

St Paul's Knightsbridge
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SERVICES THIS WEEK:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10 December 2017

Family Mass at 09:00

Solemn Eucharist at 11:00

Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer

11 December: Feria in Advent

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 12:00

Tue 12 December: Feria in Advent

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 12:00

Wed 13 December: Lucy

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 12:00

Thu 14 December: John of the Cross

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 12:00

Fri 15 December: Ember Day

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 12:00

Sat 16 December: Ember Day

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Mass at 12:00

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

17 December 2017

Family Mass at 09:00

Solemn Eucharist at 11:00

Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle

Take, eat...

Every month (except in January when we eat Epiphany cake instead!), on the first Sunday of the month, members of the 11 o'clock congregation sit down in the hall to a lunch cooked by volunteers from the same congregation. It is a great opportunity to talk at more leisure than is usually afforded by drinks at the back of church, and more, it is great fun.

Last Sunday's parish lunch was a first. It was cooked by the children of the 9 o'clock congregation (with a little help from their parents!) and for the first time brought members of both Sunday congregations together. Pre-empting the Christmas season with a flurry of crackers and paper hats, it was delicious! And so good to see one congregation for once, instead of the two – and people of all ages laughing and sharing together.

It is no accident that at the heart of our religious life is a meal – albeit a meal that is so stylised that it is easy to forget it began as a meal. The Eucharist, the Mass, the Holy Communion Service in which we share daily at St Paul's owes its distant origins to a simple supper, shared by Jesus and his disciples in an Upper Room in Jerusalem. Jesus commanded us to 'take and eat and to do this in remembrance of me' – and so we do... In so doing, we don't simply remember a meal long since finished and events 2000 years ago – rather we are drawn into an eternal feast, sometimes joyful, sometimes sad and solemn depending on the context, but *one* people sitting down together to share in *his* life, which is *our* life.

We are grateful to the children for reminding us that though for practical reasons we are two congregations on Sundays and different smaller congregations throughout the week, we are 'one body' – and for reminding us of the joy and laughter of heaven.



Parish Carol Service

7:00pm on Tuesday 19th December

Please join us on 19th December as we celebrate the traditional service of nine lessons and carols. Seasonal refreshments will be generously provided by our good neighbours at The Hari Hotel.

THE HARI

Who's who this Sunday At 09:00

Celebrant: Fr Louis Darrant

At 11:00

Celebrant: Fr Alan Gyle
Deacon: Fr Louis Darrant
Subdeacon: Roland Brunner
Reader: Roger Kember
Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer
Intercessor: Tom Hyde



Explorations visit to the Tower of London

The revised date of the next Explorations visit is **Saturday 13th January**. Canon Roger Hall, Chaplain of St Peter Ad Vincula, will introduce us to the life and history of the chapel and lead prayers at the Shrine of St Thomas More. Places are limited to 15, so please speak to Fr Louis if you would like to join us.

WAITING FOR THE LIGHT



The second installment of our daily prayer in Advent is available today. To receive them by email please contact Fr Louis.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.spkb.org

AND REGISTER FOR OUR WEEKLY EMAIL

Christmas Services

Tuesday 19th December

A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 7:00pm

Sunday 24th December

[Please note there is no Family Mass today]

Sung Eucharist at 11:00am
Children's Crib Service at 5:00pm
Midnight Mass at 11:00pm

Monday 25th December

Family Mass at 9:00am
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00am

In the week following Christmas Day, Mass will be celebrated every day at noon.

Daily Reflections from Fr Richard Rohr



Fr Richard is the Director of the Centre for Action and Contemplation. You can sign up for a free Daily Meditation exploring the contemplative dimension of Christian living by going to www.cac.org/category/daily-meditations/ These daily bite-sized reflections are an excellent aid to deepening your practice of faith in everyday life and are highly recommended.

Tackling Homelessness Together

We are all aware of that tricky moment when someone, begging on the street, asks us for money. To give or not? What should a Christian do? Will it help – or just compound the problem? As part of the London Diocese campaign Tackling Homelessness Together, we have identified two charities working in the local area (Westminster and Chelsea) who are working to make a real difference this winter. Next time you are accosted by a beggar, why not text **SPKB17 £10 to 70070**. We will pass the donation to our local partners who will ensure that every penny is wisely and usefully spent.



THIS WEEK: To Live Again – an Advent Journey using the Christmas Classic 'It's a Wonderful Life'

Every Thursday in the preparation for Christmas. Mass at noon followed by a film clip with a simple lunch and thoughtful discussion. Copies of the book are now available on the bookstand.

Themes to be explored:

- Hopes and Dreams
- When Life Doesn't Go Our Way
- In the Dark Times
- The Right Perspective



Please pray for...

We pray this week for:

Bishop Pete, Acting Bishop of London; for our local homeless agencies; Janet Spence, mother of Findlay, as she prepares for ordination training; for couples preparing for marriage; for the children of the Family Mass as they make their pilgrimage to Bradwell on Saturday; for the work of the Samaritans; for all who feel anxious in the weeks leading to Christmas.

Among the sick and those in need:

John King; Gerald Bridgeman Elizabeth Gordon; Judy Davis; Ingrid Gray; Val Hiscock; Gregori Galitzine; Maya Habboush; Nora Shishkovskaya; Adam Curtis and Alan Bennegworth; Peter Wasowich; Ben Borthwick; Paul Denham; Valentine Beresford; Federico Fernandez.

And we pray for the recently departed: Pauline Round; Hamish Nicholson; Graeme McKinnon; Walter Timmis.

And we pray for those whose year's mind falls at this time:

Colin Tytherleigh – 10th