

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

4 May 2008

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Sunday after Ascension Day)

The exalted Christ of Ascensiontide proclaims the glory of man. (It proclaims the glory of God too, but that is not the point being made.) On earth 'Glory to man' is at best wishful thinking, and at worst something blasphemous; but 'Glory to Man' is a heavenly reality. There in our glorified human nature is The Man, the one who proclaims restored humanity 'in risen body glorious.' He ever proclaims this before God the Father, and until the end of time he also proclaims it through the Church to all who share that humanity in every age. We celebrate the Ascension of Christ not so much as to tell of the one who after his Passion went back to heaven to live happily ever after, but of the one who in heaven ever lives to make eternal intercession for us. Supremely in the Holy Eucharist we are caught up in that eternal action, and taken into Christ's eternal prayer, for the glorified Christ is eternally active for our good. The ancient 'long' ending of the Sunday Collect, made a normal thing now in *Common Worship* for Church of England people, brings these two points together: our prayer is made *through* Jesus Christ our Lord, the one who is alive and reigns with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.'

Two useful hymns for possible reflection on this theme during Communion-time are 132, *See the conqueror mounts in triumph* and 271, *Alleluya, sing to Jesus*.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion we are praying today for the Church in New Zealand. In the Diocese of Guildford we pray for our fellow-Christians in our own deanery of Epsom. Within the parish we pray for our newly-elected Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council; and in our regular prayer for the people living within the parish boundaries we pray today for those living in Arundel Avenue.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0700 MATTINS

Psalms: 93, 99

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

Common Worship rite

Order 1: page 167.

Collect of the Day: page 404.

Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196.

Other Ascension material: page 316.

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

Common Worship rite

Wayfarers and Children's Hour; Crèche available on request.
Order 1: page 167. Collect of the Day: page 404.
Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184. Other proper material: page 320.
Setting of the Eucharist: <i>Darke</i> in E (Collegium Regale)

(Running-order overleaf.)

Introit hymn: 476, verses 1-3.

[Tune: 427]

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 (and *Amen*) of Hymn 476.

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

Metrical Gloria in excelsis: Hymn 363

[Tune: 338]

Collect of the Day: page 404.

Readings on separate paper.

New Testament Reading from the First letter of St Peter.

Then all stand for the metrical Gradual Psalm 24. 'A Song of the King's Glory.'

The text of the psalm is on the readings paper.

[Tune: OEH 249 ii]

The Collection is taken at **this** point 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 John.

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: God is gone up.

Gerald Finzi (20th cent.)

God is gone up with a triumphant shout, the Lord with sounding trumpets' melodies. Sing praises out, unto our King sing praise seraphicwise. Lift up your heads, ye lasting doors, they sing, and let the King of Glory enter in.

Methinks I see heaven's sparkling courtiers fly, in flakes of glory down him to attend, and hear heart-cramping notes notes of melody surround his chariot as it did ascend; mixing their music, making every string more to enravish, as they this tune sing. God is gone up, &c.

Words by *Edward Taylor*, 1646-1729, from '*Sacramental Meditations.*'

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

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

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

Note: 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 131

All stand after 'Let us pray' to say the Post-Communion prayer: page 182.

The Mutual Salutation, Proper Blessing and the Easter Dismissal.

Hymn 443

Organ: The Ride of the Valkyries. *Wagner, arr. Lemare.*

JH

Welcome to any visitors or newcomers to St Mary's today. Please make yourselves known, and join us for coffee in church today between the 0930 and 1100 services.

1100 SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN FAMILY PRAISE FOR ASCENSION.

There is a separate leaflet for this service

Organ: Now thank we all our God. *J S Bach, arr. Virgil Fox.*

JC.

1200 HOLY COMMUNION

Common Worship rite

Order 1: page 167.

Collect of the Day: page 404.

Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184.

Other Ascension material: page 316.

1700 CHORAL EVENSONG

Book of Common Prayer rite

The Choir will be in the West Gallery for this service.

Responses: Green books, page 18

Music: *Smith of Durham*.

Office-hymn: 128 ii.

Psalms 24 and 47:

Psalm 24: *The Lord, the King of Glory.* Page 166

Psalm 47: *The Lord, exalted in majesty.* Page 194

First Lesson: 2 Kings 2: 1-15. 'Chariots of fire.'

Magnificat: page 19

Causton, Short Service.

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

Nunc dimittis: page 20

Causton, Short Service.

The Creed (page 20) and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer,
the Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page 71).

Anthem: Ascendit Deus.

Peter Philips (16th cent.)

Ascendit Deus in jubilatione, et Dominus in voce tubae. Alleluya.

Dominus in coelo paravit sedem suam. Alleluya.

English version: God ascends in jubilation, and the Lord with the
sound of the trumpet (*Psalms 47:5*), Alleluya; the Lord has prepared
his seat in heaven (*Psalms 103:19*), Alleluya.

Prayers. Hymn 388 [Second tune].

Short Reading.

Hymn: 130: verses 1-5.*

The Blessing.

Organ: Prelude and Fugue in E minor.

Bruhns

* Collections at Evensong are no longer taken 'during the hymn'; instead
there is a collection-plate by the font

In church this week.

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**

Other events and notices.

Michael Russell Madell **arrived safely in the world last Wednesday, weighing in at 8lbs. He is a bonny baby. No doubt we shall be seeing him soon in church.**
W.R.H.

Wednesday 1030-1200 **Coffee Morning** in the Church Hall; a weekly time for warm fellowship and nice warm coffee. This is the regular weekly slot for members of the congregation to have a period of quality time together, and also 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.

The Sacristy Rota. The rotas have been re-cast in recent weeks, and there is now a separate rota for Communion Assistants and Altar Servers, for which Nigel Bird is responsible. The Sacristy Rota, however, still continues, and that gives other sorts of details: who is the celebrant or the preacher, who is leading the intercessions, which Eucharistic Prayer is to be used, who is the 'gospeller', which vestments are to be worn, what variations occur at a particular service (e.g. Holy Baptism or Christian Family Praise), and also when there is Choral Evensong. Those who need this rota will be given it, but there is a large copy on the notice-board to the left of the fire-place in the sacristy itself (i.e. the office). The Rota runs to the end of the year.

Eucharistic Readings are now available for some considerable time ahead, and, as usual, they are on the left window sill in the Parish Room. Would readers please consult the green card to ensure they have the right readings? You go by **date and 'proper' number, NOT by Sunday after Trinity**. The Sunday titles are not the same each year, but when the leaflets were first produced the current year's details were inadvertently put on for two or three months. A reminder too that there are some far from easy readings in the Trinity season this year, as we tackle the Epistle to the Romans. Anyone who wishes to check on the general drift of his or her passage with the Vicar is welcome to do so. Also part of our current 'streamlining' of the Sung Eucharist involves the Epistle readers. Please leave your place towards the end of *Gloria in excelsis* (ideally at 'For thou only art holy' or its equivalent), and go straight to the lectern via the side aisle, arriving there in time for the Collect of the Day. You are then ready to start as soon as everyone sits down.

Corpus Christi is on Thursday, 22 May, and we shall be welcoming Jonathan Holmes' choir once again from Emanuel School to sing the evening Eucharist at 1900. As last year we shall observe the day here as a **Communion Assistants and Altar Servers' Festival**. *All are invited to attend and robe*. Please book the date now. As last time, there will be a short gathering afterwards, with a glass of wine and the chance to raise any points about the new rotas or indeed about anything to do with the ministry in the sanctuary.

Inset to St Mary's Guide-Book. Most members of the congregation will know that we have an excellent guide-book to St Mary's, written at the time of the 150th anniversary of the present church by Eve Myatt-Price. Since the book was written, there have been two major additions to the church: the **Millenium-Jubilee Window** and the **Stations of the Cross and Resurrection**. A leaflet has now been issued to supplement the information in the guide-book, and this will be inserted in the unsold copies of the book. Those who already have the guide-book may collect a copy of the leaflet from the office; there is a pile on the right-hand side of the window-sill. Eve will be selling copies of the Guide (price £2.50) with its inset in the Church Hall during Coffee-time today.

The Fair Springboard. This is on Saturday, **17 May in the Church Hall**. This event is always a successful fund-raiser for expenses in running the Village Fair, which this year is on 19 July. Admission to the Fair Springboard is free. There is always a huge demand for **cakes** and **plants**, so would everyone please get cooking and digging to stock these popular stalls. There will be Bric-à-Brac, Books, Village Fair Grand Draw Tickets, Refreshments and a Raffle. Please come, and bring friends and family. Valerie Smither and Sarah Stovell.

Next Sunday. Whitsunday, the *Day of Pentecost*, is the second major festival of the Christian Year. There will be a Pentecost Station at the Introit at the Sung Eucharist, and also the Transfer of the Easter Candle to the area by the font at the end of the service, where it will be lit for baptisms and funerals throughout the year. The choir will be singing for the first time the setting of the Eucharist by the priest-musician *Anthony Caesar*, his 'Missa Brevis Capella Regalis', written for the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace, when Caesar was Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal. He is an old friend of the Vicar, and came to his induction. There will be Choral Mattins at 1100. Eastertide ends after Evensong on Whitsunday.

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