

WEEKLY NOTES

4 April 2004

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT

PALM SUNDAY

At the beginning of Holy Week I simply write to repeat the traditional reminder that the key to a truly happy Easter is a well-kept Holy Week. There is much on offer at St Mary's, and it is my hope and prayer that St Mary's people will avail themselves of as much of it as possible. This week we travel along Christ's Way of Sorrows, which most wonderfully turns out to be the path to glory both for Christ and also for those who in baptismal reality share in his risen life. Let us stay close to him this week. W.R.H.

**Our prayers today.** In our regular prayer we pray for this church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion for the Episcopal Church in Scotland. In the diocese we pray for the work of the Diocesan Pastoral Committee. In our own parish we pray for the deepening of our own devotion to Christ in his Passion, and in our systematic prayer for those who live in the parish we pray today for the people of Curvan Close.

0800 **HOLY COMMUNION**

*The Blessing of Palms takes place at the beginning of the service. There is one prayer of blessing. The service then follows its normal course.*

Order 1: page 167.

Other Passiontide texts: page 312.

Collect of the Day: page 397

Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191

*Common Worship rite*

0930 **SUNG EUCHARIST**

*Common Worship rite*

Children's Hour in the Church Hall; Crèche available.

Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 397.

Other Passiontide texts: page 312

Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191. (Prayer C stresses particularly the Passion of Christ.)

Setting of the Eucharist: *Batten*, Short Service

*The Palm Sunday Entrance rite (solemn form)*

Organ: 'Valet will ich dir geben' (BWV 736).

[Chorale-Prelude in D major on the melody of 'All glory, land and honour.']

*All stand at the end of the organ voluntary, and turn to face the West Door.*

Introit: Hosanna filio David.

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, O King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

*J S Bach*

can communicate again at a later Eucharist of Easter Day. After all, it is not as if it is a really late night affair, as is the Midnight Mass of Christmas. Quite apart from the theological and devotional points which I have emphasised over the years, the simple point of baptismal welcome really ought to carry some weight, particularly in view of our Baptismal Welcome Board in church. So I hope this year things will be a bit different, and the Easter Vigil will be well supported. W.R.H.

4. There is a discrepancy on printed matter as far as Easter evening is concerned. Here is the 'definitive statement.' There will be evening worship at St Mary's at 1830. It being the second Sunday in the month we shall be joined by members of Ewell United Reformed Church. The service will be conducted at the Easter Garden by Mr Saunders; the Vicar will be 'occupying his stall' at the Cathedral.

**Other events and notices**

Monday From 1930: Altar servers' rehearsals.

Tuesday 1000-1200 A & E Longhurst, our local Funeral Directors are holding an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on Casey and Ebbisham wards at Epsom General Hospital. So drop in, if you would like to, to A & E (no, not Accident and Emergency) and exchange an Easter Egg for a Coffee on Tuesday morning. They already have quite a lot of eggs. It sounds a good idea. There is a (mis-spelt) poster in the Welcome Area.

Wednesday 2000 House Group at 68 Castle Avenue. Last Lenten session. 1030-1200. There is our own Coffee Morning in the Church Hall, with Hot Cross Buns and a special Easter Raffle in aid of the children at the Jeel at Amal Boys' Home in Bethany.

**Easter Jobs.** I am always grateful to those who do additional jobs in and around the church at this time of year. The beautifully decorated church of Easter doesn't just happen; it is as the result of the devotion and service of people who care. The Burgesses are away this year, and the Easter Garden will be assembled by David Slattery. Since we have no sacristan I could do with some help on Holy Saturday morning, say, from 1000 for a variety of sacristy jobs, including candle trimming and candlestick cleaning, changing frontals and altar linen, and that sort of thing. Might I have two or three volunteers today, please? W.R.H.

**Glady's George** died early last week. She had been unwell for some time. She was a faithful worshipper at St Mary's, and was for many years a weekday communicant at the early Eucharist on a Wednesday morning. Latterly, she had been a regular member of the 0800 congregation. Our Christian sympathy goes to Charles at this time. Her funeral will be on Monday, 19 April ('Low Monday' as one might say) at 1030 in St Mary's, followed by cremation at the North-east Surrey Crematorium, Morden. May she rest in peace.

For the benefit of those not in church last week, the **Bake-in**, held a week yesterday in aid of the Summer Fair, raised £274. Many thanks to all concerned.

**Next Sunday. Easter Day.** Full details are on the Lent Leaflet, or for that matter in Ewell Parish News for April. Lent boxes are due in next week.

*All sit. A Procession of Palms.* *Malcolm Williamson*

[Text printed on a separate leaflet.]

Hymn: Sing your Hosannas [t.49i]; Collection. The Blessing

1830 Evening Worship for 'Churches Together in Ewell' at Stoneleigh Methodist Church.

This ecumenical service is a follow-up to the CTE Lent Course on specialized ministries, but it is a good opportunity for the local churches to worship together at the start of Holy Week.

### In church this week

Full details of the arrangements for Holy Week and Easter are given on the LENT LEAFLET, which all regular members of the congregation should already have. There are still plenty of extra copies of this available on the book-trolley in the Welcome Area, in case anyone is still without a copy. Points noted below are, in the main, only to do with points of detail or with a few later changes of plan.

### Four points about the Holy Week and Easter services this year.

1. **The Watch of the Passion.** The chart for this annual act of devotion on Maundy Thursday night is (really) in position today. I hope it will be initialled (or ticked) by many people *today*. This is an opportunity for silent prayer with one another, as together we kneel before, and in communion with, the Christ of Gethsemane. Last year, for the first time ever, and to my grief (I have to say), I found myself alone for about 40 minutes of the Watch. If anyone is a bit unsure of what one might actually *do* during the Watch, please have a word with me. However, there are always guidelines and books available on the night. Whilst there is always a decent number at the start of the Watch, it invariably tails off later on, though there are always some who come towards the end. Please think about this today, and sign up if you can. The Lord said to his disciples then, and still says it now, 'Could you not watch with me one hour?' Or even half? W.R.H.

2. **Tenebrae.** This will be held as usual this year at Ewell United Reformed Church. It is a simple but moving service, and a good prelude to some of the more demanding services which will be held at St Mary's over the following days. We shall need volunteers to read at the service; names to the Vicar, please. The main point to note is that the service will begin at 1900, not 2000 as hitherto.

3. There will be Holy Baptism at the **Easter Vigil** this year, and we are expecting a family group of about thirty. So it is more than usually important that there is a decent-sized congregation there to welcome them all on a night which is of such importance in the Christian Faith. Over the years I have stressed the climactic nature of this occasion, and those who attend it regularly will testify to its extraordinary devotional power. To my considerable regret the service seldom seems to attract the size of congregation which it truly merits. It 'counts' as Easter Communion, but it does not have to be thought of as an alternative to the more familiar services of the following morning; in any case, one

Greeting and Introduction. Hymn 511

The Holy Gospel (usual responses): St Luke 19: 28-38

*The Procession to the Sanctuary*

Hymn 509 (the hymn will probably not be sung in full)

*The Eucharist of the Passion now begins with Kyrie eleison*

Collect of the Day: page 397.

*Use Readings paper from now until after Hymn 338.*

Old Testament Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah

Gradual Canticle: A Song of Christ the Servant

New Testament reading from St Paul's Letter to the Philippians

Hymn 338, verses 1 & 3

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke (*special leaflet*)

(Nicene Creed omitted today.)

Intercession; Prayers of Penitence (Confession on page 276 [2]); then all stand for the Greeting of Peace

Hymn: Hosanna in the highest.

(*Words of Collection Hymn and Offertory anthem on readings paper*) [t.AMR 421]

*After the hymn, all sit for the Offertory Anthem:*

Solus ad victimam. *Leighton*

*Then all stand for Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191;*

Passiontide Preface: page 312.

Consecration Acclamation: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All sing:*

**Grace and life eternal**

**In that blood we find;**

**Blest be his compassion,**

**Infinitely kind.**

[t.NEH 83: in on chord.]

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

Hymn at the Invitation: 283

(*Agnus Dei* during the administration)

Post-Communion Prayer.

Post-Communion Prayer. The Blessing and Dismissal.

Organ Voluntary: Valet will ich dir geben (BWV 735) *J S Bach*

[Chorale-Prelude in B flat on the melody of 'All glory, laud and honour.']

*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

### CHORAL MATTINS

Responses: page 8 (Music: *Byrd*). Venite (sung in full during Lent)  
Office-Hymn: Hark the glad sound [NEH 6]. *All hymns on Readings paper today.*

Psalms 61 A 'royal psalm' of victory. page 208

First Lesson: Zechariah 9: 9-12

Benedictus (Chant setting): page 11

Second Lesson: St Matthew 21: 1-11

Hymn: Draw nigh to thy Jerusalem [t.182]

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

the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 63).

Hymn: Hail, all hail, great David's Son. [t. 450] Prayers