

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

1 February 2004

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST

CANDLEMAS

Sponsored flowers today: Celia Goodacre gives thanks for eighty glorious years.

I have said much about the attractive festival of Candlemas over the years, and it is good that the Church of England's contemporary rites give it more emphasis than was once the case. Here at St Mary's we are fortunate in having a splendid Victorian west window, depicting the Candlemas scene. Not everyone, I suspect, realises that it is possible to go right up to the window, and examine it at close quarters. This year we shall be doing something we have not done for a few years, and that is to take the Candlemas Procession right up to the window. (Actually, just the sanctuary party at that point.) The window proclaims Christ as the Light of the Nations, and therefore the Light of Ewell. Whenever the lights are on in church, and we are all looking towards the altar, our west window is silently but very clearly proclaiming to all who pass by that Christ is their light too, and they can find him in His Church and people. Marion Rao has assembled in an album some wonderful photographs of our window, and they may be seen in the Welcome Area today on the Parish Room lectern. W.R.H.

Rotas: Sacristy and Altar Servers. We are getting near the time when new rotas are due to be compiled. The Vicar would be grateful for information in the next couple of weeks about known absences.

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.

In our prayers today we pray for this church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion for the Church in the Province of Melanesia in the South Pacific. In the diocese we pray our two archdeacons and for their additional responsibilities during the vacancy-in-see. In the parish we pray for the new Minister of Ewell United Reformed Church (the Reverend Pat Hall), for the Ewell Parochial Trustees, and for the people who live in Chichester Court.

0800 HOLY COMMUNION
 Order 1: page 167.

Common Worship rite
 Collect of the Day: page 386
 Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188, beginning with extended Preface on page 307.

The Service Planner for this term is now available, and a copy was enclosed with each copy of the Weekly Notes a fortnight ago. Further copies may be found on the book trolley. I understand that some people turned up for Evensong last Sunday, when the service was at the United Reformed Church. If all regular members of the congregation kept a copy of the service planner then there would be no problems of this sort, and there would be more likelihood of people making advance planning for attending some particular service which might for some reason have a particular appeal. The music list also reproduces these points as well as the musical details.

Shrove Regday. Tickets for the Shrove Tuesday Party are available in church today; or they may be obtained from the churchwardens. They cost £5. Mr Reginald Saunders has already been given Ticket No.1. Early application for tickets is advised. There will be lists available at the back of the church for those needing or offering a lift. There will be a print at the back of the church (actually of 'King' No.6027, in full steam alongside the sea wall at Dawlish) for everyone to sign on the back, and contributions towards a gift for *Reg the Ruby Reader* may be made to the churchwardens.

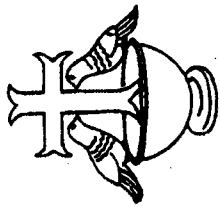
Lent with Dr Miller. It is very gratifying to learn of much interest already being shown in the course on *Objections to Christian Belief*, which is going to take place on Tuesday mornings in Lent. Actually some of the other Lenten details given in Ewell Parish News are not quite accurate (because of some hastiness is my getting the copy ready), but there will be a Lenten Leaflet or card available in a week or so, which will give full and accurate details. There will also be a course at the Tuesday evening House Group at 68 Castle Avenue (by kindness of Julian and Wendy Varney), which will be led by Iain McKillop. More about this later. W.R.H.

Knitting for Lent. Although Lent is still a month away, Edna Attwood has sent in a note already to say that it is once again time to make a start on scarves or coloured caps for the Waterloo Christian Centre's work among the London homeless. 'Double knitting wool: 60 stitches, No.7 needles, any length; plain knitting is an easy thing to do while watching television,' says Edna.

A reminder that the **Parish Web-site** is now very much up and running. We are much indebted to David Crick for setting it all up. We can be found on www.stmarysewell.com. The odds are that everyone will find something or other that he or she did not know about; this was the case some years ago when we had an Open Day and many members of the congregation learned things about St Mary's which they did not know before. The site itself is well worth visiting, and is continually being updated.

Next Sunday is the Third Sunday before Lent, otherwise known as Septuagesima. At the beginning of the Sung Eucharist the new lovely set of blue vestments in memory of Frank Cannon will be blessed for use, and then used at the service itself, and again at the Sung Eucharist on the other pre-Lent Sundays. Also, next Sunday at 1100, there will be *Christian Family Praise*, and this service has been largely compiled by St Mary's Wayfarers. It is entitled 'Spring for Joy.'

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



Wayfarers and Crèche ; 'Children's Hour' in the Church Hall.
 Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 386
 Other Candlemas material on page 306
 Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Proper Preface: page 306
 Setting of the Eucharist: *Millington*, Missa Alme Pater
 [Setting commissioned for St Mary's 150th anniversary in 1998.]
 All the hymns are on a separate leaflet for the first part of the
 Service, and on the special blue leaflet for the Candlemas
 rite at the end of the service.

Hand-candles are also given out with the Notes today ready for
 the Candlemas Procession.

Introit hymn: *No.1*: The temple gates throw open now.

Kyrie eleison

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211 (*Congregational setting*)
 [Please don't try singing this to the words on page 171. They don't fit.]

Greeting and the Collect of the Day: page 386 *Readings on separate paper.*

Old Testament Reading from the Prophecy of Malachi

Gradual Hymn: *No.7*: Hailed by the prophets.

The Holy Gospel Reading from St Luke.

[The Sermon, Creed and Prayer of Penitence are all omitted today.]

Intercession, followed by the Greeting of Peace

Offertory Hymn: *No.4* Hail to the Lord who comes. Collection

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Proper Preface: page 306

Turn back to page 178 for Lord's Prayer, etc.

Hymn at the Invitation: *No.5* As Simeon held the holy Child.

[PLEASE DO NOT STAND FOR THIS HYMN]

Anthem during Communion: Senex puerum portabat. *Victoria*

Senex puerum portabat; puer autem senem regebat. Alleluia.

The old man carried the child, but the child ruled the old man. *Alleluia.*

All stand after the anthem.

The Candlemas Procession

The remainder of the service, including the hymns, is printed on the blue leaflet.

The whole congregation is invited to take part in the Candlemas Procession, but it is not essential for everyone to join in. However, everyone is asked to hold a lighted candle during this section of the service. At the end of the Procession all should turn to face the west window for the concluding part of the rite: it is not necessary to return to one's place.

The Handel Organ Voluntary today is sponsored by Eve Myatt-Price, in loving memory of her father, Charles Edward Price, who died on 6 February 1985, at the age of 98.

Sermon by the Vicar

Responses: page 8

Venite (shorter version)

Office-Hymn: 234 (ii)

Psalm 122 The joy of a pilgrim to the temple of Jerusalem. Page 291

First Lesson from the Book of the prophet Malachi (*on separate paper*)

Te Deum: page 10 Music: *Samsion in G*

Second Lesson from St Luke: *The Presentation of Christ in the Temple.*

Hymn: 187 (tune 387)

The Creed and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer,

the Responses and the three Collects: first Collect on page 83

Anthem: Senex puerum portabat

[Text and English translation printed at the 0930 service.]

Prayers Hymn 352 (Collection)

The Blessing

Victoria

EVENSONG AND HOLY BAPTISM *Separate leaflet for this service.*

As is usually requested for such occasions, it would be good to have a reasonably-sized welcoming group at the service from the worshipping congregation here. The lovely photographs in the Welcome Area of recent christenings (taken by Marion Rao) ought to emphasize that all this is something to do with us, for we are the local manifestation of the wider body of Christ, into which these newly-baptized Christians have been incorporated through their baptism; and their entry into it was made through our doors at St Mary's. I am very glad that some members of the congregation regularly come to these occasions, but they really could do with some company.

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 Holy Communion

Other events and notices

Tuesday 2000 Epsom Deanery Synod at St Mark's Tottenham Corner. In

addition to the routine business, the Synod will be welcoming the

Reverend John Gooding, who is the Diocesan Director of the

Department of Mission, Evangelism and Parish Development.

Many will remember his stimulating visit to St Mary's. Anyone is

welcome to attend the Deanery Synod. There is coffee from 1930.

1030-1200 **Coffee Morning** in the Church Hall: The Delight of

the Bean and the Conviviality of Congenial Company. So 'have a

break; have a coffee.'

1000-1630 **The Village Fair Hymnathon.** We could still do

with lots more volunteers; some parts of the day are not covered at

all: from 1130 to 1330 and after 1500. This ought to be a jolly

occasion, and an easy way of raising money through a sponsored

sing. Information and sponsor-forms at the back of the church,

significantly very near the door. Once again: you don't need to be

a Caruso for this business.