

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

8 June 2008

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Our good wishes go to the Reverend Dr Patrick Miller on his reaching the notable milestone of fifty years in the ordained ministry today.

The normal Sunday readings for Proper 5 will be used at the early service, and the readings from the old Ordination rite will be used at 0930. This means that the congregation at the Sung Eucharist will have the novel experience of hearing the readings from the King James Version, something which has not happened for very many years, certainly not in my time here, and I suspect not for many years before that. I cannot see it happening again for a long time. Of course we have the 'old' readings at the 1100 monthly Sung Eucharist to the Prayer Book rite, but that is normally the only occasion now, but it remains a real part of our heritage, and some people are greatly wedded to it. Having said that, the main-line modern versions were not made because of some idea of 'modernising' the translation – even though many people who should know better seem to think that is the only reason – but primarily in order to give us a more accurate version of the Biblical text. The KJV (or 'Authorized Version', as we used to say) was first revised in the nineteenth century, and it was very much an 'invisible mending' enterprise, dealing mainly with clear errors in translation. These days there are many versions of the Scriptures in use, not all of them being ideal (in my view) for reading aloud at formal services. Also (again in my own view), I think that the arrangement in the 1980 *Alternative Service Book* of employing an eclectic selection from a few versions had much to commend it, because one did not become attuned to just one 'flavour' of the Bible. There is no official version of the Scriptures in the Church of England; any 'authorised version' may be used; and since no version is formally *unauthorised* it means one can use what one chooses. Here at St Mary's we continue to use a mixed menu of translations for the Sunday Readings, though 'Year A' tends to be mainly *Jerusalem Bible* readings, simply because that was the only one available electronically at the time when the readings started to get printed out. We have a much wider selection of versions in other years. W.R.H.

Our prayers today. We pray for this church and parish, giving thanks for the fifty years of Dr Miller's ordained ministry, and the Vicar's forty-five. In the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray today for the Episcopal Church in Scotland; in the Diocese of Guildford we pray for the parishes of St Mary's Chiddingfold and St Mary's Stoke D'Abernon*; and in our parish prayer we pray for the Governors, staff and pupils at Ewell Grove School, and for the people who live in Boleyn Avenue.

* See note further on.

SUNDAY SERVICES

- 0800 HOLY COMMUNION** *Common Worship rite.*
Order 1: page **167**. Collect of the Day: page **409**.
Eucharistic Prayer **G**: page **201**.
- 0930 SUNG EUCHARIST**
***DIACONAL GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE REV DR PATRICK MILLER
AND 45TH DIACONAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE VICAR.***
Celebrant: ***Dr Miller***. Preacher: ***The Vicar***.
Setting of the Eucharist: *Millington*, Missa Alme Pater.
Anthem: Hail, holy Teilo. *Mathias*
Organ: War March of the Priests. *Mendelssohn*
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 a celebratory drink after the Sung Eucharist, when we shall propose a toast to Dr Miller on his Diaconal Golden Jubilee.

1100 CHORAL MATTINS

Sermon by *Mrs Wendy Varney, Reader.*

Responses: page 8

Music: *Gibbons and Barnard*

Venite (shorter version)

Office-Hymn: AMR 43

Psalm 42 *A priest in loneliness yearns for the Temple.* Page 188

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 7: 6-11. Blue book: page 653

God's love and God's commandments.

Canticle: *Jubilate* (Psalm 100), page 254. *Britten* in C

Second Lesson: Acts 8: 26-38. Blue book: page 656

Philip the Deacon and the Ethiopian eunuch.

Hymn: AMR 259

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 73).

Anthem: Like as the hart. *Howells*

Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God. My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God. When shall I come to appear before the presence of God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me, Where is now thy God? (*Psalm 42: 1-3*)

Prayers. Hymn: AMR 306; Collection.

The Blessing

Organ: Toccata in D.

Lanquetuit

JH

1800 Evening Prayer in the Parish Room.

In church this week

Tuesday 1000 **Holy Communion**

Saturday 1200 **Wedding of Rachael Burgess and Stephen Bishop**

Other events and notices.

Sunday 1500 The Vicar officiates at the County Wreath-Laying ceremony at the Memorial to the Missing at Brookwood Military Cemetery.

Wednesday 1030-1200. The **Coffee Morning** in the Church Hall. All welcome; there is also tea provided for those who care not for the ground bean.

Saturday 1930 **Organ Recital** by *Simon Gregory*. Details on handbill.

The Diocesan Calendar of Prayer is often unrealistic for use here, and over the years it has not been followed slavishly but has been adjusted as required. There are all sorts of committees and bodies listed on the published Calendar, which are of little or no relevance to the life of the parish, and of which the congregation knows nothing (and therefore cares nothing) and they are a switch-off when mentioned or listed. Recently it has been looked at again, and sorted out for the year. We shall continue to include the most obvious diocesan concerns and causes, but things will be more 'horizontally based', e.g. we shall pray for the Church in various areas of the Diocese (usually Deanery-based, but generally referred to as 'area'), and shall also – a new feature, starting in fact today – pray in turn for all the other 'St Mary churches' in the Diocese. We form a 'specialised sub-group' of our own, and it is good to pray for those other churches which share our dedication. However, subjects like 'new ways of being Church' will not normally be on our list. Some dates will be more appropriate to a particular concern, such as the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit on Whitsunday (its Feast of Title),* but most will not be. Obviously things will need to be tweaked from time to time, for all sorts of reasons. This scheme should help the parish to have a proper awareness of the Diocese as the basic ecclesial unit, of which we are one constituent part, and also to help us realise that 'the Diocese' actually means the whole of it, not just the various committees or the officials in Diocesan House. W.R.H.

*In 2008 this obvious subject for Pentecost was ignored in the printed Calendar, and we had instead the Diocesan Board of Finance – a telling substitution.

Corpus Christi sermon. Copies of this were supposed to have been made available last week, but they weren't. However, since it is just as easy to produce many as a few, the text of the sermon is being given out with the Notes today. I hope it will be found useful. W.R.H.

The recent 'streamlining' of the 0930 Sung Eucharist seems to have been fairly successful, but it does need constant attention. If the small measures which have been taken are continued, this ought to ensure that the service does not overrun unduly. Epistle Readers are reminded that there is a slip available, which draws attention to how this affects them; it is on the table with the Grand Draw box. 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 service to be not all that much in excess of an hour. 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. Today's arrangements are, of course, somewhat different from usual.

Sunday Coffee. We need two people to take over (from now) the **second Sunday** in the month for Sunday morning Coffee in the Church Hall. Any offers to Will or Rachel Madell, either in church or on 8394 2801.

Church Hall notice-boards. Some of these are now very untidy, and it would be good if those concerned could tidy them up, since untidy notice-boards are not a good piece of window dressing, particularly to those who hire the hall. There is no need for items which are clearly only of passing interest to be left on the boards for months on end. **More importantly**, the 'church' notice board (nearest the window) has been interfered with, and the collection of small posters advertising all the Sunday services until the end of the summer has been removed. The very substantial pins have been carefully put back on the board, so it seems to have been done quite deliberately. Quite apart from the nuisance-value, it is a matter of concern that this has happened, and if anyone can throw any light on this I should be grateful to know of it. W.R.H.

Repeat announcements are now more likely, because with the 0930 being printed out (at least for the time being) there is more room for other material on the Notes. Some, though not all, of the remaining details on the Notes have already appeared recently, but not everyone is in church every Sunday, and so there is now less chance of missing some announcement or other.

Coach outing to Eastbourne. The coach for Eastbourne on Thursday 19 June will leave from outside the Church Hall. Due to the parking restrictions the coach can only stop briefly for everyone to board, so please make sure you arrive by 0915.

Questionnaire about a new Parish Priest. The churchwardens have been very active in producing a valuable Questionnaire, seeking the views of members of the congregation in connexion with the search for a new Vicar. This is an important exercise, and I hope that the Questionnaire will be treated seriously by all who have received it – more copies are available – and that they will all be returned before the deadline of 30 June, which probably really means by Sunday, 29 June. W.R.H.

Choir Club. It is time we had another serious plug concerning this, and a separate flyer about it is with today's papers. It is in a decidedly virulent colour, but this is really to keep drawing attention to its somewhat urgent message. Our young musicians are on the premises from 1800 on a Friday until 2015, when they go home and leave the seniors, who arrive at 1930, to carry on until about 2130. For the first hour the Juniors have Choir Club, which is a mixture of quality free time, when they can play games or 'chill out' (whence came that curious expression?), and also have individual or group tuition in connexion with the *Voice for Life* training programme of the Royal School of Church Music. They start formal rehearsing at about 1900. We are always in need of voluntary support for the earlier part of the evening, not least because of the requirements of current legislation in respect of Child Protection, and the time has come for us to raise the matter again. We would be very grateful for anyone who would be willing to spare an hour between **1800 and 1900 on certain Fridays** simply to be present at the Choir Club (or possibly involved in minor help of one sort or another) as an additional adult, and to go on a flexible rota for this. *There is a list for volunteers in the Welcome Area.* There

has to be a minimum of two adults present at any one time, and during the 1800-1900 period the music staff are usually very busy with tuition and administration. We really need this help. It need not be a very frequent commitment if a reasonable number sign up, but it would really be a great help to us all. Our young singers do a lot for us, and it would be good if they could be positively helped by members of the congregation in this way. Any further information may be obtained from the Vicar, the Choir Administrator, or the Director of Music, and any queries answered, but we are really looking to the congregation for active support in this matter. All are agreed that the choir has come on greatly in the past year; so please help us build on this. However, one must report, gloomily, that no-one signed up last week. W.R.H., D.R.C., J.S.H.

Copies of 'El Dorado', the magazine of the Diocese of Guyana, have arrived. They are by the Grand Draw box in the Welcome Area, and are free to those who want them, because we are twinned with a Guyanese parish, as most members of the congregation will know. There are lots of interesting pictures in this issue.

The String Quartet Recital, scheduled for Wednesday 11 June has been postponed to **25 June**, since the recitalists have been asked to play in Bahrain on 12 June.

Next Sunday. Services are at the usual times, with the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100.

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