

In church this week.

Monday 1915 **Holy Communion**
Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**
(Eve of St Andrew: see below.)

On Tuesday after the 10 o'clock service, there will be a **BUNDLING SESSION** in the Parish Room: bundling up the piles of Christmas leaflets in readiness for distribution around the parish in time for Christmas. Once again, 'Mary hands make light work.' Please help, if you can. The actual day (29 November) is the Eve of St Andrew, and this is kept in the Church of England as a day of intercession for the Church in her mission. St Mary's 'bundling' is a small part of that process, and so it is a very appropriate day for us to undertake this task.

Other events and notices.

Monday 2000 Meeting of the Parochial Church Council.
Wednesday 1030-1200 **Coffee Morning** in the Church Hall. A warm welcome to anyone who cares to join us. This is a regular weekly slot for members of the congregation to have a nice period of quality time together, and to welcome anyone else who might drop in. At 1100 **Iain McKillop** will be giving an illustrated talk entitled '**Desert Island Pics**'. Those who have heard Iain at other times of the year will certainly want to hear him as he looks at Christmas art.

The Advent Wreath isn't out this year. For the last few years the candles have burned out so quickly, and made such a mess, that it is quite frankly not worth the effort. (We have tried various suppliers.) The basic point of the countdown to Christmas can be achieved just as easily through the general mood of our worship, and the four Advent candles are not exactly essential to illustrate this.

Kingdom come: The Life of Christ. On Friday, 2 December at Stoneleigh Methodist Church, there will be a presentation by Churches Together in Ewell of a performance by *Eric Pedrossian*, in which he brings the four gospels to life, and plays over thirty different characters. Admission is £5.

Church Keys. A reminder that there is a general 'armistice' for unauthorized possession of keys, but we do need them all back now. After due notice some months ago it is reasonable to assume that all concerned will have got the message, but some may have slipped through the net, because of holidays or whatever. Please either hand in any keys at the office, or else, like Moses just 'look this way and that'* (before he killed the Egyptian), and then put them through the office letter-box. [*Exodus 2:12.]

Next Sunday. We shall be keeping 'Bible Sunday' at the Sung Eucharist next week. It is more usually kept these days on the Last Sunday after Trinity, but that is often half-term, so this year we are going back to the 'old' date. Then at 1100 there will be an Advent service of Christian Family Praise

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

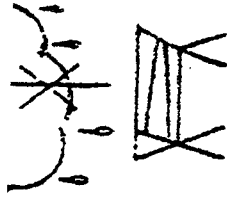
27 November 2005

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

A new Christian Year begins today, and after a fairly hectic two Sundays it is nice to settle down to normality, more or less. After all their very hard work over the last two weeks our musicians are only on for the Sung Eucharist today, because there is congregational Matins with Holy Baptism at 1100, and the choir is not needed for that particular mixture, and in any case they can now do with a bit of a rest, before the real run-up to Christmas starts. Both the Bishop and the Dean went to thank the musicians on their respective visits, making very appreciative comments. Once again we were helped by Jonathan Holmes' singers from Emanuel School, and were able to lay on some very suitable music of good quality on both days, much of which would have been impossible without the presence of additional lower vocal parts. In fact very many people were involved in the events of the last two Sundays, and all need at least a general word of thanks, for, without the combined activity of so many, such occasions would simply not be possible. I hope some account of last Sunday evening will find its way into the January number of *Ewell Parish News*; it was a really memorable occasion. It was good to have the Dean with us; he gave a splendid sermon, and declaimed magnificently the opening two stanzas of George Herbert's poem 'Easter'. Iain McKillop's lovely Stations are now on the front of the west gallery. They were dedicated on the singularly appropriate festival of Christ the King, but it is perhaps significant that on the first Sunday after their Dedication we are once again starting to begin the annual unfolding of the whole Christ-story (not just the bit covered by the Stations), and the new Stations can immediately start to remind us – who already know the story – of its final stages of Cross and Crown, as today we begin once again to follow the course of the love of God revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Advent is a many-faceted season, and although Christians should not think that the secular run-up is a thing to be avoided (the fun is for all), the season of Advent has its own more sober features. This includes the so-called 'Last Things': death, judgement, hell and heaven; and this explains why most of the Advent hymns are not particularly jolly. Advent is not so much a penitential season (in spite of the purple) as an opportunity for 'a recall to serious thought.' The first of these themes is that of death, and tonight's performance of Fauré's Requiem is, albeit by chance, on a very appropriate day: the ancient Requiem Sequence *Dies irae* (only the last two lines were set by Fauré) was originally a stern hymn for Advent, and all about death and judgement. Those last two lines, the *Pie Jesu*, were added when the hymn found its way into the Latin liturgy of the dead. I believe Dr Miller will be speaking on this side of things at the Sung Eucharist today. **W.R.H.**

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



Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the worldwide Church we are in fact praying today for the Church of England, and for Rowan our archbishop. In the Diocese of Guildford we pray for the ordinands in training; and in our parish prayer for our servers of the sanctuary. In our regular prayer for the geographical parish we pray today for the people living in Windmill End.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 HOLY COMMUNION *Common Worship rite*
Order 1 in traditional language: page 207. Collect of the Day: page 449.
Eucharistic Prayer C: page 219. Other Advent material: page 300.

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST *Common Worship rite*

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available in church.
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 376
Eucharistic Prayer F: page 198.
We shall use Prayer F throughout Advent at the Sung Eucharist;
the general approach of the prayer relates to the Advent season.
Setting of the Eucharist: *Batten*, Short Service.

Introit hymn: 425 [Thomas à Kempis unfolds the pattern of the Christian Year.]
Greeting, Introduction, Prayers of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison*.
(*Gloria in excelsis* is omitted in Advent; it returns at the Christmas Midnight Mass.)
Collect of the Day: page 376.

Use the *violet-coloured Readings paper from this point until the Gospel, except for the hymn printed below, which occurs before the Gospel, and during which (by exception) the Collection will be taken.*
Old Testament Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah. [Tune: 52]
Gradual canticle: *A Song of the Spirit*
New Testament Reading from St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

Advent Sequence: *Salus aeterna* [Tune: 171]

This is another translation of the hymn at 502 in 'The New English Hymnal.'
The version in NEH fits the ancient plainsong melody, but no regular modern metre fits the words. The Sequence links the two Advent themes of the Christ who came as Redeemer and the Christ who comes as Judge at the end of time.

Collection during this hymn today.

Saviour eternal, constant source of life and grace,
Light everlasting, true Redeemer of our race:
When you beheld us in our lost and fallen state,
You came in love to cleanse, restore and re-create.

Graciously, freely, human nature you embraced,
You brought deliverance, and our sin with joy replaced,
Lord Christ, now cleanse us by your perfect sacrifice:
Make us as temples fit for your own paradise.

Lord, by your Advent you redeemed us by your love,
Lord, when you come in Judgement from the realms above,
Grant us deliverance; hear us, as on you we call,
And in your mercy to your presence lead us all.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
Sermon by *the Reverend Dr Patrick Miller*.
Nicene Creed: page 173.

[When the Creed is being said, rather than sung, we are now proclaiming the Creed really confidently and vigorously. Please keep up the good work.]
Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace, and then *all sit* for the Offertory Anthem.

Zion hears her watchmen's voices. *J S Bach*
(*Similar words are printed at Hymn 16, verses 2 and 3: a different translation of the original German text.*)

At the end of the anthem all stand for the Eucharistic Prayer.
Eucharistic Prayer F: page 198.

Turn back to page 178 for the Lord's Prayer, etc.
(No music after the Invitation to Communion today).
During the Communion: *Agnus Dei* and Hymn 18
After the hymn all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 376
The Blessing and Dismissal. Final hymn: 9.

Welcome to any visitors or newcomers to St Mary's today.
Please make yourselves known, and join us for coffee in the church hall after the 0930 service.

1100 MATTINS AND HOLY BAPTISM *Common Worship rite*
There is a special leaflet for this service.

1200 HOLY COMMUNION (in the Parish Room) *Common Worship rite*
Order 1: page 167. Collect: page 376. Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196.

1800 Evening Prayer (in the Parish Room).

1930 Fauré's REQUIEM. *Charity event in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.*
This performance comes after a day's workshop at Ewell Castle School.
Under the direction of **Adam Assen** the performance will be with a Chamber orchestra, and assisted by Barison's Chamber Choir. (There was a similar arrangement last year, with a performance of Handel's *Messiah*.)
Admission 'by donation.'