

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

21 January 2007

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is upon us once more, and I commend the daily use of the Prayer for Unity from the (somewhat unlikely source of) the Accession Service in the Book of Common Prayer. It is perhaps noting that the word 'one' comes twelve times in the last four lines of the prayer. W.R.H.

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace: give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord: that, as there is but one Body, and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and father of us all; so we may henceforth be all of one heart, and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the world-wide Church we pray today for the Province of Canada (sic) and the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon in the Church of Canada. In the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we pray in the Diocese of Guildford for *Churches Together in Surrey*, and in our parish prayer for *Churches Together in Ewell*. We pray too for the people living in Hessele Grove.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0700 MATTINS Psalm 98.

0800 HOLY COMMUNION *Common Worship rite*
Order 1: page 167 Collect of the Day: page 385.
Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196.

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST *Common Worship rite*

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available in church.
Order 1: page **167**. Collect of the Day: page **385**.
Eucharistic Prayer **G**: page **201**.
Setting of the Eucharist: *Fauré*, Messe Basse.
All the hymns at this service are from *A Hundred Canticles for Ewell*.

Introit hymn: HCE 10 [Tune: AMR 508]
Black book: page 167. The Greeting and the first prayer; *Kyrie eleison*.
Metrical Gloria in excelsis: *on reverse side of Readings' paper*.
Collect of the Day: page 425. *Readings on separate paper.*
Old Testament Reading from the Book of Nehemiah.
Gradual hymn: HCE 70 [Tune: NEH 221 ii.]
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
Sermon by **Mr Reginald Saunders**, Reader
Nicene Creed: page 173.

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.
Offertory hymn: HCE 87 [Tune: *Penlan* in E] Collection.
Eucharistic Prayer G: page 201; Lord's Prayer, etc. back on page 178.
Hymn at the invitation to Communion: HCE 66 [Tune: NEH 89 ii]
During the Communion: *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God)
Anthem: Ave, verum Corpus. *Fauré*

English translation:

Hail, O true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, who after suffering was sacrificed for mankind upon the cross, and from whose pierced side there flowed a tide of blood. Be our food in death's hour. O gentle, holy Jesus, Son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 182.
The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal.
Hymn: HCE 50 [Tune: *Guiting Power*].
Note: version with music on reverse of Readings' paper.

*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 SUNG EUCHARIST

Book of Common Prayer rite

Setting of the Eucharist: *Sunsion* in F
Creed and Gloria: *Merbecke*.

Sermon by *the Vicar*
Introit hymn: 346
Then green Prayer Book: page 31
Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy): page 33
Greeting and the Collect of the Day
(There is a separate leaflet for the Collect and Readings)
The Epistle: Romans 12: 16-21
Gradual hymn: 416 (i)
The Holy Gospel: St Matthew 8: 1-13
Nicene Creed: page 34.
Offertory Hymn: 420 Collection
After the hymn, all kneel for the Prayer for the Church (page 36), the Prayers of Penitence, etc., and for the Prayer of Consecration
Hymn at the Consecration: 269, part 2.
During the Communion: O Lamb of God (page 44)
Anthem: Litany to the Holy Spirit. *Hurford*

In the hour of my distress, When temptations me oppress, And when I my sins confess: Sweet Spirit, comfort me.	When I lie within my bed Sick in heart and sick in head, And with doubts discomfited: Sweet Spirit, comfort me.
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When the house doth sigh and weep,
And the world is drowned with sleep,
Yet mine eyes the watch do keep:
Sweet Spirit, comfort me.

After Communion:
The Lord's Prayer and the Prayer of Thanksgiving: page 44
All stand for Gloria in excelsis
The Blessing Hymn: 361 [Tune: 322].

1800 Evening Prayer

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**
This will be a Votive Mass for the Unity of the Church of God.
1930 for 2000. Meeting of the **Evening Fellowship Group** in the Parish Room. Tonight: ***The Book of the Proverbs: Training for princes, wisdom for saints?*** Further information from Iain McKillop (Tel. 01932 341687).

Other events and notices.

Monday Holy Communion to the housebound.
2000 Meeting of *Pro Musica*.
2000 Ecumenical Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at Stoneleigh Methodist Church (*Churches Together in Ewell*).

Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. A time for drinking coffee, and for relaxation and pleasant *conversazione* in very congenial surroundings.
2000 Meeting of Vicar, Wardens and Administrator at the Vicarage.

Friday and Saturday The Vicar will be at the Ecclesiastical Law Society Conference in Liverpool.

A nasty noise. This note appeared recently, but so much was going on that it perhaps needs another mention. It is known that some people are rather painfully aware of a **very high-pitched sound**, which clearly comes from some aspect of the sound system. 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, because something really must be done about it. **Also**, on the same point, someone has been meddling recently with the PA equipment in the office, as we discovered at Howard Ward's funeral. Someone had switched it all off at not the usual point of control, and a measure of inconvenience and delay was caused, while the matter was investigated and put right, before the service could resume.

1100 in general. There is a section in this month's *Ewell Parish News* which lists all that is happening at the 11 o'clock slot on Sunday mornings this term. It is worth looking at, and even cutting out, because this term the later Sunday morning slot has a great deal to offer between now and Easter. Of the fourteen Sundays only three have the 'default' service of Choral Mattins pure and simple. Whilst I appreciate that most people are normally wedded to one particular service (nothing wrong in that), the fact remains that these other opportunities are there, and some of them are distinctive and unusual. Into this category one might put the all-age 'Candle Mass', the 'Valentine Mattins', and (something new this year) the two occasions when at a shorter than usual Choral Mattins there will be three Stations of the Cross with choral and organ music by *J S Bach*. Not many people do the rounds of the various services, though a few do, and I know that a few who stayed on for the Nine Lessons at Epiphany were glad to have done so. So I continue to hope that some who have already been to the Sung Eucharist may feel that, after a break for coffee, an occasional visit to an act of worship which is very different from the 0930 service may be a rewarding and enriching experience. W.R.H.

Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) Notes. With the renewal of subscriptions to the BRF occurring within the next few weeks, now is the opportunity for members of the congregation who do not currently receive BRF Notes to join the scheme. The BRF Notes offer four months of daily readings and comment, and they are an accessible way into the study of the Bible on our journey in the Christian faith.

There are various 'levels' of study; some may prefer simpler Notes, others may prefer more demanding ones. The Notes are published three times a year, in January, May and September, at an annual cost of £10.50. They are immensely good value. There are specimen readings in the Welcome Area, near the south porch, and these may be borrowed by potential readers for, say, a week, before making the decision whether or not to join the BRF. Further details from John or Sarah Stovell (Tel. 020 8393 0786).

'Valentine Mattins.' A reminder that we plan to hold a celebration on the Sunday before St Valentine's Day (11 February) at 1100 for those who have been married at St Mary's, and we would particularly like to invite all who have been married at St Mary's within the last three years. Whilst we have the addresses of all who *arranged* to get married here, we do not in many cases have their later addresses. If anyone knows of the current address for any comparatively recently married couple, we should be glad to be informed. ***However, all who have been married at St Mary's should assume that they are invited, and we should be glad to hear from any who will definitely be coming.*** Any details (on paper, please) to the Vicar or Churchwardens, or else to the office – via the letter-box, if there is no-one there. Further details in due course.

There are **FREE** copies of *El Dorado*, the Guyana Diocesan Magazine, available in the Welcome Area. As usual, it tells of a Church facing difficult times in a society very different from our own.

A reminder about the annual **Hymnathon**, scheduled for Saturday, 10 February. There are two sessions: 1000-1300 and 1400-1600, but one decides upon one's own time commitment. It is great fun and quite a relaxed affair. The Hymnathon usually manages to raise through sponsorship quite a substantial amount towards the running expenses of the *Village Fair* in July. However, the 'substantial amount' – last year it was £422 – could be more substantial still, if more people took part. It is effortless and pleasant, and anyone who would like to take part is invited to sign up and pick up a sponsorship form **today** from the Welcome Area. Some people have been dissuaded in the past from taking part by a mischievous rumour that people would have to sing solos, and such is not the case. Carusos and corncrakes are equally welcome; so, for that matter, are choristers. We usually sing two verse from each hymn around the piano in the Parish Room. Refreshments will be served during each session. We are at present a good way through our second hymn-book, the red 'AMR' (Hymns Ancient and Modern, revised 1950; the book has been revised twice since then), so we shall be picking up at Hymn 251. Since we regularly use six different hymn-books at St Mary's, this money-spinner can go on for years. Further details from Rosemarie Henson on 020 8224 2713. (The telephone number is wrong in EPN.)

Following on from that is a reminder that the Vicar would welcome any **hymn requests** – within reason (so don't try *Within the churchyard side by side are many long, low graves* nor, on the other hand, *We're going for a trip on the Hallelujah Ship*). People have their favourites, and some people have let their requests be made known from time to time, and I am quite happy to accede to these. The actual date when a hymn comes on is normally calendrically driven, so sometimes there is a bit of a wait, because the hymns are not inserted without reference to the overall context of the service. So please don't ask for something to be sung on a particular day. W.R.H.

Dr Patrick Miller will be giving another one of his much-appreciated courses on Tuesday evenings in Lent, so it may be as well to make a note of it at this stage. This time the title is ***Life (and Death) Matters***. Full details will soon be available in *Ewell Parish News* and also on posters and handbills.

Next Sunday. Morning arrangements as usual, except that the monthly 1200 service is moved to the following week, 4 February; Evening Prayer at 1800.

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