

St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL PARISH CHURCH  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

23 May 2004

### SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(*Sunday after Ascension*)

The unofficial but well-known of this Sunday as 'Expectation Sunday' well describes that waiting period which the programmatic St Luke gives us in his account of the last ten days of the Easter season. 'Stay,' says Jesus, 'until you receive power from on high.' It is curiously like that situation in the Church of England, when a priest may have been confirmed in his appointment as a diocesan bishop\* (and can legally sign cheques and do various other things), but until he receives the grace of consecration as a bishop he cannot perform any specifically episcopal tasks, such as that of ordaining new priests. The apostles were in a similar state. They were ready, and they were given their commission, but they needed the enabling grace to empower them for action. There is also a sense in which we are all constantly in that waiting state, for throughout life we are meant to be in a state of constantly waiting upon the Holy Spirit to guide and sustain us in our Christian pilgrimage. That is why Whitsunday, next week, is a day of such importance in the Christian calendar. It is all about our role of actually *being* the living Christ in the world, through the inspiration and grace of the Holy Spirit. These days this Sunday is not generally thought of as looking back to the Ascension (the old title given above is not now in general use except for Book of Common Prayer services, as at 1100 today), and the days of 'octaves' in the calendar are now a thing of the past. Rather this Sunday provides us with a chance to start looking forward to the Spirit-filled and Spirit-led Church in her worldwide mission. However, having said all that, it remains the case that it is only because of the risen and glorified Christ of Easter and Ascension that all this is possible; and by a rare stroke of genius the Revised Common Lectionary gives us today a small extract from the 'high priestly' prayer in St John's gospel, reminding us that as we go about the Lord's work, so 'he ever lives to make intercession for us,' as the Epistle to the Hebrews tells us.

\* The ceremony of the Confirmation of the appointment of a bishop takes place (in the Province of Canterbury) at the church of St Mary-le-Bow in the City of London. There was a move in the General Synod for it to be abolished, or at least drastically revised, some years ago. It failed, but not before the whole process had been described in a Motion before the Synod as 'a farrago of legal gobbledegook.'

**Our prayers today.** In our regular prayer we pray for this church and parish, and in the worldwide Church we pray today (in a few weeks of ecumenical themes for prayer) for 'Churches Together in England.' In the diocese we pray for the Pastoral Assistants in training. In our parish we pray for the Village Fair organisers and Committee, and for the people who live in the Epsom Road.

**Large print Weekly Notes.** Some years ago we used to have a few copies of the Notes regularly 'blown up' each week. This has not happened for some time, but it may be the case that some people would value this. If anyone would like this on a regular basis, please would he or she let the Vicar or one of the churchwardens know, or else please notify the office. We already have some large print copies of 'Order 1' of the Holy Eucharist, and some more have recently been obtained. Unfortunately they do not contain any traditional language material, so there is a bit of a problem when the older forms of the Gloria and Creed are sung, or when material from other parts of *Common Worship* is used. However, they are useful for the main bits of the service.

**The Village Fair.** The Fair is fast approaching, and we still require more volunteers for side-shows; please let Jeff Cousins know if you can help. We also need help with '*Breakin' up the 'appy 'ome*,' taking money for the *pony rides*, and *manning the gates* at the Ewell By-Pass and Church Street entrances. We are also looking for a *van driver* for the Friday night before and on the day itself; if you can help or know of someone who might be able to, then please let us know as soon as possible. *Joan Boulden* is making a list for the Men's Cake-Baking Competition and sponsorship; please let her know if you are interested in taking part. *Grand Draw Tickets* are now on sale, and are available from *Gill Bird*. Any donations for prizes would also be very much appreciated. *Balloon Race Tickets* (new this year) are now on sale too. Many thanks. *Rosemarie and Mike Henson*.

**Village Fair Plant Stall.** Plants ordered will soon be ready for planting out, and some will be brought to church, by arrangement, next Sunday. There will also be a plant table at Sunday Coffee for the next two Sundays. Orders may still be placed; there are lists on the book trolley, or please call Evelyn Jarrett on 8393 4502. Thank you for your help in raising necessary funds. E.J.

**A carpet is wanted** for the ringing chamber in the tower, the present one having become very threadbare. If anyone has a spare carpet square in reasonable condition, the bell-ringers would be glad to give it a good home.

**The Friends of St Mary's Music** will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Sunday, 13 June (Corpus Christi) after *Choral Evensong*. The published arrangements for that day have now been changed, and Mattins will now be congregational, and the choral service transferred to the evening. Copies of the music list will need to be adjusted accordingly. Cheese and Wine will be served in the Parish Room after Evensong.

**Next Sunday.** It is *The Day of Pentecost*, one of the major Holy Days of the Christian Year, and the last day of Eastertide. The Paschal Candle will be transferred to the area by the font at the end of the Sung Eucharist, and the Easter Garden will be removed. 'Ordinary Time' resumes on Monday, as the Christ-centred half of the liturgical year comes to an end. Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi on the two following Sundays tend to make this not quite so apparent, but such is the case. The Lord's earthly Procession from Advent to Pentecost is over, and the cycle of the liturgical seasons does not resume for another six months. Devotionally in church we settle down to normality for a while.

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**0800 HOLY COMMUNION**

Order 1: page 167

Other Eastertide texts: page 320.

**Common Worship rite**

Collect of the Day: page 404

Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184

**SUNG EUCHARIST**

**Common Worship rite**

Wayfarers in the Parish Room; 'Children's Hour' in the Church Hall; Crèche in the Choir Vestry.

Order 1: page 167.

Collect of the Day: page 404

Other Eastertide texts: page 320 Eucharistic Prayer B: page 198

Setting of the Eucharist: *Victoria*, Missa O Magnum Mysterium

**Easter Greeting:** Christ is risen.

**All reply:** He is risen indeed.

Introit Hymn: 388 (i)

Easter Greeting, Introduction, Prayers of Penitence (page 168), *Kyrie eleison*

Metrical Gloria in excelsis: Hymn 363 (today, the set tune 'Cuddesdon')

Collect of the Day: page 404. *Readings on separate paper.*

New Testament Reading from the Revelation to St John

Gradual Canticle: A Song of the Spirit (t. 52) (*printed on readings paper*).

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Nicene Creed: page 173

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace

Offertory Hymn 338

Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196, *but starting at page 321 with the Extended*

*Preface of the season. (Then back to page 196).*

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

Hymn at the Invitation: 131

During the Communion:

Anthem: Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face. *Whitlock*

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;

Here faith would touch and handle things unseen;

Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,

And all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the Bread of God;

Here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven;

Here would I lay aside each earthly load;

Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

Post-Communion hymn: 476.

Easter Blessing and Dismissal.

Post-Communion Prayer: page 405

*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**

**SUNG EUCHARIST**

**Book of Common Prayer rite**

Setting of the Eucharist: *Howells* in E flat.

Kyrie, Creed and Gloria: *Merbecke*, Missa Simplificior.

*Merbecke* is a congregational setting, and the melody is available on the lilac-coloured paper.

Sermon by **Mr Reginald Saunders, Reader**

Introit hymn: 134

Then green Prayer Book: 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*)

For the Epistle: 1 St Peter 4: 7-11

*Remain seated for the Gradual Psalm:* 99 The Lord is King. page 254

*All stand for the Holy Gospel:* St John 15: 26 - 16: 4

Nicene Creed: page 34, followed by Prayer Biddings and the Offertory Sentence.

Offertory Hymn: 132 (tune 201) Collection

After the hymn, all kneel for the Prayer for the Church (page 36), the

Prayers of Penitence, etc., and for the Prayer of Consecration

Hymn at the Consecration: 313

During the Communion: O Lamb of God (page 44)

Anthem: Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face. *Whitlock*

[See above at the 0930 Eucharist.]

After Communion: The Lord's Prayer and the Prayer of Thanksgiving: page 44

*All stand for Gloria in excelsis*

The Blessing Hymn 443

**1830 Evening Worship at Ewell United Reformed Church.**

**In church this week**

Tuesday 1000

**Holy Communion (Nave Altar)**

(There will not be a celebration of the Eucharist next week.

The following week we return to the Parish Room after the

Easter arrangements by the Paschal Candle and Easter

Garden.)

**Other events and notices**

After quite a busy few weeks it is nice to have a fairly peaceful one!

Wednesday

1030-1200. Coffee Morning in the Church Hall: 'Have a break; have a coffee.' Fellowship, Friendship and Fine Blend.

There will be a Bring and Buy stall this week.