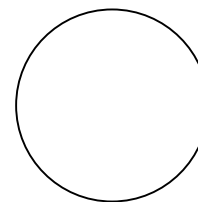


St Mary the Virgin  
EWELL PARISH CHURCH  
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## WEEKLY NOTES

24 August 2008

**THE FEAST OF ST BARTHOLOMEW.**

**Consecration of St Mary's, 1848.**

This is the first Sunday of the new term, and it launches us on to a very busy period in church. We are now into a distinctive period of devotional life at St Mary's, as we start off with the observance of St Bartholomew's Day, the date on which the present St Mary's was consecrated one hundred and sixty years ago. In fact, the routine 'green' Sundays do not re-appear until the first Sunday in October, because of the unusual calendar this year. This is the time of year when we appropriately start to look to ourselves and to our own calling and commitment. Next Sunday we shall keep the Dedication Festival as the opening feature of our Patronal Festival celebrations. These all pivot around the festival of The Blessed Virgin Mary. The main calendrical date for that is 15 August, but in the Church of England we are allowed to keep this observance on 8 September (in our case this year on the adjacent Sunday) for 'pastoral reasons' – and again in our own case sensibly enough, because many of us are simply not about in mid-August. As usual there will be a mixture of piety, culture and good fun over the Patronal Festival period, all of which helps us to realise that as a local Christian family we are all linked together in a bond which is spiritual, social and sacramental. The elusive St Bartholomew starts off the process this year. He remains one of the most shadowy of the apostolic band, but every so often he lands on a Sunday, and this gives us the chance to praise God for one who is special to us at St Mary's because of our date of consecration. The working year always gets off to a good start here, because the themes of the Dedication and Patronal festivals concentrate the mind about our role as a Christian community as we focus our devotional attention on our Patron Saint and upon the building which bears her name. By this time next year St Mary's will have moved on, and today, at the start of a new working year, we really begin the count-down to the time when there will undoubtedly be some significant turning of the tiller at this parish church, with many new avenues and directions to be explored. W.R.H.

**Our prayers today.** We pray for our own church and parish, and in the worldwide Anglican Communion for the extra-Provincial Dioceses of Bermuda, Cuba and the Falkland Islands. In the Diocese of Guildford we pray for the Department of Social Responsibility, and for the Director, Canon Chris Rich. Within the parish we pray for our parish Social Committee, and in our regular prayer for the people living within the parish boundaries we pray today for those living in the Chessington Road.

### SUNDAY SERVICES

**0800 HOLY COMMUNION**

*Book of Common Prayer rite*

The usual note about this; it makes things easier. The Prayer Book rite, which we have about quarterly at 0800, can be followed (with about 98% accuracy) in Order 2 of 'Common Worship,' beginning on page 229. Unlike the monthly Prayer Book Sung Eucharist in the Mattins slot, the BCP rite at 0800 follows the 1662 order without *any* deviations from the actual text, except for the omission of the long exhortations. In order to achieve this, the simple rule is to *disregard any indented material* in the text. This includes the gospel responses, which are not in the BCP. Also, a reminder that the Lord's Prayer at the beginning is said by the celebrant alone. Collect of the Day and Readings are on a separate paper.

**0930 SUNG EUCHARIST**

*Common Worship rite*

There is a separate leaflet for this service. No hymn-books are needed; hymns are on the readings paper today. Crèche available on request.

Preacher: *The Vicar.*

Setting of the Eucharist: *Howells* in E flat.

Eucharistic Prayer E.

Anthem: Cantate Domino.

*Pitoni*

*Cantate Domino canticum novum; laus ejus in ecclesia sanctorum.  
Laetetur Israel in eo, qui fecit illum, et filiae Sion exsultent in rege suo*  
Sing to the Lord a new song; his praise is in the congregation of the  
saints. Let Israel rejoice in him who made him, and let the daughters of  
Sion rejoice in their king. *(Psalm 149: 1,2)*

Organ Voluntary: Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C (BWV 564). *J S Bach. 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 CHORAL MATTINS

*Book of Common Prayer rite*

Sermon by *the Vicar*

Responses: page 8

Music: *Smith of Durham*

Venite

Office-hymn: 213 [Second tune: *Aeterna Christi munera.*]

Psalm 97. *God's salvation is to be proclaimed in lands afar.* Page 252

First Lesson: Isaiah 61: 4-9. *Good tidings for the future.* Blue book: page 795

Benedictus: page 11. (Chant setting)

Second Lesson: Acts 5: 12b-16. *The early apostolic age.* Blue book: page 795

Hymn 230 [First tune.]

The Creed and the Greeting; then all kneel for the Lord's Prayer, the

Responses and the three Collects (the first Collect on page).

Anthem: Give us the wings of faith.

*Bullock*

Give us the wings of faith to rise

We ask them whence their victory came;

Within the veil and see

They, with one united breath,

The saints above, how great their joys,

Ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,

How bright their glories be.

Their triumphs to his death.

The marked the footsteps that he trod,

His zeal inspired their breast;

And, following their incarnate God,

They reached the promised rest.

*Isaac Watts*

Prayers.

Hymn: Disposer supreme (Tune: 216; *Vicar's translation on separate slip*). Collection.

The Blessing

Organ:

### **In church this week.**

*There are no liturgical services in church. The Tuesday Eucharist resumes on 2 September.*

### **Other events and notices.**

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 have not been before will be especially welcome; they will see familiar and friendly faces. It is always a jolly time.

**A reminder.** The full running-order of the Sung Eucharist resumes as a separate paper today, after three weeks of the simpler arrangements. As a general rule it would still be wise to check in the main Weekly Notes in the framed section at 0930 for any points which may need to be noted in connexion with the service. If people – especially sidesmen – could routinely do this as a matter of course, it should make things much easier for everyone. Most Sundays have something or other which falls into this category, even if it is only to say which hymn-book is needed. We can't put extra announcements on the Eucharist paper; there simply isn't room. It is very tight, and there is little room for manoeuvre if we are to get everything on a single folded sheet of A4 paper.

**The ‘Communion hymn.’** The hymn formerly at the Invitation is now placed instead during the administration of Holy Communion. However, it is not always needed these days, since the administration may have already finished. A reference is now given on the 0930 service-paper in brackets, with words like ‘Hymn for personal reflection.’ This means that the hymn can be turned up in the pew and reflected upon quietly; it might or might not be sung. The number does *not* need to go on the hymn-boards, because it is not necessarily required as a formal item during the service, and that is why the entry on the service-paper is actually in smaller print.

A reminder about the **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 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the present church by Eve Myatt-Price. Since the book was written, there have been two major additions to the church: the **Millennium-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.

This is very much a **Matrimonial Week**: four weddings and two wedding rehearsals. There are three weddings, one after another, on Saturday alone. The Bank Holiday weekend is generally very popular for weddings. It might be worth noting that in terms of the Vicar’s timetable that all works out at a minimum of ten hours this week, and that is without counting the early morning shift of putting out the cones. In days gone by this could be done leisurely at about 0900 on the Saturday, but since Surrey County Council – which cares nothing for the needs of the wed or the dead at St Mary’s Ewell, in spite of our representations – made church parking virtually impossible, this has to be done at 0630. Some cars are left outside the church for weeks on end, and not infrequently actually at the lych gate or across the drive, thereby making life very difficult for bridal parties and for funeral vehicles. Other cars are often left there overnight on Fridays, because of complications arising from evenings spent at local hostelrys. We have a statutory duty to provide church facilities for marriages and funerals for those who are entitled to them. The present wretched parking arrangements actually prevent us from doing adequately what we are legally bound to provide. The County Council has ignored this point. W.R.H.

**Next Sunday.** It is the Sunday of the Dedication Festival, and the start of the 2008 Patronal Festival. There will be ***The Procession of the Parish Church*** at the Sung Eucharist, and there will be Evensong and Holy Baptism at 1630. Other services as usual. Full details of all the Patronal Festival events will be available in *Ewell Parish News*, available next week.

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