

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES:

Sunday: 1 January 2017

Christmas 2

Sung Mass at 11:00

Cantor: Helen Meyerhoff

Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer

Monday: 2 January 2017

The Naming &

Circumcision of Jesus

Mass at 18:00

Tuesday: 3 January 2017

Feria

Mass at 18:00 (not at 08:00 this week)

Wednesday: 4 January 2017

Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 18:45

Thursday: 5 January 2017

Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 18:00

Friday: 6 January 2017

Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 18:00

Saturday: 7 January 2017

Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at noon

Sunday: 8 January 2017

Epiphany Sunday

Family Mass at 09:00

Solemn Mass at 11:00

Galloway Mass – Macmillan

Carol of the Magi – Rutter

Three Kings – Cornelius

Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle

followed by Epiphany Cake and wine

Thrill-seeking

In Hunan in China, a 100m glass walkway has been built around the side of a cliff on Tianmen mountain. The drop is sheer and if you suffer from vertigo it is not recommended. But many people don't, and the attraction is just the latest of many hugely popular tourist attractions in China to seek to satisfy the nation's crazy longing for terrifyingly vertiginous experiences.

Why do we seek thrills and like to be frightened? Why horror movies, or precarious pathways or dangerous extreme sports?

Recent research in the USA draws a distinction between thrill-seeking and genuinely being terrified. The difference lies in what we know to be true. Real terror is not something anybody wants. But elective thrill-seeking when we know, on some deep level, that we are in fact safe, has the effect of releasing dopamine in our brains. And



dopamine is highly addictive! So people will go to all sorts of crazy lengths to get their fix of it. Hence ariel glass walkways and sky-diving.

Why, of course, in the modern world one needs to seek out frightening experiences, I can't imagine. The reality of life in 2016-17 is scary enough. Seldom as one year succeeds to another, I think, have I had more sense of being exposed to threats (real and imagined) or of living in a genuinely chaotic and volatile world. There are wars, there is terrorism, not to mention the results of various Western democratic

processes in the year now past that make walking on a narrow glass walkway pinned to a cliff above a perilous sheer drop seem quite tame! We can hope for sanity and stability in our world, but there is no guarantee.

Thankfully, of course, like the elective thrill-seekers, we avoid real terror because of what we know: that despite everything 'underneath are the everlasting arms of God'. This is the faith we will need to cling to if we are to navigate the coming year of uncertainty.

May yours be a happy one!

Fr Alan Gyle

Normal Service is (almost) resumed!

After an exhausting run of charity events in December, and then the days of rest following Christmas, normal service is about to be resumed at St Paul's.

By this Wednesday, 4th January, everyone will be back in harness and the

Church and Parish Office will resume a normal pattern of working and praying.

Please consider making a resolution for 2017 to support at least one act of worship in addition to Sunday morning. You might

consider early mass at 08:00 on Tuesdays followed at 08:30 by silent meditation. Or on Wednesday evenings from January join us for the 18:45 Evening Service and refreshments.

Happy New Year!

New design weekly sheet...

Welcome to the first of the 'new design' weekly sheet. It is larger and hopefully clearer and easier to read.

There is stuff missing, of course – like the page numbers and psalm responses for the weekday masses; but these are now on a separate document in the chapel which will be produced each month.

It is interesting how, in organisations, we carry on

doing what we do without ever reviewing things! The present style of weekly sheet has been around since 2012 in roughly the same format. But in 2016 we wondered why we were giving people information which the vast majority of them never needed to know – and why in any case we were doing so in tiny print that many people with less than 20:20 vision find impossible to read! The folded, A5 format

gave very little flexibility and often resulted in a rather squashed production! So this is the next step in its evolution to something more useful.

In January we will be doing some user-reviews – someone even called it a focus-group process! If you have views on how this weekly labour of love could be improved upon, will you let us know? Thank you.

"This year our keeping of the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul will extend to a five day musical feast"



This year our keeping of the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul will extend to a five day musical feast.

On Wednesday 25th January at 7:00pm we invite you to join us for **SOLEMN EVENSONG** sung by the choir of St Paul's. Music will

include Victoria's 'O quam gloriosum', Stanford's Canticles in C and Mendelssohn's 'How lovely are the messengers'.

On Friday 27th January from 1pm – 2pm there will be a free **'DROP-IN' LUNCHTIME RECITAL** for our neighbours and friends with Howard Shelley (piano) and the London Mozart Players.

On Saturday 28th January at 7:30pm at the **FESTIVAL**

CONCERT, Tamila Samidjanova (our SPK Piano Scholar) and the Thames Chamber Orchestra will play Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 and Mozart's Symphony No. 39.

And on Sunday 29th January there will be one mass only, at 11am, an **ORCHESTRAL MASS** for the Conversion of St Paul. Music by Mozart and Mendelssohn with a new commission by Findlay Spence. Preacher: Fr Alan.

ALMA Lent Appeal in 2017



Lent this coming year will begin on Wednesday 1st March. The Diocesan Lent Appeal will be for the work of ALMA – and our particular

focus in the parish will be to raise funds to promote our emerging link with the parish of All Saints Namhavila in Mozambique – hopefully even to find a way to bring Fr Alfredo Nhabetse to join us in London.

Please will you put your thinking caps on to identify innovative ways to raise

funds for this important work? Host a dinner? Plan an event? Come up with a cunning strategy? And then will you speak to Fr Alan or Fr Louis about it?

You are, after all, one of the more enterprising congregations in London...

Retreats, Pilgrimages & Trips in 2017

Booking will open on 4th January for three excursions with a spiritual dimension.

The Parish Retreat will take place in the five star **Donnafugata Hotel and Spa, Sicily** from Monday 15th – Friday 19th May 2017. This all inclusive ‘Mind, Body, Spirit’ holistic retreat will be led by Alan Gyle with Jackie Cameron and Lindsey Gray.

For those who wish to stay closer to home, join us for

the Parish Pilgrimage to the historic and beautiful **Llyn Peninsula in Snowdonia, North Wales** from Thursday 7th to Sunday 10th September 2017 for an experience of Welsh spirituality and to visit the shrines of the ancient saints.

And on 24th June 2017 there will be a day trip to **Salisbury Cathedral in Wiltshire**.

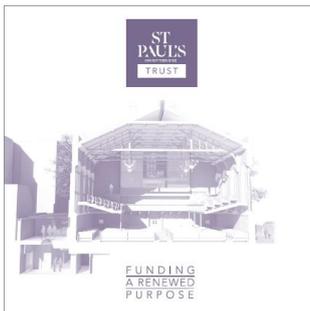
For all these trips, please save the date – and register

your interest on or after the 4th January.



“Booking will open on 4th January for three excursions with a spiritual dimension.”

Funding a Renewed Purpose



Please pray for members of the PCC and for those in leadership at St Paul’s as we move into 2017.

Following six months of hard work in the background by the staff team, in February the PCC will have an away day to consider the recently completed draft Strategic Development Plan for St Paul’s and outline for an £8M appeal for phase 1 of the development.

The aim of this is to see St Paul’s set-up to be a lively and missional Christian presence for the next century – and to

add to its already healthy congregational and worshipping life some strands of outreach .

We are calling this appeal ‘Funding a renewed purpose’ – and we are excited about the next steps.

We will look forward to presenting the plan and proposed programme to the congregation in due course after the PCC Away Day.

Please pray for...

We pray this week for:

The Bishop of London; St Paul’s, K Street, Washington DC; Fr Alfredo and the people of All Saints, Nhamavila, Mozambique; All people suffering the effects of storms and natural disasters; the peoples of Syria; The “English-speaking cause” in Cameroon.

Among the sick and those in need:

Patricia Dopheide; Nick Samuelson; John Watson; Michael Cooke; John King; Alain Jouret, William Guise; Shands Prevost; Ian Powe; Gregoriy Galitzine; John Udal; Dan Gadow; Mary Ann Brashler; John Roberts; Juliette Gimon; Francis Faber.

And we pray for the recently departed:

Stuart MacDowall

Year’s mind:

Theodore Gulliford
 Guy Shea 1 January
 Frank Dawson 1 January

ST PAUL'S

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

*Fully Alive
Embracing Difference
Transformed by God*

St Paul's Knightsbridge
The Parish Office
32a Wilton Place
London SW1X 8SH

Phone 020 7201 9999
E-mail info@spkb.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE
INFORMATION

www.spkb.org

AND REGISTER FOR OUR WEEKLY
EMAIL

Who's who at St Paul's?

THE CLERGY

The Vicar



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

The 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.*

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Director of Music



Stevie Farr
sforganist@gmail.com
07930 542555

Assistant Director of Music



Michael Papadopoulos
michael.pap514@gmail.com

Music Scholars



(l-r) Adam Mathias (Organ);
Findlay Spence (Cello & Composition); Tamila
Salimdjanova (piano)

IN THE PARISH OFFICE

The Vicar's PA



Felicity Cranfield
felicity@spkb.org
020 7201 9999

The Parish Administrator



Kimball Bailey
pa@spkb.org
020 7201 9999

Communications & Events



Charlotte Wolsey Brinton
charlotte@spkb.org
020 7201 9999

VOLUNTEERING

*St Paul's has a small paid staff and a large team of
volunteers who enable us to do far more than our staffing
budget allows. If you would like to get involved, please
have a word with us, whether you are willing to 'lend a
hand' or whether you bring specialist or professional
skills. We also recognise that many people simply want to
come and go as regular worshippers – and so if you don't
want to get involved, that's fine too!*

LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF

Churchwarden



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

Churchwarden



Phil Davies
phil@spkb.org
07989 387198

Deputy Churchwardens (Sidesmen)

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

Treasurer: Noel Craven

Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy



Veronica Scott
veronicamscott@hotmail.com
020 7603 7680