

WEEKLY NOTES

30 April 2006

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Easter 2)

'Mentioned in Despatches.' *Dominica in albis depositis*. Congratulations to Kathie Burgess, who found out the answer to the question about last Sunday's traditional name. She writes, 'I think the meaning of the above is this: Christians received a white robe upon their baptism on Holy Saturday night and would wear it for the rest of the week. They would take off these symbols of their new life on the following Sunday, Low Sunday. The first Sunday after Easter was also the day when children would receive their first Holy Communion, often with their father and mother kneeling beside them. So meaningful was this event that in Europe it was referred to as the "most beautiful day of life." Hope I've got it right.' Yes, she has, though I must admit I didn't know about the second bit until now, so I've learned something too. W.R.H.

The **Fair Springboard** is not all that far away, on **Saturday 20 May**. The end of the 'jump' is of course the **Village Fair** on 22 July. There are plenty of handbills available for the Fair Springboard, and it would be much appreciated if they could be pushed through the letter-boxes of neighbours. Please take whatever you can. On the *previous* Saturday, 13 May, there will be from 1200 a major blitz on what is up in the gallery, and stuff needed for either the Fair Springboard or the Fair itself will be sorted out, and almost certainly a substantial amount will be taken to the Civic Amenity Centre (aka The Dump). It needs many hands to make light work of this sort of thing, and we would be very glad of help on the day, and indeed of any advance knowledge of who might be able to come along.

Grove Cottage (Abbeyfield), 10 Cheam Road, will be holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday of this week from 1000 to 1200. There will be a Sales Table, cakes, preserves, and a raffle. All are welcome. Grove Cottage coffee is always very palatable.

Edna Attwood would like to thank all the ladies who knitted squares for the Lent Knitting Project. The squares made one large blanket and four knee-rugs. This is the best effort yet, many thanks to all who took part. This year the finished work will be processed through the Sutton unit of the Salvation Army.

The Eastbourne Outing. Bookings for the coach trip to Eastbourne on Thursday, 22 June, are steadily coming in, so if you would like to come and join the party, please give in your name, together with the money (£10) to Joan Boulden or to Lynne Yuille in the office as soon as possible.

Next Sunday. For the second week running there will be Choral Evensong next Sunday. Normally when the evening service is choral it starts at 1830, and when it is 'plain' it starts at 1800. Morning services will be at the usual times, with the additional monthly 1200 service, transferred from today because of the APCM.

The parish tends to work according to two different sorts of calendar. The first is obviously the liturgical calendar, and the second is the reality of having to operate on a termly system. This is mainly dictated by having juniors in the choir, with the inevitability of holiday periods and half-terms and that sort of thing. In an odd sort of way this makes common sense, because a lot of hard work in church (and not just for the singers) always happens at the end of the Michaelmas and Hilary terms* because of Christmas and Easter, and a post-Christmas or post-Easter break is always appreciated. The Sunday after Christmas and Low Sunday are always fairly gentle affairs. The Trinity Term, on the other hand, tends to peter out with that feeling of 'we could all do with a rest or a holiday now.' All very natural. The snag is that both Christmas and Easter are meant to represent beginnings, not ends. For 'the world' Christmas ends on Christmas Day (usually having begun round about September), whilst for the Church the implications of the incarnation are worked out devotionally over the following weeks. It is even more so the case with Easter, which is for 'the world' just a Bank Holiday weekend, and then back to work. For the Church, Easter is in a class of its own: a unitary festival, a Week of Weeks, 'the One Day', 'the Great Sunday', the great fifty days of resurrection praise, of which Easter Day is but the start. Today, as the Trinity term begins at St Mary's, we resume that Easter mood in our Sunday worship on the fifteenth day of Easter, and after our end-of-term 'rest'. In the early days of the Christian Church, far from it being a week of repose, the first week of Eastertide would have been a time for celebration, particularly for the newly-baptized, as the title for last Sunday (see *what Kathie Burgess says below*) indicates. Eastertide ends on the Day of Pentecost (Whitsunday), when the resurrection life of Christ is shown as being permanently enshrined in that living Community of Resurrection, which is the Church of God. Pentecost (not Christmas) is the second most important festival in the liturgical calendar, and half-terms and Bank Holidays sometimes mess up this particular realisation as well. At the end of the day, *in church* it is the liturgical calendar which has to take precedence, and not the termly one, but by and large we seem to maintain a reasonable balance between the two.

*Michaelmas, Hilary and Trinity are the Oxford names, other places may use other names, of course.

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

*Welcome to any visitors or newcomers to St Mary's today
Please make yourselves known, and join us for coffee in
church today after the Sung Eucharist*

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the world-wide Anglican Communion we pray today for the Church in the Province of South-east Asia. In our diocesan prayer we pray for the work of the Director of Ordination candidates, the Reverend William Challis, and those responsible for Ministerial Training. In the parish we pray for all who have yet to come to faith in Christ; and in our systematic prayer for the people of the parish we pray for those who live in Chessington Road.

SUNDAY SERVICES

- 0700 Mattins** Psalm 115
- 0800 HOLY COMMUNION** *Common Worship rite*
 Order 1 in traditional language: page 207 Collect of the Day: page 473
 Eucharistic Prayer A: page 216. Other Easter material: page 316
- 0930 SUNG EUCHARIST** *Common Worship rite*

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available in church.
 Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 401
 Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188. Other Easter material: page 316
 Setting of the Eucharist: *Fauré, Messe Basse*

- Introit hymn: 105 (ii)
 Greeting, Introduction, Prayers of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison*.
 Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211 (*Shaw* melody)
 Collect of the Day: page 401. *Readings on separate paper.*
 New Testament Reading from the First Letter of St John. *On readings paper.*
 Gradual hymn: The Songs of new Jerusalem.
 A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.
 Sermon by *the Reverend Dr Patrick Miller*
 Nicene Creed: page 173
 Intercession, followed by the Greeting of Peace.
 Offertory hymn: 116 Collection
 Eucharistic Prayer: page
 Turn back to page 178 for the Lord's Prayer, etc.
 Hymn at the Invitation: 389
 During the Communion:
 Anthem: Christo resurgenti. *Couperin*

English version: The stars acclaim the risen and triumphant Christ. Alleluia
 Faith justified, death vanquished! Let all rejoice. Alleluia.

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 401
 The Mutual Salutation, Easter Blessing and Dismissal.

A reminder that the response to the Easter Dismissal (the one with the two Alleluias) is *Thanks be to God* (not *In the name of Christ*).
 The tune is now sufficiently well-known, not to need printing out of a small stove, but sometimes the readings paper may contain it.

Hymn 113

1110 ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

o/c THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING.

Papers for the meeting are available on the table opposite the book-trolley.
 (There is no 1200 service today; it is transferred to next Sunday.)

- 1830 CHORAL EVENSONG** *Book of Common Prayer rite*
 Responses: Green books, page 18 Music: *Darke*
 Office-hymn: 124
 Psalm 111. Mercy, judgement and redemption. Page 272
 First Lesson: Isaiah 25: 6-9. Blue book: page 608
 Isaiah's confident prophetic hope of deliverance.
 Magnificat: page 19 *Sumston* in D
 Second Lesson: St Luke 24: 13-35 Blue book: page 608
 The walk to Emmaus *Sumston* in D
 Nunc dimittis: page 20
 Creed (page 20), Lord's Prayer, Responses and Collects. *Maraby*
 Anthem: The Lord is my shepherd.

Another version of Psalm 23; similar but not identical words on page 166 in the green books. Today is sometimes known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday', because in the older rites this was the subject of the Gospel of the Day.

- Prayers
 Hymn 111
 Sermon by *the Vicar*
 Hymn: 400 [Tune 55]; Collection
 The Blessing

- In church this week**
 Tuesday 1000 Holy Communion

Other events and notices.

- Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. A time for drinking coffee, and for relaxation and pleasant *conversazione* in very congenial surroundings (see overleaf). (see below).

Ewell Parish News for May is available today.

The Church Hall is looking splendid, and we shall be back in it this week. It will have a few days of being out of use from Monday 22 May, when the floor will be sanded. The old colours of faded mustard, puritan brown and once-upon-a-time white have all been swept away, and everything is bright and cheerful. Mr Bovis, the painter and decorator, who advertises in Ewell Parish News, has done a great job and after a long period of refurbishment we now have a hall to be proud of.