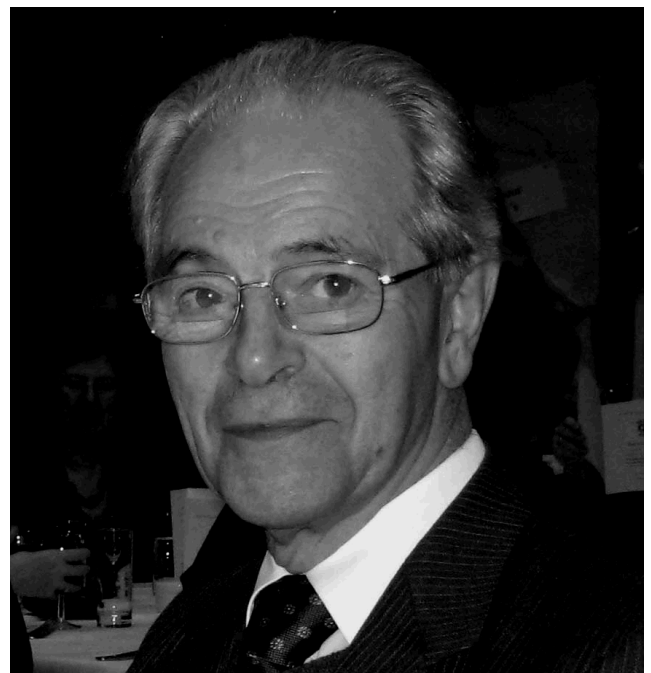
"The church is being maintained to an exceptionally high standard and the team with responsibility for the church are to be congratulated. Clearly the Parish take great pride in their building."

However, let there be no hint of complacency, Estates Committee members! There are still a number of items of lesser importance in the report to work on (although a few, like the Parish Room outer door had been dealt with prior to receipt of the report), and hopefully we may even get around to redecorating the Hall toilets this year!

It is certain that the architect would have been even more impressed had his inspection followed the recent church 'autumn clean', and the Committee's grateful thanks are expressed for the exceptional turnout and work of all members of the congregation who kindly took part. It was an excellent morning's work – many thanks.

However, 'time marches on', and old age bringeth on creaking joints. The Committee, which was set-up in 1984 by the Vicar, Canon Richard Hanford, presently comprises mainly rather elderly men, ranging from 80 years downwards, and we could do with an injection of younger blood! So, if there are some younger people who would like to join the Committee we should be very pleased to hear from them. Apart from the 'work' aspect we only meet five times a year, during the evening. Being aware that earning a living must come first, help on, say, a Saturday when required during the warmer months of the year would also be very helpful. And, ladies, we are definitely not sexist - anybody can join!

George Jarrett



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HOLY BAPTISM Born again in Christ

11 January

Joseph Albert Pepe

FUNERALS

I will come again and take you to myself (St. John 14:3)

18 December

Doris Elizabeth White, aged 86

23 December

Derek Colin Phillips, aged 43

23 December

Walter Pearson, aged 80

7 January

Charles Jordan, aged 85

21 January

Joyce Morland Saunders, aged 82



COFFEE MORNINGS

**WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 10.30 am – 12 noon
IN THE CHURCH HALL**

DO COME AND JOIN US

St. Mary's Lent Project 2009

This year's Lent Charity has yet to be determined.

However, four Lent lunches are proposed:

Dates: Wednesdays - March 4, 11, 18, 25
Time: 12.15 p.m. - 1.45 p.m.
Place: St Mary's Church Hall,
London Road, Ewell
Price: £3.50

There will also be a Raffle and
Bring-and-Buy at
each Lent lunch



SOLEMN EVENSONG 11 JANUARY ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Music before the service:

Mohrentanz *Tylman Susato*

Played by the Organ Scholar

Master Tallis' Testament *Herbert Howells*

Played by the Organ Scholar

Trumpeting Organ Morgan *Karl Jenkins*

Played by the Director of Music

Litanies *Jehan Alain*

Played by the Director of Music

All stand when the Procession enters from the Parish Room

Organ Music for the Procession:

Prelude and Fugue in G major (BWV 541) *J S Bach*

Played by the Organ Scholar

The Crucifer and the acolytes

The Parish Choir

Servers of the Sanctuary

The Master of Ceremonies

Visiting Readers

The Parish Readers

Ecumenical visitors

Visiting Clergy

The Rural Dean of Epsom

Cathedral Canons

The Sub-Dean and Precentor of Guildford

The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

Chaplains:

The Rev Dr Patrick Miller The Rev Dr Allan Jenkins

During the singing of the Introit the sanctuary procession enters from the West Door. The music of the Introit was sung on the morning of 9 January 1983, when the Vicar formally took possession of the altar at the beginning of the Sunday Eucharist.

The Crucifer and the acolytes

Other servers of the Sanctuary

The Priest Master of Ceremonies

The Churchwardens and Churchwardens Emeriti

The Vicar

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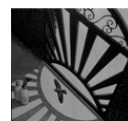
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Calendar for February



- S 1 **CANDLEMAS**
0800 Book of Common Prayer Eucharist (said)
0930 Sung Eucharist & procession - with a crèche
1100 Choral Mattins
1830 Evening Service at the URC
- T 3 1000 Holy Communion (said) [in the Parish Room]
- W 4 2000 PCC meeting
- F 6 1900 - 1930 Churchwarden's Surgery (Parish Office)
- S 8 **SEPTUAGESIMA**
0800 Holy Communion (said) Common Worship rite
0930 Sung Eucharist & procession- with a crèche
1100 Mattins (Congregational)
1700 Choral Evensong
- T 10 1000 Holy Communion (said) [in the Parish Room]
- S 14 0930 Churchwarden's Surgery at "The Larder"
- S 15 **SEXAGESIMA 2ND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**
0715 Mattins (said)
0800 Holy Communion (said) *Common Worship rite*
0930 Sung Eucharist - with a crèche
1100 Sung Eucharist (1662)
1830 Evening Service at URC
- T 17 1000 Holy Communion (said) [in the Parish Room]
- S 20 1900 - 1930 Churchwarden's Surgery (Parish Office)
- S 22 **QUINQUAGESIMA - SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**
0800 Holy Communion *Common Worship rite*
0930 Sung Eucharist - with a crèche
1100 Christian Family Praise - Guides
"Thinking Day" service
1830 Evening Service at URC
- M 22 1400 Internal Affairs Meeting
- T 24 1000 Holy Communion (said) [in the Parish Room]
- W 25 **ASH WEDNESDAY**
1200 Holy Communion (said) [in the Parish Room]
1900 Sung Eucharist

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