

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

23 March 2008

EASTER DAY.

THE DAY OF RESURRECTION.

A very happy Easter to all at St Mary's today.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, giving thanks for the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, and for the new life which we share in him. In the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray appropriately today for the Church in the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. In our own Diocese we pray for Christopher, our Bishop, and for his work as the chief pastor of God's people in Surrey. In our parish prayer we pray for our fellow-Christians in the other Ewell churches, united with us today in praise of Christ's resurrection. In our systematic prayer for the parish itself we pray today for the people of Windmill Avenue.

SERVICES TODAY

0715 THE SERVICE OF LIGHT.

Because the Easter Vigil this year did not take place at St Mary's, but at the Cathedral where Confirmation candidates from this parish were among those being confirmed, the Easter Candle is being blessed early on Easter morning, before being set up at the Easter Garden. Some other features of the Easter Vigil rite will be incorporated into the 0930 Sung Eucharist. Next year the arrangements should be back to normal.

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

Common Worship rite

Order 1: page 167.

Collect of the Day: page 400.

Eucharistic Prayer B: page 188.

Other Easter material: page 316.

0930 PROCESSION AND SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF EASTER DAY, with the BLESSING OF THE EASTER GARDEN and with the RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS.

Setting of the Eucharist: *Schubert* in G.

Anthem: Christ the Lord is risen again. *Rutter*

Organ: Final from Symphony No.1. *Vierne*

There is a separate leaflet for this service.

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 CHORAL MATTINS

Note. For the benefit of any visitors to St Mary's today it is perhaps worth explaining that Mattins at St Mary's is generally 'choral service' (as today), with a large part of the service sung by the choir. However, the congregation is invited to join in all the other parts of the service: the hymns, the Easter Anthems, and, of course, the spoken parts of the service. The sermon, unusually, comes at the beginning of the service, and when the sermon has ended there is organ music until it is time for the Introit to be sung. Today the Introit is being sung from the back of the church. The congregation should stand when the organ music finishes.

Sermon by *the Vicar*.

Introit (*all stand*): Easter Flourish.

Barry Rose

The Lord is risen; he is risen indeed. Alleluya.

Responses: page 8 in the green prayer books.

Music: *Smith of Durham*

Hymn 110: *Jesus Christ is risen today*.

All join in The Easter Anthems: page 67.

All sit for Psalms 113 and 114, *sung by the choir*.

Page 274

Psalm 113: The Lord raises us and exalts those who are brought low.

Psalm 114: The Psalm of the Exodus: God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt being seen as a 'type' of the resurrection, and of the universal deliverance brought about by Christ.

First Lesson: Isaiah 12. *In praise of the Lord who delivers and saves.*

Te Deum: page 10.

Music: *Ireland* in F

Second Lesson: St Mark 16: 1-8. *The first Easter morning.*

Hymn 119: *The strife is o'er, the battle done.*

The Creed and the Greeting (page 12); then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 67).

Anthem: Blessed be the God and Father. [Words from 1 St Peter 1.] *S S Wesley*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which, according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. [3-5]

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation. Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear. [15-17]

See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God. For all flesh is grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away. But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. Amen [23-25]

Prayers

Hymn 117: *The Day of Resurrection*; Collection.

The Blessing

Organ: Prelude and Fugue in G major (BWV 541).

J S Bach

[End of Choir term.]

1210 HOLY COMMUNION

Common Worship rite

Order 1: page 167.

Collect of the Day: page 400 .

Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184.

Other Easter material: page 316.

1800 Evening Service at the Easter Garden.

We welcome today those who were (baptized and) confirmed at the Cathedral last night. They will be greeted at the Sung Eucharist.

They are: *Clare Chubb, Maria Harradine, Paul Hill, Caroline Holmes, Elizabeth Humphries, Sarah Johnson and Hannah Phillips.*

We also welcome *Michael Humphries*, receiving Holy Communion for the first time today. We pray that they will all grow in the life of the Spirit, fortified by the sacramental grace of God.

In church this week

There are no liturgical services in church during Easter Week.

Other events and notices.

Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. Time for a relaxing break, a chat and a coffee. (Tea, if you prefer.) There will be a Bring and Buy Sale this week.

Easter Week is always a decidedly quiet time in most parishes, after all that has gone on during Lent, Holy Week and Easter Day. Certainly this is the case here, as the very basic information below reveals quite clearly. The Vicar will probably be away for part of the week, and the Office will not be open for routine business this week. Next Sunday will also be a quiet affair in church (see note at the end), and everything returns to normal on the following Monday, 31 March.

Easter Flowers. The flowers in church today have been sponsored by members of the congregation. Thank-you to everyone who contributed. *Sybil Hale.*

Very many thanks to all who have helped in so many ways over Holy Week and Easter. All sorts of different jobs need to be done in order for our worship to be worthily enacted. The list is considerable, and I hope all concerned will feel themselves included in this general word of thanks. W.R.H.

Lent boxes in aid of our Lent Project for the *Lazarus Home for Girls at Bethany* are due in today, and there is a large plate at the back of the church to receive them. They will be brought up and presented with the Collection. Boxes not brought back today should be returned as soon as possible. For the benefit of visitors and others, there is a fair amount of information about our Lent Project in the Welcome Area, and if anyone would like to contribute to the Project there is a small basket by the display, into which any donations may be placed.

‘April in Parish.’ Some tickets are still available for what promises to be a super evening in the Church Hall on Saturday, 5 April. Tickets are £8 – immensely good value for a splendid meal and evening’s entertainment. Those who have been present at recent similar events will know that a good time will be had by all. There is, of course, a limit to the number of tickets available, so the odds are that after today there may not be many left. Tickets are on sale after the services today.

We have been notified of the death last week of **Ray Fell**. Our Christian sympathy goes to Betty at this time. Ray’s funeral will be at the United Reformed Church on Monday, 31 March at 1500. May he rest in peace.

Coffee Morning coach outings. Advance notice that there are **three** coach outings planned for this year: Thursday, 19 June to **Eastbourne**; Thursday 11 September to **Chichester and Bosham**; and Friday, 28 November to **Portsmouth** for the *Victorian Festival of Christmas*. Further details in due course, but book the dates now. J.B.

Knitting for Lent. Please leave any ‘caps for sailors’ in the bag in the Welcome Area.

Service lists for next term are available today in the Welcome Area. They perform two distinct functions: firstly, they indicate clearly the dates and times of any special services or arrangements, and, secondly, they give full details of the choral music and the organ voluntaries at the services.

A fair number of **Christian Stewardship Envelopes** are still awaiting collection. They are conspicuously near the west door, just by the sign ‘You’ve Got Mail.’

Next Sunday. The services will be in their most basic style: the 0800 Eucharist is the only one which can be described as normal. The Sung Eucharist and Mattins will be entirely congregational, since all the musicians will be having a post-Easter break of one Sunday. As is usual on the two occasions in the year when this happens, the Vicar will be holding the fort as ‘duty officer’ for several departments. In due course this convenient, if slightly odd, way of doing things will have to be looked at again.

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