

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

12 November 2006

THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT. *REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.*

It is very easy to lose a sense of proportion on Remembrance Sunday. There are those who are hostile to the very concept of national Remembrance, for a variety of reasons. Equally, there are those who think the specific forms and ceremonies of Remembrance Sunday are so sacrosanct that every little detail must be preserved at all costs. Perhaps, more tellingly, there are many who are utterly indifferent to the whole thing. Some of the ceremonial details are perhaps beginning to wear a bit thin now, and it may be that they are due for some measure of re-appraisal. Certainly the service at the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall has been very positively re-styled in recent years by the present Bishop of Manchester (who is the National Chaplain to the Royal British Legion); it had become very staid, pompous and ponderous. It is very different now. However, the descending poppies serve to remind those present and those watching on the television that the overall intention of the National Remembrance still holds good: 'this is what happened then, and it must not happen again.' That is primarily the point of this annual Act of Remembrance. It is about laying to heart the fact that the death and destruction in two world wars on a global scale 'was really like that', and that it is the business of statesmen and everyone else to be reminded of such things on an official annual basis. The necessity of such a reminder should be luminously clear, as the world's ongoing centres of strife are daily put before our eyes, and as we consider how the nature of human conflict has moved from the greediness of nation states and their rulers to the reality of fanatical sectarianism and ideological confrontation. The fires of two world wars may be extinguished, and the Cold War between east and west may have gone, but no-one is going to say that the world in 2006 has become in any meaningful sense a safer place. So we remember, and reflect; we pray and we ponder; and we keep Remembrance Sunday in faith and hope that the Lord will help us in these troubled times. W.R.H.

Our prayers today. Our remembrance today is primarily of the dead. Two services concentrate on National Remembrance, and in two different liturgical ways. At the Sung Eucharist we shall be praying for the dead of Ewell, who perished in time of war, perhaps also remembering any from our own families who died in those particular circumstances. We shall offer the Holy Eucharist for them, praying that they may find in the nearer presence of God that true fulfilment and peace which was denied them in this life. At Mattins there is a somewhat wider canvas, as with others from the Borough, led by our First Citizen, we have a more formal and ceremonial approach to the serious nature of the day itself, and have a chance to reflect at greater length on what Remembrance Sunday has to say to us.

However, the 8 o'clock service is the normal service of the Sunday. The routine prayer of the Church's calendar still goes on, and we pray for this church and parish. Within the diocese we pray for all those serving in the army in the Military Town of Aldershot, and for the work of the Army Chaplains. In the parish we pray for our local branch of the Territorial Army, for the local Branch of the Royal British Legion, and for the people who live in Fennells Mead.

<p>For various reasons, part of the west end of the North Aisle is cordoned off today, which means that some seating in that area cannot be used at the 1050 service. It also means that the Entrance procession at 0930 will need to start from the side chapel area instead of from the back.</p>
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SUNDAY SERVICES

- 0800 HOLY COMMUNION** (of the Sunday) *Common Worship rite*
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 423
Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196.
- 0930 SUNG EUCHARIST OF REQUIEM** for those from the parish who fell
in the two World Wars. *Common Worship rite*

'Children's Hour' in the Church Hall. No Wayfarers today. Crèche available, if required.

Order 1: page **167**. Eucharistic Prayer A: page **184**.

The Gloria and Creed are normally omitted at a Requiem. Whilst the service should certainly not be rushed in any way, it is also of some importance today that no time should be lost during the service, in view the morning's very busy timetable. Small *red* hymn-books today.

Setting of the Eucharist: *Plainchant*, Missa pro defunctis.

There will be a smaller than usual choir at this service, because of the four-part choir rehearsal for the next service, which will be going on concurrently. Apart from *Kyrie eleison*, *Agnus Dei* and *Pie Jesu*, all the singing at the Eucharist is congregational. The music of the *Sanctus* is printed below in the running order.

Introit hymn: 274

[Tune: NEH 425]

Introduction, the Prayers of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison*, and the Collect.

The Collect, Readings and Post-Communion prayer are all on a separate leaflet today.

New Testament Reading from St Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Gradual hymn: 165

[Tune: AMR 345]

At this particular service each year this hymn is sung to the tune which was normally used for these words in the eighteenth century, and which was written (or possibly arranged) by William Tans'ur, organist of St Mary's at that time.

The Holy Gospel reading from St John.

Short sermon by *the Vicar*

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 585. Collection.

[Tune: NEH 458]

Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184 (omitting the responses in red brackets),

with Preface of the Dead *on reverse of Readings paper*.

The *Sanctus* is congregational, and continues the music of the Preface.

At the end of the prayer, turn back to page 178 for the Lord's Prayer, etc.

Hymn at the Invitation to Communion:

[Choir use NEH 283]

Father, see thy children bending at thy throne,
Pleading here the Passion of thine only Son,
Pleading here before thee all his dying love,
As he pleads it ever in the courts above.

Not for our wants only we this offering plead,
But for all thy children, who thy mercy need.
Bless thy faithful people, win thy wandering sheep,
Keep the souls departed, who in Jesus sleep.

Anthem during Communion: *Pie Jesu, Domine*.

Fauré

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem, sempiternam requiem.

'Lord, all pitying, Jesu blest, grant them thine eternal rest.'

[*Pie Jesu* is the last line of the text of the hymn *Dies irae*.]

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer.

The Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn 296 [Second tune]. (There is no Organ Voluntary after this service.)

Welcome to any visitors or newcomers to St Mary's today. Please make yourselves known, if possible. We would normally say, 'Come to coffee', but, alas, there is no 'après messe' coffee in the hall today, because of the robing and rehearsing arrangements in connexion with the next service.

1030 WREATH-LAYING AT THE WAR MEMORIAL.

1050 ACT OF REMEMBRANCE AND CHORAL MATTINS.

The service is attended by the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell, the constituency Member of Parliament, members of the Borough Council, members of the Royal British Legion and other ex-Service organizations, and representatives of other uniformed and local associations.

This year there will not be the usual contingent from the Army. They are at present in Cyprus, replacing the troops there, since they are now serving in Iraq.

Music: Introit: So they gave their bodies.* *Aston*. Responses: *Byrd*.
Te Deum*: *Britten* in C. Anthem: Greater love. *Ireland*.

* In both the Introit and the *Te Deum*, there is a recognizable *motif*, which calls to mind the familiar melody of The Last Post.

There is a special leaflet for the service. The Vicar is the preacher this year.

1800 Evening Prayer will be said in the Parish Room.

In church this week

Monday 1915 **Holy Communion**

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**

The new **Tuesday Evening Fellowship Group** meets in the Parish Room. The group is looking the subject of *Worship* for four weeks; this week the topic is, 'Is what we put into worship "sacrificial" any more?' Further information about the group may be obtained from Iain McKillop (Tel. 01932 341687).

Other events and notices.

Monday 2000 Meeting of the Parochial Church Council.

Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall.
Fine blend and good companionship. All welcome.

Saturday 1930 **Organ Recital by Julie Ainscough.**

This is the last of the three major organ recitals this autumn, and it will be given by our own Director of Music. The programme consists mainly of French organ music, although there is the inevitable major item from J S Bach. Julie is a well-established teacher of the organ, and a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. Recently we have learned that another one of her pupils has been awarded a major Oxford organ scholarship. 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. Any profits from these recitals goes towards the maintenance of our very fine organ.

The Committee members of **Grove Cottage** (Abbeyfield Ewell Society, Charity No. 204444) were delighted to welcome so many people to their Coffee Morning on Saturday, 9 November, among them a number from St Mary's. As always, it was a very happy and successful occasion. M.E.H.

It is known that some people are rather painfully aware of a **very high-pitched sound**, which clearly comes from the loudspeakers. Not everyone is aware of this, but some are, and they are experiencing various levels of discomfort. Would anyone who can hear this sound please have a word with the Vicar or one of the churchwardens or with Mr Jarrett? There is also a low buzz or hum, which other people can hear, but this is not so much of a problem, and it is the high-pitched sound that we want to hear about.

Next Sunday. This is the last totally normal Sunday until 14 January. There is something distinctive on every Sunday until then. Services next Sunday are at the usual times, with the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100.

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