

**St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
020 8393 2643
www.stmarysewell.com**

WEEKLY NOTES

4 March 2007

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

The first of the two services of Choral Mattins with three Stations of the Cross and with music by J S Bach takes place this morning at 1100. The second service is on Palm Sunday. I shall be conducting the Stations at today's service, and Iain McKillop – who painted them – will be doing so on Palm Sunday. Bach wrote some wonderful music in connexion with the Passion of Christ, but although his two great works, the St Matthew Passion and the St John Passion are in a class of their own, there are also some exquisite works for the organ based on many of the chorales used in the Lutheran service. Some of these will be used at these two services. The choristers will sing three chorales at each, and, after a conducted meditation, the organ chorale-preludes will follow, giving an opportunity for further reflection upon the particular Station. With Iain's Stations now arranged around the church for Lent, instead of being on the front of the gallery, we are clearly surrounded by constant signs of the Passion of Christ. The Lenten Preface at the Eucharist in *Common Worship* talks about Lent as a period for our growth in grace as we look forward to the paschal mystery 'with mind and heart renewed.' Our Stations are here to be used, and anyone who wishes to make private use of our Stations has only to come into church during the week, when the office is open (Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri. a.m.), and spend some time of prayer or quiet with these devotional aids, either using some of the texts available, or just 'finding one's own level' as the Stations display their silent but powerful message.

I would also like to stress that what that Lenten Preface in *Common Worship* says is really the fundamental point about Lent. It is essentially a devotional period, even though we do all sorts of other bits of 'practical Christianity' or study during this time. It is worth remembering that for some years now we have had a Mass at St Mary's every Friday at noon during Lent (including the reading of the Passion in serial form), and this ought to be a real possibility for quite a few people, though it is fair to say that it is not exactly crowded at the moment. There is also the regular 'Tuesday at 1000'. An opportunity for quiet sacramental worship during the week is a well-known Lenten 'extra,' and I have been disappointed over the years that for many whose devotional lives are eucharistically centred on Sundays this has not been a feature of personal Lenten discipline. W.R.H.

Our prayers today. We pray for our church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion for our fellow Christians in the Province of the Indian Ocean. Within the Diocese we pray for the ministry exercised in the psychiatric hospitals. In the parish we pray for those who have, and in our systematic prayer for the people of the parish we pray for those living in the Kingsway.

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.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 HOLY COMMUNION *Book of Common Prayer rite*

The Prayer Book rite, which we have about quarterly at 0800, can now be followed (with about 98% accuracy) in Order 2 of 'Common Worship,' beginning on page 229. Unlike the monthly Prayer Book Sung Eucharist in the Mattins slot, the BCP rite at 0800 follows the 1662 order without *any* deviations from the printed text, except that the long exhortations are omitted. In order to achieve this, the simple rule is to disregard any *indented* material in the text. The Collect and Readings are on a separate paper. In the Prayer Book rite the Collect for Ash Wednesday is said after the Collect of the Day every day in Lent.

Lent Course of sermons by *the Vicar* at 0800 on the general title of '*Christ Outpouring.*' Today the sermon is entitled '*Christ listening.*'

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST *Common Worship rite*

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available.
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day:
page 394
Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191; Proper Preface on
page 308.
Setting of the Eucharist: *Plainsong*, Missa Orbis
Factor.

Introit hymn: 74

Black book, page 167: Invocation and the Greeting.

Prayers of Penitence, *Kyrie eleison*.

Collect of the Day: page 394.

Use Readings paper from this point until after the Holy

Gospel.

Old Testament Reading from the Book Genesis.

Metrical Gradual hymn 27. [HCE 50; tune: Guiting

Power]

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

Hymn: Verses from Light's abode, celestial Salem. [Tune:

NEH 401]

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

Sermon by the Vicar.

The fifth of a course of sermons on The Lord's Prayer.

No.5: Our bread. Give us this day our daily

bread.

Nicene Creed: page 173.

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn on readings paper.

Collection.

A Song of St Anselm. [Tune: NEH 49

(i) *Wessex*].

Note: This hymn picks up Jesus' words about the hen and her chicks in today's

Gospel.

Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191; the Lord's Prayer, etc. back on page 178.

At the Invitation: Hymn 294
During the Communion: *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God)
Anthem: Call to remembrance.

Farrant

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving-kindness, which have been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth, but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness. (*Psalm 25:3,4*)

388 After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: Page
The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal.
Hymn 368.

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Note: Mattins will start slightly later today to allow time for people to return after coffee, if they wish to, and for the choristers to check on this and that. There is no sermon at Mattins today: it is replaced by the three conducted meditations.

1110 CHORAL MATTINS with THREE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

and MUSIC BY J S BACH.

There is a special leaflet for this service, but here are the music details:

Three Stations: The Three Falls of Jesus on the Via Crucis.

Music: *Chorale (organ) and Chorale-Prelude on 'An Wasserflüssen Babylon'; Chorales (sung in English) and Chorale-Preludes*

on:

'O Mensch, bewein' dein' Sünde gross', 'Vater unser im Himmelreich', and 'Aus tiefer Noth schrei' ich zu dir.'

1800 Evening Prayer (in the Parish Room).

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**
1930 for 2000 **Life (and Death) Matters.** Discussion led by *the Reverend Dr Patrick Miller.* This week: **Modern Superstitions: Astrology, Spiritualism and ESP.** Coffee from 1930.

Friday 1200 **Holy Communion**
At the midday Eucharist on Fridays in Lent the Passion according to St Mark will be read in serial form as the Holy Gospel.

Other events and notices.

Monday Holy Communion to the housebound.
Tuesday 1930 for 2000 **'Tuesdays at Eight':** see above at 'In church this week' for the discussions led by *Dr Patrick Miller* on the general title, **'Life (and Death) Matters.'** We got off to a good start last week. Come and join us this week, when the subject is: **'Modern Superstitions: Astrology, Spiritualism and ESP.'**
Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the **Parish Room:** The bean, the biscuit and the bonhommie. Come and enjoy a friendly cuppa.

LENT LUNCH
IN THE CHURCH HALL
12.15 TO 13.45
Admission £3

There will be a 'Bring and Buy' and a Raffle.

IN AID OF ST MARY'S LENT PROJECT FOR OUR TWINNED PARISH IN GUYANA.

Any contributions towards the Raffle and the 'Bring and Buy' would be very welcome.

The Electoral Roll. I am afraid this note will be appearing regularly for the next few weeks. Whilst this may well appear to be something of a bore, the church's Electoral Roll has to be *completely* revised every six years, and for some reason which I have not fully grasped (but to do with Synod Elections, I think) it has to happen *this* year, which is not the sixth year but the fifth. Anyway, we have to do it. The official notice is now up; the key sentence is: **'All persons who wish to have their names entered on the new Roll, *whether their names are entered on the present Roll or not*, are requested to apply for enrolment not later than Monday, 2 April 2007.** The new Roll comes into operation two days later. The Electoral Roll is the effective 'register' of a local parish church, and all who normally attend the particular church should be on it.* It would be sensible for members of the regular congregation to fill in the somewhat basic application form as soon as possible; they will be given out with the Weekly Notes this week, and for the next two weeks. I appreciate that there is an element of nuisance in having this with the Notes each week; if you have already filled in a new form, please replace the unwanted one straightaway in the box on the trolley. Completed forms should be put in the familiar blue box in the Welcome Area. W.R.H.

** The benefits of being on the Roll are very limited. In the main, it entitles one to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and to elect representatives to serve on the Deanery Synod. There are other 'fringe benefits' for those not geographically entitled to them, i.e. worshippers who live outside the parish. These include being entitled to get married here, and being able to get buried in our churchyards without incurring any extra-parochial surcharges. So there!*

The purple High Altar frontal is fading after many years service, probably since about 1930, though it is still usable. Similarly, after some years of use, the (roman) purple throw-over is now beginning to resemble the rose-coloured one. Recently all three altars have been covered for Lent with a plain matching throw-over material, the colour of which seems more appropriate, since it more or less matches all the other purple hangings and vestments.* After a couple of weeks they seem just right. They all need to be machine hemmed, however, since they were just cut from one piece in order to be tried out; any offers? W.R.H.

**(Except for one set in 'blue-purple', which clashes with all the rest, and is only used occasionally, mainly for Book of Common Prayer services, as in fact at 0800 today. We use a separate throw-over cloth when it is use, which more or less matches it.)*

Next Sunday. Services at the usual times, with the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100. As the count-down to Holy Week and Easter begins, it is perhaps worth pointing out that next Sunday is the last more or less 'normal' Sunday until 22 April. There is quite a lot on at the parish church during Lent.

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