

St Mary the Virgin
EWELL PARISH CHURCH
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WEEKLY NOTES

21 September 2008

ST MATTHEW, Apostle and Evangelist.

'STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY.'

This is probably one of the most suitable days in the year on which to keep a local 'Stewardship Sunday,' since St Matthew was a tax collector before he discovered the 'true riches' in Jesus. So since this year the feast of St Matthew makes a rare landing on a Sunday, it seems appropriate that the 'moveable feast' of the annual Stewardship Sunday should be held on this particular day. It is apparently the case (though I have never actually personally checked this out) that, apart from the preaching of the Kingdom as such, the most frequently spoken about subject by Jesus seems to have been money. I am immensely grateful to those who look after our finances here. I am aware of the all time and effort which is put in by the members of our Finance Committee, and I can confidently say that our finances are most carefully monitored. Nevertheless we continue to run at a sizeable annual deficit, and, quite apart from anything else, it should be fairly plain that our utility bills alone are going to rise very substantially in the immediate future. The annual reminder of our responsibilities as stewards of the household of God does not happen on the same Sunday each year, and this will be the last Stewardship Sunday at which I shall be present. It gives me the opportunity to say a warm word of personal thanks as you Parish Priest to all those who have given so generously over the years, and in many instances very sacrificially, and all out of love for God and his Church, in order to maintain the worship and pastoral ministry of this parish church. W.R.H.

I hope many people will turn out for what promises to be a splendid evening on Saturday, when the Parish Choir, together with children from local schools, gives a concert performance, directed by Jonathan Holmes, of '*Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.*' Handbills are being given out again today for the benefit of anyone not here last week. We can do with some adults to help us with this and that on Saturday; any offers, please, to Jonathan Holmes or David Crick. W.R.H.

Our prayers today. We pray for our own church and parish, and in the Anglican Communion for the Old Catholics of the Union of Utrecht (who are in full communion with the Church of England). In the Diocese of Guildford we pray for the prison chaplains in the diocese. In our parish prayer we pray for the bellringers of St Mary's, and for the people living within the parish boundaries we pray today for the people of Nonsuch Court Avenue. On Stewardship Sunday we pray for all who are responsible for the finances of the parish: for the Finance Committee (under the chairmanship of Dr David Dance), the Treasurer, Julia Mathews, and for our Stewardship Recorder and co-Treasurer, Miriam Massey.

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

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|-------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 0800 | HOLY COMMUNION (<i>of Trinity 18</i>) | <i>Common Worship rite</i> |
| | Order 1: page 167. | Proper 20 |
| | Collect of the Day: page 419. | Eucharistic Prayer A: page 184. |
| 0930 | SUNG EUCHARIST (<i>of St Matthew</i>) | <i>Common Worship rite</i> |

There is a separate leaflet for this service. Small red hymn-book today; two hymns on a small slip.
Wayfarers and Children's Hour; Crèche available on request.

Celebrant: *The Reverend Dr Patrick Miller.*

There is a Stewardship Presentation at this service today, and this will entail some adjustment to our normal Sunday routine. The 'morning sermon' will once again be at 1100, and technically a free standing item in its own right. *The Vicar* will be preaching about St Matthew.

Setting of the Eucharist: *Harris* in F,
Eucharistic Prayer A. Preface of Apostles and Evangelists.
Hymns: AMR 563, HHE 70 (t.AMR 297), 'Disposer supreme' (WRH text; t.216), AMR 510 (t. AMR 539), AMR 508.
Anthem (*during the Communion*): Holy is the true light. *Harris.*

Holy is the true light, and passing wonderful, lending radiance to them that endured in the heat of the conflict. From Christ they inherit a home of unfading splendour, wherein they rejoice evermore. Alleluia.

Organ: Allegro con spirito. *Bridge* JC

Note: The setting and the anthem are both by Sir William Harris, a distinguished Church musician in the twentieth century. Dr Harris' last appointment was at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle; his first was here at St Mary's.

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1100 SERMON by *the Vicar.*

c.1115 SUNG EUCHARIST (*of St Matthew*) *Book of Common Prayer rite*

Setting of the Eucharist: *Palestrina*, Missa Aeterna Christi munera
Creed and Gloria: *Merbecke.*

The plan is for the service today to be sung from the west gallery. If this is the case, then the service will take place at the Nave Altar.
Otherwise there will be the usual arrangements.

Introit hymn: 213 ii

Note: The melody of this hymn, a later version of the original plainsong, is the basis for today's musical setting of the Eucharist.

Then green Prayer Book: page 31

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy): page 33

Greeting and the Collect of the Day.

(There is a separate leaflet for the Collect and Readings)

The Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4: 1-6. *Christ as the centrality of all preaching.*

Gradual hymn: 215

The Holy Gospel: St Matthew 9: 9-13. *The call of Saint Matthew.*

Nicene Creed: page 34.

Offertory Hymn: 219 [Tune 106]; Collection.

After the hymn, all kneel for the Prayer for the Church (page 36), the

Prayers of Penitence, etc., and for the Prayer of Consecration

Hymn at the consecration: 269, part 2

During the Communion: O Lamb of God (page 44)

[There is no anthem at the service today, since *Agnus Dei* is longer than usual.]

After Communion:

The Lord's Prayer and the Prayer of Thanksgiving: page 44

All stand for Gloria in excelsis

The Blessing.

Hymn 466

Organ: Incantation pour un jour saint. *Langlais* JH

1800 Evening Prayer

In church this week

Tuesday **1000** **Holy Communion**
Wednesday **0900** **Ewell Castle Junior School Harvest Service.**
Saturday **1900** ***Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.*** (See below.)

Other events and notices.

Monday 0900 Vicar at Ewell Castle Junior School Leavers' Assembly.
Wednesday 1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall. Time for a relaxing
break, a chat and a coffee. (Tea, if you prefer.)
2000 Meeting of Vicar, Churchwardens and Administrator.

Saturday **1900**

JOSEPH AND HIS AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT.

***Concert performance by the Parish Choir,
together with young singers from Ewell Castle Junior School
and Fitznells (combined), Ewell Grove First School,
and Wallace Fields Junior School.***

Directed by Jonathan Holmes.

**Admission £3 (Under 16s free, but still need a ticket), available in
church today, from the office during the week, and at the
participating schools.**

Church cleaning. It is about fifteen years since the church received an organized clean of the upper areas, including truss corbels, internal windows, tracery, memorials and the like, and the Estates Committee is proposing to mount a similar exercise this year on Saturday, 4 October between 0900 and 1400. However, the Committee is far too small in number to undertake this task; we need help from other members of the congregation to assist in the work, and we believe that we shall need ***an additional minimum of twenty committed volunteers, if this project is to proceed***, and to be completed in the time-frame available. If you are able to help, please sign up on the list on a pillar in the Welcome Area, or else please notify George Jarrett or the churchwardens. We need to know **TODAY**. Some names are already on the list, but we could do with many more. It would be helpful to know if you are comfortable working off a ladder or a set of steps, but, if not, please do not be put off, as there will be plenty of lower level tasks to do. Please help us, if at all possible. 'Many hands make light work.' G.E.J.

Grove Cottage. A 'Bring and Buy' is being held on Saturday at Grove Cottage (Abbeyfield), 10 Cheam Road, between 1000 and 1200. There is a general invitation to all members of the congregation. St Mary's has had a long connexion with Grove Cottage, and the largest 'contingent' on the House Committee is from St Mary's.

Re-cycling theology. This is not a reflection upon there being nothing new under the sun (as The Preacher said in the Old Testament). Rather, it is to draw attention to a collection of books and periodicals from the Vicar's library for which he has no further use, and needs to offload before he moves. Some things are quite old (but none the worse for that), and there are also various reports from the General Synod. They are all laid out in the Parish Room, and will be cleared away and re-cycled after next Sunday. Come and browse, when the office is open; anyone who wishes to take anything should feel free to do so. During this period the Tuesday Eucharist will be in the main church.

Application forms for the **Gala Dinner** to be held on Saturday 3 January to mark the Vicar's retirement are now available in the Welcome Area. It has to be done this way for security reasons at the T.A., and names and addresses are needed. The forms are easily found: they are in a garish shade of dayglo pink.

Gill and Richard will be pleased to welcome all friends to a small reception for **Nigel and Maria** at the Spring Hotel on Sunday 5 October from 14.30.

'SURREY LIFE' Carol Service in aid of CHASE. The printed service-lists give basic details of this event, which is being held at St Mary's on Wednesday 10 December at 1900. It is a fund-raising event, with all proceeds going to Chase Hospice Care for Children. We have supported *CHASE* in the past through our Christmas Day cash collection donation. The magazine '*SURREY LIFE*' is organizing this particular service, in consultation with the Vicar. It is an occasion at which one actually pays to go to a service in church. Last year's service at Shere was a wonderful success, and the service at Ewell has already been devised, and there will be some distinguished visitors, including Max Clifford, who is one of the patrons of CHASE. The Parish Choir will be in action, and there will also be a Barbershop contribution. We are expecting a full church. All ticketing will be done through *Surrey Life*, **and not through St Mary's**. The tickets cost £10, but there are also VIP tickets which include entry to the party afterwards at Ewell Castle School, and these are also available at £15 each. To reserve tickets and for more information please call 01903 703745.

Next Sunday. It is Harvest Festival, always a pleasant occasion, with all the familiar harvest hymns. There will be the usual Procession of Harvest Gifts at the Sung Eucharist, and a Special Harvest Service at 1100. A reminder that we cannot accept perishables, nor anything past its sell-by date. Our gifts will be going as usual to the Waterloo Christian Centre and to Vaughan House in Guildford. In the evening, Choral Evensong will be the occasion of the Annual Choristers' Reunion.

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