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SERVICES THIS WEEK:

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8 October 2017

Family Mass at 09:00

Solemn Eucharist at 11:00

Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle

Mon 9 October: Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 18:00

Tue 10 October: Paulinus

Mass at 08:00

Wed 11 October: Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Wednesday Evening Service at
19:00 – celebrant Bishop Michael
Colclough.

Thu 12 October: Wilfrid

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 18:00

**Fri 13 October: Edward the
Confessor**

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 18:00

Sat 14 October: Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

No mass today (Edwardtide
Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey)

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

15 October 2017

Family Mass at 09:00

Solemn Eucharist at 11:00

Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer

Letter from America: The Waning of Affect

The guns phenomenon in America always seems a strange thing to those of us who have grown up without ever a thought of owning a gun, let alone firing one. The statistics are staggering and most of the commentators here agree that no legislation will ensue as a result of last Sunday's massacre. The New York Times editorial earlier in the week was simply headed: "477 Days. 521 Mass Shootings. Zero Action From Congress." Not surprisingly this has dominated the news since I returned to New York for my fourth and final Sunday preaching at St Thomas Fifth Avenue.

On a previous 'month in the US' in the early 1990s I met Fred Jameson at a party at Duke University in North Carolina. The 'waning of affect' is a phrase he coined in 1984 and expanded in his most well-known 1991 book: *Postmodernism or, the Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism*. (1991) The word affect is used in the psychological sense: a subjective feeling experienced in response to a thought or other stimulus. He explores, especially in relation to modern and postmodern art, the difficulty we have sometimes to be moved emotionally or with compassion – to be deeply affected. But it is experienced more widely than that.

Instant graphic media, a plethora of social media and, to some extent, city living in general, can make us lower our compassionate guard in self-



defence. There's only so much of this stuff that we can take. Information overload means our emotions often go through shorts bursts of sadness, elation, fear, outrage – all in the 20 minutes of a news bulletin. We barely have time to sustain any emotion for any length of time.

Because of this, compassion and Christian charity can sometimes become a casualty. We begin to experience compassion fatigue: globally – all those millions of refugees, people trapped in wars, starving children, hurricanes, massacres; locally – the beggars in our streets and shop doorways, so many friends who are ill or unemployed; and for some of us, very personally, when we are carers, constantly looking after someone else.

Maintaining balance in our spiritual life, being centred in our relationship with God in Christ, these are essential in maintaining proper Christian compassion that does not overwhelm us and in exercising faith, hope and charity.

Fr Nick Mercer

The Wednesday Service

Thanks to those who joined us for the re-launch of the Wednesday Evening Service at the new and slightly later time of 7pm. Those who came enjoyed a service focussing on the Lutheran Reformation – which included learning and singing a Lutheran Choral! Afterwards, many of us sat down to a simple supper in the nave of the church. Please check this weekly sheet or the website for details of future services.





Visit from Fr Alfredo & Ivan from Mozambique

THIS WEEK: We are looking forward to welcoming our friends Fr Alfredo and Ivan and Ivan (Bishop's ALMA Link Officer) from All Saints' Nhamavila. They will be staying with us from 12th-19th October.

Fr Louis Darrant

It was announced last Sunday that Fr Louis will be leaving the parish on 31st January 2018 to take up a Chaplaincy post in the Diocese of Europe. Four months is a long time to 'be leaving' a place – and so it is business as usual for the time being, but there will be a chance to say thank you to Fr Louis and to pray for him as he leaves, at the Patronal Festival in January 2018.

Captain David Burns RN

We wish David well as he embarks tomorrow on a nine month posting to the Middle East. It is important work, but a wrench to have to be away for such a long stretch (with a couple of short breaks only in between). David, along with Margaret and their daughters Anna and Ellie, are committed members of the 9 o'clock congregation – and we will be praying both for his safety and for the family he leaves behind.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.spkb.org

AND REGISTER FOR OUR WEEKLY EMAIL

Explorations: discovering London through the eyes of faith

Saturday 4th November – Tate Britain

Art historian Richard Thomas will lead a private tour on the theme of 'Art and Soul – spiritual perspectives in troubled times'. The cost is £14 per person.

For more information or to indicate your interest please email Fr Louis at louis@spkb.org

BOOK NOW: Please note the deadline for booking your place on the Tate Britain tour is 19th October, so please do register your place ASAP.

Saturday 2nd December – The Tower of London

Canon Roger Hall will introduce us to the Shrine of St Thomas More and talk about the history of the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula at the Tower.

The politics of forgiveness

THIS WEEK: 6:30pm, 11th October at the Royal Geographical Society



Former Bishop of Edinburgh, writer and broadcaster, Richard Holloway has agreed to deliver the lecture on the topic of *The Politics of Forgiveness* and the evening will be chaired by Shami Chakrabarti. Forgiveness is normally associated with the experience of individuals and the ebb and flow of their personal relationships. But it is arguable that forgiveness at the institutional or political level is even more important for the health of the human community. In his lecture, Richard Holloway will offer a wide-ranging interpretation of the complexity of the human condition and the fundamental importance of forgiveness to the sustaining of its social and political institutions. And he will argue that there has rarely been a time when it is more needed than today. For more details please speak to Fr Louis.

Edwardtide Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey

THIS WEEK: On Saturday 14th October 2017 there is the annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Edward the Confessor at Westminster Abbey. The Abbey opens at 09:30 to pilgrims who will be greeted with a rite of footwashing. There is a Festival Eucharist at 11:30 (at which the preacher this year is Bishop John Inge of Worcester), and the day ends with Choral Evensong and Procession at 15:00. During the day, pilgrims will be welcome to pray at the Shrine, and there will be opportunities for the laying on of hands with prayer for healing and the renewal of baptismal promises. Please speak to Fr Louis Darrant for further information.



All Souls Day Requiem

Please plan to join us for the Solemn Requiem on All Souls' Day (Thursday 2nd November) at 7pm for our annual commemoration of the faithful departed. A list will soon be available at the back of church to which names may be added.

Ian Powe

There will be a Memorial Service for Ian Powe on Tuesday 17th October at 11am. Ian was a longstanding member and sometime Churchwarden – and it is very much hoped that there will be a strong turnout by members and church officers.

Please pray for...

We pray this week for:

Bishop Pete, Acting Bishop of London; for God's blessing on the visit of Fr Alfredo & Ivan to London; for all the recently ordained; for all pilgrims to Westminster Abbey on Saturday; for Steven Hilton & all beginning their training for ordained ministry; for the work of L'Arche communities across the world.

Among the sick and those in need:

John King; Patricia Dopheide; Sue Ko; Brenda Young; Elizabeth Gordon; Judy Davis; Ingrid Gray; Val Hiscock; Gregori Galitzine; Maya Habboush.

And we pray for the recently departed: Robert Hardy; Simon Daggart; David Tang; Ian Powe; Charles Gordon

Lennox; Kamal Taki; Olwen McPherson; Ann-Marie Siddall; Julie Bond.

And at their year's mind in October:

Charles Black – 9th
Cecily Jackson – 9th
Kate Davis – 12th
Sean Edwards – 15th
Nancy Diamond – 17th
Patricia Clarke – 17th