

## The Sixth Sunday of Easter 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 #hillsborough

Palpable relief on Tuesday of this week for the embattled families and friends of those who died in the crush at the Hillsborough Stadium tragedy in 1989. After years of battling for the truth, the jury's verdict of unlawful killing puts to bed a lie told by the Police in the guilty and confused heat of the moment and then reinforced in the following hours, days and weeks – that it was the fans themselves who had caused the disaster, rather than fatal errors of judgement by those in control of the ground and in command on the day. So, relief, some *closure* for those who have lived with loss compounded by doubt and confusion and perhaps *vindication* for those who have lived with an internalised sense of confused shame that somehow those who'd died – their loved ones – had been responsible.



Aristotle, without ever defining his terms too closely, speaks of κάθαρσις – *catharsis* – as one of the effects of tragedy. He acknowledges that tragedy not only grips the players involved (whether literally, on stage, or metaphorically, in real life) but that it also has a powerful effect on its viewers. Those who stand on the sidelines are touched by events played out before them. In his *Poetics*, Aristotle was clear that its effect is “cleansing” or “purifying” – taking excess or confused emotion out of a situation so that there can be clarity and a new (and better) way of seeing and understanding. We can be positively changed by tragedy. In this sense, this week's news has also been cathartic for those directly involved.

Beyond those *immediately* involved, Tuesday's verdict unleashed a huge wave of comment on social media: Facebook, Twitter and the like. A great tidalwave of emotion swept through the ether as people tweeted and re-tweeted comment, much of it highly emotional. #hillsborough. I've found myself pausing to reflect on what we are doing when we get 'caught up' in the emotion of the twittersphere and virtual space. Of course on one level a visceral response in us spectators is legitimate: this *is* an issue about public trust and accountability – and if we can't trust the police we find ourselves as a society in a poor and debased place. But so *much* emotion and from people so far removed from the events themselves?

As I write, I realise this needs to be a longer essay – and here there are only ever 500 or so words! So for now, a question: what is a useful response to terrible events in the lives of others? It is an ethical question. Increasingly in our age, the answer of many seems to be 'to comment so as to be seen doing so by others'. Tweet and retweet. Hashtag, hashtag. Our emotion is all 'out there' – little of it 'held in us'. What then of catharsis? Where shall we be changed in a digital age in which our space for traditional and perhaps more authentic responses seems to be being diminished? One such place and one traditional response, of course, is the place of contemplation and quiet prayer – which needs, at least, to be one response for people of faith, even as we tweet.  
*Fr Alan Gyle*

# News & Events

## VALERY TWEDDLE RIP

We commend to God with thanksgiving Valery Tweddle who died peacefully at home this week after a long and dignified struggle with illness. Her funeral will take place in St Paul's on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 2:30pm.

Our thoughts and prayers are with John, their children, Victoria and Charlie and their families.

## MEDITATION SPACE

**This Monday** 'Meditation space' on Monday (April 18<sup>th</sup>) following the 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; a perfect introduction to exploring this way of prayer. The meditation space will conclude at 7:00pm.



## LIVING THE EUCHARIST

**This Wednesday** after the mass at 18:45 you are warmly invited to the second session in this term's Adult Formation Course, Living the Eucharist. Fr Louis will introduce a discussion on how our lives are changed by encountering Christ in the Eucharist. Talk and discussion from 19:30.



## HELP FOR HEROES

Yesterday Fr Louis completed a Tough Mudder event in Henley. The challenge was to complete a 12 mile obstacle course which included around 25-30 obstacles to test mental and physical endurance. Money raised from the day will go to Help for Heroes. If members of the congregation would still like to sponsor Fr Louis, a form can be found at the back. Alternatively you can sponsor online by visiting [www.justgiving.com/louis-darrant1](http://www.justgiving.com/louis-darrant1).

## ASCENSION DAY

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May a Solemn Eucharist will be celebrated for the Feast of the Ascension at 19:00 followed by drinks in the Vicarage. Everyone is welcome. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of church.



## LYON – JUNE 2016



Information about the forthcoming Parish trip to Lyon, France (6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> June 2016) is now available on the Parish Website, [www.spkb.org](http://www.spkb.org)

## LINCOLN CATHEDRAL – JULY 2016

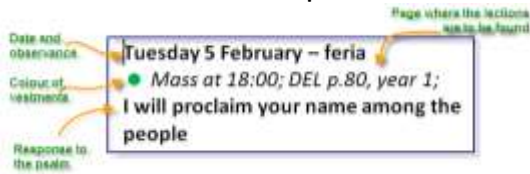
Please make a note of the forthcoming **Cathedral visit to Lincoln** on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016 (by coach from St Paul's Knightsbridge, departing at 08:15am, returning by 18:45) – and of a preparatory talk on **'The Glories of Lincoln'** on Wed 13<sup>th</sup> July at 19:30 by Dr Serenhedd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

## CLARIETTE WILMOT RIP

A requiem mass for Clariette Wilmot will take place at 18:00 on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. All are welcome.

# 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.



## COLLECT FOR FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

God our redeemer, who hast delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of thy Son: grant, that as by his death he hath recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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

O God our Father, whose Son, Jesus Christ, doth give the water of eternal life: may we ever thirst for thee, the spring of life and fountain of goodness, through him who liveth and reigneth, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## SERVICES TIMES

### Sunday 1 May: 6th Sunday of Easter

◆ Masses at 09:00 & 11:00;

### Monday 2 May: Philip & James, Apostles

◆ **Bank Holiday Mass at noon**; Mass with Gloria; EH p. 133

**R: In returning and rest you shall be saved.**

### Tuesday 3 May: Rogation Day

◆ **Mass at 8:00am**; DEL p. 232

**R: Your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever.**

### Wednesday 4 May: Rogation Day; English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era

◆ Mass at 18:45; EH p. 139

**R: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you, says your maker.**

### Thursday 5 May: Ascension Day

◆ Solemn Mass at 19:00, followed by the Ascension Day party at 20:15 in the Vicarage

## NINE DAYS OF PRAYER & PREPARATION FOR THE COMING DAY OF PENTECOST

### Friday 6 May: feria of Ascensiontide

◆ Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 235

**R: God has gone up with a merry noise.**

### Saturday 7 May: feria of Ascensiontide

◆ Mass at noon; DEL p. 236

**R: God has gone up with a merry noise.**

### We pray daily for:

- For our Bishop, Richard
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street in Washington DC
- 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
- our ministry with young people

### Among the sick and those in need:

John Watson; Stephen Allen; Jean Marc Lehut; Michelle Trauman; Geoffrey Wilcox; Fabienne Frichot; Jamie Britten; Alan Lintott; Bishop Michael Colclough; Margot Stewart; Jane Elstub; Sal Allen; Elizabeth Gordon; Carole Taylor; Michael Cooke; John King; Alexandra Holesh; Vivienne Mallinson.

### We pray for all the recently departed

Valery Tweddle; Michael Gibbs; Clariette Wilmot; John Willmington; John Findlater

### For those whose year's mind falls at this time:

Michael Taylor	2 May
Timothy Green	2 May
Michael Barney	5 May

# ST PAUL'S

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

## THE PARISH OFFICE

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## THE PARISH CLERGY



### Vicar

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### Associate Vicar

Fr Louis Darrant  
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## 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

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### Parish Administrator

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## THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



### Director of Music

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### Assistant Director of Music

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### Organ Scholar

Charlie Warren

## LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



### Churchwarden

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### Churchwarden

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### Deputy Churchwardens (Sidesmen)

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**Treasurer:** Noel Craven

### Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy

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