

**The Sung Eucharist** in Lent is getting a bit longer than it should. Partly this is due to the Stations of the Cross in the sermon slot, but it also because of the extra Lesson and Psalm, which we normally have during Lent. On balance, after one Sunday it seems best to follow our non-Lenten pattern of having only one pre-Gospel reading. This will cause a measure of confusion, I fear, because two people are normally on the readers' rota, and usually it is a husband-and-wife team, or perhaps 'siblings.' There is a revised list for the next few weeks, **available from me**, saying which lesson is being ditched, and then ONE of the readers can read on the particular Sunday, with the redundant reader taking the other reader's next turn on the rota. That seems fair, I think. W.R.H.

There was a splendid start to **'Oughts and Crosses'** on last Tuesday. It was quite a wretched night, and there were several apologies in any case. Nevertheless, there was a decent number there, and Dr Miller kept us all on our toes with the tricky issue of Freedom of Speech. No doubt there will be others turning up this week for *Discrimination and Prejudice*. They can expect something very worthwhile and stimulating.

**New Christian Stewardship envelopes** are available today in the Welcome Area. Also, **Lent boxes** are still available today in the Welcome Area.

We could do with some **sidesmen or sides-ladies** for Mr Faulks' funeral on Tuesday. There is not all that much to do, but it is expected to be quite a large occasion, so it would be helpful if we had some in-house presence at the back of the church. The Mayor will be here to read a Jesson. There will be leaflets to give out, of course. Any offers to the churchwardens, please. Unusually, neither churchwarden is able to be present on Tuesday; hence the request.

**The Finance Committee** is coming to grips with its fairly substantial task, and its second meeting took place last week. We really could do with a **Minute Secretary** to assist the small group. The person need not necessarily be an actual member of the Group, which perhaps might be an incentive, but it would help very considerably if someone could take this job on. Any offers, please, to Dr Dance.

It is **St Patrick's Day** on Friday. The Welsh had a Mass (in Welsh) earlier this month in honour of St David. Any Hibernian members of the congregation who would like to be at the Eucharist on St Patrick's Day should note that the Friday service at 1200 will be a 'Memorial' of St Patrick. ('Memorial' is a technical term for a certain category of saints' days.) Unlike on St David's Day the libretto will be entirely in English; even though the Vicar is an MA of Dublin as well as of Oxford, his knowledge of the Irish tongue is strictly limited to a handful of very basic words like 'An Taoiseach' and 'Baile Atha Cliath.'

**Next Sunday**. Normal morning arrangements, with the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 11.00 and Stations of the Cross at 18.00 in the main church.

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

St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL PARISH CHURCH  
(020 8393 2643)  
www.stmarysewell.com

## WEEKLY NOTES

12 March 2006

### SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

**Our new Stations of the Cross and Resurrection are now de-mounted from the gallery, and placed around the church for liturgical use during Lent and Passiontide. Each Sunday three of the Stations are placed at the front of the nave for devotional use during the course of the Sung Eucharist.**

*Note.* Because of the different arrangements in Lent at the Sung Eucharist, the 'weekly paragraph' will normally relate to the set Eucharistic readings up to and including Palm Sunday, since there is no sermon at the Sung Eucharist, and at 0800 there is a course of sermons which does not relate to the Sunday readings.

The shadowy figure of Abraham is put before us in today's scriptures as an example of one who put his faith in God, in spite of seeming insuperable odds. In New Testament literature he is seen, particularly by St Paul and the writer of the Letter to Hebrews, as a 'father of faith.' The gospel reading for today gives us a picture of faith being very hard. Jesus tells his disciples that the Passion is around the corner, St Peter is told off very severely, and we are all told about taking up our cross and following Jesus, no matter where he leads us. The clear implication is that he is not going to lead us along a comfortable path. It is an uncomfortable passage, and devotionally Lent is starting to bite. We are to look to Jesus in his person, and also in our own life in him, as we reflect upon the fact that we all have a share in that cross-carrying experience. By a coincidence, but not without significance, one of the three Stations at the Sung Eucharist today is that of Jesus receiving his cross. We need to recall that part of our baptismal gift was being signed with the sign of the Cross, with all that that implies.

For three members of our worshipping community here the time has recently come for each one of them to lay down his or her cross. Doris Frost, Gerry Piercy and Ted Faulks have all come to the end of their earthly course. It is unusual for us to have the funerals of three church-people so close together, and perhaps it concentrates the mind a bit. All three were well-known within these walls, and we give thanks for their lives and pray that they may rest in the peace of the Lord whom they served well in this life. A glance at Hymn 208 might not be without profit during Communion-time (or whenever) today. W.R.H.

**Our prayers today.** We pray for our own church and parish, and in the wider Church we pray for the Church in Pakistan. In our diocesan prayer we pray for the three who serve on the Bishop's Council. In the parish we pray for our two Readers Wendy Varney and Reginald Saunders, and in our systematic prayer for the people of the parish we pray for those who live or work in Castle Parade.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

0800

### HOLY COMMUNION

Order 1 in traditional language: page 207 Collect of the Day: page 466  
 Eucharistic Prayer C: page 219 Other Lenten material: page 308  
 Lent course of sermons: *Five Bible Roads*. No. 2: *The King's Highway*.

### Common Worship rite

0930

### SUNG EUCHARIST

### Common Worship rite

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available in church.  
 Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 394  
 Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191. Other Lenten material: page 308  
 Setting of the Eucharist: *Harris* in F  
 During Lent the whole section between the Gospel and the Peace is replaced by the conducted Stations of the Cross. The lay-out below is therefore slightly changed; it ought to make things easier to turn up.

Introit hymn: 467

Greeting, Introduction, Prayers of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison*.

[*Gloria in excelsis* is omitted during Lent.]

Collect of the Day: page 394.

*Readings and Gradual Psalm on the violet paper.* [See also note on back page.]

Old Testament Reading from the Book Genesis.

Hymn 148, verses 1, 4 & 8.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Three Stations of the Cross:** [Stations 4-6]

*There is a separate leaflet for this part of the service.*

*A different one will be issued each week during Lent.*

Wendy Varney will be leading the Stations this week.

Fourth Station: **Jesus is condemned to death**

Fifth Station: **Jesus receives his cross**

Sixth Station: **Jesus meets his Mother**

After the Three Stations, all remain standing for the Biddings to Prayer, followed by the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 76 Collection

Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191

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

Hymn at the Invitation: 414

During the Communion:

Anthem: O Salutaris hostia. César Franck

[English translation at Hymn 269, part 2]

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 392

[We shall use the Collect for Ash Wednesday as the Post-Communion prayer until Lent 4.]

The Blessing and Dismissal. Hymn 468.

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

1100

## CHORAL MATTINS

Sermon by Mr Reginald Saunders.

Responses: page 8

Venite (sung in full during Lent)

Office-Hymn: 59 (second tune)

Psalms 43. A prayer of trust in God in difficult times. Page 190

First Lesson from the Book Genesis: Blue book, page 510

Benedictus: page 11

Second Lesson from the Gospel according to St Luke. Blue book: page 510

Hymn 64

The Creed and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 77).  
 Anthem: The Prayer of St Richard. *Martin How*

O Holy Jesus, most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother: may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day.

Prayers

Hymn 65; Collection.

The Blessing

1800

Evening Prayer

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 Holy Communion

Wednesday 1345 Funeral of Ted Faulks

Friday 1100 Funeral of Gerry Piercy

1200 Holy Communion

Other events and notices.

The Vicar will be away after this morning until Mr Faulks' funeral on Tuesday. He will be attending a family funeral at Margam Abbey.

Tuesday

Tuesday evening: 1930 for 2000 in the Parish Room.

Coffee from 1930.

'Oughts and Crosses' (See Lent Leaflet)

No.2. Discrimination and Prejudice:

Gender, race, sexuality.

Wednesday

1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. A time for drinking coffee, and for relaxation and pleasant conversation.

Because of Mr Piercy's funeral, Iain McKillop's talk 'Imagining the Passion', will take place next Wednesday

2000 External Affairs Committee

2000 Meeting of the Ewel Parochial Trustees

Friday