



St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL, PARISH CHURCH  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

17 October 2004

### NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Members of the Ewell Branch of The Royal British Legion, with various invited guests, will be with us for *Mattins next Sunday*, when they will be laying up their old Standard, and having their new one dedicated. This provides me with an opportunity for saying that over the years our 1100 slot on a Sunday morning has proved to be an extremely useful and flexible one, and next Sunday's arrangements are a good illustration of this. Indeed, I should certainly pay tribute to Ron and Virginia Johnson, Janet Morrison, and Jean and Bill Rackham in particular for their distinctive and unfussed ministry of welcome at what is normally (but by no means always) the smaller of our two mid-morning services. Whilst Choral Mattins and sermon is in itself a satisfying and fulfilling non-eucharistic rite for those who are accustomed to it, and come to it week by week, the service of Mattins – and indeed its regular congregation – is in itself very adaptable, and can easily take into the system such things as dedicating Royal British Legion Standards, or welcoming great numbers on Remembrance Sunday, or (in its modern form) providing the setting for the rite of Holy Baptism. What with the monthly traditional Sung Eucharist according to the Book of Common Prayer rite, and with totally different services like the all-age services of Christian Family Praise about six or seven times a year, we are able to offer a varied programme for both the regular congregation and the many visitors who come to the special services at this particular time-slot. We are fortunate in having this slot available; churches which have their principal Sunday Eucharist later than 0930 cannot really lay on another regular service at a later morning time. This flexibility also means that the earlier Sung Eucharist need not be tinkered with every so often in order to accommodate something special, and the 0930 congregation can thereby enjoy an important measure of stability. The drawback is that many of those who regularly worship at 0930 (and, for that matter, at 0800) are quite unaware of this other side of our worshipping life. With the opportunity of a break for coffee it ought to be possible for members of the 0930 congregation to stay on occasionally when there is something special at 1100, or indeed just to experience the gentler normal routine of Mattins or the Prayer Book Sung Eucharist once in a while, in the latter case something which might well be welcomed by older members of the congregation, who have the text of that service deeply imbedded in the mind. Although there are some members of the congregation who are not particularly wedded to one particular service, the majority seem to be, and whilst there is nothing wrong in that as such, it means that there are missed opportunities for participating in acts of worship which are often quite distinctive and sometimes very memorable. W.R.H.

**Responses.** I wrote last week to say that while we are having an Upper Voices choir one of the very few things which has not been coming over quite so well is the singing of the unaccompanied congregational responses at the Eucharist. In fact, after a verbal as well as a printed reminder, they went quite well last Sunday, so *please keep up the good work*, and especially over that final sung (and accompanied) 'Amen' at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer. That particular 'Amen' is 'the People's Assent,' and theologically an important point. So do take a deep breath, and sing it mightily. I have suddenly noticed too (possibly because I've simply just got used to it over the years, and have now had a 'disclosure situation' that, by and large, the servers and communion assistants don't seem to join in the sung responses at all; could 'all in albs' please turn over a new leaf, please? However, I think that the Gospel responses are not in quite the same category, and perhaps the time has come for them to be *said* rather than sung. So, beginning today, can we all declaim with great confidence, but in the natural voice, the words *Glory to you, O Lord* and *Praise to you, O Christ* before and after the Gospel? The only exception to this will be at the monthly Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100, when (as sometimes happens) the gospel reading itself is sung to the traditional chant, and the traditional language responses will be appropriate in that setting. W.R.H.

**Confirmation.** This is a final reminder that there will be a Confirmation in this area on Wednesday, 1 December at All Saints, Banstead. All Saints is in some ways quite similar in its flavour to St Mary's, and I always think it best for our confirmees to be confirmed either here or in a church which operates along similar lines, for on an important occasion like this in one's personal spiritual pilgrimage I do not think people ought to be having 'new experiences of worship styles,' and I therefore try to avoid taking people to churches of very different churchmanship. The new Bishop will have been enthroned only a few days before, so it is quite possible that it will be his first Confirmation in the diocese (unless it is already scheduled for Bishop Ian of Dorking). Whilst I know of some people who are hoping to be confirmed shortly, I also know that there are some others who (as the hymn says) are 'lingering, shivering on the brink, and fear to launch away.' Any adult who would like to have a word with me about this *without commitment* should feel free to do so. (There are different arrangements for junior candidates.) There are certainly some regular members of the congregation who perhaps should be considering this side of things, and now is as good a time as any to think a bit harder, and then have a preliminary word with me. In fact anyone who knows someone who perhaps needs a push to make an initial enquiry should start pushing now. We need to make plans fairly soon, and this notice will not be appearing after today. W.R.H.

**The latest gem from the Diocese:** a circular received last week at the Vicarage from the *Education* Department of the Guildford Diocese, and bearing no heading, date, or signature, simply begins with the word 'Guys.'

**Next Sunday.** Normal eucharistic arrangements. Mattins will incorporate the Laying-up and Dedication of Royal British Legion Standards. Evening Prayer will be said in the Parish Room.

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

**Our prayers today.** In our regular prayer we pray for this church and parish, and in the worldwide Church we pray today for the Church in Sri Lanka. In the diocese we pray for the Department of Social Responsibility. In our parish we pray for our bellringers, and for the people who live in The Kingsway.

The annual sale of **Christmas Cards** in aid of **The Children's Society** has come round once again, and the cards will be on sale after the morning services today. *Sybil Hale.*

0800

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Order 1: page 167  
Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188

*Common Worship rite*  
Collect of the Day: page 420

0930

**SUNG EUCHARIST**

'Children's Hour' in the Church Hall. Crèche available in church.  
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 420  
Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196  
Setting of the Eucharist: *Rutter* in D. Green hymn-book at 0930.

*Common Worship rite*

Introit Hymn: 377

Introduction, Prayers of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison*

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211 (*Shaw* setting)

Collect of the Day: page 420 *Readings on separate paper.*

New Testament Reading from the Second Letter to Timothy.

Gradual hymn: 407

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

[GOSPEL RESPONSES NOW SAID, NOT SUNG; SEE NOTE BELOW.]

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Nicene Creed: page 173

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 193 (i) Collection

Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196; turn back to page 178 for the Lord's Prayer, etc.

At the Invitation: *Agnus Dei*

During the Communion: Hymn 385

Antiphon: *Panis angelicus.*

[A meditation on the mystery of the Eucharist and on the fruits of Communion.]

All stand\* after the anthem for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 420

The Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn 364 [i. 408 i]

[Coffee in the Church Hall.]

[\* The new arrangements at the end of the service seem to be working well. W.R.H.]

*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.*

Setting of the Eucharist: *Merbecke*, *Missa Simplicior.*  
*Merbecke* is a congregational setting, and the melody is available on the lilac-coloured paper. The hymns are all from the old red hymn books at 1100.

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Introit hymn: 39

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*)

The Epistle: Ephesians 4: 17-32

Gradual Hymn: 300 [While there is an Upper Voices Choir we shall not have a Gradual Psalm]

The Holy Gospel: St Matthew 9: 1-8

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

Offertory Hymn: 219 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: 416

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

Anthem: The Song of the Tree of Life.

*R Vaughan Williams.*

Unto him that overcometh shall be given of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God. On either side of the river groweth the tree of life; the leaves of the tree are for thy healing. In the midst of that fair city flows the river of water of life, clear as crystal. Whoso will, let him take of the water of life freely. Whose drunketh of this water shall never thirst. Take thou the leaves of the tree of life, so shalt thou enter in through the gates of the city. (*Based on words from the Revelation to St. John.*)

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

All stand for Gloria in excelsis

The Blessing Hymn 373

1830 Evening Prayer

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 Holy Communion

Thursday 1000 Ewell Grove School Harvest Service

Other events and notices

Monday Holy Communion to the housebound.

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

**Early release!** The Vicar's spell of jury service came to a sudden end early last week, when a large number of jurors found themselves suddenly discharged. However, even though he was back for much of last week, he will be on his travels again for a chunk of this week, when he will be on the priests' pilgrimage-retreat to Walsingham, where there is also a meeting of the executive of The Federation of Catholic Priests. He will be away after the Tuesday Eucharist, but will be back for the open office period on Friday evening.