

St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL PARISH CHURCH  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

22 February 2004

### THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

### QUINQUAGESIMA

The young Wayfarers who are making their First Communion today are embarking upon the regular life of sacramental grace (of which thus far they have only received at their baptism), and they need the loving and prayerful support of the rest of the congregation here. It is worth recalling on a day when there is traditionally a devotional concentration on the love of God that the Eucharist is a mystery of love as well as being a mystery of faith. It is an occasion for loving communion with the life-giving and love-outpouring Christ, whom we meet under the veil of sacramental reality. Jesus loves us, and calls us in the Eucharist to love him, and to welcome him into that particular reality which is our daily life. He has grace to give us for that daily life, and at the altar of God that grace is given to us in mystical presence and in the signs of life-giving food. The Christ who is received at the altar is Friend and Brother, as well as being Saviour and Lord, and that is why Holy Communion holds in balance something which is infinitely simple from one point of view, and immeasurably deep from another. The eucharistic mystery will not be fully grasped by any of us in this life, but we can all receive the fullness of the eucharistic gift. It is grace abounding. In the end, as Archbishop Michael Ramsey once wisely put it, it is not what we make of the Eucharist, but what the Eucharist makes of us.

**Our prayers today.** In our regular prayer we pray for this church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray for the Church in the Province of Polynesia in the South Pacific. In the diocese we pray for the Department for Mission, Evangelism and Parish Development. On 'Unemployment Sunday' we pray for all who are out of work. In the parish we pray for the Principal, staff and Students at NESCOL, and in our systematic prayer for the people of the parish we pray today for the residents of Holman Court.

*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.*

### SUNDAY SERVICES

0800

#### HOLY COMMUNION

The Prayer Book rite, which we have about quarterly at 0800, can now be followed (with about 98% accuracy) in Order 2 of 'Common Worship,' beginning on page 229. Unlike the monthly Prayer Book Sung Eucharist in the Mattins slot, the BCP rite at 0800 follows the 1662 order without any deviations from the actual text, except for the omission of the long exhortations. In order to achieve this, the simple rule is to **disregard any indented material** in the text. Collect and Readings are on a separate paper.

**Next Sunday.** This is the First Sunday in Lent. **Mr Reginald Saunders** preaches at the Sung Eucharist on the Sunday after his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Reader. There is the usual 1200 celebration of the Holy Communion, and in the evening there will be Stations of the Cross in the main church.

*Sharing the love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell*

**Intercessions at the Sung Eucharist.** A reminder to those who take part in leading the Intercessions that the proper 'form' during the vacancy-in-see is to mention the Archbishop by name. I don't think that anyone other than myself has been doing this, but the regular mention of the Bishop by name during the Sunday Eucharist is an acknowledgement of our own position as a part of the wider Church, for we are 'in communion' with our bishop, and he should normally be prayed for by name as a matter of course. When the diocese is vacant (as now), mention is made instead of the archbishop of the Province - in our case, of Canterbury. So the correct form for the time being is 'Rowan, our Archbishop.' This will no doubt be the case for several months yet.

Copies of the **Lent Leaflet** are available (it came out last Sunday), so no-one can say that he or she will not have had the chance to make plans for Lent. There are several new and interesting features this year. Ash Wednesday is now just around the corner; only three days left to make Lent Rules, if they still need to be done.

**Knitting for Lent.** Edna Attwood recently sent in a note to say that it is once again time to make a start on Lenten knitting: 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. She has recently received a supply of two dozen or so knitted caps - a splendid start to this year's effort.

A flier is now available giving the dates of the **Christian Family Praise** services at 1100. The dates are given for the whole year.

**The Parochial Church Council** Some six members of the PCC are due to retire this year, after completing a three-year stint. They will, of course, need to be replaced. It would be good if members of the congregation reflected upon whether they might care to be nominated for the PCC when we get to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 29 March. The meetings are about quarterly. The duties of PCC members are not onerous, but they are important, and there are several exciting things around the corner which will no doubt result in some interesting and stimulating discussion, and possibly some quite important decisions.

FIRST COMMUNION DAY FOR THREE OF OUR WAYFARERS

Wayfarers and Crèche; 'Children's Hour' in the church hall.  
 Collect of the Day: page 391. Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188.  
 Setting of the Eucharist: *Stanford* in B flat  
 The hymns relate to the scriptural theme of the Transfiguration of Christ, and also to the traditional Quinquagesima theme of the Love of God.

Introit hymn: 234 (ii)

*The transfiguring love of God in Christ.*

Introduction

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211. (*Choral setting*)[This is the last occasion for the *Gloria* (apart from Maundy Thursday) until Easter Day.]Collect of the Day: page 391 (*Readings on separate paper*)

New Testament Reading from St Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians

*Sacramental transfiguration.*

Gradual Hymn: 286

The Holy Gospel Reading from St Luke

Sermon by *the Vicar*

(The Nicene Creed is omitted today)

**First Communion Day:** Details on separate paper.

The General Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 408 (first tune): *The transfiguring Love of God.* Collection  
 Those making their First Communion today will present the bread and wine at the Offertory.

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Preface of saints: page 328

The Lord's Prayer, etc. on pages 178-180

At the Invitation. Hymn 274 (the last line of both verses is repeated)

[PLEASE DO NOT STAND FOR THIS HYMN] *The sacramental Love of God*

Those receiving Holy Communion for the first time will be the first

to receive the Blessed Sacrament today.

Anthem during Communion: Ave, verum Corpus. Elgar

[English version of text at Hymn 289.]

Post-Communion hymn: 178 *With Christ at the Mount of Transfiguration.*

Post-Communion Prayer: page 500. The Blessing and Dismissal

## 1100 CHORAL MATTINS

*Book of Common Prayer rite**The hymns today are on the Readings paper.*Sermon by *the Vicar*

Responses: page 8

Veniite (Shorter form)

Office-Hymn: Come down, O love divine.

*All sit* Psalm 103 The great psalm of the love of God.First Lesson from the Book Deuteronomy (*Readings on separate paper*)

Te Deum: page 10

Second Lesson from the Gospel according to St Mark

Canticle: A Song of God's Love

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

the Responses and the three Collects (first Collect on page 82).

[t. NEH 137]

Page 257

*(Readings on separate paper)*Music: *Stanford* in B flat

[t. NEH 185]

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)*

Prayers

**The Closure of the Alleluia:**

Hymn: H19E 30 (Collection)

The Blessing and Alleluia Dismissal response.

[t. NEH 195]

1200 **HOLY COMMUNION** (*Side chapel*).*Common Worship rite*

Order 1: page 167. Collect: page 391

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188.

1830 **Evening Worship at Ewell United Reformed Church****In church this week**

Tuesday

1000

Holy Communion

Wednesday

Ash Wednesday

0900

Eucharist for Ewell Castle Junior School

0940

The Litany

1000

Holy Communion

2000

Sung Eucharist with the Liturgy of Penitence  
 and the Imposition of Ashes.*A reminder that there is no lunchtime Eucharist  
 this year on Ash Wednesday.*

(Friday

The Lenten Friday Eucharist at 1200 begins next week)

**Full details for Lent are on the Lent Leaflet****Other events and notices**

Tuesday

**The Ruby Reader Celebration on Shrove Regday in the Church Hall** (*Admission by ticket - all sold out now.*)

Wednesday

1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall - after the Ash Wednesday morning Eucharist. Come and enjoy a nice cup of coffee (or tea), bite a nice biscuit or two, and have a nice natter.

1200 Vicar at the Executive Council meeting of the Federation of Catholic Priests (in Westminster)

Friday  
 Vicar at Canon Law Day for clergy at Merrow.**Rotas: Sacristy and Altar Servers.** The new ones are now available in the Sacristy. Please tick the sheet to show you have collected your copy.