

The Fourth Sunday of Lent
7th March 2016
'Listen to your life'

I imagine we all have our favourite writers. They are the ones who have the remarkable ability to speak into our situations as if they were writing to us personally. To stumble upon them is to realize how much more there is to experience in life. We are disciples: always learning and hopefully growing, even if sometimes it feels like two steps forward and three steps back. The American writer Frederick Buechner states that to be wise is to be eternally curious.

I think this has been one of the starting points for those of us who have been sharing in the Lent Study group. Together we have tried to foster an atmosphere where questions can be asked, familiar assumptions challenged and space is given for the unfolding of fresh insights.

The cultivation of wisdom isn't about obsessing over moral rectitude, but deepening our curiosity for the things of the Spirit which will always continue to surprise and in some cases shock us. Again, Frederick Buechner writes, 'Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is. In the boredom and pain of it, no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the

last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace'. In learning to think theologically, isn't this what we are doing? Listening to our lives. We see for them what they are: theatres of mercy, the place where God acts.

In the Wednesday study group we have sought to discover how theology isn't something which happens 'over there', but comes alive in us. When done well it should unsettle, confirm, confuse, delight and strengthen our hearts because it's going to touch upon our lived experience.



Part of the Church's vocation is to provide a vocabulary to help people interpret their experience. I see the tradition of the Church as a type of map which helps navigate our way in the world. We are released from the awesome responsibility of having to prepare those maps

from scratch and should it be that we find ourselves in uncharted territory then we will need to have been formed sufficiently in the faith that we can work out the next steps. The liturgy, the study, the social life and my personal discipline all play a role in becoming well-acquainted with the maps which enable us to listen to our lives and see them for what they are: a glorious mystery and a gift.

Fr Louis Darrant

News & Events

JUMBLE SALE – hold the date

The next Parish Jumble Sale will be held on **Saturday 2nd April**. If you have items for the sale, please bring them to church (ensuring that you leave them with a responsible person and don't just dump them in the stair wells!). Niki Bartman will be glad to coordinate collection of items – or ring the Parish Office.

BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL

As part of our Lenten observance the Bishop of London commends this year's appeal as he writes: 'It is clear that sadly there is no imminent end to the systematic and harsh persecution of the Christian Church in Iraq and Syria. A tragedy of historic proportions is unfolding in some of the most ancient homelands of our faith ... Open Doors is providing emergency food supplies and hygiene kits to 10,000 families every month in Syria. In Iraq, Aid to the Church is focusing on the urgent needs for housing, medicine and education which will enable the Church to maintain its Christian presence and witness to Jesus Christ'.

Further details on the situation in Iraq and Syria and how to support this appeal can be found on the information table.

LENT STUDY COURSE

The final session of this series will be held on Wednesday following the 18:45 mass. We will be exploring Rowan Williams's understanding of prayer from his book **BEING CHRISTIAN**. These sessions stand alone in their own right so please do feel welcome even if you haven't been able to come along to earlier sessions.

MEDITATION SPACE

Please join us on Monday evening for the regular 'Meditation Space' at St Paul's following the Monday evening mass. If you can come to mass, great – the meditation group will start at



6:30pm. No previous experience of meditation is necessary, though all will be welcome; this promises to be a perfect introduction to exploring this way of prayer. The meditation space will conclude at 7:00pm.

LYON – JUNE 2016

Information about the forthcoming Parish trip to Lyon, France (6th-9th June 2016) is now available on the Parish Website, www.spkb.org

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL – JULY 2016

Please make a note of the forthcoming **Cathedral visit to Lincoln** on Saturday 16th July 2016 (by coach from St Paul's Knightsbridge, departing at 08:15am, returning by 18:45) – and of a preparatory talk on **'The Glories of Lincoln'** on Wed 13th July at 19:30 by Dr Serenhedd James, columnist for the Church Times and Honorary Research Fellow at St Stephen's House, Oxford.

ST PAUL'S FESTIVAL CHOIR CONCERT

Please join The St Paul's Festival Choir for their Spring Concert in the church on Saturday 19th March at 19:30. Tickets are available on the door at £18 or in advance from choir members for £15. The Festival Choir and Orchestra will be conducted by Richard Latham. The evening's programme includes Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise and Frank Bridge's 'A Prayer'.

HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME

Please check the parish website for full details of the Holy Week and Easter programme of services and events at St Paul's. We look forward to having you with us.

The Ordo & Intercessions

There is a mass daily at St Paul's and all are welcome to attend. Service papers are available outside the Chapel or Chancel.

Diagram illustrating service details for Tuesday 5 February – feria:

- Date and observance: Tuesday 5 February – feria
- Colour of vestments: ● Mass at 18:00; DEL p.80, year 1;
- Response to the psalm: I will proclaim your name among the people
- Page where the lections are to be found: (indicated by an arrow pointing to the text box)

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ hast delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, who hast taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for thee: give us the will to be the servant of others as thou wast the servant of all, who gavest up thy life and didst die for us, yet livest and reignest, now and for ever. **Amen.**

SERVICES TIMES

Sunday 6 March: 4th Sunday of Lent

◇ Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

Monday 7 March: Perpetua & Felicity and companions, martyrs, 203

◇ Mass at 18:00; EH p. 86

R: Many waters cannot quench God's love.

Tuesday 8 March: Edward King, bishop, 1910

◇ Mass at 18:00; EH p. 89

R: I myself will search for my sheep, says the Lord.

Wednesday 9 March: feria of Lent

◇ Mass at 18:45; DEL p. 135, year 2

R: The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.

Thursday 10 March: feria of Lent

◇ Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 137, year 2

R: Remember me, O Lord, when you show favour to your people.

Friday 11 March: feria of Lent

◇ Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 139, year 2

R: The Lord is near to the brokenhearted.

Saturday 12 March: feria of Lent

◇ Mass at noon; DEL p. 141, year 2

R: God is my shield that is over me.

We pray daily for:

- For our Bishop, Richard
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street
- All Saints, Nhamavila in Mozambique
- the unity of the Church
- Peace and justice in God's world
- All prisoners and refugees
- persecuted Christians in Syria and Iraq

Among the sick and those in need:

Jean Marc Lehut; Michelle Trauman; Judy Beecroft; Geoffrey Wilcox; Barbara Farrell Wilson; Fabienne Frichot; Jamie Britten; Alan Lintott; Bishop Michael Colclough; Margot Stewart; Jane Elstub; Sal Allen; Clariette Wilmot; Elizabeth Gordon; Carole Taylor; Michael Cooke; John King; Alexandra Holesh; Vivienne Mallinson.

We pray for all the recently departed & for those whose year's mind falls at this time:

David Woolley	1 March
William Humbert	4 March
Ronnie Lindsay	6 March
Joan Kelly	7 March
Joy Linton Smith	7 March
William Courtauld	7 March
Ross Benson	8 March
Richard Austin Butler	8 March
Julian Goldsmid	13 March

ST PAUL'S

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

THE PARISH OFFICE

32a Wilton Place, London SW1X 8SH
Telephone 020 7201 9999
info@spkb.org

THE PARISH CLERGY



Vicar
Fr Alan Gyle
alan@spkb.org
020 7201 9999 • 07939 805970

Associate Vicar



Fr Louis Darrant
louis@spkb.org
020 7201 9992 • 07779 103826

Honorary Assistant Clergy



(l-r) Fr Nick Mercer; Fr Andrew Norwood;
Fr Graham Palmer; Bishop Michael Colclough
*A priest is available before or after the daily Eucharist
for confession and spiritual guidance, and also by
appointment. A member of the parish clergy is always
available in pastoral emergencies and we will be glad
to be contacted at whatever hour, seven days a week;
however, as a general rule, Fr Alan is unavailable on
Mondays and Fr Louis is unavailable on Fridays.*

IN THE PARISH OFFICE



Vicar's PA
Felicity Cranfield
felicity@spkb.org
020 7201 9999



Parish Administrator
Kimball Bailey
pa@spkb.org
020 7201 9999

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Director of Music
Stevie Farr
stephen.farr@yahoo.co.uk
07930 542555



Assistant Director of Music
Michael Papadopoulos
michael.pap514@gmail.com



Organ Scholar
Charlie Warren

LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



Churchwarden
John Tweddle
john.tweddle@bidwells.co.uk
020 77363878



Churchwarden
Phil Davies
philip@spkb.org
07989 387198

Deputy Churchwardens (Sidesmen)

Roland Brunner, Caroline Docker, Margaret Gadow, Gardenia Griffith, Nicoletta Lindsay, Aidan Linton-Smith, Jeremy Orlebar, Susie Thornton, Tom Tull.

Treasurer: Noel Craven

Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy

Veronica Scott
veronicamscott@hotmail.com
020 7603 7680