

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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*Sharing the love of Christ,
the Light of the world,
with the people of Ewell.*

WEEKLY NOTES

8 October 2006

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

Rather like last week, the Eucharistic readings at 0930 are not the easiest today. In the Book of Job we find the introduction to a profound discussion about the question of human suffering, which is the main point of the book. It is set within a story of a good man who suffered and endured, and who is represented as wrestling with this basic problem of life. In the gospel we have Jesus having hard things to say about human relationships, but also talking gently and firmly about children. Both subjects have a contemporary ring. The sufferings of God's people in many parts of the world, and the apparent impotence of the international community in situations like Darfur, are daily before our eyes; Job's questions are asked in every age. Listening to the gospel reading we can recall that the Church of England has now changed its stance about the re-marriage of divorcees in church, and indeed there are all sorts of implications about this U-turn, but the fact of the matter is that the standard of what *ought* to be the case is still laid down firmly by Jesus in the gospel. As in all matters of moral theology, it is important to remember that whilst we may not succeed in what is required of us (which is in fact what underlies the pastoral thinking and re-thinking by the Church of England), that in itself is no reason for the actual standard to be simply abandoned. In that respect Jesus' words remain as the standard to be set, even if in personal life many fail to achieve it. W.R.H.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the worldwide Church we pray today for those who belong to the United Reformed Church*, which is made up of a union of Congregationalists and English Presbyterians. In the diocese we pray for the work of the Diocesan Pastoral Committee. Within the parish we pray for the families of the children of the three Toddler Groups, and for the people who live in Ewell House Grove.

* A reminder that for a period of about 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 (as today) we also pray for the local presence of the particular Christian body, so today we pray for our neighbours at Ewell URC and for their minister, the Reverend Pat Hall.

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

Common Worship rite
Collect of the Day: page 418

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available.
 Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 418.
 Eucharistic Prayer F: page 198.
 Setting of the Eucharist: *Langlais*, Missa in simplicitate.

All the hymns are from the old small *red* hymn-books at the Eucharist today, because three of the hymns (all good ones) are not in the green books. No hymn-book has everything we want, and we are fortunate in having quite a large collection of suitable hymnody here. There is no melody-line provided in the red book, but all today's hymns are set to tunes which we regularly use at St Mary's, and all should be familiar.

Introit hymn: 3 (part 1 and Doxology).

Black book, page 167: Introduction, Prayers of Penitence, and *Kyrie eleison*.
 Gloria in excelsis. [Tune: *Veni, Sancte Spiritus (Webbe)*; NEH 139 i.]

Glory be to God on high,	Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,
Peace on earth the angel-cry	Lord and sole-begotten one,
To his favoured people here.	Fount of pardoning love and care,
Lord and God, our heavenly King,	Earthly sin you take away,
Worship, thanks and praise we bring,	Show us mercy, Lord, we pray;
For your glory shining clear.	Lamb of God, receive our prayer.

Holy One in heaven's height,
 Seated at the Father's right,
 Ever in his glory shine!
 You alone, O Christ, are Lord,
 Jesus Christ the eternal Word,
 With the Spirit all-divine.

Collect of the Day: page 418. *Readings on the green paper.*

Old Testament Reading from the Book of Job.

Gradual hymn: 251 [Tune: AMR 282 *Southwell*]

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

Sermon by *the Vicar*.

Nicene Creed: page 173.

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 405; Collection.

Eucharistic Prayer F: page 198.

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

Hymn at the Invitation: 408

Anthem during Communion: My heart ever faithful. *J S Bach*

My heart, ever faithful, sing praises, be joyful, thy Saviour is near;
 Away with complaining, faith ever maintaining, my Saviour is here.

Post-Communion Prayer: page 419.

The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal. Hymn 331.

*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.*

1100 CHORAL MATTINS

Sermon by *Mrs Wendy Varney, Reader*

Responses: page 8

Music: *Field*

Metrical Venite: HHE 1

[Tune: AMR 220]

Psalms 30. *Sadness is turned into gladness.*

Page 172

First Lesson from the Book Deuteronomy. Blue book: page 722
A visible parable of gratitude for God's mighty acts.

Benedictus: page 11

Second Lesson from St Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

St Paul and 'the Collection'. Blue book: page 723

Hymn: HHE 80 (*Hymn written by the late Edith Vincent*) [Tune: NEH 242]

The Creed and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer,
the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 78).

Anthem: The Prayer of St Richard. *White.*

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: HHE 14 [Tune: NEH 47]; Collection. The Blessing.

1800 Evening Prayer.

In church this week.

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**
1930 for 2000. The fifth meeting of the new **Evening Fellowship Group** in the
Parish Room. Continuing the six weeks or so with St John's Gospel, this week's title
will be 'Why did John divide his gospel in half?' Further information from Iain
McKillop (Tel. 01932 341687).

Other events and notices.

A reminder that routine events are not usually mentioned on this list: they include such items as the
Toddler Groups, bell-ringing practice, Choir Club and Choir Practice. Further details about these
activities may be obtained from the Office. This little note, which has appeared occasionally before,
will appear every few weeks or so for the benefit of any newcomers or visitors. However, this is not a
particularly busy week at St Mary's; some weeks are and some weeks aren't.

Wednesday 1030-1200. **Coffee Morning** in the Church Hall. A warm welcome to anyone who
cares to join us. This is the regular weekly slot for members of the congregation to
have a nice period of quality time together, and to welcome anyone else who might
care to drop in. This week *Ian West* will be speaking at 1100 about '**The Old
Tower.**'

Saturday

THE MICHAELMAS MARKET. 1030 to 1400.

Handbills still available for pushing through doors; a few posters too. Lots of bargains.
The Michaelmas Market replaces our Christmas Market this year, and aims to have an
autumnal flavour with stalls for food, cakes, plants and produce (such as jams,
chutneys, apple pies and excess from vegetable plots), fancy goods (particularly bags,
scarves and candles) and more besides.

**All in aid of this year's four charities:
*Water Aid, USPG, the Leatherhead Wildlife Centre, and Age
Concern (Epsom and Ewell).***

How well do you know the inside of our church? There will be a '*Treasure Hunt*' at the Michaelmas
Market, which consists of twenty questions. All the answers can be found in the church or Parish
Room. If you would enjoy a hunt for the answers, or think you know the church well, then have a go!
The question sheet will be on sale today at the back of the church and at the Market. The price is £1.
There is a prize for the most correct answers, or, in the event of a tie, the winner will be decided by
lottery.

The Vicar will be away from the parish from Tuesday morning until Friday evening, when he will be back for the regular Friday evening open office. He will be at the Priests' Pilgrimage-Retreat at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. There is a meeting of the federal council of the Federation of Catholic Priests at the Shrine at 1400, so the Vicar will be leaving straightaway after the Tuesday morning Eucharist in order to get there on time. It is quite a long run to north Norfolk.

Lucy Piercy has beer and wine-making equipment which she no longer needs, and it is on offer *for free* to anyone who would like to have it. Tel. 020 8393 2665.

The last hymn at the Eucharist today, '*O Jesus, I have promised*', is one of those rare hymns which is very widely known and loved, but which is unfortunately known across the generations *and* also across the various Churches to very different tunes. (I know of at least five.) Occasionally I see confused faces at weddings, when couples have asked for the hymn, and have not taken my warnings into account! Our tune, which is in both the red and the green books, is perhaps the more main-line one these days in the Church of England, but do not be surprised if you go elsewhere and find it sung to something else. Most of the other tunes are nice, but one is very horrid. W.R.H.

Brownies Sing-athon, while at Guides "silence is golden." In support of the nominated charities for this year's Michaelmas Harvest Market St Mary's Guides and Brownies are holding a fundraising evening next Thursday 12th October. The Brownies will be attempting to spend their entire meeting singing (about 1½ hours) whilst at Guides they will be doing their utmost to see if they can stay silent for the entire duration of their meeting. Members of the congregation would be most welcome to come and give the Units their support. Offers of Sponsorship would also be most warmly welcome. Contact Melanie Crick for any further information on 020 8337 4322.

A Bargain! The next Organ Recital is on 28 October - **DAVID DAVIES, the Sub-Organist at the Cathedral.** Get your discounted tickets from the back of the church after services on Sundays. Tickets are £5 in advance, so save yourself £1.

A word from Sybil Hale: **Children's Society Christmas Cards** will be on sale after the services on Sunday, 22 October.

Next Sunday. Normal Sunday arrangements, with the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100.

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