

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

13 April 2008

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Easter 3)

A record-breaking Lent Project.

Our Lent Project this year, which was for the *Lazarus Home for Girls* in Bethany has raised the incredible sum of **£1,700**. Of this figure, £881 was gift aided. This has broken all records for Lenten Projects at St Mary's, some of which in the past have been well under four figures. This is truly a magnificent result. Of course for many years there has been a general awareness in the parish of the work being done for children in Bethany, notably at the *Jeel al Amal Home for Boys*. This is chiefly as a result of what Joan Boulden saw for herself when she visited the Holy Land with a Guildford Diocesan Pilgrimage a number of years ago. The Wednesday Coffee Morning has kept up a constant trickle of support for Jeel, and now the appeal for the building project at the twin institution for girls has been marvellously supported by the people of St Mary's this year. A good display in church, and a presentation by the Vice-Chairman of the Appeal in England, Mr Alan Anderson, no doubt helped to keep all this very much before our eyes.

The project will remain open for another week or so to enable further donations to be made by those who have may been absent from church in recent weeks, since many people are often away visiting families over the Easter period. Further details are available from Joan Boulden or from Julian Varney.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion for the Church in Melanesia (in the South Pacific). In the Diocese we pray for the work of the retreat and conference centre at St Columba's House, Woking. In our parish prayer we pray for those who have been married at St Mary's during the past twelve months; and for those living in the geographical parish we pray today for the people of Windmill Lane.

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 402.

Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196.

Other Easter material: page 316.

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST.

Common Worship rite

Children's Hour; Crèche available, if needed.

Order 1 (black book): page **167**. Collect of the Day: page **402**.

Eucharistic Prayer A: page **184**. Other Easter material: page **316**.

Setting of the Eucharist: *Leighton* in D. Green card for last hymn.

Introit hymn: 104

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

Metrical Gloria in excelsis: *on readings paper*.

The Collect of the Day: page 402

New Testament Reading from the First Letter of St Peter.

Gradual hymn: 115

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

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St John.

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Nicene Creed: page 173.

Intercession; then all stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Then all sit for the Offertory Anthem:

Jesus lives. (Words of Hymn 112.) *H K Andrews*

All stand for Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184; Easter Preface: page 316.

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

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

Note: As from last Sunday, the congregation should now be starting 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 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 102.

All stand for the Post-Communion Prayer: page 402.

The Mutual Salutation, Easter Blessing and Dismissal.

Hymn: HCE 5 (The Easter Anthems) *on green card.* [Tune: 401]

Organ: Final from the Glagolithic Mass. *Janáček* JH

1100 CHORAL MATTINS *Book of Common Prayer rite*

Sermon by *Mrs Wendy Varney, Reader.*

Responses: page 8 Music: *Smith of Durham*

The Easter Anthems: page 67

Hymn: AMR 39 [The second verse is the 'important' one during Eastertide.]

Psalms 66. *In praise of the Lord who delivers and saves.* Page 212

First Lesson: 1 Kings 17: 17-end. Blue book: page 615.

Te Deum: page 10 Music: *Stanford* in B flat

Second Lesson: St John 11: 17-27. Blue book: page 614

Hymn: Battle is over. [Tune: MHT 122]

Battle is over, hell's armies flee: Raise we the cry of victory, With abounding joy resounding, Alleluya, alleluya.	On the third morn from death rose he, Clothed with what light in heaven shall be, Our unswerving faith deserving, Alleluya, alleluya.
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2. Christ who endured the shameful tree,
O'er death triumphant welcome we,
Our adoring praise outpouring,
Alleluya, alleluya.
- | |
|--|
| Lord, by the stripes men laid on thee,
Grant us to live from death set free,
This our greeting still repeating:
Alleluya, alleluya. |
|--|

The Creed (page 12) and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 69).

Anthem: Christ the Lord is risen again. (Words of Hymn 105.) *Rutter*

Prayers. Hymn: AMR 131 (ii); Collection. The Blessing.

Organ: Fantasia in F minor/major. *Mozart*

1800 Evening Prayer

In church this week

Monday	1915	Holy Communion
Tuesday	1000	Holy Communion
Wednesday	1430	The Funeral of Dennys Scott.

Other events and notices.

Monday Holy Communion to the housebound.
 2000 Meeting of the Parochial Church Council.

Wednesday 1030-1200. The **Coffee Morning** this week is in the *Parish Room*,
 because the floor is being sealed in the Church Hall. All are welcome;
 there is also tea provided for those who care not for the bean.

The Electoral Roll is now 'frozen' until after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

The 'streamlining' of the 0930 Sung Eucharist, which took place last week, seems to have been fairly successful. The service took just a minute over the hour, without it being at all rushed. If the small measures which have been taken are continued, this ought to ensure that the service does not overrun unduly. On some occasions the service is bound to be longer, as when seasonal features occur in the rite, or if the sermon is a bit longer*, but by and large we should be aiming for the sort of time-scale that happened last week. This enables the choir to have an adequate break before the next service, and also enables the change-over at the book trolley to happen without too much hassle. It also gives the Vicar time to catch his breath, and perhaps have a hasty coffee. We always have a very busy Sunday morning here.

* It should perhaps be realised after all these years that the present Vicar does not consider that a skimpy seven-minute slot in the pulpit (or even less) really comes under the heading of an actual 'sermon'. Such efforts are, in my view, often more akin to 'Listen with Mother' (or presumably in this case 'Father') than being a proper exercise of the pulpit ministry. From the earliest days of Christianity the spoken, i.e. 'preached', word has been an essential feature of the building up of the local Christian community. At the present time this is, in practice, the only regular occasion for most practising Christians to have the scriptures expounded, or an aspect of the Christian Faith dealt with. This is the reason why we have had (for example) various courses of sermons over the years at St Mary's. A sound tradition of doctrinal preaching has been built up here over the years, and I am grateful to those who have shared this ministry with me. Whilst I realise that the sermon has to be reasonably short at the Sung Eucharist, I do not consider that it must be thought of as the very first item to be pruned in the interests of timing, and indeed as a general rule I do not normally warm to clever remarks and wisecracks about lengths of sermons.
W.R.H.

Three translations. The Latin hymn '*Finita jam sunt proelia*' is one of the most well-known and well-loved of all the Easter hymns, and like many other Latin hymns it has been frequently translated. Often in modern times there have been copyright reasons for the multiplicity of translations we find today, though not always: my own translation of *Veni Emmanuel* was done simply because I modestly think that my own version is better than the ones on offer in the books we use here. Probably the most familiar translation of *Finita jam*† for Church of England congregations is '*The strife is o'er, the battle done*', which we had on Easter morning, but two others are quite well-known, and this year we have used all three. Last Sunday at 0930 we had '*Finished the strife of battle now*' and at Mattins today we have '*Battle is over, hell's armies flee*', both sung to the same vigorous tune by the 20th century priest-musician, Fr Gregory Murray. Both have some very clever internal rhyme in the third line of each verse, the product of the sharp minds of two famous priests, Dr J M Neale (C of E) in the one instance, and Mgr Ronald Knox (C of E and then RC) in the other. W.R.H.

† The Latin has nothing to do with an empty jar of fruit conserve.

Edna Attwood writes to say thank you to all who took part in the Lenten 'Knitting for Sailors': a splendid effort, she says. Fifty caps were taken to Southampton last Monday.
Any ideas for next year?

Very many thanks to all those who once again produced a delightful evening in the Church Hall on 5 April. '*April in Parish*' was a lovely evening out, and our thanks go to all involved, and most obviously to Rosemarie Henson and the Social Committee, to Dr Sarah Bradley and Arthur Mathews for the 'cabaret', and to Jonathan Gocher for being a compère of distinction.

Next Sunday. This is the most obvious 'musical' Sunday of the month, with the upper voices of the choir singing at 0930 *Britten's* Missa Brevis in D, and *Schubert's* well-known setting of the twenty-third psalm, the latter not having been sung here before. The lower voices are singing *Byrd's* Three-part Mass at the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100. There will be Choral Evensong at 1700, and the anthem is a splendid *tour de force* by *Herbert Sumsion* to the words of the 'nautical'

section of Psalm 107: 'They that go down to the sea in ships.' We have done quite a bit of *Sumsion* at St Mary's over the years, and he comes over as a refined if somewhat restrained composer. Dr Sumsion was for many years Organist of Gloucester Cathedral. This anthem shows him in quite a different light; it is a magnificent and vigorous work, and has one or two moments of musical naughtiness. Jonathan Holmes will also be playing the almost overpowering Fugue from the Sonata on the 94th Psalm by the 19th century composer *Reubke*, whose death in his early twenties robbed the musical world of a potential genius. Some Sundays are clearly more musical than others; the following Sunday sees only one choral service (at 0930), with not very demanding music. This is partly because the 1100 slot is being occupied by the statutory annual meetings. These have to take place before 30 April, and in practice it seems that a Sunday morning is really the only time when they can conveniently take place.

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