

St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL PARISH CHURCH  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

22 October 2006

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### NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

The simple nature of the services today, the half-term Sunday, can remind us that there is more than one way of doing the same thing in church. Our services on Christmas Day are perhaps the best illustration of this, when the Eucharist is celebrated in three totally different ways: the atmospheric Midnight Mass, solemnly sung with grandeur and joy, music, light and incense; then quietly and without any music at all at the Mass of the Dawn; and sung once again, but with a greater measure of informality than at Midnight, at the morning Mass at the nave altar by the Crib. However, the same is in fact just as true of last week and today. Last Sunday the early service, the nine-thirty, and the Book of Common Prayer Eucharist at 1100 *were all the same thing*, but the style and flavour of each one was clearly distinctive. Perhaps most obviously the differences between the 0930 and 1100 celebrations of the Eucharist were the use of either traditional or modern language, and the fact that at one service the priest was facing the people, and at the other the priest was facing the altar. In a famous passage (which has sometimes been quoted in these Notes) the great Anglican liturgist, Dom Gregory Dix, spoke of all the different sorts of occasions at which the Eucharist has been celebrated, emphasising the different reasons for doing it and the various ways and styles in which it is done. Yet at the end of the day, it is all the same thing: doing what Christ commanded us to do, to effect his sacramental reality in our midst, and to 'feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving', so that our lives may be lived in the power of that sacramental grace, and that we may grow in holiness, love and service in our Christian lives. Today the singers are not with us, and when that happens there are a few minor variations to our regular Sunday pattern. Since the chancel is not needed for the choir, we have the nave altar in use, something which can make the concept of the eucharistic community gathered around the table of the Lord rather more apparent than usual. All the singing is congregational, and some of the liturgical actions are simplified. This is not 'second best' because the choir is away. It is doing things in a different way in a different set of circumstances. At St Mary's this variety of approach has been commonplace for many years, but there are many parishes which only ever offer one particular style of Eucharistic worship. In the years to come there will undoubtedly be other aspects of devotion and practice at the Eucharist which will be thought appropriate for St Mary's. Meanwhile, it is important that we realise that when we get back to normal at 0930 next Sunday it is only our *current* normality for that service. As this paragraph stated at the outset: there is more than one way of doing the same thing in church. W.R.H.

**Our prayers today:** We pray for our own church and parish, and in the world-wide Church we pray today for those who belong to the Pentecostal Churches. In the diocese of Guildford we pray for the nuns at the Community of St Peter at Woking. In our parish prayer we pray today for the new Tuesday Evening Fellowship Group, and in our systematic prayer for the people living in the parish we pray today for those who live in Ewell Park Way.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**0800 HOLY COMMUNION** *Common Worship rite*  
Order 1 in traditional language: page 207. Collect of the Day: page 492  
Eucharistic Prayer A: page 216.

**0930 SUNG EUCHARIST** *Common Worship rite*

Nave Altar service today. Crèche available. Proper 24.  
Order 1: black book, page **167**. Collect of the Day: page 420.  
Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184 [Omit the responses in red brackets.]  
Setting of the Eucharist: *Shaw*, Folk Mass (Gloria and Creed only).

It is half-term for 'Children's Hour' and for the choristers. All the singing is congregational, and all the tunes are easy. The hymns are all from *A Hundred Hymns for Ewell*. The Vicar will be doubling-up at the organ.

Introit hymn: 74 [Tune: NEH 182]  
Introduction and the Prayers of Penitence: black book, page 167.  
Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text today on page 211.  
Collect of the Day: page 413 (*Readings on separate paper*)  
Old Testament reading from the Letter to Hebrews.  
Gradual hymn: 76 [Tune: AMR 539]  
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Mark.  
Sermon by *the Vicar*  
Nicene Creed (sung today): traditional language text on page 213.  
Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.  
Offertory hymn: 51 [Tune: *From strength to strength*] Collection.  
Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184 [Omit the responses in red brackets.]  
Turn back to page 178 for the Lord's Prayer, etc.  
Holy Communion is at the front of the nave only. Please return to your seats *via* the side aisles, after receiving the chalice on your 'own' side. There is no hymn at this point today.  
After '*Let us pray*' **all stand** for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 182.  
The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal.  
Hymn 75 [Tune: NEH 305]

*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 after the Sung Eucharist.*

**1100 MATTINS** *Book of Common Prayer rite.*  
'Village Mattins' today. The service is 'said with hymns.'

Responses: page 8.  
Metrical Jubilate: Card E, No.1. [Tune: NEH 377]  
Psalm 121 *The Lord saves, sustains and delivers.* Page 291.  
Old Testament Lesson from the Book of Daniel. Blue book: page 734.  
*Shadrach, Mesach and Abednego in 'the burning fiery furnace.'*  
[Note: This is a longer lesson than usual; there is more *before* the printed text, and a further short section afterwards.]  
Hymn 450  
New Testament Lesson from St Luke's gospel. Blue book: page 735.  
*The disciples say things they shouldn't, and Jesus tells them off.*  
Metrical Benedictus: Card E, No.4 [Tune: NEH 401]  
The Creed and the Greeting (page 12); then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the Responses and the three Collects (first Collect on page 79).  
Prayers.  
Sermon by *the Vicar*  
Hymn 381; Collection.  
The Blessing.

**1800 Evening Prayer**

**In church this week**

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**  
The new **Tuesday Evening Fellowship Group** is having its half-term break this week. Further information about the group may be obtained from Iain McKillop (Tel. 01932 341687).

**Other events and notices.**

Monday Holy Communion to the housebound.  
Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall.  
Fine blend and good companionship. All welcome.

Saturday 1930 **Organ Recital by David Davies.**

This is the second of the three major organ recitals this autumn, and it is being given by the Sub-Organist of Guildford Cathedral, who is paying his first visit to St Mary's. David Davies is also the Director of the Girls' Choir at the Cathedral. We look forward to another splendid evening. Admission is £6 (under 16s free), but tickets may be bought in advance for £5, and they are available at the book trolley today. The third recital will be on 18 November, when the recitalist will be the Director of Music, *Julie Ainscough*.

**The Office** will only be manned intermittently this week, since both the Vicar and the Administrator will be away at certain times during the half-term week, each attending to family matters. It will be sensible to leave any routine matters until next week, when, after a rather unusual two or three week period, everything gets back to normal. Messages can of course be left on the 'ansafone.' There will not be the usual Friday evening open office this week.

**Next Sunday.** The early morning Eucharist will be 'of the Sunday', and the Sung Eucharist will be 'of Bible Sunday.' There will not be the usual Procession of the Scriptures on this occasion. This will allow adequate time for a sermon this year, and this will be preached by the Rev Dr Patrick Miller. The Bible Procession will be back next year. Actually, it may be time now to re-visit the text of that local rite; it has stood us in good stead for several years (Bishop Michael Adie once wrote out of the blue to say how much he liked it), but perhaps it could do with some revision, or at least some tweaking. Choral Mattins will be as usual next Sunday at 1100; there will be the regular monthly 1200 Eucharist; and there will be Evening Worship at 1800.

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