



WEEKLY NOTES

11 June 2006

TRINITY SUNDAY

The vision of the prophet Isaiah, read as today's Old Testament Scripture at both the Eucharist and Mattins, tells us that he experienced a glimpse of celestial glory. He was caught up into a mystical celestial reality, and he tells how he saw himself as an unworthy outsider. Then his fears were calmed, and he was bold to speak, and the Lord sent him off to do his work. (Until recent times Trinity Sunday was significantly the normal day for the General Ordination of Priests and Deacons, who were then sent off to do their work.) Trinity Sunday echoes the same thrice-holy song that Isaiah heard the seraphim proclaim. Indeed, we shall not just hear it in the reading, but also in today's hymnody ('Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty' and 'Bright the vision that delighted' at the Eucharist, and *Te Deum* at Mattins), and also at both services in the delightful two-part anthem by Richard Dering. Supremely we encounter the words in the *Sanctus* at the Holy Eucharist, in which – just like Isaiah but for us in a sacramental mystery of faith – we are admitted to the heavenly courts to the eternal reality of the heavenly worship, and to that place where all prayer is made to the Father, through the prevailing intercession of the glorified Christ. Earthly speech will only take us so far, and so from the beginnings of Christianity we have had to use the language of poetry and music and vision to praise the eternal God, revealed to us by divine grace as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. More adventurous minds have explored deeper into the mystery: produced at an Ecumenical Council the Nicene Creed in its present form hints at the considerable background of scholarly debate (and conflict) on this august subject throughout the first four centuries of Christian history. Yet all were agreed about the essential truth of the Most Holy Trinity; the disagreements were only about how such a doctrine should be properly expressed. Long years have passed since those days of Patristic speculative theology, but the legacy of that period remains in the profession of faith in a Trinity of power and love, which is common to all the main-line Christian bodies. And so it is that on the first Sunday after the Christ-centred first half of the liturgical year has once more been completed, we can now look back at the whole picture of the Drama of Redemption through Christ and say, 'To God be the glory, great things he has done.' Today is a day of praise *to* God and *for* God. Evensong tonight contains the famous last words of the Old Testament Psalter, 'Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord'; we, children of the New Testament, would add 'who is God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity.' Indeed, we normally do just that, when we add to the psalms the familiar *Gloria Patri*, a sort of auto-pilot of Christian praise to God in his eternal reality of Father, Son and Spirit: the Sacred Trinity conjoined in a Unity of divine love and power.

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 Uganda. In our diocesan prayer we pray for the ministry exercised in the country parishes. In the parish we pray for our servers of the sanctuary, and in our systematic prayer for the people of the parish we pray for those who live in Courtlands Drive.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

Book of Common Prayer rite

The Prayer Book rite, which we have about quarterly at 0800, can now be followed (with about 98% accuracy) in Order 2 of 'Common Worship,' beginning on page 229. Unlike the monthly Prayer Book Sung Eucharist at 1100, the BCP rite at 0800 follows the 1662 order without any deviations from the printed text, except that the long exhortations are left out. In order to achieve this, the simple rule is to disregard any *indented* material in the text. The Collect and Readings are on a separate paper.

0930 PROCESSION AND SUNG EUCHARIST

Common Worship rite

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available in church.
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 406
Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188. Other Trinity material: page 322
Setting of the Eucharist: *Darke* in E, Collegium Regale

It is time we used the congregational *Merbecke* setting once again for the Gloria and Creed. Please follow the page directions below, and do not try to follow the words in Order 1; they don't fit.

Processional hymn: 148 (omit starred* verses).

Kyrie eleison.

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text today.

Merbecke melody at Hymn 542 on page 830 in the melody edition, or on page 559 in the words-only book.

Collect of the Day: page 406.

Readings on separate paper.

Old Testament Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

Gradual hymn: 343

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John

Sermon by *the Reverend Dr Patrick Miller*

Nicene Creed: traditional language text.

Merbecke melody at Hymn 542 on page 833 in the melody edition, or on page 562 in the words-only book.

Intercession, Prayers of Penitence (Confession back on page 169), then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 432

Collection

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Proper Preface: page 322.

Consecration Acclamation: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: [Tune: AMR 508]

Through the Spirit's consecrating,
And with Christ the Son, now taking
All our prayer to God most high,
To the Father, in the Spirit,
Here we plead Christ's endless merit:
Trinity, we glorify.

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

Hymn at the Invitation: Hymn 298

[First tune.]

During the Communion:

Anthem: Duo seraphim.

Dering

English version : Above him stood the seraphim, and one cried unto another, and said, 'Holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' [Isaiah 6: 2a,3]

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 406.

The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn 146.

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

Book of Common Prayer rite

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Responses and Venite (shorter version): page 8.

Responses: *Archer*

Office-Hymn: 144 [Tune: 315]

Psalms 29. The glory and majesty of God in creation. Page 171

First Lesson: Isaiah 6: 1-8.

Blue book: page 641

The call of Isaiah to a new prophetic ministry.

Metrical Te Deum: Card A, No.3.

[Choir: HCE 12; tune NEH 352]

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1: 3-14.

Blue book: page 641

An early indication of Trinitarian faith.

Jubilate (Psalm 100): page 254

Robin Orr

[The text is actually from the King James' Bible, and is not quite identical with the version on page 254; but it is recognizably the same thing. The composer, Robin Orr, died a few weeks ago at a great age.]

The Creed and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 72).

Anthem: Duo seraphim.

Dering

[Words printed at the 0930 service.]

Hymn 360.

Prayers.

Hymn 466; Collection

The Blessing

1830

CHORAL EVENSONG

Book of Common Prayer rite

[The Lessons tonight are short and easy to follow, so no blue books are needed.]

Responses: Green books, page 18.

Office-hymn: 145

Psalms: 8, 150. In praise of God in his power and glory. Pages 149, 312.

First Lesson: Numbers 6: 22-end. The Aaronic Blessing.

Magnificat: page 19.

Noble in B minor

Second Lesson: St Matthew 28: 16-end.

The Gospel ends with a command to evangelize the world, and to baptize converts in the name of the Trinity.

Nunc dimittis: page 20

Noble in B minor

Creed (page 20), Lord's Prayer, Responses and Collects.

Anthem: (to be announced). Prayers.

Hymn 358 [Second tune]. Short Trinity Sunday meditation by *the Vicar*

Hymn 159, omit verses 3 & 4; Collection.

The Blessing.

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**
Friday 1330 **Funeral of Honorary Alderman Bill Carpenter.**

Other events and notices.

Sunday 1500 The Vicar leads the annual Royal British Legion wreath-laying service at the Memorial to the Missing at Brookwood.
Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. A time for drinking coffee, and for relaxation and pleasant *conversazione* in very congenial surroundings.

There is a new **Consecration Acclamation** at the Sung Eucharist today. The one printed on the readings' paper will already have been used at the Offertory hymn (though, if there has been time, the bottom of the papers will have been snipped off). The new acclamation will now be 'standing matter' for Trinity Sunday.

The emergency meeting of the **Parochial Church Council** last Sunday was called because there are proposals to prevent parking outside our Church Hall. This is part of a whole raft of parking measures which are being considered at present, and details are on the lamp-post outside the hall. The proposal would clearly cause us much difficulty, and for a whole range of reasons. Objections have to be lodged by Friday of this week, and the more individual representations there are the better. The essential points are that the hall is used for community purposes, and that the restriction of parking would cause considerable difficulties for those involved (e.g. the Toddler Groups). The Vicar and Churchwarden will be sending a more detailed letter, which will include some positive input as well, but the proposals as they stand would present a considerable problem for what we do here. The purely church side of things is not likely to count for much in the decision-making process (we may not like that, but such are the realities of life), but the community side ought to weigh fairly heavily; and not only have we spent £35,000 recently in improving our facilities for both church and community purposes, but we have actually had a grant of £1000 from the secular authority precisely for this work. Letters should be sent to *Mr Martyn Williams, Local Transportation Manager, Surrey County Council, North East Transportation Service, Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom, Surrey. KT18 5BY.*

The Men's cake-making competition at the Village Fair. We are looking for some more entries, because so far we only have 11 as against 19 last year. This is a really good money-spinner, and over the years it has raised a very considerable sum through sponsorship, and it can be FUN. So please join in. If you would like to know more about the competition or to join in, please contact Joan Boulden as soon as possible.

Next Sunday. It is *Corpus Christi*, the attractive festival in honour of the Holy Eucharist. There will be a Procession before the Sung Eucharist (for the third Sunday in a row, but nothing more until the Patronal Festival in the autumn), and the monthly Prayer Book Sung Eucharist will take place at 1100. Evening Prayer will be said at 1800.

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