

**Baptismal certificates.** We do not have to issue these, but in practice we always do so, because such a certificate is clear evidence of baptism. Godparents also get a card which sets out their duties as godparents. Whilst the godparents get their cards at the actual christening, the baptismal certificate (and a suitable pretty card, with a handwritten note by the Vicar) are handed out at a later date. This takes place at one of our Christian Family Praise services at 1100, when there are other children and families present. It takes place somewhat informally towards the end of the service, and this will be happening once again today at the 1100 service. Probably most members of the congregation do not know that this happens, so perhaps it is worth a mention.

**The pre-Fair Welcome Area.** Normally at this time of year the Welcome Area starts to resemble Petticoat Lane, Muldoon's Picnic or Paddy's Bazaar. It can't be helped, since there is nowhere else to put things. However, there are screens in position, so that it is not too unsightly. *Please do not move the chairs*, which are there for demarcation purposes; they will enable any visitors to see our important late medieval brasses (they are not often specifically visited, but they must be accessible), and also they enable the Vicar to get to the cupboard in the corner, which contains various service papers. Stall-holders who would like a plug in the Weekly Notes for their stall should hand any such written requests in at the office, or (if today) put them directly on the Vicar's in-tray.

And while on that point, the **Men's cake-making competition at the Village Fair** could still do with some more entries. 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. The sponsorship forms are at the back of the church, and all our Bakers are looking for sponsors. Please help, if you can.

The date given a fortnight ago for the **Michaelmas Market** proved to be a little premature. There are all sorts of perfectly good and basic reasons why it has had to be changed, such as apples not being ready, and plants not being ready enough. So it will now take place on Saturday, 14 October. The Market replaces the equivalent pre-Christmas event of past years. More about this in due course, but book the date now.

**Next Sunday.** Normal Sunday arrangements at St Mary's. At Matins we shall be keeping 'Sea Sunday', and there will be a generally nautical flavour to the service. The Vicar will be preaching at Ewell United Reformed Church at their Morning Worship, and we look forward to the Minister's return visit here on 23 July at 0930.

*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  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

2 July 2006

### THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH

For the festival of the Visitation here are some words from two twentieth-century Church of England theologians. First, Dr Austin Farrer, the Oxford don, whose words are often heard at the 8 o'clock service:

God reaches out to God. God's miracle in Mary carried her to visit her cousin, whom he has blessed already with a kindred mercy. She goes, and our salvation travels with her; the secret of incarnate God is folded in her womb. She may seem to carry him where she pleases; but no-one takes God anywhere who is not sent by Almighty Wisdom. The going is in Mary's feet, but God directs her heart, and God is the blessing she brings. She arrives, and the grace in her joins hands with the grace in Elizabeth; at the sound of Mary's greeting the child of promise leaps in her cousin's womb.

Then from Bishop John Moorman, the scholarly and pastoral bishop of Ripon, who put it simply and beautifully:

But not only had the two women greeted one another. In some strange way their as yet unborn sons recognized each other; and in the darkness of the womb the Baptist stirred to greet the Dayspring from on high.

**Our prayers today.** We pray for our church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion for our fellow-Christians in the Church in West Africa. In the diocese we pray for those being admitted to Holy Orders this weekend. In our parish prayer we pray today for our twinned parish of Corriverton in Guyana, for Fr Marcus Simon, the parish priest and his people, and also for our good friend Bishop Randolph George; and in our regular street-by-street prayer for the people of the parish we pray today for those living in Cumnor Gardens.

**New Churchwarden.** We are now in a position to say that someone has agreed to serve as Churchwarden in succession to Mr Hamish Reid. It would be inappropriate to give the person's name until the legal preliminaries to the appointment are sorted out, but the congregation will be glad to know that Dr Dance will not be soldiering on as the solitary churchwarden for much longer. Actually Hamish Reid is still in office until the end of this month, unless the new warden is formally admitted before that date. More about this as soon as the formalities are sorted out. W.R.H.



## SUNDAY SERVICES

0700 **MATTINS and the LITANY.**

Psalm 20.

0800 **HOLY COMMUNION**

Order 1 in traditional language: page 207. Collect of the Day: page 505.  
Eucharistic Prayer A: page 216.

*Common Worship rite*

0930 **SUNG EUCHARIST**

*Common Worship rite*

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour', Crèche available.

Order 1: page 167.

Collect of the Day: page 432.

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Proper Preface on page 302.

Setting of the Eucharist: *Plainsong*, Missa Orbis Factor.

Introit: Portal of the world's salvation. *On readings paper.* [Tune: OEH 229]  
Black book, page 167: Invocation and the Greeting.

Prayers of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison.*

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211 (*Shaw melody*)

Collect of the Day: page 432. *Readings on the coloured paper.*

Old Testament Reading from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah.

Gradual: When Mary, by her choice. *On readings paper.* [Tune: 157]

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

Sermon by *the Vicar.*

Nicene Creed (sung today): traditional language text on page 213.

Intercession, followed by the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 166; Collection.

[Tune: 351]

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188; Proper Preface on page 302.

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

At the Invitation: Hymn 341

During the Communion:

Anthem: Hymn to the Virgin.

*Julie Ainscough*

[The music was written by the Director Music when she was a teenager.]

*Note:* In this macaronic poem of c.1300 the contrast between the sin of Eve and the grace and virtue of Our Lady is emphasised in the medieval Latin by an edifying play on words, for the Latin for Eve (*Eva*) is the reverse form of *Ave* (Hail), the opening word of the angelic greeting at the Annunciation: 'Hail Mary, full of grace.'

Of one that is so fair and bright,

*Velut maris stella* (as a star of the sea),

Brighter than the day is light,

*Parvens et puella* (parent and maiden):

I cry to thee; thou see to me:

Lady, pray thy Son for me.

*Tam pia* (so devoutly).

That I may come to thee

*Maria*

All this world was forlorn,

*Eva peccatrice* (through the sin of Eve),

Till Our Lord was ybom

*De te Genetrix* (of you, Divine Mother),

With *Ave* it went away

Darkest night, and comes the day

*Salvatus* (of salvation),

That well springeth out of thee

*Virtutis* (the well of virtue)

Lady, flower of everything, *Rosa sine spina* (rose without a thorn),  
Thou bare Jesu, heaven's King, *Gratia divina* (by divine grace);  
Of all thou bearest the prize, Lady, Queen of *Paradisus electa* (chosen):  
Maid mild, Mother, *es effecta* (you brought it to pass).

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: Page 433

The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn 186 (*metrical Magnificat*).

*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. A notice outside the door today asks the incoming congregation at the 1100 service to come in through the south door, because it will be much easier for the animals to come into church via the ramp. So would members of the departing congregation at the Sung Eucharist please use the west door, unless anyone particularly needs to use the ramp.*

1100 'ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL.'

All-age service of Christian Family Praise, which will include the blessing of pets. We shall also welcome two police horses.

Anthem: 'My cat Geoffrey' from *Britten*, 'Rejoice in the Lamb.'

*There is a separate leaflet for this service.*

1800 Evening Prayer (in the Parish Room).

In church this week

Tuesday

1000

Holy Communion

Other events and notices.

Monday

Holy Communion to the housebound.

Wednesday

1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the **Parish Room**: The bean, the biscuit and the bonhomme. Come and enjoy a friendly cuppa.

**Ewell Parish News** for July is available today. Free copies of last month's paper are available for our visitors at the 1100 service today.

**Our Sidesmen and ladies** do an invaluable job in handing out papers and books, taking the collection, and (perhaps most importantly) being a welcoming face to visitors or newcomers, as well as to the regular congregation. We could always do with a few more. The duties are not exactly onerous, and there is a rota to work from. Anyone who would be willing to join this band should have a word with David Dancé in the first instance, or else with the Vicar.