

St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL PARISH CHURCH  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

20 May 2007

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.**      **SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY.**

Jesus told the disciples to remain in the city until they were 'clothed with the power from on high.' They knew their job, and were ready to get on with it, but they were not as yet empowered and commissioned for the task. There is a sense in which the period between Ascension Day and Pentecost is rather like an ordination Retreat, when those to be ordained to the sacred ministry of the Church spend some days in silence and prayer before the ordination itself. Those first apostles needed the energizing power of the Holy Spirit to be able to function as a divinely authorized apostolate. Today, on what is traditionally (and unofficially) known as 'Expectation Sunday', we wait in spirit with the eleven disciples in prayerful anticipation of the moment of Pentecostal Power. But it is not just that; at our Confirmation the prayer was made that we should 'daily increase in the Holy Spirit more and more.' There is a daily Pentecost for us all, and a daily calling upon the Holy Spirit for grace and for guidance. Laying ourselves open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit is a risky business, and we do not know where we shall be led. However, the Holy Spirit will take us in hand, whenever we call upon him in faith and trust. The same is true for us as a parish; we constantly have decisions to make, and sometimes quite difficult ones. Part of our discipleship involves that joyful spirit of expectation which belonged to the eleven waiting disciples so long ago, and also involves the joyful acceptance of the Holy Spirit's guiding power.

**Our prayers today.** We pray today for our own church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion we are praying today for the Church in Papua New Guinea. In the Diocese of Guildford we pray for the work of the University Chaplains at the University of Surrey and the Royal Holloway College. In the parish we pray for the Village Fair organisers and committee, and in our systematic prayer for those living in the parish we pray today for the people of the people living in Mongers Lane and The Mount.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**0800 HOLY COMMUNION**      *Common Worship rite*  
Order 1 in traditional language: page 207. Collect of the Day: page 476.  
Eucharistic Prayer A: page 216. Other Ascension material: page 320.

**0930 SUNG EUCHARIST**      *Common Worship rite*

Wayfarers and 'Children's Hour'; Crèche available in church.  
Order 1: page **167**. Collect of the Day: page **404**  
Eucharistic Prayer **A**: page **184**. Other Ascension texts: page **320**  
Setting of the Eucharist: *Millington*, Missa Alme Pater.  
The *Merbecke* setting of the Gloria and Creed today: the page numbers are given below.

Introit hymn: 132 [Tune 201]. Before the last verse of the hymn:

*Station of the Ascension:*

V. Christ is risen. R. **He is risen indeed.**  
V. God has exalted our Lord Jesus Christ.  
R. **At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.**  
V. Let every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.  
R. **To the glory of God the Father.**

Let us pray: Risen Christ, you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven: grant that where you are in glory we too may find our eternal dwelling-place, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you now live and reign in glory for ever. *All: Amen.*

(Last verse of Hymn 132.)

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

Gloria in excelsis: *Hymn book: page 830; words only book: page 559.*

Collect of the Day: page 404 *Readings on separate paper.*

New Testament Reading from the Revelation to St John.

Gradual canticle (HHE 29): [*In praise of the life-giving power of the glorified Christ.*] ]

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

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Nicene Creed (sung): *Hymn book: page 833; words only book: page 562.*

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Hymn 130, verses 1-5. Collection.

*Then all sit for the Offertory Anthem: Lift up your heads. Mathias*

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of hosts; he is the King of Glory. [*Psalm 24: 7-10*]

*Then all stand for Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184; Proper Preface: page 320.*

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

Hymn at the invitation to Communion: 131

During the Communion: *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God), and organ music.

*After Holy Communion, all stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 182.*

The Mutual Salutation, the Blessing and Easter Dismissal. Hymn 443.

## 1100 CHORAL MATTINS

[*Note: The usual '3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday' Sung Eucharist is moved to next week.*]

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Responses: page 8.

Music: *Sumsion*

The Easter Anthems: page 67

Hymn 349

[Tune: OEH 376]

Psalms: 24, 47. *Two 'royal' psalms of the glory of God.* Pages 166 & 194

First Lesson: 2 Kings 2: 1-15. *'Chariots of fire.'* Blue book: page 632

Metrical Te Deum: Card B, No.3.

[HCE 11; tune AMR 40.]

Second Lesson: Ephesians 4: 1-13. *Looking forward to the gift of the Spirit.*

Blue book: page 633

Jubilate: *Stanford* in B flat

The Creed and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 69).

Anthem: If ye love me.

*Tallis*

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever, even the Spirit of Truth.

Prayers.

Hymn 134; Collection.

The Blessing

## 1800 Evening Prayer (at the Easter Garden).

**In church this week.**

Monday	1230	<b>Funeral of Eileen Wood.</b>
Tuesday	1000	<b>Holy Communion</b>
Wednesday	1500	<b>Funeral of Dorothy Crick.</b>

**Other events and notices.**

Monday	2000	The Archdeacon's Vernal Visitation, with the admission of churchwardens (only one in our case) at St Martin's, Epsom. Anyone who is interested can go to this.
Tuesday	1730	Once again the Vicar is 'Acting Precentor' today at the Cathedral. The anthem by Gibbons bears the enigmatic title, 'The Secret Sins.' A meeting of the Cathedral Council follows; the Vicar has been elected to serve on this for a second term.
Wednesday	1030-1200.	<b>Coffee Morning</b> in the Church Hall. A warm welcome to anyone who cares to join us. This is the regular weekly slot for members of the congregation to have a nice period of quality time together, and to welcome anyone else who might care to drop in. Regular members of the congregation who haven't been before will be especially welcome; they will see familiar and friendly faces. It is always a jolly time.
	2000	Village Fair Meeting. Stallholders and others will be there as a matter of course, but there is a general invitation. There are always slots to be filled at the Fair, and the principle of many hands making light work needs an annual plug.

**Knitting for Lent.** Edna Attwood has received a thank-you post card from Ann Brogan of the Chaplaincy Department of the British and International Sailors' Society. It reads, 'On behalf of the seafarers, may I thank the members of St Mary's congregation for knitting the 26 woolly hats. These are very much appreciated, and it warms their hearts (as well as their heads!) to know that kind people like yourselves are thinking of them as they travel the great oceans.' The card shows a picture of sixteen beefy sailors, all wearing woolly hats. I well recall being once very cold – and with very tingly ears – out on the casing of a submarine as it wobbled on the surface of a very wintry North Sea; a woolly hat would have been very welcome. The card is on one of the boards in the Welcome Area. W.R.H.

**The Welcome Area** is now starting to show signs of the Village Fair, even though it is still nearly two months away. Screens have been arranged to stop the place becoming as far as possible an eyesore, and there is a boundary of chairs carefully arranged so as to allow access to the service-papers cupboard, and also to enable our (not very numerous) visitors who are interested in our fairly noteworthy late medieval brasses to get close to them. Please do not move this 'boundary wall'; the little corridor will be used most weeks for something or other. A cautionary text from Deuteronomy, quoted in the (awful) Communion Service in the Book of Common Prayer might be apposite: 'Cursed is he that removeth his neighbour's landmark' (Deut. 27: 17).

The Vicar will be going on **The National Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham** on Whit Monday. He is a Priest-Associate of the Shrine, and will be one of the very many concelebrants at the Eucharist. There may be up to two spare seats in the car, for anyone who might like to go. It is a long ride and a long day, but it is exhilarating and encouraging. Several thousand turn up. The Eucharist is celebrated out of doors at noon, and afterwards people have their picnic lunches and visit the Shrine and its grounds or wander around the village, before returning for the afternoon sermon, outdoor procession through the village, and Benediction in the Shrine Church.

**Next Sunday. WHITSUNDAY, The Day of Pentecost, and the second principal festival of the Church's Year.** (It outranks Christmas.) Services are at the usual times, though the 1100 service will be Sung Eucharist to the Prayer Book rite. At the end of the 0930 Eucharist the Paschal Candle will be transferred to its position by the font, where it remains until next Easter. It is lit at baptisms and funerals throughout the

year. There is some very lovely music planned for Whitsunday at both the sung services, including a fine new hymn by Eve Myatt-Price.

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