



EWELL PARISH NEWS



The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 550

November 2018

60p

Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

Sunday 11 November **Remembrance** **Sunday**

8am & 9:00am Holy Communion

10:30am Wreath-laying
at the War Memorial

10:50am Civic Act of
Remembrance and
Choral Mattins

5pm All-in all-age service

All welcome.



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The Vicar writes

I have on my shelves two books of Christian devotion written by the 17th century Bishop Jeremy Taylor, called respectively *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying*. What is striking just from the spines of the books is that both volumes, *Holy Living* and *Holy Dying*, are the same size. We are used to the idea of thinking about how to live a good life, but perhaps less about dying well. November is in so many ways a season of remembering as All Saints and All Souls, and Remembrance Sunday, fall in this period, and it seems like a good time to reflect a little on what we can do to prepare for the inevitable. I have been reluctant to write about this topic, in case anyone were to think any of my comments were in response to any particular circumstance or funeral- they aren't. If I'd written this short piece a year, or several years ago, I'd have said exactly the same, but have only now got round to writing it.

"Getting round to it" is something that is understandably difficult when it comes to having to contemplate our own mortality. At every marriage preparation day I counsel the couples to write wills, and yet I find it very difficult to "get round to it" myself. Yet there is a long tradition within Christianity of ensuring, through wills, that we look after our dependants as best we can through our wills. As we have received generously from the generations before us, we bequeath generously to the generations ahead. I know I am very conscious of how much I have received from the generosity of those who established the educational institutions I've attended and those who built and kept alive the churches I've attended, and that's something I will reflect in my own will. I think of the enormously generous bequests St Mary's has received in recent years which has transformed the range of projects we have been able to undertake. Whatever the size of our estate may be, giving to charity should be a part of every Christian's last testament.

Many people write a list of wishes about their funeral. I have found that generally speaking families find this helpful when it comes to planning the funeral. My main piece of advice would be, make sure that your family knows where your written wishes are kept. It has happened more than once that I have known funeral wishes have been written down, but no-one has been able to find them. We are happy to keep copies of written funeral wishes in the church office. I would say it is good to write down our main wishes (burial or cremation, whether we would like a Requiem Eucharist at our funeral, wishes about readings, music, etc.) - but most of us will not write down every detail, leaving some decisions to the family based on the circumstances. If you would like to find out more about the churchyard at St Mary's, I have written a fair amount on the church website, and I am always happy to explain more about any of these matters. I'm happy to meet and talk to plan funeral wishes, and answer any questions: once done, it's then something we can put out of our minds.

It is also worth making sure that our families know if we have particular wishes about being visited in our last days, if that is possible in the circumstances, and whom to contact. Sometimes people use the phrase "the last rites". This refers to receiving some or all of absolution, anointing with holy oil, and Holy Communion, again depending on the circumstances. Parish clergy are always happy to visit, though of course we

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

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CLERGY

Vicar: The Reverend Russell Dewhurst MPhys BTh LLM;
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Mrs Kalli Pasqualucci Email: publicity@stmarysewell.com

SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

The Sunday School meets in conjunction with this service in term time. There is coffee in the church hall between the 9.30 and 11 o'clock services on Sunday mornings, to which all are welcome, and especially newcomers and visitors.

LATE MORNING SERVICE varies by Sunday in the month

The usual pattern is our all-age **Praise@11** on the first Sunday at 11am; 11.15am **Choral Mattins** on the second Sunday; 11am **Toddle Up**, a short and very informal service for toddlers and their families on the third Sunday; and 11.15am **Morning Prayer with Holy Baptism** on the fourth Sunday. The pattern changes on special occasions: see the calendar on the back page for details of this month.

1700 Second Sunday of the month ALL-IN An inclusive all-age service with something for everyone. Followed at 6pm-6:45pm by Club Sandwich, a youth group for 7-11s.

1730 Once a month CHORAL EVENSONG Just like a cathedral Evensong in our own parish church. Usually the third Sunday but see the calendar on the back page for details.

Occasionally there are variations from this pattern; details are given in this paper, on the Notice Board or in the Weekly Notes available on Sundays.

ON WEEKDAYS

Morning prayer is *usually* said at 9 am Tuesdays, in church. See the Weekly Notes or phone ahead to make sure. The Eucharist is celebrated on Tuesdays at 10 am, at the Side Chapel.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

St Mary's Church is in London Road, Ewell, and the Parish Office is on the south side of the church.

The Office hours are normally 9.30-12.00 Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

The postal address is:

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are very fortunate also to have chaplains in our hospitals who are on site and often more immediately available in emergencies.

Having said all that, Jeremy Taylor's book does not focus entirely on these more practical issues. He explains the length of his book on Holy Dying by saying, "he that prepares not for Death before his last sickness, is like him that studies Philosophy when he is going to dispute publicly in the faculty." In other words, "Holy Dying" really means an attitude of prayer, self-examination, and seeking virtue throughout our whole lives. But there is one teaching, of Jeremy Taylor, or Jesus, and of St Paul, with which I would like to conclude, and that is, living at peace. Our Lord says, "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift." St Paul says to the Romans, "If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all." And what better testament, what better monument, could there be for any of us than that? That people would say of us in years to come, "they loved God, they loved their neighbour, and as far as they could, they lived peaceably with all."

EWELL VILLAGE FAIR

The Ewell Village Fair will take place on Saturday 13 July 2019. Put the date in your diary now! Many of the team who made this year's Fair such a phenomenal success will be involved again, but we will be looking for some new people with new ideas to come and join the planning team. Do get in touch if you might be able to help. Being part of the team is always great fun, and gives a real sense of accomplishment and achievement.

FATHER WILLIS PIPE ORGAN URGENT REPAIRS

Our Father Willis organ will be out of service during January and February while the bellows are being re-leathered. The Arthur Mathews organ fund contains almost enough to cover this work, and we are hoping to raise the remainder by the end of the year. Contributions to the organ fund, small or large are always welcome (via the 'pipe' in church, or cheque, or online via our website.)

IN CHURCH IN NOVEMBER

On Saturday 3 November, the last in our series of Organ Recitals for 2018 will be given by Philip Berg, Organist of The Queen's Chapel of The Savoy. Starting at 7:30pm, the programme features Bach in the first half and Dupré, Elgar, Mendelssohn and others in the second.

All Saints' Sunday falls on 4 November this year. We celebrate this great feast at 8am Holy Communion and 9:30am Sung Eucharist. At 11am our all-age service Praise@11 is all about Operation Christmas Child. During early November we will be collecting shoe boxes filled with gifts to be given to children around the world who would otherwise receive nothing at Christmas. You can start planning your shoebox now, instructions online at goo.gl/uPwZ8A and bring your shoebox to church at any service or at the times on page 6 of this issue of EPN. It is always so inspiring to see the hundreds and hundreds of wrapped shoeboxes put together by so many people around Ewell and collected in church.

Remembrance Sunday on 11 November is of course a very special anniversary, being the centenary of 1918. Our 8am Holy Communion service is as normal. There will also be a 9am Said Holy Communion service, replacing the usual Sung Eucharist. It is a great honour for St Mary's to host the civic service for our Borough, and I know our regular congregation understand this necessitates a change from our usual Sunday routine. At 10:30am, the Wreath-laying at the War Memorial takes place. Then back in church at 10:50am there is the Civic Act of Remembrance and Choral Mattins. This is always extremely popular, and is likely to be more so than ever this year, and many seats are reserved for uniformed groups and others, so please

Continued on page 4

**St Mary's
Toddler
Groups**

Monday afternoon and
Thursday mornings
during term time in the
church hall.

For more information:

Tel. 020 8393 4804

**CAFE
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term time, students
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es in our church hall
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The Vicar Writes, continued from page 3

take your seats in very good time. This centenary year there will also be a (shorter) family service "Called to Remember" at the URC church also at 10:50am. This is because of the very large expected numbers, and because for many years people have asked for a shorter more family-oriented service.

In the evening of Remembrance Sunday, at 5pm there's our all-age All-in service, and at 6pm, Club Sandwich our youth group for 7-11s.

On Sunday 18 November our usual 8am and 9:30am services are followed by 11am Toddle Up! (our regular service especially for toddlers and their families) and 5:30pm Choral Evensong, the traditional 1662 choral service.

The final service on Sunday 25 November is Morning Prayer and Holy Baptism at 11:15am, after the 8am and 9:30am services.

Looking ahead to the first day of December, there will be a Children's Fun Day in church 1pm-4:30pm, see our website for booking information. In the evening our parish Christmas "Black and White" dinner is at 6.30pm for 7, tickets (£10) can be bought after services or in the parish office.

Your friend and Parish Priest

Russell Dewhurst

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

HOLY BAPTISM

**One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God
and Father of us all (Ephesians 4:5)**

23 September Liliana Gladys Shah

CONFIRMATION

Come, O creator Spirit, come

At St Andrew, Cobham by the Bishop of Dorking

11 October Victoria Louise Hamilton
June Anne Simpson
Nigel Simpson

HOLY MATRIMONY

**A gift of God in creation, and a means of his
grace, a holy mystery' (ASB Marriage rite)**

6 October Edwin Kwaku Osei and
Louise Elizabeth Kendall

FUNERALS

In sure and certain hope (BCP Burial rite)

17 September Lucy Piercy, aged 92
(burial of ashes)
26 September David Slattery, aged 86
4 October William Rackham, aged 94
11 October Peter Gordon Jaeger, aged 91

IN AND AROUND OUR PARISH

2018 marks 100 years since the end of WW1. This November, there will be a few commemorative events taking place.

The Swan Centre in Leatherhead is hosting a 100 Year Celebration event on Saturday 3 November from 10.30am - 3.30pm. There will be music, side shows, stalls and a craft market; as well as entertainment for adults and children. Entry is free and all proceeds will be donated to the Royal British Legion.

The Garden of Remembrance at Bourne Hall is being opened on Monday 5 November from 11.00am - 12.00pm by the Mayor of Epsom and Ewell and local children.

From Tuesday 6 November until Saturday 10 November there is a gift market at Bourne Hall. The market will be open daily from 10.00am - 5.00pm and until 4.00pm on Saturday. There is free entry and a variety of stalls available.

On Wednesday 7 November there will be a commemoration in Epsom Market, for Trooper Frederick Watkins the last Epsom man to fall. All are welcome to attend from 11.00am - 12.00pm.

The Mayor's Charities is hosting a Quiz Night on 10 November at Unity Hall in Church Street, Epsom. The event is from 6.30pm - 10.00pm, costs £15 per person and includes a fish and chip supper. To book tickets, email kellydallen16@gmail.com

The national Chain of Beacons will be lit at 7.00pm on Sunday 11 November in the Bourne Hall gardens. There will also be re-enactors present and the Epsom Male Voice Choir will be performing after the Last Post is played.

Sheila Stracy will be demonstrating Christmas flowers at Bourne Hall on Tuesday 13 November from 8.00pm - 10.00pm. Tickets are £4 for non-members and include refreshments and a raffle.

St Martin's Church in Epsom is hosting a Christmas Fair on Saturday 24 November from 11.00am - 3.00pm. There will be stalls, a raffle, a model railway, children's games and refreshments.

Have a wonderful November and if you have any events or news that you think should be included in the Christmas article of 'In and Around Our Parish', then please email me on publicity@stmarysewell.com.

Kalli Pasqualucci

WOULD YOU LIKE SOME PEACE AND QUIET?

All over the world Julian groups meet regularly - usually once a month - to spend time together in silent prayer. They are named after Mother Julian of Norwich and follow her precept that the highest form of prayer consists in simply waiting on God. The groups are normally between 6-12 people. Although conversation may be shared beforehand or afterwards, no words are spoken during the quiet time except by the leader, who may use a few words of Julian or another spiritual writer (and possibly music) to help those present to still their minds and bodies and to acknowledge God's presence within us and among us.

'Meeting in silence with God' is the 'strapline' of Julian meetings. If this appeals to you or you'd like to know more, please do get in touch with me, The Reverend Sue Ayling, as I'm hoping to start a group in Ewell in the New Year (020 8337 6347 or assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com).

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SUGGESTED PRAYERS

A shoe box sent with love - a prayer



For several years now, here at St Mary's, we have been supporting Operation Christmas Child. Here is a prayer that you might like to use during this year's campaign from November 1 to 18.

Father God, we pray for your blessing on our shoebox gifts and the mission of Operation Christmas Child.

We pray for all children and their families who are suffering in desperate circumstances of poverty, sickness or war, that you will meet their physical, mental, and spiritual needs. May these shoebox gifts offer a sign that they are not forgotten; that despite everything there is still hope.

We give thanks for all those in our local community who donate gifts at this time and for all those who willingly give up their time to be involved in the collecting, processing, transporting and safe delivery of the boxes.

We pray for all whose lives will be touched by these boxes, both those who give and those who receive, that through these gifts their hearts will be opened to your love and the message of your grace through Jesus Christ.

AMEN

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FUN DAY
WEDNESDAY

Meets every Wednesday 3.30-4.30 in term time in the Church Hall. Craft, activities and games set out for children to dip in and out of. Drinks and snacks available. For children aged around 5-11 but older and younger are welcome! Parents/carers please stay and have a drink and a chat. £1 per session - no need to book. Any questions contact Fran Siddle on 07944-761629 or francesiddle@yahoo.co.uk.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD-THE COUNTDOWN

Don't forget to join us for this year's Operation Christmas Child.



Do come and join us for our **Shoebox Praise@11 service** on Sunday, **November 4 at 11.00am** and bring your filled shoe boxes with you or just come along to find out more about Operation Christmas Child. All ages welcome.

If you would like to join in but cannot be at this special service, there will be other opportunities for you to be able to drop off your filled shoeboxes at church (via the main entrance) on:

- **Saturday, November 10**
between 10.00am and 12.00noon
- **Monday, November 12**
between 10.00am and 1.00pm
- **Wednesday, November 14**
between 10.00am and 1.00pm
- **Friday, November 16**
between 10.00am and 1.00pm.

The collection period ends on Friday, November 16 so don't miss out!

Last year, groups from our local community donated several hundred boxes of gifts. This was a fantastic response but did cause one or two logistical problems. To avoid this happening again this year, if you have more than a dozen boxes to bring along, or have difficulty dropping your boxes off at the times detailed above, we would be grateful if you would phone Lynne in the Parish Office (tel: 020 8393 2643) in advance so that we are properly prepared. Many thanks.

There are leaflets at the back of church providing more information or speak to Linda Staff at church or phone her on 020 8330 2286. Instructions for planning your shoe-box are also available on line at: goo.gl/uPwZ8A.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY NINE MONTHS TO 30/09/2018

The deficit for the nine months is £8,505 better than the budget but £828 more than the previous year.

Income is £1,844 higher than budget. When comparing to last year, income is £3,678 higher. Main reasons for the latter are that voluntary income is lower than last year by £1,893 but this has been offset by higher fees from weddings and funerals, rental income from the playing field and interest earned on deposits.

Expenditure is £6,661 less than budget. There have been lower spends on maintenance, churchyard and music department to date. Costs are £4,506 higher than last year due to an increase in the parish share, much needed replacement bell ropes and cassocks, offset by lower costs for churchyard maintenance and the music department.

The figures below are the normal running expenses and income for the church. They exclude legacies and monies spent on capital and pastoral projects funded from legacies given in previous years.

The Vicar and the PCC extend their thanks to you all, for your ongoing support to St Mary's.

It was another very good year for Ewell Village Fair due to the considerable efforts of everyone involved. The profit to date is £10,373 (£9,703 in 2017). The fair is a very important contribution to St Mary's finances.

The Vicar would like to thank everyone involved for their valuable contribution and attendance at the fair.

Angela and Noel Burns, Treasurers

	Actual 9 months 2018	Budget 9 months 2018	Variance 9 months 2018	Actual 9 months 2017	Effect on Reserves 9 months 2018
Incoming Resources	£95,984	£94,050	£1,844	£92,216	£3,678
Resources Expended	£110,655	£117,316	£6,661	£106,149	-£4,506
Net Incoming/Outgoing Resources	-£14,761	-£23,266	£8,505	-£13,933	-£828

PATRONAL FESTIVAL ORGAN RECITAL

On the 1889 'Father' Willis Organ
15 September 2018

For the annual Patronal Festival organ recital, Jonathan Holmes chose a programme designed to demonstrate the capacity of St. Mary's historic organ. Improvements to the organ have recently been carried out, but much more remains to be done as Jonathan explained at the outset.

J.S. Bach is *the* composer for organ: we heard two of his compositions. The "St. Anne" Prelude and Fugue in E flat major is known by that name in England because the fugue 'tune' resembles the well-known hymn "St. Anne" which we sing to the words "O God our Help in Ages Past". The other piece by Bach was the first movement of the Trio Sonata no. 6 in G major. The reason why it is called a Trio Sonata is partly because Bach composed it as a practice piece for his pupils, by which the hands learn to play independently from one another; and also because of the texture of the music. The parts for two hands act as a kind of duet, while the pedals play a third musical line – almost as though they had been written for different instruments.

All the other composers represented might be described as 'modern'. Probably the most senior of them all is **Claude Debussy**, the centenary of whose death occurs this year. That anniversary was celebrated by an arrangement for organ of his orchestral piece "Danse (Tarantelle styrienne)". Note that a Tarantella is a lively Italian dance in syncopated rhythm. Next oldest composer, **Louis Vierne** was, unlike Debussy, primarily a composer for the organ. Vierne's organ teacher was Charles-Marie Widor who was the pioneer in the form of 'organ symphony'. But it was Vierne who really established the organ symphony as a repertoire form. We heard two movements taken from the Fourth Symphony: a Romance (adagio, molto espressivo) and an angry Final (allegro). **Marcel Dupré** was born a few years after Vierne and studied under him; indeed, Vierne's brother René was a friend of Dupré's. The Prelude and Fugue in B major was dedicated to the memory of René, who was sadly killed during the First World War. Some forty years younger is the American composer **William Bolcom**. Among his manifold compositions are organ pieces such as "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child" and a number of Gospel Preludes, based on hymn tunes, one of which we heard tonight. **Giles Swayne** is next in terms of seniority. The substantial piece "Riff-Raff", which is partly inspired by music the composer heard in West Africa, was first performed in 1983 at St. Albans Cathedral. **Denis Bédard** born in 1950 is a well-known composer for organ both in his native Canada and in England; indeed we sometimes hear his music as final voluntary at church. Jonathan played the Variations on "Amazing Grace". Finally, **Thierry Escaich** (born 1965) whose avant-garde piece "Evocation II" completed tonight's programme.

Though best known for his dramatic organ transcriptions, **Edwin Lemare** nevertheless had a lighter side. That was exemplified in "Elves' Dance". As an encore, it brought the evening to a delightful, sparkling conclusion.

NEW ROPES FOR OLD!

Our old bell ropes were in a very sorry state, so I'm glad to report that we now have shiny new ropes.

The previous ropes had been fitted in 2007. A decade's use is par for the course, but at the beginning of 2017 they still appeared to be in reasonable condition, so we had hoped for another year's use. But when ropes start going, they deteriorate quite rapidly, and by the end of last year the ropes on the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were frayed, the 3, 4 and 5 badly - one of the three strands had already broken on one of them. The 7 and 8 ropes weren't too bad, and they've been retained for use as spares, or possibly replacing the long rope on the sanctus bell that comes down into the back of the church - that's been repaired enough times that it is now a bit short for some people to pull. (If anyone else would like to try chiming the sanctus bell during services, do let me know).

The number of companies making bell ropes has fortunately increased from 2 in 2007 to 4 or 5 now, but all have lead times of 7-8 months for making new ropes, so it was a bit of a race in time as to whether the new ropes would arrive in time before any of the old ones broke. Avon ropes were the most recommended, and coincidentally the young gentleman who runs it, although now living in Bristol, learnt to ring at Ewell.

The new ropes have polyester uppers, and just the lower parts (the 'tail ends') are made of the traditional hemp. The polyester uppers should last a long time, and in the next decade's time it might be possible just to replace the tail ends. Polyester is also less stretchy than hemp - ringing using new ropes that are all hemp can be a bit like pulling giant elastic bands, as it can take them months to settle in.

As the centenary of the end of WW1 approaches, it may be worth mentioning one wartime diary that I've read extracts of. Apparently some servicemen, when home on leave, used to pull bits of wool out of the 'sallies' (the fluffy bits) of the bell ropes of their church towers, to take back to the front as souvenirs of home. I hope the sallies didn't get too threadbare!

As some of you may have noticed on a Sunday morning, we have insufficient ringers to ring all of the bells. Wedding ringing is usually dependent on volunteers from other churches. So if anyone would like to learn to ring, please contact me, or even if you're just curious you could drop in on one of our practices on a Tuesday evening, from 7:30 to 9.

Jeff Cousins (Tower Captain), 020 8394 0572



A TRUE 'DAY FOR ALL'!

Saturday 22 September may have been wet and not very pleasant outside but inside St Mary's church the atmosphere was bustling with activities of different kinds. There were a number of things on offer for people to try or just enjoy watching. Bug Hotels proved to be something that both young people and adults enjoyed making. One six year-old said the Bug Hotels were 'the best thing there has ever been in church!'. A talk demonstrating the interior workings of a bee hive so captivated an audience that it was repeated later in the afternoon. A lady who coordinates P.A.T. dogs (Pets As Therapy) in this part of Surrey told us about the work these ordinary pets do to bring some pleasure to those whose lives are lonely and without the contact of animals. Four owners brought along their dogs who loved all the attention that they received from the people who stroked and petted them.

One of the highlights of the day was the presence of four owls. Three were sat outside in the low branches of a tree while the Barn Owl, tethered in the porch, lapped up the attention of those who were brave enough to let him perch on their arm.

The Vicar of St Mary's, the Reverend Russell Dewhurst, described it as "a day of celebration and welcome and grace and joy." A member of The Prayer Tree team said it was "A lovely day, a lovely atmosphere, a lovely welcome and a lovely celebration of God's creation". The beekeeper commented "It was very enjoyable sharing my experiences as a beekeeper with the help of my daughter. I was so pleased with the number of people who showed an interest in honey bees, my hive (albeit devoid of bees!!) and beekeeping throughout the year."

Our hope is that people from the local community come along and enjoy the day as well as church members. An activity leader offered positive feedback "I think that having set out to welcome in the wider community the day as a whole was a success. The Church these days, more than ever before has a role in welcoming in new ideas and attitudes, to learn about each other and to dispel prejudices. These "open days" are enormously important." One helper said "Our St Mary's Day for All was exactly as the title suggests - it was a day that adults and children alike could come along in an informal setting and find something to interest them. This year's theme was 'All Creatures Great and Small' and so included owls, dogs, bugs and bees. We also had plenty of delicious food on offer which always draws people in and creates a great community feel. People felt welcome I think." This was warmly echoed by another helper "I looked round while I was on the door welcoming visitors and thought what a lovely occasion it was. There were many small groups of people taking part in all the different activities on offer and the church was filled with happy sounds." Several people said it was the best ever 'A Day for All'. It couldn't happen without the time and commitment of the planning team and help from a great many people on the day as well as those who come along. Many thanks to everyone!

The refreshments that were served throughout the day, all free, were delicious. The day ended with a fish and chip supper (which was not free) but was still most welcome.



PCC MEETING

The September meeting of the PCC was mostly taken up with updates on the projects in the pipeline – the new toilets, the proposed car parking spaces, a new path in the Garden of Remembrance, improvements to the churchyard entrance, the completion of renewal of the carpeting in the Welcome Area and pew runners and exploring the possibility of working with an ordinand.

Recent repairs to the organ brought to light the urgent need for significant repairs to the bellows of our beloved Father Willis organ. These will hopefully go ahead at the beginning of 2019.

Grateful thanks were expressed to all those involved with the redecoration of the Church Hall which is now looking wonderful!

The success of this year's Ewell Village Fair was reported and, already thinking ahead, the search has begun for a committee, and especially someone to lead on the planning for Ewell Village Fair 2019! Could it be you?

Liz Divall, PCC Secretary

DAVID WILLIAM BENKE

8 July 1927 - 23 July 2018

David William Benke was born on 8 July 1927. His mother and father met at the Great Exhibition of 1925, when his mother, Marion came over from Ireland. David delighted in being half Irish. He was an only child and his childhood was not straightforward, in 1938 when just 11 he lost his father and he had to deal with a mother who suffered from repeated bouts of depression.

David left City of London Freeman's School, Ashted at 15 to work for Sun Insurance and then in an engine factory in Sutton. This was a very noisy environment and the cause of his hearing problems in later life. At 18 he volunteered for the Navy but was invalided out because of a one off attack of impetigo. He returned briefly to the factory, before being called up for National Service. David volunteered again, this time to join the Parachute Regiment. He completed his basic training in Dorchester followed by his jump training at Ringway, he gained his wings and then served in Palestine during the unrest in 1947. He would speak a lot in recent times of his experiences as a 'para', recalling escorting visitors to a maternity hospital and then being invited to join in the celebrations of the birth. David even spoke fondly about being shot at in the dark while enjoying a cigarette. David was so proud of being a 'para', he said one of his greatest achievements was earning his wings and often spoke about being able to march 30 miles in a day with full gear.

After he was demobbed, David returned to Sun Insurance and in 1950 he met Jean at a dance at the Drift Bridge Hotel. They married in the spring of 1953 at St Martins Church in Epsom followed by the reception where they first met, at the Drift Bridge. Their first home was in the flat above the stables on Ewell High Street where Martin joined them in 1955. The family moved to Purberry Grove where a further 3 boys, Roger, Graham & Philip arrived. Then in 1968 moved to Mount Pleasant where finally a daughter, Heather joined in 1970.

David turned his hand to many jobs as his family grew up and left the nest. He was a buyer at Pascals, he sold financial services at NUS, he ran a travel

company, he was as an estate agent and a freelance photographer. He ended his working life as the oldest paper boy in Ewell Village!

David said he never had much time for hobbies though he enjoyed reading, Dick Francis novels being a particular favourite. He would spend his time helping others; he drove a mini bus for the disabled, he helped out with the Scouts in Nork, he lectured at evening classes at Kingston Poly, he taught people to drive and supported family, friends and neighbours through difficult times. David would always try to leave people happier than he found them. He was also a generous man. He would say to visitors: "if it is in the house you can have it. If it isn't you can't". David also enjoyed helping at St Marys and he and Jean were regulars in the congregation for many years. David often read the lesson, helped with the collection and in later years particularly liked helping at the Village Fair where his duty was often being locked in the counting house, as he called it, processing all the day's takings.

Jean and David were married for 65 years. Their marriage was strong and their love for each other endured. They always wanted to be with each other, never more so than at the end when being apart because of David's illness was very hard for both of them. They provided a truly supportive environment to raise five children, which he was very proud of. Maybe it was because he was an only child but David was never happier than when seeing all his family together enjoying ourselves.

Family and his faith were most important to David, as his health failed and he was no longer able to attend Church, he took great comfort from Russell's home visits and especially so when Russell visited at the very end of David's life giving his final blessing.

David was an inspiration. He was admired by those that knew and loved him. But after a long and fruitful life of 91 years and his three battles with cancer when he never grumbled, or moaned or complained, he just bashed on regardless, David is at peace and I know very grateful for his life.

Heather Field



Young Church May

11 November 2018, the Third Sunday before Advent: Mark 1: 14-20

Jesus called out to them, "Come with me and I will teach you to catch men!"



Produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells, Go Team
11 November 2018

Can you find the words in the Wordsearch?

F T O P J E U S F W A C B F
I T M Y R A N U O T E H S I F
S I M O N C M S U A V R L G C
H P H B M C D E R O M A D A W
E S Y G B D H J S B K E T N B
R H R H G O U O X E H C N S A
M O Y P V L N E T S H Q K T V
E M E F S D E O L I P B J Z K
N P Y M X C I O N V E V I C Y
B C Q W O Z U G J P K W K Z Z
C Y T Q Q C F R A F N N Z M R
W C B T P G T C H H A H P B H
S R A H R H U E O Q X S I M Q
E E L I L A G J Y S J W U P S
B P G S Q Q R H H T B O L I J

Andrew boat catching come fish
fishermen John four lake Galilee James
Jesus John shore show men nets

Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee when he saw two brothers.
Re-arrange these letters to find their names

a d e i m n n o r s w

_____ and _____



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BEREAVEMENT CAFE

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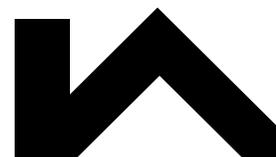
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Calendar for November

- S 3 1930 Organ recital by Philip Berg
- S 4 **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist with procession
1100 Praise@11 Operation Christmas Child
- T 6 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Side Chapel
- W 7 2000 Pilgrim Course in the Parish Room
- S 10 1000-1200 Operation Christmas Child collection in church
- S 11 **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
0800 Holy Communion
0900 Holy Communion (said)
1050 Civic Act of Remembrance and Choral Mattins
1700 All-in all age service followed by
1800 Club Sandwich for 7-11 year olds
- M 12 0930-1600 Holy Communion taken to the Housebound
1000-1300 Operation Christmas Child collection in church
- T 13 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Side Chapel
- W 14 1000-1300 Operation Christmas Child collection in church
2000 Pilgrim Course in the Parish Room
- T 15 0945 Communion taken to 'The Old House'
- F 16 1000-1300 Final Operation Christmas Child collection in church
- S 18 **SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Toddle Up!
1730 Choral Evensong
- M 19 1400 Holy Communion taken to The Elders
- T 20 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Side Chapel
1445-1545 Bereavement Café in the church Hall
- W 21 2000 Pilgrim Course in the Parish Room
- S 25 **CHRIST THE KING**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Morning Prayer with Holy Baptism
- T 27 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Side Chapel
- W 28 2000 Pilgrim Course in the Parish Room



COFFEE MORNINGS

**WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 10.30 am – 12 noon**

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ORGAN RECITAL

Philip Berg

Organist of
The Queen's Chapel of The Savoy

Saturday 3 November at 7:30pm

Tickets are £8 on the door
or £7 in advance through Eventbrite
Under 16s qualify for a reduced ticket
price of only £1

Black & White Dinner

The next church dinner will have a black and white theme and will be held in the church hall on Saturday 1 December. Why not wear black and/or white?

Three course meal and entertainment.

Tickets £10 on sale after services

December EPN

Please note that the December edition of EPN is due to be published one week later than normal and will not be available until Sunday 2 December