

17 April 2005

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Easter 3)

I am not quite sure that the particular translation, from the Jerusalem Bible, of the Epistle at the Eucharist today (though not at 1100) is the best one available, but when Year A readings were first printed this was the only one available on disk. We use a much wider selection now. It might be interesting, for once, to print out another translation as well, so that the two can be compared, as one is read aloud and the other is followed on the Notes. Here it is:

What credit is there in enduring the beating you deserve when you have done wrong? On the other hand, when you have behaved well and endured suffering for it, that is a sign of grace in the sight of God. It is your vocation because Christ himself suffered on your behalf, and left you an example in order that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, he was guilty of no falsehood." When he was abused he did not retaliate, when he suffered he uttered no threats, but delivered himself up to him who judges justly. He carried our sins in his own person on the gibbet, so that we might cease to live for sin and begin to live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. You were straying like sheep, but now you have turned towards the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.
(Revised English Bible)

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, in the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray today for the Church in the Province of South Africa. In the Diocese of Guildford we pray for the nuns at the Community of St Peter at Woking. In our parish prayer we pray for those who were married at St Mary's during the past twelve months; and we pray for those who live in Primrose Walk.

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.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800

HOLY COMMUNION

Order 1: page 167.

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188.

Common Worship rite

Collect of the Day: page 402

Proper Preface: page 316

The General Election. We have received notification of two 'meet the candidates' pre-election meetings, which might be of interest to members of the congregation. The first is organized by *Churches Together in Epsom*, and it will be at Epsom Methodist Church, Ashley Road, on Thursday 21 April at 2000. *Epsom and Ewell Environment Forum* has arranged a meeting at the Town Hall on Wednesday, 27 April, from 1930 - 2200. A flier and a letter about these are in the Welcome Area.

The Electoral Roll is now formally closed for new entries. Please check your entry to see if the details are right; there is a copy of the new Roll in the Welcome Area. New names may be added after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, but not before.

Humble Pie! I have to admit that I have already forgotten who it was who so kindly offered to take over as our Cathedral Link person. Would he or she please tell me again? The last few weeks have been a bit on the hectic side, and whilst I know that we really have a volunteer, I am quite at a loss to recall who it was who said so. Many apologies, but I would be grateful to be reminded by the person concerned. W.R.H.

Choir Club supporters. I have said my bit about this, but I gather there were some people who could not find the paper in the Welcome Area a fortnight ago. It will be very near the west porch today. It is essential to have volunteers for this, in order for us to be in compliance with current legislation about Child Protection. W.R.H.

Confirmation. Some of our young people are now either 'in zone' or coming into zone for Confirmation, and anyone else who wishes to make enquiries about this should contact the Vicar either directly or via the Office sometime after next Sunday. This time we are going to do something different. Instead of either having the service at St Mary's or going to another local church, the plan is to go to one of the occasional Confirmation services at the Cathedral.

A few packs of the new weekly or monthly envelopes for **Christian Stewardship** are available for collection by those who have still to do so; they are near the west door. There are also packs available in connexion with the Parish Funding Programme. If anyone wishes to have one, please ask for one at the book-trolley today.

The Year's Mind List. I said some weeks ago that it is now perhaps time that the names in the book were revised, and I plan to do this later this week. A much older book came to light a few years ago, but it is clear that sometime in the period before my arrival here the practice had stopped. (I noticed recently at the Cathedral that they have now started a Year's Mind list there.) The official list only includes the names of those whose funerals were taken at or from St Mary's. However, it needs to be realistic, and (as I said before) I am planning to remove all names from the book, which have been there for upward of fifteen years, or where there is little likelihood of the name being known to anyone at all in the present congregation. However, if someone wishes a name which falls into this category to remain, there is no problem; it is just a case of having a word with me to make sure it stays in.

Next Sunday. As noted above, the arrangements are different. The 0800 and 0930 services are as usual, but at 1100 there will be the Election of Churchwardens, followed by the Annual Parochial Meeting. Evening Prayer will be at 1800.

Children's Hour in the hall; crèche available in church.
 Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 402
 Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196; Proper Preface: page 316
 Setting of the Eucharist: *White* in E flat.

Introit hymn: 122

Introduction (page 167) and the Prayers of Penitence.

Metrical Gloria in excelsis (*on readings paper*)

[Tune 139 i]

Collect of the Day: page 402. *Readings, as usual, on a separate paper.*

New Testament Reading from the First Letter of St Peter.

Gradual hymn: 115

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John/Luke.

Sermon by *the Vicar*. Nicene Creed: page 173

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace

Offertory Hymn: 106; Collection.

Eucharistic Prayer: page 1; Proper Preface: page 316

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

After the Invitation: Hymn 102

During the Communion:

Anthem: The Lord is my shepherd.

[Words of the twenty-third psalm.]

Mawby

Then all stand after the Anthem for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 401.

Easter Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn: MHT 122 (*but printed on readings paper*)

Setting of the Eucharist: *Merbecke*, and *Harris* in F.
 Hymns from the small red hymn-books.

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Introit hymn: AMR 40

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: 1 St Peter 2: 19-25

Gradual hymn: AMR 603

The Holy Gospel: St John 10: 11-16

Nicene Creed: page 34.

Offertory Hymn: AMR 129

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: AMR 416

[Choir use OEH 335]

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

Anthem: The Lord is my shepherd.

Mawby

[Words of the twenty-third psalm.]

After Communion:

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

All stand for Gloria in excelsis

The Blessing

Hymn: AMR 143

[Tune: AMR 570]

1800 Evening Prayer at the Easter Garden.

In church this week.

Monday

1915 Holy Communion

Tuesday.

1000 Holy Communion

Other events and notices.

Monday Holy Communion to the housebound.

2000 Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall:

Friendship, fellowship and Fine Blend.

1200 Epsom Deanery Clergy Chapter at Stoneleigh.

The Vicar will be with the Royal British Legion at

Cranleigh during the morning.

Wednesday

Saturday

The Annual General Meeting of the Parish takes place next Sunday morning during the slot normally occupied by Mattins. It will be preceded by the election of churchwardens. Once again this year we are grateful to the forbearance of the Mattins congregation, who are without their service next week. If anyone is interested in serving on the *Parochial Church Council* or on the *Deanery Synod*, he or she is asked to have a word with the Vicar, or to contact the office. It is always good to have volunteers. Obviously if there are too many names we shall have to have an election, but such a thing has not been known for several years. One interesting point concerns the Deanery Synod: its lay members form the electorate for the General Synod elections to the House of Laity; these elections will be happening this year. - So if anyone has strong views about the way the Church of England is going, then the thing to do is to stand for the Deanery Synod, and to use one's vote wisely.

It is now known that the **Bishop of Guyana** will be with us again this year. Bishop Randolph George is by now quite an old friend of this parish. He will be celebrating and preaching at the 0930 Sung Eucharist on 19 June, when we shall be using the West Indian Rite (if Bishop Christopher Hill approves). A few adjustments to the arrangements for the services from mid-June to mid-July will appear in the next week or so on the Weekly Notes. The 1100 Eucharist on 19 June will be moved to the *previous* week, and hopefully we can all have some quality time with Bishop Randolph in the Church Hall on the day of his visit. He always enjoys his visits to Ewell, and whilst in recent years he has tended to be with us at Evensong, this time it will be nice to have him presiding at the Eucharist.

Rachel and Will's wedding. I have had several enquiries last week from members of the congregation about the date of the great wedding: it is on 7 May at 1400. W.R.H.