

Dr Dance has placed a folder in the Welcome Area containing the current information on our Website. It is there to be examined at leisure.

As usual at this time of year we could do with some volunteer Sorters and Packers for our harvest gifts tomorrow morning in church from 0900. Many hands make light work, of course.

The Vicar is away for much of the week at the Guildford Triennial Diocesan Clergy Conference at Swanwick in Derbyshire. He is expecting to be back in the office on Friday. The Office will be open as usual during the week.

The Vicar's installation at Guildford Cathedral is next Sunday evening at 1830. It has been suggested that some people who would like to go cannot do so because of problems over transport. If, after the services today, people who would like a lift go and stand by the south porch, and those who can offer lifts stand nearby on the Welcome Area carpet, then some informal arrangements may well be sorted out. There is not really any mileage in trying to get a coach at this stage. The Vicar needs to ring the Dean's office tomorrow to say how many are coming, so that they have some idea about how many leaflets they should print for the service.

Churches Together in Ewell. Two things: unfortunately the much-appreciated feature of *Alone at Christmas* will have to be cancelled this year, due to the departure from the area of the cook, the drivers' co-ordinator and the invitations' co-ordinator, and replacements have not been found. Also *Joyce Saunders* has completed her stint as St Mary's representative on the CTE Committee, and we could do with a replacement now. Meetings are about quarterly. Any offers to the Vicar, we need to 'have a presence' on CTE just like the other churches.

Once again, please take the **Weekly Notes** away, as a matter of course. For various reasons it is not actually helpful for them to be handed in at the end of the service, and in any case there is material on the Notes which is often worth having as a reminder during the week. I noticed several being handed in last week, when I was at the back of the church at an earlier stage than usual. Even if a family has more than one copy, it would still be helpful if the unwanted ones were disposed of elsewhere. Also (for the second time of asking), would *sidesmen* please check that **Eucharistic readings** and **Mattins readings** do not get mixed up? They start the day in separate piles, and the **Mattins** readings say as much at the top. The eucharistic readings during 'ordinary time' have to be indicated by the number of the 'Proper', rather than by date or Sunday title; otherwise they cannot be re-used. Also, the readings papers at both services are in the *same colour* (this really is necessary for filing purposes), so some care is needed. They all got jumbled up again last week, and it took some time to sort them out. W.R.H.

Next Sunday. Morning arrangements are as usual, but the printed lists are now inaccurate for the evening. There will be the provision of evening worship at Ewell United Reformed Church, but nothing at St Mary's, because of the Vicar's installation at Guildford Cathedral.

Sharing the love of Christ, the Light of the world, with the people of Ewell.

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
020 8393 2643
www.stmarysewell.com

WEEKLY NOTES

5 October 2003

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Harvest Thanksgiving

Our custom here is to have a distinctive Harvest Festival which combines the note of thanksgiving for 'our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life' with the reality of living in what is far from being a rural situation. (I realise that you can find sheep less than a quarter of a mile from St Mary's, as the crow flies, but that does not make us a country parish.) There will be the customary Procession of Harvest Gifts at the mid-morning services, and, together with the harvest gifts from Ewell Castle Junior School, who held their service here last week, they will be given to the Waterloo Christian Centre and to Vaughan House in Guildford*. There will be puppets at the imaginatively planned 1100 service, and it would be good if some of the 0930 congregation stayed behind for 'something completely different.' Indeed, today is the sort of rare occasion when quite a lot of good things are on offer at different times. I have frequently said that St Mary's is an *à la carte* sort of church, and today is a good opportunity to explore our varied menu. The evening sees a traditional Harvest Evensong, with the inevitable Psalm 65, and it doubles-up as a reunion occasion for the Old Choristers. There is a further note about this later on in the Notes. Having said all that, it remains the case that the Harvest Festival remains a wild card in the liturgical calendar, and the priority devotional feature of the day is in the 'wider Church' the routine Sunday after Trinity. So the 0800 service, with no harvest input, is - albeit only in a technical sense - the 'main' Sunday service today, and will have the best green Sunday vestments; the 'flowers and birds' green set will be used at 0930, and that is perhaps more suitable for the occasion anyway. W.R.H.

*A handbill, given out last week, and giving information about our harvest external giving, is available at the book trolley.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, giving thanks for the fruits of the earth and for all God's many blessings to us all. In the wider Church we pray in the Anglican Communion for the Church in Guyana, for Bishop Randolph George and his clergy and people, and particularly for our twinned parish of Corriverton. In our prayer for the Diocese we pray for the members of the Diocesan Synod. Our parish prayer is for those who will receive our harvest gifts through the agencies of the Waterloo Christian Centre and Vaughan House in Guildford. In our systematic prayer for the people of the parish we remember today the residents of Priory Court.



0800 **HOLY COMMUNION (of the Sunday)** *Common Worship rite*
 Order 1: page 167 Collect of the Day: page 418
 Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184.

0930 **SUNG EUCHARIST OF THE HARVEST and PROCESSION OF HARVEST GIFTS** *Common Worship rite*

Children at the 1100 service today; Crèche in the Choir Vestry.
 Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 447
 Eucharistic Prayer G: page 201
 Setting of the Eucharist: *Starford* in B flat

Introit hymn: 259 [Use AMR 482]
 Introduction and Prayers of Penitence
 Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211 (*choral* setting)
 Collect of the Day: page 447
 Old Testament Reading from the Book of the prophet Joel
 Gradual Hymn: 260
 The Holy Gospel reading from St Matthew
 Sermon by *Mr Reginald Saunders, Reader*. Nicene Creed: page 173
 Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace
 Hymns at the Offertory: 397 and 422 Collection

DURING THE HYMNS THERE WILL BE THE PROCESSION OF HARVEST GIFTS

Eucharistic Prayer G: page 201
 Turn back to page 178 for the Lord's Prayer, etc.
 Hymn at the Invitation: 261, verses 1 and 2 only. [Use AMR 484]
 Anthem during Communion: Thou visitest the earth. *Greene*
 Thou visitest the earth and blestest it; thou crownest the year with thy goodness. (Psalm 65:9)

Post-Communion hymn: 262 Post Communion Prayer: page 447
 The Blessing and Dismissal.

Welcome to any visitors or newcomers to St Mary's today. Please make yourselves known, and join us for coffee in the church hall across the road between the 0930 and 1100 services.

1100 **SPECIAL HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE**
Service sung by the Choir Juniors.
 Anthem: For the beauty of the earth. *Rutter*



1600 **OLD CHORISTERS' REUNION**
 Rehearsal followed by tea

SERVICE SUNG BY THE PARISH CHOIR AND THE OLD CHORISTERS.
 The first part of the service will be conducted by David Crick; the second part by Julie Ainscough; Jonathan Holmes will accompany the main service; and Julie Ainscough will play for the final section and the Organ Voluntary.

Responses: Green books, page 18 Music: *Rose*
 Office-hymn: AMR 379
 Psalm 65 Thanksgiving for the blessings of harvest. page 211
 First Lesson: Deuteronomy 26: 1-10 (*Readings on separate paper*)
 Magnificat: page 19 *Starford* in C
 Second Lesson: Acts 14: 13-18
 Nunc dimittis: page 20 *Starford* in C
 Creed (page 20), Lord's Prayer, Responses and Collects.
 Anthem: Blessed be the Lord for his land. *Holman*
 [Text of anthem on small slip.]
 Commemoration of the late *John Mitchell, Chorister*
 Hymn: AMR 174 (tune AMR 279)
 Prayers Hymn: AMR 171 (Collection) The Blessing
 Organ Voluntary: Psalm Prelude No.3, Second Set. *Howells*
 'Sing unto him a new song....play skilfully with a loud noise' (Psalm 33:3)

In church this week

Tuesday There is no 1000 Eucharist this week, due to the Vicar being away at the Diocesan Clergy Conference (see below).

Other events and notices.

Tuesday 2000 House Group at 68 Castle Avenue
 Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. It is a 'Jam for Jeel' morning, with a selection of homemade jam, jelly and marmalade for sale. All contributions will be most welcome. Some newcomers may not be aware that the Coffee Morning supports the Jeel at Amal home for boys and the Lazarus home for girls at Bethany, and the 'Jam for Jeel' mornings are in aid of this. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee (there is tea as well), and see what is on offer in the Jeel Jampots.

A warm welcome to the **Old Choristers**, who return today to the choir stalls (or to the pews, if they are not brave enough). Last year's reunion was a considerable success - it was the first of its kind - and there are more people expected this year. Whilst some of the old choristers are of recent vintage, some are from way back, and there may be the chance for members of the congregation to renew some old friendships.

Congratulations to **Neil Fraser**, who has gained the Royal School of Church Music's 'Dean's Award' at the recent examinations at Guildford Cathedral.