



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No. 563

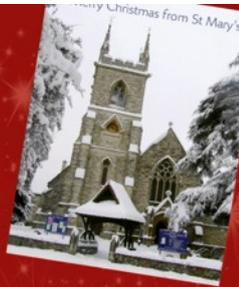
December 2019

60p



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

Christmas Services



Sunday 15 December

5:30pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Our choir lead us in singing traditional carols

Tuesday 24 Dec • Christmas Eve

2:00pm A Christmas Nativity

Service and carols with a nativity play

4:00pm The Arrival at Bethlehem

Traditional crib service for all the family with carols

11:15pm Midnight Mass

Atmospheric choral service sung by our choir

Wednesday 25 Dec • Christmas Day

8:30am Holy Communion

10am All-age Holy Communion

With carols & craft activities for kids



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COPY FOR THE NEXT EDITION: Please email EPN copy to: epn@stmarysewell.com. Handwritten or typed copy will only be accepted by prior agreement (call 020 8393 4804). Please do not embed photos in WORD files, but send the images separately. Copy date for the January edition is noon on Monday 9 December.

The Vicar writes

Could you paint a picture of truth, or goodness? Could you draw infinity, or oneness? These abstract concepts are so far beyond our everyday experience, beyond the world of sight and sound, that they seem impossible to reduce to an image. God - beyond time, beyond space, creator of everything - is similarly impossible to visualise. In the Old Testament, there is a strict injunction against trying to depict God, and for good reason.

And yet - at Christmas, we do see God. In Jesus Christ, we see the "image of the invisible God", as St Paul described him. What seemed impossible - seeing God - happened in the stable at Bethlehem. And what does this image look like? A superhero? An invincible emperor? A ruler of untold wealth and power? None of those things. When the shepherds arrive and look upon the Son of God they find a human baby. A child born to a poor family, in a forgotten backwater far from the centres of power and influence. And he is Emmanuel, God with us.

How many times has the Christmas story been depicted? It must run into the millions. Virgin and child; wise men on their journey; shepherds, star and angel: they all feature in countless paintings, Christmas cards, movies and nativity plays. Even now, more than two thousand years after that first Christmas, we see fresh depictions of Jesus' birth in this year's striking new Royal Mail stamps. Every one of these depictions shows us "the image of the invisible God." No, we can't draw infinity. But infinity has come to us. Goodness has taken human form. Truth has dwelt among us. Let us rejoice in every way, old and new, in which we see Jesus' birth depicted this Christmas. For when we look into the stable of Bethlehem, we are gazing into the engine room of the universe. It is a picture of which human beings will never tire. Whatever the ups and downs of life, whatever the results of world affairs or general elections, this picture gives us reason to have a merry Christmas.

IN CHURCH IN DECEMBER

Every Sunday, there is a simple said service of Holy Communion at 8am. At 9:30am there is a Sung Eucharist, with children's hour most weeks, followed by coffee.

On Advent Sunday, Sunday 1 December, we will be decorating the church for Christmas. All invited to come and join in while we enjoy refreshments, starting after the 9.30am service has finished. We will

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

Registered Charity Number 1128409

CLERGY

Vicar: The Reverend Russell Dewhurst MPhys BTh LLM; 020 8393 1297; Email: vicar@stmarysewell.com

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READER

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Mrs Wendy Paxman 020 8224 2851

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Publicity and Social Media Officer

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. All are welcome, 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.

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 7-12s.

1730 Once a month CHORAL EVENSONG Just like a cathedral Evensong in our own parish church. Usually the third Sunday.

ON WEEKDAYS

TUESDAYS 10 am: Holy Communion in the Side Chapel.

Occasionally there are variations from these patterns; details are given on page 12, on the Notice Board or in the Weekly Notes available on Sundays.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

The postal address is:

St Mary's Ewell Parish Church, London Rd, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 2AY.

The Parish Office is on the south side of the church.

The Office hours are normally 9.30-12.00 Mon, Wed and Fri and 9:30-11.00 on Tues, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

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CAFE NESBOT

On Tuesdays in term time, students from NESBOT are serving simple lunches in our church hall (London Rd, opposite the church) between 12 and 1.30pm.

Soup, sandwiches, salad, and cakes, with tea, coffee, and soft drinks.

Everyone welcome!

pause at 11am for a very brief all-age service of Praise@11, and then we finish decorating the church. This is quite early to decorate the church, but we do this so that the church looks ready for Christmas as we host the many school Christmas carol services and nativity plays that take place in the first half of December. This year, though, we will not be putting out the Christmas crib until much nearer Christmas.

In the evening on 1 December, our Advent Carol Service is at 5.30pm. We will start with the church in darkness, and fill it with light as the service begins. We then enjoy some of the beautiful music special to the Advent season, which so often gets overlooked in the anticipation of Christmas itself.

On Sunday 8 December, our late morning service is Choral Mattins from the 1662 Prayer book, at 11:15am. Our evening service at 5pm is All-in, an all-age service with lots of creative activities and drama. It's followed by Club Sandwich, our youth group for 7-12s, at 6pm.

Toddle Up is our monthly service especially for toddlers. It's brief and very informal and starts at 11am on Sunday 15 December. In the evening on 15 December is the first of our Christmas services, Nine Lessons and Carols, starting at 5:30pm. Traditional readings and congregational carols accompany Christmas choral music sung by our parish choir.

8am and 9:30am services (only) on Sunday 22 December.

Christmas Eve is on Tuesday 24 December. We have, as usual, two crib services. "A Christmas Nativity" at 2pm is a service with carols and a nativity play. "The Arrival at Bethlehem" is a traditional crib service for the family with carols, starting at 4pm. Please note that Midnight Mass starts at 11:15am on Christmas Eve (by the time we get to singing "Yea, Lord we greet thee" in the Eucharistic prayer it will be just about Midnight). The choir will be singing Christmas music from 10:45pm.

On Christmas Day itself, we start with a simple said service of Holy Communion at 8:30am. Then at 10am our All-age Sung Eucharist is very like a usual Sunday Sung Eucharist, but with Christmas Carols, and craft activities for children.

On Boxing Day, Ewell St Mary's Morris Men will be dancing in Ewell Village, raising money for the Mayor's Charities and for St Mary's (for which we are most grateful). They dance 12noon-3pm, with the full programme at <http://ewellmorris.co.uk>. Do come along and support them.

Note there is no 10am Holy Communion service on 24 or 31 December.

On Sunday 29 December, we celebrate the first Sunday of Christmas with the usual 8am and 9:30am services.

Your friend and Parish Priest

Russell Dewhurst



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REMEMBRANCE DAY 10 NOVEMBER 2019



CONFIRMATION



Four candidates from St Mary's were confirmed on 17 October 2019 by the Bishop of Dorking at St Martin's, Epsom. In total, sixteen people were confirmed from across the Epsom deanery. Congratulations to them all!

RD

YOUR EWELL PARISH NEWS

The Editorial Team and Production Team hope that you have enjoyed reading the EPN this year and finding out more about all that goes on at St Mary's. We try to keep you abreast of our services and the many activities to which you are most cordially invited.

Your distributor will be knocking at your door this month to ask whether you would like to subscribe again for 2020. We hope that you will. The price remains at £6 for 12 delivered copies or 60p per individual copy bought in church.

It is also possible to receive EPN by email. Please see our website for details

SAVE THE DATE

The 2020 EWELL VILLAGE FAIR will be held on Saturday 18 July

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‘The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light’ - Isaiah 9 v.2

As we begin to make our Advent journey once again, let us begin by thinking about those who are living in darkness. They may be on the other side of the world from us, or right next door. There are many reasons for walking in darkness - fear, loneliness, oppression, depression, poverty or violence are just a few. God sees those in darkness and becomes light for them.

Prayer

Lord, we name before you those we know who are going through times of darkness. We think of them and ask, gracious God, that you may bring them light, hope, love and direction. In Jesus' name, Amen.

‘Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace to those on whom His favour rests.’ - Luke 2:14

Let us stop in the busyness of our hectic lives and find peace. Let us take a moment to be still. Be assured that God loves each one of us and is with us. Take a moment to think about all that the message of Christmas means. Christ has come, salvation has come, God is with us.

Prayer

Lord, I receive your love with joy. I welcome you here and now. You are good and you are worthy to be praised. You wrap me in arms of grace, you smile on me. I am yours and you are here. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for being my Saviour, my hope and my friend. Amen.

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FUNDAY
WEDNESDAY

Meets every Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm 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 5-11 but older and younger siblings are very welcome!

Parents and carers please stay for the session and have a drink and a chat.

£1.50 per child participating in the session—
There is no need to book, just come along and have some fun!

Any questions or queries please contact Leanne Newman on families@stmarysewell.com or 07447389753

OUR NEW PASTORAL ASSISTANTS



Andrew Sykes and Barbara Gibson-Sykes were authorised as pastoral assistants for St Mary’s Ewell on 9 November at Guildford Cathedral. The service was led by the Bishop of Guildford, who authorised pastoral assistants for parishes across our diocese. At the time of writing, it is planned that Andrew and Barbara’s commencement of authorised ministry will be marked at St Mary’s on Sunday 17 November. They will be part of the ministry team here, and will be involved in pastoral ministry in the parish, including work at care homes, visits to the sick and housebound, home communions, and other ministry.

RD



FOOD BANK WISH LIST

The Epsom and Ewell foodbank has been run by Jonathan Lees since he founded it in 2012. Since then the number of people who are desperate for food has grown and grown.

As well as much wanted tinned food, UHT milk, longlife fruit juices, cereals, and washing-up liquid, the foodbank is also able to take some household items. At this time of the year as the weather gets colder, hot water bottles, new gloves or insulated travel cups are appreciated. (Porridge and baked beans are not needed at the moment.)

Foodbanks do not have any council or government funding so gifts of money that will help keep the centre running are much appreciated. Apart from the day to day cost of lighting and heating for the centre, it also runs a van that collects food and transfers it to other distribution points in the area. The centre itself is staffed by volunteers.

If you have items other than food that you would like to donate to the foodbank then please contact the foodbank office by email admin@generation.org.uk or phone 020 8786 8221, to find out if your item will be of use.

DB

5 DAY GIFT MARKET

Tuesday 10 - Saturday 14th December 2019

Open 10am to 5pm, 4pm Saturday

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BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON

Saturday 25 January 3-5pm in the church hall



All Ages Welcome

St Mary’s Church plays board games!

Come and join us 3-5pm at St Mary’s Church Hall for some board game fun. Games of luck and skill, familiar games, some new and unusual games, suitable for young and old. Free tea & cake will be served. No need to book – just turn up!



St Mary’s Ewell www.stmarysewell.com

MAURICE DURUFLÉ'S REQUIEM 'FROM SCRATCH' WITH MOVEMENTS FROM DURUFLÉ'S ORGAN WORKS 5 October 2019

Organ accompaniment: **Simon Gregory**
 Organ soloist and conductor: **Jonathan Holmes**
 Mezzo-soprano soloist: **Laura Oldfield**
 Cello soloist: **Sarah Holmes**
 Baritone soloist: **Leo Morrell**

Members of St. Mary's Parish Choir welcomed guest singers from Epsom Choral Society, Carshalton Choral Society and the Parkinsons Choir.

All the music was by the French composer Maurice Duruflé. One of France's leading organists during the twentieth century, Duruflé combined a career as organ virtuoso with a forty-year job as organist at the church of St. Etienne-du-Mont in Paris. The abiding love of Duruflé's life was Gregorian Chant and that is evident from his Requiem; other influences on his music were Ravel, Debussy and Fauré; he studied composition with Paul Dukas – of 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice' fame – and organ with Louis Vierne and Charles Tournemire who had been a pupil of César Franck. Notoriously fastidious and self-critical as a composer, Duruflé published a total of just fourteen works mostly for organ but also including the Requiem which is by far the most well-known. Indeed, after initial critical hostility, the work has become popular in both France and England and is a classic of the twentieth-century choral repertoire.

However, the evening opened with one of Duruflé's organ pieces, the **Prelude sur le nom d'Alain** which translates as 'Prelude upon the name of Alain'. The title refers to the fact that people's names can be transliterated into musical notation. A well-known example is the name 'Bach' which, in musical notation, is often used as a basis for variations - and not only for the organ! 'Alain' refers to Jehan Alain, a friend of Duruflé's and who would have been a major composer had it not been for his death in the Second World War. One of Alain's extant compositions, 'Litanies', is quoted at the end of the Prelude.

This Prelude also acted as a prelude to the famous Requiem which followed. Like the Requiem by Gabriel Fauré, which Duruflé admired, the work exists in versions scored for choir and orchestra, and for choir and organ; it was the latter version tonight. Also like the Fauré, the opening Introit '*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine*' ('Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord') moves without a break into the '*Kyrie eleison*' (Lord have mercy'). So far the mood has been very restrained. In the '*Domine Jesu Christe*' ('Lord Jesus Christ') however, the choir becomes much more warm and emotional, a solo baritone taking over briefly. This leads into the *Sanctus* (Holy, holy, holy) sung by the choir and which, in tonight's performance, led to the **Fugue sur le nom d'Alain** ('fugue upon the name of Alain') for organ, companion piece to the Prelude heard earlier.

A gentle **Sicilienne, opus 5**, by Duruflé ushered us back to our seats from interval refreshments. Now came the remainder of the Requiem. Just as in the Fauré, the reflective *Pie Jesu* ('Gracious Lord Jesus') is scored for solo soprano or mezzo-soprano. Tonight, Laura Oldfield (soprano) stood in for the indisposed Rachel Chalkley Gunton. Unlike the Fauré, the choir in *Agnus Dei* ('O Lamb of God') takes on an accompanying role while the organ plays the theme in block chords. Choir reverts to its main role as supplicant in the '*Lux aeterna*' ('May eternal light shine on them, Lord'). The choir basses plus solo baritone lead the way in *Libera me* ('Deliver me, Lord') at the end of which all the choir reverts to the music and words of the opening *Requiem aeternam*. Finally, the *In Paradisum* ('Into Paradise') which - again like the Fauré - is not part of the usual requiem service but

which the composer believed would round off the work well, brought the evening to a quiet, spiritual end.

TT

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!

Did you recognise the catchphrase made popular in Monty Python's Flying Circus - a BBC TV programme running in the early 1970's? Recently some changes that have happened over the years have struck me. How completely different now is the attitude to going out for a meal - when I was young it was a rare treat. How completely different now are our high streets and shopping malls with most of them having at least a couple of coffee shops - a big change over the past ten years or so. How completely different now is our attitude to plastic - a rapid change that has happened over the past year as pictures of beaches and sea coves full of indestructible plastic bottles and evidence of plastic particles in fish and other sea creatures have filled our TV screens, newspapers and the Internet.

We know we can bring about a change in the use of plastic, but how best to do so? One answer is for each of us to take action ourselves. One thing I've done is to replace one use plastic liquid soap dispensers with bars of soap. It's something possible in each home. What action have you taken or what is your favourite tip to encourage others to better care for God's creation? Do please let me know by ringing 020 8337 6347 or emailing assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com I'll feed your ideas into St Mary's eco-group. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sue Ayling

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

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

27 October Poppy Gillian Ablitt Miller
 Basil William Smitherim
 Tobias Edward Bond Yates

CONFIRMATION

My God accept my heart this day, and make it always thine (AMR 459)

At St. Martin's, Epsom by the Bishop of Dorking

17 October Denise Donovan
 Harry James Ellis
 Sam Andrew Ellis
 Rufus John Graham-Maw

FUNERAL

Let light perpetual shine upon them

23 October Sandra Dickinson, aged 82
Interment of ashes
 22 October Kathleen Trickett, aged 85

OCTOBER FUN DAY

Monday 28 October saw our first 'Fun Day' of this school year. We explored the theme 'Under the Sea' through craft and sea related games. A fun day was certainly had by all.

We started the day with an exciting carousel of craft activities which included making egg box turtles, paper plate aquariums, pom-pom fish and making our own cup and ball games based on



the story of Jonah and the Whale. The children enjoyed the activities and shared their knowledge of their favourite sea creatures. Each activity tried to include an element of recycled materials where possible and the children knew lots about reusing, recycling and reducing to do their part for the planet.



Our parachute games were a hit and the children were excited to play sharks and fish. It was great to see the older children encouraging the younger children in the games and activities.

We ended the day with the children by discussing how God has charged us with looking after His creation and thought about the small things that we could all do to care for God's world and everything in it.

We are very much looking forward to the next 'Fun Day' on Saturday 30 November. The children had lots of suggestions for activities that they would like included on the day and it will be an excellent opportunity for parents to start their Christmas shopping whilst the children are enjoying themselves.

LN

Together at Christmas

Are you alone at Christmas this year?

Come and join us for a traditional festive dinner!

'Churches Together in Ewell'
is pleased to offer a Christmas dinner plus festive activities to all who would otherwise be on their own.

Christmas Day 12:30 - 4:15pm

at a local church.
This offer is open to all Ewell residents.
Transport can be arranged.

No charge

To join us call 020 8397 7307 or 020 8393 3011
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St John's, Stoneleigh
St Paul's, Howell Hill
The King's Church, Epsom

Christ Church, Ewell
Ruxley Church
St Mary's, Cuddington
Stoneleigh Baptist
West Ewell Evangelical

CAN YOU HELP?

The poster above provides details about the local Christmas Day lunch arranged by Churches Together in Ewell for those who would otherwise be alone at Christmas. Might you be a volunteer to help with the lunch? There is a wide variety of tasks needing to be done, including setting up the tables, being a chauffeur for the guests, being a host/hostess for the Christmas meal itself or helping to clear up afterwards. Full details are on the 'Looking Outward' board at the back of church on the 'We Need You!' sheet. If you can give practical help on the day or want to know more, please ring 020 8397 7307 or email christmas.dinner@dsl.pipex.com, ideally by 1 December but at any time until Christmas Eve! If you know someone who would like to have a meal, or you would yourself, call 020 8393 3011 or e-mail christmas.dinner@dsl.pipex.com Any questions to Sue Ayling (assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com or 20 8337 6347).

BEREAVEMENT CAFE

Losing someone you love can turn
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St Mary’s Toddler Groups

Monday afternoons (13:15-14:45) & Thursday mornings (10:00 - 11:30) during term time in the church hall.

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Calendar for December



- S 1 ADVENT SUNDAY**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Praise@11 Decorating the Church for Christmas
1730 Advent Carol Service
- M 2** 1930 Meeting of Parochial Church Council
- T 3** 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Side Chapel
- S 8 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1115 Choral Mattins
1700 All-In all-age service followed by:
1800 Club Sandwich for 7-12 year olds
- T 10** 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Side Chapel
2000 Meeting of Finance Committee
- S 15 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Toddle Up!
1730 Nine Lessons and Carols
- M 16** 1000-1600 Holy Communion to the Housebound
- T 17** 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Side Chapel
1445-1545 Bereavement Café in the church Hall
- T 19** Holy Communion to The Old House
- S 22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
- M 23** 1345 Holy Communion to The Elders
- T 24 CHRISTMAS EVE**
1400 A Christmas Nativity
1600 The Arrival at Bethlehem
2315 Midnight Mass
- W 25 CHRISTMAS DAY**
0830 Holy Communion
1000 All-Age Sung Eucharist
- S 29 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist



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C FEE MORNINGS

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