

St Mary the Virgin  
**EWELL PARISH CHURCH**  
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Hymn: During the hymn the newly-baptized are brought into the midst of the congregation. [Tune: *Goshen OEH App. 70*]

I was made a Christian  
 And an heir of heaven,  
 In baptismal waters  
 When God's grace was given.  
 In the name of Christian  
 I will glory now,  
 Evermore remember  
 My baptismal vow.

**WEEKLY NOTES**

26 December 2004



**ST STEPHEN'S DAY. SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY.**

After a very full programme of Christmas services there is only one service at St Mary's today. It is at an unusual time, but it is meant for *all* our morning congregations, and so it seems best to go for a completely different time. There will be no further liturgical services in church during the week. The choir is with us today, but will be having their Christmas break next Sunday instead.

**1030 SUNG EUCHARIST and HOLY BAPTISM Common Worship rite**

Crèche available. Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 443  
 Other Christmas texts: page 302. Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188.  
 Setting of the Eucharist: *Howells* in E flat.  
 Most hymns are on the readings paper, except for one printed below,  
 and two from the hymn-book.

*Holy Baptism takes place more frequently at Mattins than at the Sung Eucharist, but when it happens at the Sunday Eucharist it can serve as a clear reminder to the regular congregation of the personal nature of our call from God, and can offer us a specific opportunity to reflect upon the nature of our own response to that call in life. The modern baptismal rites lay much weight upon the faith of the Christian community which surrounds those who are brought to baptism. Every baptism marks the start of a particular Christian pilgrimage, but it should also remind all present that each and every Christian has to find time to look after his or her own soul. Godparents, sponsors, soul-friends, priests and teachers can only do so much; the rest is up to us.*

Introit hymn: 201 Stephen, first of Christian martyrs.  
 [There is a Station at the Crib before the last verse of the hymn. The Prayers of Penitence are covered by the Baptism rite today.]  
 Metrical Gloria in excelsis:  
 Collect of the Day: page 443  
 New Testament Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.  
 Gradual Hymn: Yesterday with jubilation. [Tune: AMR 508]  
 A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.  
 Sermon by *the Vicar*

All a Christian's blessings  
 I will claim for mine:  
 Sacramental graces,  
 Fellowship divine.  
 Father, Son and Spirit,  
 Give me grace, that I  
 Still may live a Christian,  
 And a Christian die.

*The Welcome*

There is one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism: (Name), by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.  
**All: We welcome you into the fellowship of faith.**  
 We are children of the same heavenly Father.  
 We welcome you.

*The Sunday Eucharist now resumes with Biddings to Prayer and the Greeting of Peace.*  
 Offertory Hymn: For all the glorious saintly band. [LNEH 116] (Collection)  
 Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Proper Preface of the Incarnation: page 302  
 Turn back to page 178 for the Lord's Prayer, etc.  
 Hymn at the Invitation: Blessed Stephen, Protomartyr. [LNEH 393]  
 The choristers will sing a carol during the Communion.

After the carol, **all stand** for the Post Communion prayer (on page 362; from the Baptism rite), followed by the *Parish Funding Prayer* (said together):  
*Lord, bless our parish church, and bless what we seek to do: for the good of your Church, for the people of Ewell, and to your greater glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

The Blessing, followed by the giving of the lighted candle to the newly-baptized:  
 God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, and given us a place with the saints in light. (Name), you have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.  
**All: Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.**  
 Go in peace to love and service the Lord.  
**All: In the name of Christ. Amen.**  
 Final hymn: Carol: Good King Wenceslas

### The Liturgy of Baptism

#### The baptism of Oscar Peter James Mash

**Priest.** Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome these children and uphold them in their new life in Christ. *All:* With the help of God, we will.

**To parents and godparents:** Parents and godparents, the Church receives these children with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith. Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith, and walk with them in the way of Christ? *They reply:* With the help of God, we will. In baptism these children begin the journey of faith. You speak for them today. Will you care for them, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church. *They reply:* With the help of God, we will.

*(All stand.)* In baptism God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin, and rising to new life with him. Therefore, I ask: Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God? *They reply:* I reject them. Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil? *They reply:* I renounce them. Do you repeat of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

*They reply:* I repeat of them.  
Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? *They reply:* I turn to Christ.  
Do you submit to Christ as Lord? *They reply:* I submit to Christ.  
Do you come to Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life? *They reply:* I come to Christ.

#### The Signing with the Cross.

[The Sign of the Cross is made using the Oil of Baptism, blessed by the Bishop in Holy Week.]

Christ claims you for his own; receive the sign of his Cross.  
*All:* Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.  
**Priest:** May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore you in the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.  
*All:* Amen.

#### The Procession to the Font.

Hymn 317

After the hymn all turn to face the font.

#### The Blessing of the Water.

Praise God, who made heaven and earth  
*All:* Who keeps his promise for ever.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All:* It is right to give thanks and praise.

[Tune: *Farrant (OEH 339)*]

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land. In water you Son Jesus received the baptism of John, and was anointed by the

Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life. We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son we baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith. Now sanctify this water, that by the power of your Holy Spirit they may be cleansed from sin and born again. Renewed in your image, may they walk in the light of faith, and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. *All:* Amen.

#### The Profession of Faith.

Now let us all affirm with those being baptized the faith of the Church.

*Either*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?  
I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.

*Or*

Do you believe and trust in God  
the Father, source of all being and  
Life, the one for whom we exist?  
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in his Son, Jesus  
Christ?

Do you believe and trust in God  
the Son, who took our nature  
upon him, died for us, and rose  
again?  
I believe and trust in him.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our  
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was  
buried. On the third day he rose again; he  
ascended into heaven, he is seated at the  
right hand of the Father, and he will come  
to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic  
Church, the communion of saints, the for-  
giveness of sins, the resurrection of the  
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith. We believe and trust in  
One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

#### The Baptism

(Name), I BAPTIZE YOU IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER,  
AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.  
*All:* AMEN.

The newly-baptized Christians are then anointed with the Oil of Chrism:

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.  
*All:* Amen.