

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

11 March 2007

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT.

It is generally thought that this Sunday is the most 'Lenten' of all the Sundays in Lent, probably because Lent rules are beginning to bite, or we feel a bit rueful because they have already turned to Lenten dust and ashes. Also in the past this Sunday had some fairly gloomy readings. Indeed, the 1100 congregation will still have some of them today, including that very obscure passage about Beelzebub, because this is the day for the (transferred) monthly Prayer Book Sung Eucharist. Next week, however, there are the usual features of Mid-Lent Sunday, and certainly the 1100 service will be somewhat more cheerful, with its Mothering Sunday features, and the 0930 will also have some relaxation of the Lenten mood.

After today there will be a break in the course of sermons at the Sung Eucharist on the Lord's Prayer, before the course resumes later in the spring or early summer. The preaching for the next few weeks is necessarily more calendrically directed. After the break the course will deal with the remaining clauses of the prayer, and then go on to consider the Lord's Prayer as a whole, together with its use in personal devotion and in the Church's liturgy. The final sermons will deal with the concluding Doxology and the Amen. Altogether the course will be a twelve-week one, by far the longest sermon course in recent years.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the world-wide Anglican Communion for the Church in Japan. We pray in the Diocese of Guildford for those who serve on the Diocesan Synod and the Diocesan Board of Finance, and in our parish prayer for our own Finance Group. We pray too for the people living in Langton Avenue.

*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 394
Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191. Other Lenten material: page 308
(The Reverend Dr Patrick Miller is the celebrant today. The course of sermons by the Vicar on 'Christ Outpouring' resumes next Sunday.)

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST *Common Worship rite*

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available in church.
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 394.
Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191. Other Lenten material: page 308.
Setting of the Eucharist: *White*
in E flat

Introit hymn: 468
Black book: page 167. The Invocation, Greeting, Prayers of Penitence and
Kyrie eleison.

Collect of the Day: page 394 *Readings on separate paper.*
Old Testament Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.
Gradual canticle: *Paraphrase of part of the Old Testament reading.*
[HCE 69 (L.NEH 24)]

Gradual Canticle: *Paraphrase of part of the Old Testament reading.* [HCE 69; tune 24]

O seek the Lord, while he may yet be found;
Call on his name, as in all duty bound.
Let the ungodly leave their thoughts and ways,
Turn back to God, who pardoning love displays.
God says, 'As heaven is higher than the earth,
My ways and thoughts are of far higher worth.'

As from the heavens descend the rain and snow,
Which go not back, but water earth below,
Making it blossom, and its growth complete,
Give seed for sowing and give bread to eat,
So my own word will not return in vain;
It goes forth to achieve what I ordain.'

New Testament Reading from St Paul's first Letter to the Corinthians.
Metrical Psalm 63: *on front page of the readings paper.* [HCE 53 (L.NEH 447)]
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
Sermon by *the Vicar*

The sixth of a course of sermons on The Lord's Prayer. No.6: Pardon and Peace. *Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

Nicene Creed: page 173.

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Offertory hymn: 'Love's endeavour, love's expense.' (MHT)
(Collection during this hymn.)

Eucharistic Prayer C: page 191; Proper Preface: page 308

The Lord's Prayer, etc. back on page 178.

Hymn at the invitation to Communion: 300

During the Communion: *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God)

Anthem: O Salutaris hostia. *César Franck*
[English version at Hymn 269, part 2.]

After the anthem all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 182.

The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Dismissal. Hymn 272.

1100 HOLY EUCHARIST

Book of Common Prayer rite

This is not the 'third Sunday', but at this time of year the calendar makes adjustments necessary. Next Sunday will see the normally well-attended Mothering Sunday service at 1100, so the Sung Eucharist has been brought back a week. The next similar service will be a week *later* than expected, on 22 April, and so will the one after, on Whitsunday, 27 May. After that things get back to normal for June and July.

Congregational singing today.

Hymns from *A Hundred Hymns for Today* at this service, except for the Offertory hymn, which is from the small *red* hymn book.

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Introit hymn: HT 55

Then green Prayer Book: page 31

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy): page 33

The Mutual Salutation, followed by the Collect of the Day, and the Collect for Ash Wednesday.

(Separate leaflet for the Collect and Readings; Ash Wednesday Collect on page 61.)

The Epistle: Ephesians 5: 1-14
 Gradual hymn: HT 9. [in C major]
 The Holy Gospel: St Luke 11: 14-28
 Nicene Creed: page 34.
 Offertory Hymn: AMR 193. 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: [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.

After Communion:
 The Lord's Prayer and the Prayer of Thanksgiving: page 44
 (*Gloria in excelsis* is omitted in Lent.)
 The Blessing
 Hymn: HT 87 [Tune: OEH 303]. *The last line of each verse is repeated.*

1800 Evening Prayer

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: **Poverty**
 – *Is the gap between rich and poor inevitable or*
obscene? Coffee from 1930.

Other events and notices.

Monday 2000 Meeting of the Finance Group.
 Tuesday 1400 Log Book revision meeting.
 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.**' Coffee from 1930.
 Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. A time for
 drinking coffee (or tea), and for relaxation and pleasant
conversazione in very congenial surroundings. This week there
 will be talk at 1100 by **Eve Myatt-Price**, entitled '*The Ocean*
Journey of Lily Victoria Johnson.'

1100 in general. It has been good to see some (even if not all that many) people staying on in recent weeks for a second service, after a fairly positive plug on the subject. Generally speaking, those who have done so have made a point of saying afterwards that they were glad to have stayed on. An earlier issue of the Weekly Notes drew attention to a section in last month's *Ewell Parish News*, which listed all that is happening at the 11 o'clock slot on Sunday mornings this term. An enlarged copy of that section may be seen in the Welcome Area. Last week we had the first of two occasions when, at a shorter than usual Choral Mattins, there were three Stations of the Cross with choral and organ music by *J S Bach*. It should be mentioned that the Bach chorales were most beautifully sung by our young singers. There will be another one of these services on 1 April (Palm Sunday). I hope that this new measure of interest in other acts of worship will now develop further, and 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. Next Sunday there will be the usual all-age service for Mothering Sunday; as they say, 'something completely different.' W.R.H.

Knitting for Lent. It is not too late to join the band of Lenten Knitters. This year we are knitting for the 'Knit a Cap' appeal for Seafarers and people who work in cold(er) countries. There is a display about this in the Welcome Area. Double knitting wool, No.7 needles; simple patterns are available from Edna Attwood, who can give further details. Edna has co-ordinated Lenten knitting for some years, and we owe her a debt of gratitude for all that she has done. W.R.H.

Our **Stations of the Cross** are here to be used. In addition to their formal usage it is possible for anyone who wishes to make private use of the Stations 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. Copies of the simple text of 'Jerusalem Stations' (what we used to use around the Ewell streets for many years on Good Friday evening) are on the small table by the font, and they may be helpful.

The Friday Eucharist of the Passion. It may yet be different, depending on what happened last Friday (these Notes are usually printed on a Friday morning), but at the present time I have reluctantly decided to discontinue the service this year. Only one person came on the first week, and has in fact been away from Ewell since then, and no-one else has appeared. So a week last Friday I was prevented from celebrating the Eucharist for, I think, the first time since I came here. A pity, but there it is. W.R.H.

The Electoral Roll. I am afraid this note is appearing regularly for a few weeks. The church's Electoral Roll has to be *completely* revised every six years. 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.* The somewhat basic application form will be given out with the Weekly Notes *each week*. I know it is a nuisance having this with the Notes each week, but 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, including being entitled to get married here.*

Next Sunday. The Fourth Sunday in Lent, otherwise Mothering Sunday. Eucharistic arrangements are at the normal times. We shall be having our usual Mothering Sunday arrangements, with an all-age service of Christian Family Praise at 1100, and this will include the blessing and distribution of flowers.

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