

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

10 September 2006

SUNDAY OF THE PATRONAL FESTIVAL

At the Meeting of Parishioners last Sunday **Mr David Crick** was elected Churchwarden in succession to Hamish Reid. David Crick's long association with St Mary's comes under the category of 'man and boy', and we wish him well for his tenure of office. More about this in next month's *Ewell Parish News*, but this is the general announcement.

There always seems to be a note of freshness in the various festivals of Our Lady, and that is probably due to the fact that her distinctive role in the divine economy took place at a time of life when she was just in the springtime of womanhood. It is worth remembering that it was almost certainly a teenager who said that all-important 'yes' to God. The principal festival of Our Lady is now generally kept on 15 August, but we are allowed to keep it instead on 8 September, if we wish to (and of course it is far more convenient to do so here), and this particular date is traditionally the date of her own nativity. It commemorates the first appearance on earth of the 'vessel of salvation', she who would bring forth the Christ long-awaited, the Word made flesh. Christian devotion has tended to centre on the Mary of Christmas on the one hand, and the Mary of heaven on the other. Yet there was Mary the baby, and, perhaps more significantly, there was grown-up Mary who followed Jesus around anxiously, and who was with him in death as at birth. This is the middle-aged Mary, whom we sometimes forget about, but who is important as a pattern of motherhood in its drudgery and disappointments as well as in its joys. She simply carried on. Our Lady has rightly been accorded great and wonderful titles, like Mother of God and Queen of Heaven; but she who is also Mother of the Church is also the pure and lowly Mother of Bethlehem, the hard-working Mother of Nazareth, the worrying Mother of the travelling Christ, and also the Mother at the Cross, where she was pierced in her soul by the wounding sword of sorrow. She is then discovered in the Acts of the Apostles, present now as a Mother to the infant Church. Her earthly vocation was lived out in the undoubtedly hard life of first century Palestine, and it was in that context that she said her great 'yes' to God, and became 'blessed among women.'

Our prayers today. We give thanks for our patron saint and for her role in the loving purposes of God. In the worldwide Church we pray for those who belong to the Holy Orthodox Churches, and for Bartholomew, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople.* At the Patronal Festival we pray for our church and parish, and for our personal and parochial renewal in faith, devotion and mission. We pray for our new churchwarden, David Crick, and also for our other warden, David Dance. In the Diocese we pray today for the members of our Diocesan Synod. In our systematic parish prayer for the people of the parish we pray today for those who live in Ewell House Grove.

* For the next two months or so, we are praying for a different part of the worldwide Church, before resuming our systematic prayer for different provinces of the Anglican Communion. In appropriate instances we also pray for the local presence of the particular Christian body. The eastern Orthodox Churches are a group of independent ('autocephalous') Churches, who accord a primacy of honour to the Patriarch of Constantinople. In this country, perhaps surprisingly, the Orthodox communities together form the fourth largest Christian grouping.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 HOLY COMMUNION
Order 1: page 167
Eucharistic Prayer **B**: page 188.

Common Worship rite
Collect of the Day: page 438
Preface on Readings paper.

0930 PROCESSION AND SUNG EUCHARIST with RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS
Common Worship rite

Children's Hour in the Church Hall; Crèche available.
Order 1 in the black book: page **167**. Today's first page is **211**.
Collect of the Day: page 438
Eucharistic Prayer **B**: page 188; Preface of Our Lady: page 310
Setting of the Eucharist: *Millington*, Missa Alme Pater.
[There is a note about this setting further on in the Weekly Notes.]

Gold paper also needed until after the Eucharistic Prayer today.
Separate paper for the Renewal of Baptismal Vows.
(There is no Procession of Our Lady at the end of the Eucharist this year, but it will be re-instated next year.)

Processional hymn: 188 [Second tune]
During the hymn: *Station at the Statue of Our Lady*.

Priest: The Lord be with you.
All reply: **And also with you.**

V: The angel of Lord brought tidings to Mary.
R: **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**
V: 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R: **Be it unto me according to thy word.'**
V: 'The Word was made flesh,
R: **And dwelt among us.'**

It is truly right that we should bless Mary, the God-bearer, the ever blessed and glorious Mother of our Lord, more honourable than the Cherubim, more glorious than the Seraphim, who for us and for our salvation brought forth our Saviour Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God. May God be praised in her, the first among the saints. **Amen.**

Let us pray: Lord, open our hearts to your grace. Through the angel's message to Mary we have learned to believe in the incarnation of Christ your Son; we pray that by his Cross and Passion we may be brought to the glory of his Resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The remainder of the hymn follows, and the Procession moves to the sanctuary, where incense is offered as a symbol of ascending prayer and worship. After the hymn, 'Kyrie eleison' is sung by the Choir; it is the first formal petition of the eucharist, and the time to recall our own personal prayers which we bring before God at the eucharist today.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211. (*Shaw* melody)
The Collect of the Day: page 438
New Testament Reading: Revelation 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10.
The rich and flowing imagery in the account of the woman of the Apocalypse.
Gradual Hymn: 478
The Holy Gospel: St Luke 1: 46-55.
The Magnificat: Mary's hymn in praise of the greatness of God.
Sermon by *the Vicar*
The Parish Intercession.

Admission of David Crick as Churchwarden.
Installation of Hannah Crick as Head Chorister.

Then *all stand* for the **Renewal of Baptismal Vows**. *Text on separate paper.*

Hymn: With Christ we share a mystic grave. [Tune: OEH 339]

The Greeting of Peace

Offertory hymns: 182 and 185. Collection.

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188

Proper Preface and Consecration Acclamation on Readings paper.

Hymn at the Invitation: 187

During the Communion: *Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)*.

Anthem: Maria, Mater gratiae. *Fauré*

*Maria, Mater gratiae,
dulcis parens clementiae,
tu nos ab hoste protege,
et mortis hora suscipe.*

*Jesu, tibi gloria,
qui natus es de Virgine,
cum Patre et almo Spiritu,
in sempiternam saecula. Amen.*

Mary, Mother of grace
sweet Mother of mercy,
protect us from the enemy,
receive us in death's hour.
Jesus, born of the Virgin,
to thee be glory,
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
to endless ages. Amen.

All stand after the anthem. Post-Communion prayer: page 439.

The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and the Dismissal.

Hymn: Magnificat (metrical version). [Tune: 427]

'The Lord's name be praised,' my soul shall proclaim:
My Saviour is God, and holy his name;
The Lord God almighty by word has confessed
That all generations shall know me as blest.

His mercy endures for ever the same
To all those who fear, and call on his name;
His strong arm has quelled the proud hearts that defy:
The great are cast down, and the humble raised high.

The hungry he fills; the rich sent away;
His word he recalls from Abraham's day,
That Israel his servant the Lord God would aid:
For all generations that promise was made.

All glory to God, the Father and Son,
And Spirit of truth, the Lord Three in One;
With Mary's own praises all ages unite
To magnify God in his marvellous light. Amen, Amen.

*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 *the Vicar*

Responses: page 8

Music: *Plainsong* (Latin note).

Venite (shorter version)

Office-Hymn: 180 [Tune 85]

Psalm 113 An Old Testament Magnificat. Page 274

First Lesson: Isaiah 7: 10-15 (On gold paper)

A vision of a child destined to be the nation's deliverer.

Te Deum: page 10

Second Lesson: Acts 1: 12-14 (On gold paper)

A glimpse of Mary in the Church.

Hymn 161 [Tune: 385]

The Creed and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 53).
Anthem: Ave Maria. *Lindley*

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum: benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tuae, Jesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Prayers Hymn 184; Collection. The Blessing

1830 CHORAL EVENSONG *Book of Common Prayer rite*

Service sung by the Old Choristers on the occasion of the annual reunion. The hymns, anthem and readings at Evensong are on separate papers.

Introit: God be in my head. [Words of Hymn 328] *Rutter*

Responses: Green books, page 18 Music: *Ayleward*

Office-hymn: Sing of Mary, pure and lowly. [Tune: 201]

Psalms 138, 146. Pages 301 and 309.

Two psalms in praise of the Lord who exalts the humble and meek.

First Lesson: Song of Songs 2: 1-7

From a gentle love-poem: the Rose and the Lily.

Magnificat: page 19.

Second Lesson: Galatians 4: 1-5

Through the incarnation, by adoption and grace, we share in Christ's own sonship.

Nunc dimittis: page 20

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

Anthem: Hymn to the Virgin. *Britten*

The text of this macaronic medieval poem is on a separate slip.

Prayers. Hymn: Angels and seraphim [Tune: 49 i]

Sermon by *the Vicar*.

Hymn: The Lord God said. [Tune: 258; repeat 2nd half of tune]; Collection.

The Blessing.

In church this week

Tuesday **1000 Requiem Mass for past worshippers at St Mary's.**

Celebrant: The Reverend Barry Preece.

Fr Preece is now the Rector of The Clandons. He was curate at St Mary's from 1971-1974, and was for some years our neighbour as Vicar of Cuddington. It is good to welcome him back to St Mary's during the Patronal Festival Week.

2000 First meeting of the new **Evening Fellowship Group** in the Parish Room. There is a handbill about this with the Notes today. This is an important new initiative, and I hope it will be well supported. W.R.H.

Other events and notices.

Monday Vicar at Canon Law meeting in Oxford.

Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. Time for coffee, relaxation, and pleasant *conversazione*.

Thursday **Coach Outing to Windsor.** The coach will leave from the lychgate at **0930** sharp. There are still some seats available at £10 each. Anyone interested should give names and money either to Joan Boulden or Lynne Yuille as soon as possible.

Saturday 2000 Meeting of *Pro Musica*.

1930 The Patronal Festival Organ Recital

by **Jonathan Holmes**
Further details on posters and handbills.
The exciting and unusual programme is
given in full in this month's *Ewell Parish*
News. Admission by programme: £6.

The Votive Candle stand is placed today, for the benefit of those who wish to use it, by the small statue of Our Lady, as a reminder that our prayers are one with those of our patron saint and with the whole company of heaven. A candle lit at a statue or a shrine is a visible witness to the ongoing nature of prayer, for after the prayer has left our heart or lips, it still remains 'alive' in the reality of the eternal prayer of Christ, through whom all our earthly prayers – as well as those of Our Lady and of all the saints – are taken into the very heart of God. A burning light is a symbol of the risen life of Christ, as the Easter Vigil rite brings out so clearly, and so the votive candles are a constant reminder of where our prayer has gone.

It might be worth mentioning, for the benefit of those who do not know, that the **Millington Mass** at the Sung Eucharist this morning was specially written for St Mary's at the time of our 'sesquicentennial' in 1998. It has since been published, and a copy of the front page with its dedication is pinned up in the Welcome Area today. It has also been recorded on a CD entitled 'Music for the Eucharist' by the choir of Exeter Cathedral, where Andrew Millington is now the Director of Music. The underlying plainsong mass, *Missa Alme Pater*, properly belongs to festivals of Our Lady and also to the Midnight Mass at Christmas. Although we normally have a Viennese mass at Christmas*, today's setting actually received its first performance at Midnight Mass in St Mary's, and the composer was with us on that occasion. Of course it can be sung at any time, but it is obviously particularly appropriate today.
[* Mozart's *Coronation Mass* (K.317) is planned for this year.]

There is no hidden agenda lurking underneath the fact that there is no **Procession of Our Lady** this year at the end of the Sung Eucharist. There are two reasons really: firstly, we have already had a May Procession of Our Lady this year (albeit at the 1100 service), and secondly there is the **Procession of the Parish Church** next Sunday. These rites, although attractive and edifying in themselves, prevent a proper sermon from being delivered on these occasions, because of the tight time-factor in St Mary's on a Sunday morning. Certainly both the Sundays of the Patronal Festival ought not to be short-changed in this respect every year. So next year the Procession of Our Lady will be re-instated, and the Procession of the Parish Church transferred to the 1100 service. That will enable at least one of the two Sundays to have a 'normal' sermon at the Sung Eucharist, and this is what will be achieved this year as well by not having the St Mary Procession.

Old Choristers. This evening we welcome back some 'old faces' (for lack of a better expression), and it would be good if they were welcomed back by more than the regular Sunday evening congregation. Choral Evensong is something of a luxury these days at St Mary's, but there is some lovely music planned for tonight, and no doubt the returning singers will enjoy singing once more on familiar territory.

Michaelmas Market.

A very useful meeting took place on Tuesday evening, and the final countdown towards the Market has now begun. We have the usual predictable list of needs, but with some other seasonal features as well.

We certainly need cakes, biscuits, fruit pies, toffee apples, or any ingredients towards them. Lots of jam has already been made, but we still need lots more. We can also do with **fresh produce on the Sunday before the Fair** (i.e. 8 October) for making into pies. Many more cakes than usual appeared at the Village Fair this year (partly as a result of a bold request for people to make more than one, if possible), but they still sold out pretty quickly, as they always do. Perhaps the same thing could apply at the Michaelmas Market. Meanwhile we are still after books, CDs, any good bric-a-brac (aka White Elephant), unused make-up, perfumes, soaps, gifts, etc., good as new children's clothes (for ages 0-5), jams, chutneys, handbags, scarves, candles, home-grown fruit or vegetables, prizes for the tombola and for the Grand Draw.

Further details in due course. The Michaelmas Market is a new venture, and is a serious attempt to raise funds which will be wholly devoted to charitable concerns. As we bask in the success of the Village

Fair, with its takings for St Mary's of over £10,000, we can now think of our wider horizons and of the needs of others. A reminder that this year's four charities are *Water Aid, USPG, the Leatherhead Wildlife Centre, and Age Concern (Epsom and Ewell)*.

Sacristy Rota. I am grateful to those who have volunteered to lend a hand at the 8 o'clock service as the Communion Assistant, by filling in one of the little boxes on the large rota in the Welcome Area. The boxes indicate the Sundays which are not covered. Just once a term would be a great help, and I hope that perhaps the other boxes might be filled in today. W.R.H.

Next Sunday. The second Sunday of the Patronal Festival Week is kept as our Dedication Festival, and our focus of attention moves from our patron saint to the local point at which the universal Church is made present. There is a concentration on the church building itself and on the role of the local Christian community. We shall have the *Procession of the Parish Church* during the Sung Eucharist, and there will be the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100. There is Evensong and Holy Baptism at 1630.

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