

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

14 March 2004

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

This particular Sunday always seems to me to be the most Lenten of the lot, partly because from next week things become rather more specific, and also because we are now nearly three weeks into whatever it is that we have planned to do during the Lenten period, and there are still a further three weeks to go! The 1100 Eucharistic readings today are certainly somewhat on the joyless side, and everything is a bit serious and sober. That in itself is no bad thing, of course, though we may quite rightly be glad that the mood eventually changes. The rather full Notes this week preclude an average-length 'Sunday paragraph', but I am aware of much participation by St Mary's people in our Lenten activities this year, and I am sure (as the psalmist said) that for those concerned 'it will be accounted for righteousness.' W.R.H.

In our prayers today we pray for this church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion - just before St Patrick's Day - for the Church in Ireland in the two Provinces of Armagh and Dublin. In our own diocese we pray for the Diocesan Communications Unit, and continue to pray for the right choice of a new Bishop for us. In the parish we pray for those responsible for the finances of the parish, and for the people who live in Courtlands Drive.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

Order 1: page 167.

Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191; Proper Preface on page 308.

Common Worship rite
Collect of the Day: page 394

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

Wayfarers and Crèche; 'Children's Hour' in the Church Hall.

Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 394

Other Lenten material on page 308

Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191.

Setting of the Eucharist: *Viadana*, Missa l' hora passa

All the hymns are from *More Hymns for Today*, but some of the tunes are changed to more familiar ones.

Common Worship rite

Introit hymn: MHT 164

Introduction, Prayers of Penitence and *Kyrie eleison*

Collect of the Day: page 394 *Readings on separate paper.*

(Apart from Hymn 178 use Readings paper until after the Gospel.)

[LENE 221 ii]

The next event in connexion with the Village Fair is the annual **Bake-in**, on Saturday, 27 March from 1000-1200. Please bake a cake and come and support the **Bring and Buy**. The 50p admission includes coffee and biscuits. Please bring any contributions to the Church Hall after 0900 on the day; and bring your friends along for a pleasant (and hopefully profitable) morning. Further information from Valerie Smither (8393 2468) or Sarah Stovell (8393 0786).

Lent boxes. There are still some boxes not yet taken, and they can be found in the Welcome Area. Might the last ones be taken today? Our Lent Project always relies heavily upon what is put in the 'self-denial' boxes, and this year's project for a Children's Hospice deserves to attract a fair measure of support.

Tea-towel washing. We now have a few volunteers, but of course a few more would make the job less frequent for those concerned. Any offers to Gilda Everson.

Excavation in No.4 Churchyard. A note from the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society says that an Exhibition about the excavation in 2003 will be held in the Church Hall this coming Saturday; the times are noted above. Everyone is welcome to come and see the objects found and drawings and photographs of the excavation. Members of the Society will be there to explain and discuss the exhibits. The young (in fact and at heart) will be able to take rubbings of Roman coins. Admission is free, but donations are invited. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be available.

Hymn-books. Our basic hymn-book at St Mary's is *The New English Hymnal*, but we do have sets of four other books, and these get used from time to time. Today at the 0930 service we are using *More Hymns for Today*, in order to use some of the abundant material available which has not found its way into our regular book. 'MHT' appears usually about twice a year, and so does 'HHT'; for fairly obvious reasons 'HHE' tends to appear rather more frequently.

Coffee Morning Outings 2004. There will be two coach outings this year: to Rochester on Thursday, 10 June, and (perhaps predictably) to Eastbourne on Thursday, 16 September. People who do not normally attend the Coffee Mornings will be very welcome. Further details in due course, and probably in next month's Ewell Parish News. The Rochester trip will be a full day affair, leaving St Mary's at 0930, and arriving back about 1800. Tickets are £7; names and money by Wednesday 12 May, either to the Office or to Joan Boulden at the Coffee Mornings or on Sunday mornings in church.

Next Sunday. There is always quite a lot on in church on 'Mothering Sunday', and this year is no exception. Full details are on the Lent Leaflet, so there is no need to print it all out again here. However, even though there is quite a busy morning, it may be worth giving a plug for the Choral Evensong and Recital by the choir of Ermanuel School, Clapham, at 1830. This promises to be something quite splendid, if one is to go by their last visit here and also by the content of next Sunday evening's service and recital. I hope it will be well supported, not least by members of the choir and by those who belong to the Friends of St Mary's Music. W.R.H.

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

Old Testament Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah [t.OEH 604 U]
 Metrical Gradual Psalm 63 [t.NEH 385]
 New Testament Reading from St Paul's Letter to the Romans
 Hymn: MHT 178
 The Holy Gospel Reading from St Luke.
 Sermon by *the Vicar*.
 The Nicene Creed: page 173
 Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace
 Offertory Hymn: MHT 163; Collection. [t. NEH 383 ii]
 Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191; Lenten Preface: page 308
 Turn back to page 178 for Lord's Prayer, etc.
 Hymn at the Invitation: MHT 192 [PLEASE DO NOT STAND FOR THIS HYMN] [t.NEH 416 ii]
 Anthem: Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake. *Hilton*

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives, to decline from sin, and incline to virtue, that we may walk with a perfect heart before thee now and evermore.

Post-Communion hymn: MHT 200
 Post-Communion Prayer: page 395. Lenten Blessing and the 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 LITANY IN PROCESSION AND SUNG EUCHARIST
Book of Common Prayer rite

Setting of the Eucharist: *Batten*, Short Service
 Creed: *Merbecke* on separate paper.
 Because the Litany includes both intercession and penitence, the Prayer for the Church and the prayers of penitence are omitted at the Eucharist today.

Sermon by *the Vicar*
 The Litany: page 24
 The Litany goes as far as 'O Christ, hear us' on page 28. Then the Eucharist begins with the Introit hymn. It is usual to stand for the Litany in procession, but do feel free to kneel or sit after the Procession moves off at 'Remember not Lord our offences.'
 Introit hymn: 71

Then the first prayers on page 31
 Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy): page 33
 Greeting and the Collect of the Day
 (There is a separate leaflet for the Collect and Readings)
 The Epistle: Ephesians 5: 1-14: stern words about Christian conduct.
 Remain seated for the Gradual Psalm 32 (sung by the Choir) [No Gloria]

All stand for the Holy Gospel: St Luke 11: 14-28
 The complicated and obscure passage about Beelzebub.
 Nicene Creed: page 34 (*Merbecke melody on separate paper*).
 Offertory Hymn: 294 Collection
 After the hymn, all kneel for the Preface, Sanctus, and Prayer of Consecration. [Use OEH 335 with Amen]
 Hymn at the Consecration: 313
 During the Communion: O Lamb of God (page 44)
 After Communion:
 The Lord's Prayer and the Prayer of Thanksgiving: page 44
 (No Gloria in excelsis in Lent)
 The Blessing Hymn 272
 Stations of the Cross (in the Parish Room). Members of the congregation of Ewell United Reformed Church join us this week.

The Lent Leaflet, still available on the book-trolley, carries fuller details about the various services and other Lenten activities than appear on the Weekly Notes

In church this week
 Tuesday 1000 Holy Communion
 1100 Please note that 'Objections to Christian Belief' with Dr Patrick Miller WILL be taking place this week after all. Those attending last week will recall that it was planned to postpone this week's session until after Easter, but we are now back to the original plan. 'Scientific Objections' this week.
 Wednesday 1200 Stations of the Cross
 Friday St Joseph 1200 Holy Communion

Other events and notices
 Tuesday 2000 House Group at 68 Castle Avenue with Iain McKillop
 2000 CTE Lent Group: *Prison Ministry* (St John's, Stoneleigh)
 Wednesday 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.'
 1215-1345 The first of the Lent Lunches will take place in the Church Hall. Price: £2.50. There will be a Raffle and/or Bring-and-Buy. The lunches are in aid of our Lent project, the Shooting Star appeal for the Children's Hospice at Hampton. There is information about the project in the Welcome Area.
 Saturday 1500-1700 Exhibition in the Church Hall of the finds made at the Excavation in No.4 Churchyard in 2003 (see note below).

The recent Hymnathon in aid of the Village Fair has, amazingly, now raised £600. This really is a splendid result. Roll on next year, when we resume at Hymn 251.