

Missing. A large quantity of laminated posters has disappeared from the window-sill at the top of the gallery stairs. This is a very considerable nuisance, because nearly all of them were re-usable. They included one for today, and also some of the Christmas ones. It is just possible that they were a casualty of the spring-clean a few weeks ago. Whatever the reason, I should be glad to hear from anyone who can shed any light on this. Producing laminated posters for long-term use takes time, either mine or the Administrator's, and retaining them is meant to save both time and money. They were kept in that 'remote place' in the hope that no-one would meddle with them. There are other posters on the table at the entrance to the sacristy, but these are not the ones in question. W.R.H.

Time to tidy up a bit. After a long period of stability a few strange things have recently started to happen in connexion with some aspects of the Sung Eucharist. They are all to do with detailed points about the vessels and that sort of thing, and things being left lying around. A short memorandum for all Altar Servers and Communion Assistants is being prepared, and may be available today, which addresses these particular points. It is obviously important that the services continue to run smoothly during the period of the interregnum, and this paper tries to make some things clearer. It is a matter of some importance that everyone concerned has a copy of this, because at least someone is clearly getting things wrong, and needs to know what the right procedure is. Copies of the memorandum will be on the table in the chancel at the entrance to the sacristy. Would those concerned please collect their copies as soon as possible, and tick their names on the adjacent list. W.R.H.

Churches Together in Ewell welcome everyone for an ecumenical evening of Worship and Prayer on Monday, 17 November, at 2000 at Ruxley Church in Ruxley Lane. This is the joint Anglican-Methodist building. If anyone would like to go, but needs a lift, please ring 020 8393 0786. Sarah Stovell.

'Alone at Christmas.' The Christmas Day Lunch will be held this year at Ewell United Reformed Church. If you would like to be on the guest list - or know of someone who may be interested - please telephone 020 8393 0786. Volunteers to help with decorating the hall on Christmas Eve, drivers, washers-up, and table hosts would all be much appreciated. Further information from Sarah Stovell (Tel. as above).

Next Sunday. There are normal arrangements during the morning, with the Book of Common Prayer Sung Eucharist at 1100. In the evening, at 1700, there will be 'The Year's Mind Book Requiem.' There is something about this in the Vicar's column in this month's *Ewell Parish News*, and those who have been at the Wednesday Coffee Morning series of talks on 'Sinners of Ewell' will also be *au fait* with this. The Parish Choir will be singing the music of *Fauré's Requiem* at this service.

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

St Mary the Virgin
 EWELL PARISH CHURCH
 020 8393 2643
 www.stmarysewell.com



WEEKLY NOTES

9 November 2008

THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY.

World Wars and World Affairs. This week-end we cannot escape either of these. In the case of the former, there is the reality that it is ninety years since the Armistice of 1918. In the case of the latter, there is a new President elected in the U.S.A., with all the significance that such an election implies, and also the world dimension of financial uncertainty. Barak Obama needs to be supported by the prayers of Christians; a high but lonely office will be his. Today is very much a day for thought and prayer, remembrance and reflection. Our worship here today is, as always on Remembrance Sunday, coloured by the knowledge that throughout human history the nations of the world have conspicuously failed to live in peace and harmony. Once again we stand before God as a people under his judgement. We ask for his grace so as to transform hearts and minds, leaders and peoples, individuals and societies. Quite a request; quite a prayer; but God has that grace to give, and we can rely on that grace, though it is worth remembering that we can also rely on the certainty of his judgement.

Our prayers today.* In the worldwide Church we pray today for those who belong to the United Reformed Church. In the Diocese we pray today for the work of the Diocesan Education Department. In our parish prayer we pray for the people of Ewell United Reformed Church, and for the Minister, the Reverend Pat Hall. On Remembrance Sunday we pray for the Ewell branch of the Royal British Legion. In our systematic parish prayer for the people of the parish we pray today for those who live in Parry Close.

* These prayers only relate to the 0800 service today, which is the actual 'Sunday' service. The other services will largely concentrate on themes for prayer relating to Remembrance Sunday.

Welcome to any visitors or newcomers to St Mary's today. Please make yourselves known, if possible. We would normally say, 'Come to coffee', but, alas, there is no 'après messe' coffee in the hall today, because of the robing and rehearsing arrangements in connexion with the next service.

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 HOLY COMMUNION (of the Sunday).

Common Worship rite

Order 1: page 167.

Collect of the Day: page 424.

Eucharistic Prayer E: page 196.

SUNG EUCHARIST OF REQUIEM for those from the parish who fell in the two World Wars.
Common Worship rite.

There is a separate leaflet for this service. The hymn-book for the service today is *Hymns Ancient and Modern Revised* (the small red words-only book). Crèche available on request.

There is no sermon at this service today.

Setting of the Eucharist: *Plainsong*. Missa pro defunctis.

Eucharistic Prayer B, with preface of the Dead.

Anthem: Pie Jesu. *Fauré*

Hymns: 274 (L.NEH 425), 165 (t.345), 585 (L.NEH 458), [272, 273], 296 (i).

There is no Organ Voluntary at this service.

1030 WREATH-LAYING AT THE WAR MEMORIAL.

1050 ACT OF REMEMBRANCE AND CHORAL MATTINS.

The service is attended by the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell with members and officials of the Borough Council, the constituency Member of Parliament, representatives of HM Forces, members of the Royal British Legion and other ex-Service organizations, and other uniformed and local associations.

Music: Introit: So they gave their bodies. * *Aston*.

Responses: *Byrd*. Te Deum*: *Mathias* in C.

Anthem: Mr Valiant-for-Truth. *Vaughan Williams*.

* In both the Introit and the *Te Deum*, there is a recognizable motif, which calls to mind the familiar melody of The Last Post.

There is a special leaflet for the service. The Vicar is the preacher this year.

1800 Evening Prayer will be said in the Parish Room.

In church this week.

Tuesday 1000

Requiem Mass for benefactors of the parish.

The Tuesday Requiems during November begin today.

There is no service next week, but the week after will see the annual Requiem for former priests of the parish.

Wednesday 1915

Holy Communion (Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit before the meeting of the Parochial Church Council.

Other events and notices.

Monday

The Vicar will be away from the parish today.

Wednesday

1030-1200 Coffee Morning in the Church Hall a time for fine blend and good companionship. 'Have a break; have a coffee.'

2000 Meeting of the Parochial Church Council. This will be

the last PCC to be under the chairmanship of the Vicar. He has certainly presided well over a hundred of these.

Thursday

2000 Meeting of the Vicar and Churchwardens.

The **Evening Requiem of All Souls** was a richly devotional experience for those who were there, and our thanks go to Jonathan Holmes for bringing his choir from Emanuel School to sing the *Durufle* Requiem in the course of the rite. We welcomed several folk who had suffered bereavements earlier in the year, and who had accepted our invitation to the service.

Altar servers. The serving rota for next term is currently being prepared. Would anyone who would like to offer his or her services as a server please contact Nigel Bird on 020 8393 5794. We are particularly keen to recruit for the 0800 service.

'**A Victorian Festival of Christmas.**' A coach outing is planned to the City of Portsmouth to celebrate this special event, which is held at the historic Dockyard on Friday, 28 November; this is a 'Trip to Christmas Past' with carols, Victorian characters, Christmas shopping, etc. Apart from the festival there is so much to do and see around the Dockyard, including the famous ships, the Spinnaker Tower, shops and eating places at Gunwharf Quays. Seats on the coach are £10 each, and to secure yours please give names and money to Joan Boulden or Lynne Yuille. There is a charge for entrance to the festival and Dockyard (£10 for seniors), which is payable locally.

'**SURREY LIFE**' Carol Service in aid of CHASE. This is a reprint of what appeared a little while ago. There are posters up about it now. The printed service-lists also 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.

Although it is unlikely, just in case there is any confusion, the **SURREY LIFE (CHASE)** carol service is not the same event as our own **FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**, which is fixed for 21 December. Since over fifty people signed up for that (and the Vicar has kept the list!) we should expect a good congregation as the word gets around. In effect we are keeping Christmas Eve on the previous Sunday evening as well as on the actual day. The church will be decorated by then, so it will not be incongruous singing carols in such a setting. However, the crib will not be blessed until the Arrival at Bethlehem Service at 1600 on Christmas Eve.

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.