

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

5 November 2006

ALL SAINTS DAY.

A busy Sunday for God's people at St Mary's today – all called to be saints, as the Scripture says. At Mattins some very young people will become Christians through the waters of Baptism. At the Eucharist some slightly older young people will be taking their first steps into the regular sacramental life of the Church as they receive the Blessed Sacrament for the first time. The rest of us will be making this Sunday special by praising God for the triumphs of all the saints, whether known or unknown. We shall be singing some of the well-known hymns for the season, and recalling the simple fact that the heroes of the faith were just Christians like us, but whose shining devotion to their Lord leaves us in no doubt that they now rejoice in the immediate presence of God. We shall be listening to the Scriptures, receiving the Bread of Life, and simply being at home in our Father's house, for we belong there. Our parish church is the local manifestation of the universal Church of God, the Church which has sanctified with God's grace countless lives in every generation of Christian history. Among that great multitude are those for whom we praise God today: those who have 'fought a good fight, finished the course, and kept the faith.' Supremely at the Eucharist we are bold to join with them and with 'the whole company of heaven' in the eternal praise and worship of God. Charles Wesley put it beautifully, when he wrote:

'Thee in thy glorious realm they praise,
And bow before thy throne;
We in the kingdom of thy grace:
The kingdoms are but one.'

May God be praised in all his saints.

Our prayers today. In our prayer for the world-wide Church we pray today for those who belong to the ancient Oriental Churches (mainly the Coptic, Syrian, Armenian and Ethiopian Churches), which for historic and doctrinal reasons are not part of the mainstream Eastern Orthodox Churches. In the Diocese we pray for the Readers and Pastoral Assistants, and for those responsible for their training. In our parish prayer we pray the home for boys at Jeel al Amal in Bethany (supported by the Wednesday Coffee Morning), and also for our former daughter church, All Saints West Ewell, at the time of its Patronal Festival, and for the parish priest Ian Whitham. In our systematic prayer for the people of the parish we pray today for those living in Fairview Road.

*This is the last of the series of prayers for other major parts of the Christian Church. There will not be a 'world-wide Church' subject for prayer at the Requiem next Sunday, since we shall be praying for those who are no longer in this world, but in another part of the Church of God. On the following two Sundays we shall be praying for the work of Christian Aid (formerly known as Inter-Church Aid, and the major agency for practical Christian collaboration), and on the feast of Christ the King for the World Council of Churches. On the first Sunday in Advent we resume our regular prayer for the Provinces of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

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.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 HOLY COMMUNION *Common Worship rite*
Order 1: page 167 Collect of the Day: page 422
Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188. Proper Preface: page 324

0930 PROCESSION AND SUNG EUCHARIST *Common Worship rite*

Children's Hour in the Church Hall. Crèche available, if needed.
Order 1: page **167**. Collect of the Day: page **422**
Eucharistic Prayer **B**: page **188**. Proper Preface: page 324
Setting of the Eucharist: *Darke* in E (Collegium Regale).
Gloria and Creed: *Shaw*.

Processional hymn: 226

Kyrie eleison.

Gloria in excelsis: traditional language text on page 211

Collect of the Day: page 422. *Readings on separate paper.*

Old Testament Reading from the Second Book of Esdras.

Gradual hymn: 231

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

Sermon by *Mrs Wendy Varney, Reader.*

Admission of children to Holy Communion.

Nicene Creed: traditional language text on page 213.

Intercession, the 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 on page 324.

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

After the Invitation to Communion: Hymn 225 [First tune]

The children receiving the Holy Communion for the first time today will be the first to receive the Holy Communion at the High Altar.

Anthem during the Communion: *Gaudent in coelis. Dering*

English version: Glorious in heaven are the souls of all saints, who walked in the way of Christ, the Lord Jesus. They loved him, and followed his footsteps; and as they died for their Saviour, losing life for his sake, they reign with him for ever.

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 423.

The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn 197.

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1100 MATTINS AND HOLY BAPTISM

There is a special leaflet for this service.

1830 CHORAL EVENSONG *Book of Common Prayer rite*

A reminder that the collection is no longer taken

'during the hymn' at Evensong. There is a plate just

by the font.

Responses: Green books, page 18

Music: *Darke*

Office-hymn: AMR 525

Psalms 149, 150 Page 312
The Psalter ends with the universal praise of God.
 First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 44: 1-15. Blue book: page 839
In praise of the heroes of old.
 Magnificat: page 19 Hylton-Stewart in C
 Second Lesson: From Revelation 7. Blue book: page 812
The triumph of the saints of God.
 Nunc dimittis: page 20 Hylton-Stewart in C
 Creed (page 20), Lord's Prayer, Responses and Collects.
 Anthem: O quam gloriosum est regnum. Victoria

O quam gloriosum est regnum in quo cum Christo gaudent omnes sancti.
Amicti stolis albis, sequuntur Agnum quocumque ierit.
 O how glorious is the kingdom, wherein all the saints rejoice in Christ.
 Clothed in white robes they follow the Lamb wherever he goes.

Prayers. Hymn: AMR 572. Sermon by *the Vicar*
 Hymn: AMR 279. The Blessing

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**
 1930 for 2000. 1930 for 2000. **Evening Fellowship Group** in
 the Parish Room. This month the group is exploring the general
 theme of *Worship*. This week the title is 'What does it mean to
 "worship"?' Further information from Iain McKillop (Tel.
 01932 341687).

Other events and notices

Monday 1930 Meeting of the Estates Committee.
 Tuesday 1815 Vicar at the Cathedral for College of Canons meeting.
 2000 'After the Michaelmas Market' meeting in the Parish
 Room.
 Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the church hall. Tea-drinkers
 should not feel excluded. A pleasant and relaxing time with
 familiar and friendly company. It is an open occasion; anyone
 can come.
 2000 Meeting of Vicar, Churchwardens and Administrator.
 Thursday and Friday The tree surgeons will be at work in No 4 Churchyard on these
 two days, and there will be restricted access to the area towards
 the right, as one enters through the lychgate.
 Saturday 1700 Standard-bearers rehearsal for Remembrance Sunday.

All Saints' readings. A curiosity in Year B is that the Old Testament Lesson at
 the Eucharist was almost certainly written some time *after* the New Testament
 reading from the Gospel according to St Matthew. The Second Book of Esdras
 is a late work, and the first two chapters bear all the marks of being Christian
 additions to the book. That does not detract, of course, from the value of the
 material (indeed the contrary could be cogently argued), and the obvious
 suitability of the particular passage for the festival of All Saints is self-evident.

David Davies, the Sub-Organist at the cathedral, gave us a wonderful organ
 recital last month, and his masterly improvisation on the opening phrase of the
 plainsong *Salve Regina* was something which will be long remembered. It was
 the second of the run of three large-scale recitals this autumn. The final one will
 be on Saturday, 18 November, and it will be given by our own Director of
 Music, **Julie Ainscough**. It may be worth giving a reminder that although the
 entrance by programme on the night is £6, one can buy one's ticket in advance,
 and thereby save £1.

Michaelmas Market. We have now learned that *the Guides and Brownies* have raised the sum of £350.50 towards the four charities chosen for the Michaelmas Market, as a result of their sponsored sing and sponsored silence. This is magnificent, and will represent a substantial addition to the £1300 or so already received. The final figure should be known shortly. In the meantime our grateful thanks go to the Guides and Brownies for this splendid achievement.

Next Sunday. Remembrance Sunday has followed a regular pattern at St Mary's for many years. Detailed information is in *Ewell Parish News*. In summary form here are the arrangements: 0800 Holy Communion (of the Sunday, and without any Remembrance Sunday features except during the prayers); 0930 Sung Eucharist of Requiem for the Fallen from the Parish; 1030 Wreath-Laying at the War Memorial; 1050 Act of Remembrance and Choral Mattins, attended by the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell and other representatives from the ex-Service community and other organizations. The 0930 service is the specifically *parish* Remembrance Sunday service; the later service is something which we provide for the wider local community, and it is always good to welcome our First Citizen to this service each year. Evening Prayer will be said at 1800.

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