

We have not had the *Procession of the Scriptures* at the 0930 Eucharist since the year 2000. Last year there was a scaled-down version at 1100. It is time to have it again. This local rite gives us an opportunity to reflect on the nature of the Holy Scriptures, and to remind us of their centrality in our own Christian formation and development. This year we shall be using the version of the Procession which includes the Lord's Prayer in different languages. We shall be bringing through the church a Hebrew Old Testament, a Greek Old Testament (commonly called the Septuagint, and indicated in textbooks as LXX), a Greek New Testament, and a modern English version of the Bible. The particular English Bible will be the copy of the *Revised English Bible* which was presented to the Vicar at his Installation at the Cathedral on 12 October. After the Eucharist the books will be found on a table in the Welcome Area, and those who have never seen a Hebrew Bible will have the chance to look at one. It will need to be opened from the back, because Hebrew goes from right to left. The Greek New Testament has a 'critical apparatus' at the bottom of each page of text; this gives details of varying readings in ancient manuscripts. The Revised English Bible has a presentation label on the page next to the inside cover. During the service the Lord's Prayer will be recited by those carrying the books; it will be said in Latin, German, Urdu and Welsh, just four of the thousands of languages into which the Holy Scriptures have been translated. The commentary and its accompanying hymn fairly obviously double-up as the sermon this morning.

In our prayers today we pray for this church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion for the francophone Province of Rwanda. In the diocese we pray for Bishop Ian, as he prepares to take on additional responsibilities during the vacancy-in-see. In the parish we pray for the deepening of our knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, for the children to be baptized here today, and for the people who live in Beaufort Way.

>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.

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

any new toilet rolls they fetch out of the cupboard. It seldom happens. We do not have a vergor or a sacristan, so it would really help if people generally helped on these minor things.

'Of Brackets and Books.' Brackets appear from time to time in the running-order of the services on the Weekly Notes, often containing apparently mysterious things. There is nothing particularly sinister about this. In most cases the congregation does not need to take much notice of them, particularly when they are small items in square [] brackets, with information in smaller print. They are generally directions for the choir. Some time ago the choir used to have another separate paper, which to a large extent reproduced much of the material already on the Notes. We have not had this for some time (and therefore saved paper), so the Notes sometimes contain points which normally only the musicians need to know. Others might well find the details useful, of course, especially for alternative tunes, though these tend to be indicated clearly. This is why the *normal* book to be given out is the one containing the melody line. If people want a smaller words-only book (because they find the other book heavy or don't read music) they can of course have it, but those who wish to follow the music or turn up alternative tunes should not be prevented from doing so by being given the words-only edition. It is now quite unusual these days to find words-only hymn books as the staple fare for those in the pews.

'Bishop's Name.' The reason why the *Diocesan* Bishop is mentioned specifically in the prayers - 'John, our bishop' - is that he represents the focal point of unity in the local Church, the basic unit of which is the Diocese, not the parish. He is the specific representative in our midst of the apostolic ministry of the Church. We are 'in communion' with him, and no-one else shares this particular position. Although other bishops may be exercising an episcopal ministry in the diocese, it is only the Diocesan Bishop himself who fulfils this particular role. He is the *'our bishop'* of the prayers. In some rites this is further stressed by the Diocesan Bishop being mentioned not just in the intercessions, but actually in the Eucharistic Prayer. That is why 'John and Ian, our bishops' is an incorrect form. I mention this now, because next Sunday will be the last time we hear 'John, our bishop' in the prayers. After that, the same convention applies, but it is moved on a stage. Until a new bishop arrives, the correct formula will be 'Rowan, our archbishop.' There is no reason for Bishop Ian to be disregarded, not least because he will have additional responsibilities during the interregnum. In this case, one could say 'Rowan, our archbishop, and Ian, Bishop of Dorking,' but this is just a courtesy formula; it is the specific mention of the archbishop during a vacancy which serves to emphasise our links with the wider Church. Leaders of the intercessions at the Sung Eucharist are asked to take this point on board; others may find it an interesting point to note. W.R.H.

Next Sunday. The run of slightly unusual Sundays finishes today, and although November is a busy time in church the structure of the services will be more or less as normal, except for the mid-morning Remembrance Sunday service. The Vicar will be back in the pulpit for the Sung Eucharist for the next few weeks, after an unusually long gap. Next Sunday is *All Saints*, and there is a note of festival and joy which colours our worship as we give thanks for the saints of God. There is also some splendid music next Sunday: *Haydn's 'Little Organ Mass'* at 0930, and *Bryan Kelly's Te Deum* at 1100, a setting based on Latin-American rhythms, a somewhat unaccustomed sound at St Mary's.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### HOLY COMMUNION

Order 1: page 167.

Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184 (omit the responses in red brackets).

### Common Worship rite

Collect of the Day: page 422

### SUNG EUCHARIST and PROCESSION OF THE SCRIPTURES

#### Common Worship rite

Crèche in the Choir Vestry; it is half-term for the children today.  
Order 1: page 167.

Eucharistic Prayer G: page 201

Setting of the Eucharist: *Viadana*. Missa l'hora passa  
Service sung by the Choir Seniors today.

Introit hymn: 483

Introduction, Prayer of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison*

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211 (*Shaw* setting)

Readings on separate paper.

Collect of the Day: page 422

New Testament Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy.

Reader: Evelyn Jarrett, Parish Secretary for the Bible Reading Fellowship

Gradual hymn: 407

The Holy Gospel Reading from St John.

The Procession of the Scriptures (see separate leaflet) [Ecce sedes: MS]

Biddings to prayer, followed by the Greeting of Peace

Offertory hymn: on reverse of Readings paper. Collection. [HHE 77 LAMR 405]

Eucharistic Prayer G: page 201; turn back to page 178 for Lord's Prayer, etc.

During the Communion:

Hymn 298 (verses 1 and 2 only)

Anthem: Teach me, O Lord.

Byrd

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes, and I shall keep it unto the end.  
Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall keep it with  
my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments, for  
therein is my desire. Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to  
covetousness. O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity, and  
quicken thou me in thy way. O stablish thy word in thy servant, that I  
may fear thee. Glory be, &c. (Psalm 119: 33-38)

Post-Communion hymn: 487 (tune 447)

Post Communion Prayer: page 422; the Blessing and Dismissal

### 1100 MATTINS AND HOLY BAPTISM

There is a special leaflet for this service.

#### Common Worship rite

### 1200 HOLY COMMUNION

Details as at 0800.

#### Common Worship rite

### 1830

Evening Worship at Ewell United Reformed Church

### In church this week

Tuesday 1000 Holy Communion (The feast of St Simon and St Jude.)

### Other events and notices

Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. There will be a  
Bring and Buy Sale this week.

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.

'The BRF.' This is an obvious day to make an annual plug for more people to join  
the *Bible Reading Fellowship*. I said on the Notes last week that whilst we have a  
good number of readers we could always welcome more. Evelyn Jarrett will  
undoubtedly be more than willing to recruit new readers or answer any questions  
about the BRF. Some 'scripture notes' can be very trite, little more than pietistic  
twaddle; not so those of the BRF, which are sensitively and sensibly written, and  
available in various forms, depending on what sort of depth one requires in Notes of  
this sort. Today is a good day to enrol; Mrs Jarrett will be in evidence after the Sung  
Eucharist, and will be easily identifiable to everyone, since she is reading the  
Epistle today. I shall be available myself after the other services to deal with BRF  
enquiries. W.R.H.

The November EPN contains a short note from Nigel Bird regarding the recent trip  
to Uganda. If anyone would be interested in hearing more about it, Nigel invites you  
to 'Uganda 2003 Report Back' at the Adrian Mann Theatre at NEScot on Tuesday,  
4 November, at 2000. Could you please let Gill Bird know if you would like to  
attend (Tel. 01372 277436)?

A seat in memory of Canon Howarth. The good suggestion has been made that we  
should have a seat in the Garden of Remembrance in memory of Canon Howarth.  
There is in fact an ideal position for it at the east end of the Garden. Although these  
things cost a fair amount of money, it is likely that many people will wish to be  
associated with the project, and so it seems sensible to ask for anonymous donations  
in the order of £5 or under to be placed in a labelled box in the Welcome Area. We  
all know how Canon Howarth exercised a ministry of lasting value during his  
retirement at Ewell, and the memory and long-term influence of this zealous and  
devout priest will remain with us for many years. It will be good to remember him  
in this rather obvious way.

Disappearing items. We are going through one of these periods when certain items  
of church equipment or literature are getting mislaid, or moved around for no  
apparent reason. If people do not know where things are to go, please ask the Vicar  
or someone else who might know. At the moment several of the red large-print  
copies of the Eucharist are missing from the pile, and this is causing a measure of  
inconvenience not least at the Tuesday morning service. Also, more curiously, the  
green burse and chalice veil used on weekdays and at 0800 on Sunday have  
vanished, and there seems to be no explanation for this. The gospel-book also tends  
to turn up in strange places these days. There has also been a larger than usual  
amount of things 'just lying around' for weeks on end, particularly in the Welcome  
Area and in the Parish Room. It would also help if people actually fixed in position