

St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL PARISH CHURCH  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

6 April 2008

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER.

(Easter 2)

There are several adjustments to our normal routine at the Sung Eucharist beginning today. Most of them are of a minor nature, but all are geared to making the service much more streamlined. Lately the service has been getting longer, and it has got to the point where something must really be done about it. Those concerned more directly with these matters should have received (or else will receive) a memorandum from me about all this. Today is the first 'normal' Sunday for quite some time: the long readings and additional features of Lent and Holy Week are now past, and this is the obvious time to try and sort this problem out. It is not a straightforward matter: in terms of 'optional extras', such as are envisaged in *Common Worship*, we use almost none of them, and we have pruned the service to its absolute minimum in terms of the actual 'items' in the service. The only optional feature still left in is the opening prayer, and my guess is that its removal would not be welcomed. If some of the adjustments don't work, we can look at things again; however, it is clear that something has to be done, and we are making a start today. Streamlining is not a synonym for rushing, and I hope that the service will continue to be presented and performed with reverence and dignity. In fact this streamlining is particularly important today, because the incoming congregation for the 1100 service will be *very* large (certainly over 200), and it is very important that there is a decent gap between the services. The last time this happened I asked during the notices for all the 0930 congregation to leave via the south porch; but everyone forgot, and the confusion was immense and unedifying. I make the request again today, and I shall repeat it before the Blessing. Books may be left on the table by the south porch.  
W.R.H.

**Our prayers today.** We pray for this church and parish, for its life, worship and witness. In the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray for the Church in the Province of Korea. In the Diocese of Guildford we pray for the work of the team producing the Diocesan newspaper, *The Wey*. Within the parish we pray for our Church Architect, Martin Heijne, visiting us this week for the Quinquennial Inspection of the church; and we pray for the people living in Windmill End.

### SUNDAY SERVICES

**0800 HOLY COMMUNION** *Common Worship rite*  
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 401.  
Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184. Other Easter material: page 316.

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

Wayfarers and Children's Hour; Crèche available on request. Order 1: page <b>167</b> . Collect of the Day: page <b>401</b> . Eucharistic Prayer <b>E</b> : page <b>196</b> . Other Easter material: page <b>316</b> . Setting of the Eucharist: <i>Sumsion</i> in F
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Introit hymn: 105 [Second tune].

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

Gloria in excelsis: Metrical version today at Hymn 363. [Tune 338]

Collect of the Day: page 401.

New Testament Reading from the First Letter of St Peter.

*Then all stand for the* Gradual hymn: 401 [Tune 55].

The text of the hymn partly anticipates today's gospel reading.

The Collection is taken in *this* hymn today, and this will be the case on most Sundays (though not all) during this term.

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

Sermon by *the Vicar*.

Nicene Creed: page 173.

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

*After the exchange of the Peace, all sit for the Offertory Anthem:*

Anthem: Greater love hath no man. *John Ireland (20<sup>th</sup> cent.)*

*The words of this magnificent anthem speak of the unity of the Cross and Resurrection as unfolded in the Paschal mystery, and then describe the reality and implications of our risen life in Christ. The words are from various scriptural sources, beginning with the Song of Songs, but mainly from 1 St Peter.*

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who, his own self, bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead to sin should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus; ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Then *all stand* for Eucharistic Prayer **E**; Easter Preface on page 316.

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

After the Invitation to Communion: *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God).

*Note: As from today, the congregation should start to approach the altar **as soon as the words of Invitation have been said**, though the gates will not be closed until the celebrant has left for the side chapel. The choir will receive the Holy Communion *after* the other members of the congregation. During Communion the chancel should be left clear, while the choir is singing; people should watch their opportunity for going through. (These arrangements are, at the moment, experimental.)*

During the Communion: Hymn 278 [Choir use OEH 162, verse 8, *Deirdre*.]

*All stand* after 'Let us pray' for the Post-Communion prayer: page 401

The Mutual Salutation, Easter Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn: Finished the strife. [Tune: *Surrexit*, MHT 122]

Finished the strife of battle now,  
Gloriously crowned the victor's brow:  
Sing with gladness, hence with sadness:  
Alleluya, alleluya.

After the death that him befell,  
Jesus Christ has harrowed hell:  
Songs of praising we are raising:  
Alleluya, alleluya.

On the third morning he arose,  
Shining with victory o'er his foes;  
Earth is singing, heaven is ringing:  
Alleluya, alleluya.

Lord, by your wounds on you we call:  
Now that from death you've freed us all:  
May our living be thanksgiving:  
Alleluya, alleluya.

*Trans.Mgr Ronald Knox*

Organ: Prelude in E flat (BWV 552).

*J S Bach*

JC

PLEASE LEAVE THE CHURCH VIA THE **SOUTH** PORCH TODAY, BECAUSE OF THE VERY LARGE CONGREGATION COMING IN THROUGH THE WEST DOOR FOR THE NEXT 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 MATTINS AND HOLY BAPTISM.**

*The Baptism of: Zachary Michael FitzGibbon, George Neil Walter Pearson, Joseph Simon Potter, and Stanley Andrew Simpson.*

*Service sung by the Choir Juniors.*

Choral Music: The Lord is my shepherd. *Mawby*

A Gaelic Blessing. *Rutter*

*There is a special leaflet for this service.*

**1800 Stations of the Resurrection.**

**In church this week.**

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**

**Other events and notices.**

Tuesday The Quinquennial Inspection of the church.

2015 Meeting of those who function as Master of Ceremonies.

Wednesday 1030-1200. Coffee Morning in the church hall. Tea-drinkers should not feel excluded: the leaf is provided as well as the bean. A pleasant and relaxing time with familiar and friendly company. It is an open occasion; anyone can come. At 1100 *Mr Charles Abdy* will be giving a talk, entitled, 'A Short History of Epsom.'

Advance notice of the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**, which takes place on Sunday 27 April just after 1100, by generosity of the Mattins congregation, who give up their slot on this annual occasion. It is an important APCM this year, forming part of the run-up to an interregnum in the parish. There will be several vacancies on the Parochial Church Council, and some people may well wish to be involved in the consultative process, which will occur in the coming months. Anyone who would be interested in being nominated for election to the PCC should have a word with the Churchwardens or with the Vicar in the first instance.

The new **Service lists** are available in the Welcome Area. These perform two distinct functions: they indicate the dates and times of any special services until the end of July, and they give full details of the choral music and the organ voluntaries, and any other special features of 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.'

**The Electoral Roll** of the parish is now being revised. This is a routine annual revision, unlike last year, when everyone had to make a new application. The Electoral Roll is the working register of the local church; all who 'belong' to St Mary's should be on it. This revision happens every year in the run-up to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. We have been plugging this lately, mainly for the benefit of those who should have signed up last year, but didn't. The Roll will be soon be frozen until *after* the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 27 April, so please check to see if you are really on the Roll, and if necessary fill in an ER form.

**Coffee Morning coach outings.** A reminder that there are **three** coach outings 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.

**Next Sunday.** A completely normal Sunday at St Mary's – indeed the first for quite a long time. The Easter season lasts until Whitsunday, and it gives us some real quality time to ponder the nature of our new life in Christ, as proclaimed and unfolded in the scriptural accounts of the appearances of the risen Christ and in St Paul's powerful exposition of the Christian hope in Christ crucified and risen.

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