

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

21 November 2004

CHRIST THE KING

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT



Christ in Majesty, Codex Bezae Cantabrigiae, fol. 1v, c. 1150-1160

Many thanks to all (mainly, though not exclusively, gentlemen) who helped in the arrangements for last Sunday. For those who may be unaware of all the hard work involved on this annual large-scale occasion it may be worth pointing out that a large number of chairs always have to be moved on the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday, and then returned to where they belong on the following Monday. There were also leaflets to go on seats, and all sorts of other detailed points. Once again Ron and Virginia Johnson ensured all went well on this their final occasion of masterminding the arrangements; there was a small presentation in the hall to them after the service. Malcolm Lawther has kindly agreed to take over next year; he was understudying it all very carefully this time. There were, in fact, 563 at Mattins last Sunday.

PC Steven Mould, our new Neighbourhood Specialist Officer for Ewell and Nonsuch Wards, is with us today in church. On his first day in office, accompanied by a three-week old policeman (if you see what I mean), he called at the church – what better place than the parish church for the first call? In reality he was also following up the business of our two break-ins (shouldn't that really be 'break-in'?), but in the event he spent quite a useful time with the Vicar and the Administrator. He has written a note for the December Ewell Parish News about his new office and role in the community. He is himself a Christian and a churchman, and it is good to welcome him here today; please make him feel at home. W.R.H.

New Stations of the Cross. A donor has most kindly financed the provision of a commissioned set of Stations of the Cross, which are intended to appear on the gallery front, and which can be brought down for liturgical use. Last week the PCC agreed to petition for a Faculty in this connexion. The Stations have been designed by our own Iain McKillop, and the final drawings, together with an explanation of the scheme and a preliminary unfinished example of what they will look like, are available for inspection in the Welcome Area. Those who know Iain's work will be greatly impressed with this latest example, particularly since it is for us, and the Stations will undoubtedly add significantly to the iconography of St Mary's, and will certainly be a great aid to devotion during Lent, Passiontide and at other times.

Next Sunday. It will be **The First Sunday in Advent** and the beginning of a new Christian Year. Eucharistic arrangements as normal, with the additional celebration at 1200, it being the last Sunday of the month. There will be Mattins and Holy Baptism at 1100. Evening Worship is at Ewell United Reformed Church. There will not be an Advent Procession this year at St Mary's, but the former 'Advent Carol Service' at the Cathedral is now re-styled as 'The Advent Procession', and a poster has arrived about this, and it is in the Welcome Area.

Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat.
Christ has conquered, Christ reigns, Christ commands.

The lovely festival of Christ the King rounds off the Christian Year with a note of thanksgiving: God in Christ 'has visited and redeemed his people' (so we sing in the *Benedictus* at Mattins), and the Victor-King has overcome the sharpness of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers (as the other canticle at Mattins, *Te Deum*, proclaims). The vigorous hymn at the end of the 0930 Sung Eucharist looks back over the course of the Christian Year, and in a final verse in praise of the Lord Jesus it says that we are to 'rejoice and name him King.' It is a good note on which to end yet another year of spelling out 'the Son's Course' both to ourselves and to others in our worship and devotion. It all begins again next week.

The Church of England has adopted the comparatively modern festival of Christ the King from the Roman rite, and the same is true for many other parts of the worldwide Church, who have seen in this particular festival an occasion at the end of the liturgical year for reminding ourselves what it has all been about. In these ecumenical days it is good that one can now do this sort of thing quite openly. Whilst the festival was unofficially quite widely observed for many years, it only gained official recognition with the arrival of *Common Worship*. The Alternative Service Book managed to give us as a Sunday theme the Old Testament doctrine of the remnant; very much a fag-end approach to things, I always thought, not least because the word 'remnant' meant something quite different to me, since I grew up in the rag-trade. At least the old Book of Common Prayer gave us the much-loved 'Stir up' Collect, and the familiar scripture readings which speak of a new hope and of the new divine sustenance. These all look ahead: the Collect and Readings all have a pre-echo of Advent-around-the-corner. We shall have all this at the BCP Sung Eucharist at 11 o'clock today. W.R.H.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the Anglican Communion we pray today for the Church in Japan. In our regular prayer for the Diocese we pray for the life and work of our Cathedral at the beginning of the week when it welcomes the new Bishop. Our parish prayer today is for our local Ward Councillors, and for the people who live in Lyncroft Gardens.

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

HOLY COMMUNION

Order 1: page 167.
Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196.

Common Worship rite

Collect of the Day: page 426
Proper Preface: page 326

PROCESSION AND SUNG EUCHARIST

Common Worship rite

Wayfarers, 'Children's Hour' and Crèche.
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 426
Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188.
Setting of the Eucharist: *Britten*, Missa Brevis in D.

Our new 'Neighbourhood Specialist Officer', PC Steven Mould, will be attending this service in uniform (see note below), and he will be in the Welcome Area after the service, and then in the hall, where there will be the chance to meet him over coffee.

Processional hymn: 352

Kyrie eison

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text today on page 211 (*Show melody*).
Collect of the Day: page 426. *Readings on separate paper.*

New Testament Reading from St Paul's Letter to the Colossians

Gradual Hymn: Lift up your heads, ye gates of brass. [tune AMR 306]

This is the second hymn on the gold leaflet.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Nicene Creed: page 173

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace

Offertory hymn: 351

Not the hymn on the gold leaflet.

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Proper Preface: page 326

Consecration Acclamation: Let us proclaim the Mystery of Faith:

Alleluia, King eternal

Last item on the gold leaflet.

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

Hymn after the Invitation to Communion: 134

During the Communion: *Agnus Dei*

No Communion anthem today, so **all stand** after 'Let us pray' for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 182 [Second prayer, but said by the celebrant.]

The Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn 486

[Coffee in the Church Hall.]

Welcome to any visitors or newcomers to St Mary's today. Please make yourselves known to us. There is coffee in the church hall across the road between the 0930 and 1100 services.

Service of the Sunday next before Advent ('Stir up' Sunday)
Setting of the Eucharist: *Merbecke*
[This is the congregational setting on the lilac-coloured paper.]

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Troait hymn: 443

Then green Prayer Book: page 31

Kyrie eison (Lord, have mercy): page 33

Greeting and the Collect of the Day

(There is a separate leaflet for the Collect and Readings)

The Epistle: Jeremiah 23: 5-8

Gradual hymn: HCE 86 [tune: NEH 58]

The Holy Gospel: St John 6: 5-14

Nicene Creed: page 34.

Biddings to Prayer and the Offertory sentence.

Offertory Hymn: 292 (ii) 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: 269 part 2

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

Anthem: O for a closer walk with God.

[Words from Hymn 414, verses 1, 2, & 4.]

After Communion:

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

All stand for Gloria in excelsis

The Blessing Hymn 431

1830 Evening Prayer (in the sacristy)

1930 Handel's Messiah (with chamber orchestra).

This is a concert of parts of Handel's *Messiah*, and it is the end product of a day's workshop and concert, organized by Fitznells Music, in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust on the occasion of the Trust's fortieth anniversary.

Services this week.

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**

(Requiem Mass for past benefactors of the parish.)

Saturday 1130

Enthronement of the new Bishop of Guildford at the Cathedral by the Archdeacon of Canterbury.

Other events and notices.

Monday Holy Communion to the housebound.

2000 Meeting of the Website Group in the office.

Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall.

2000

Epsom Deanery Synod at St Mark's, Tattenham Corner.

Speaker: The Reverend Jonathan Jennings, who is the the Archbishop of Canterbury's Press Secretary at Lambeth Palace, and was formerly a communications officer for the General Synod. He is well worth hearing.