

St Paul's Knightsbridge
The Parish Office
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DAILY SERVICES THIS WEEK:

Sunday 18th: November 2018:
2ND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT
Family Mass at 09:00 (AG)
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (VS)
Preacher: Fr Victor Stock

Monday 19th: Hilda
No Services Today

Tuesday 20th: Edmund
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Low Mass at 18:00 (VS)

Wednesday 21st: Feria
Funeral of Philip Darwin at 11:30
Wednesday Evening Mass and
Supper at 19:00 (VS)

Thursday 22nd: Cecilia
Low Mass at 18:00 (VS)

Friday 23rd: Clement
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Low Mass at 18:00 (AG)

Saturday 24th: Feria
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Memorial Service for Rosemary
Powell at noon

Sunday 25th: November 2018:
CHRIST THE KING
Family Mass at 09:00 (NM)
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (VS)
Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer

This week at St Paul's:

There will be a funeral for Philip Darwin on Wednesday at 11:30am and a Memorial Service for Rosemary Powell on Saturday at noon.

The next in our series of Songhaven dementia-friendly concerts will be on Saturday at 3pm.

The Royal College of Music will be recording in church during the day on Tuesday.

The Hall will be in use on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings by 12-step support groups.

THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE



A wave of shock ran round Sotheby's in Geneva on Wednesday of this past week as the final lot in an auction of jewellery from Italy's royal Bourbon-Parma house, described by Sotheby's as "one of the most important royal jewellery collections ever to appear on the market," sold, vastly exceeding all predictions and setting a new record for a single pearl. The pearl and diamond pendant, which belonged to ill-fated French Queen Marie Antoinette, had been valued at a mere \$2M. It sold for an eye-watering \$36m (£28m) after what was described by bystanders as a fierce bidding war. Outrageous? Mad? What drove the bidders to drive up the price and the purchaser to pay such an astonishing amount? And why mention this on the front of the Weekly Sheet?

In a cluster of short parables at the end of the 13th chapter of his gospel, St Matthew uses the image of the pearl of great price. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it." The story follows the parable of the treasure hidden in a field – in which, similarly, a person is driven by acquisitive lust to sell everything in order to acquire their heart's desire.

I once worked – as a sort of experimental human guinea-pig – with

someone who was exploring the spirituality of stewardship and giving. Her ambition wasn't narrowly to help people to think about why they should give more generously to their church community (although she was herself a Christian and this was a part of her aim). Instead, she was seeking to help people notice that their spiritual relationship with money was one that had to do with desire and acquisitiveness, and that that might be a good thing! Her hypothesis was that, daring to notice and name these two motivations (often instincts that are presented as being at odds with a Christian vocation), people might be enabled to harness them 'for good.' If we enjoy spending money and the feelings that flows from acquiring things, might it not be possible to notice the (too-often-guilty) pleasure, and then reframe our thinking so that we actually take delight in spending in other ways, including being generous? Her experiment started with the question: when you go out and spend money, how does it feel?

In a very materialistic age in which the ambition to drive generosity often seems to harness either the evocation of guilt or pity (think of those images of ill-treated donkeys and starving human beings splashed across our screens by ruthless charities), a more effective approach might be to engage our consumerist instincts head on – and to challenge people simply to enjoy the experience of spending money – just not simply on themselves.

The parables are – in the end – not about pearls or treasure, but about striving to gain a place in (or to build) the Kingdom of Heaven. Imagine how transformative it would be if the same lust to acquire Wednesday's pearl of great price were unleashed in service of the work of God!

Fr Alan Gyle



Who is doing what this Sunday?

The Family Mass at 09:00

Celebrant & Preacher: *Fr Alan Gyle*
Reader: *Adam English*
Server: *Tim Pontius*

The Solemn Eucharist at 11:00

Celebrant: *Fr Victor Stock*
Deacon: *Fr Alan Gyle*
Preacher: *Fr Victor Stock*
Subdeacon: *Phil Davies*
Reader: *Dianne Bruce*
Intercessor: *Christopher Stephens*
Hospitality: *Catherine Owen & Peter Freeman*

For your prayers

We pray this week for:

Sarah, Bishop of London;
Lorna Gradden and Rob Clouston, our Churchwardens; for our staff team; our Sister and Partner Parishes, St Paul's K-Street in Washington DC and All Saints Church, Nhamavilah in Mozambique

We pray for those who lead the church that they may do so with integrity, and we pray for the constant renewal of the church.

Among the sick and those in need:

Hope Bennett; Raymond Willetts; Mylène Leenhardt; Maya Habboush; Alan Bennyworth; Sall Allen; David Eckland; Joanna Panasiuk; Nicky Lindsay; Penny Higgs; Fr Bill Scott; Alastair Sword; Benjamin Sword.

All the recently departed

Ingrid Gray; William Mader; Dennis Capon

And we pray for those whose year's mind falls during the month of November:

Gordon Fenwick	2nd
Nora Powell	2nd
Felicity Millais	3rd
Sally Windham	5th
Charlie Green	6th
Kerry St Johnston	6th
Guna Marita Ligere	14th
Hamish Nicholson	15th
Terry H Stanford	16th
Alfred Sydney Frederick	
Maitland, priest	27th
David Vick	28th

LOOKING AHEAD

THIS WEEK: Songhaven Concert

Saturday 24th November at 15:00

The next in our series of Saturday afternoon dementia-friendly tea party concerts. Volunteers welcome: please speak to Phil Davies.

Advent Carol Service

Sunday 2nd December at 18:00 in association with Harrods

We mark the start of the Church's year with a sequence of readings and music sung by the congregation and the choir of St Paul's. Followed by refreshments at the West End of the church provided by Harrods.

Foundation Carol Service

Tuesday 4th December at 18:30 in association with THE BERKELEY LONDON

Tickets are shifting fast for the Foundation Carol Service. Come and hear the choirs of Knightsbridge School, Frances Holland and St Paul's Knightsbridge together with celebrity readers, candlelight, champagne by Laurent Perrier and shots by Sipsmith. Tickets available via the Parish Website.

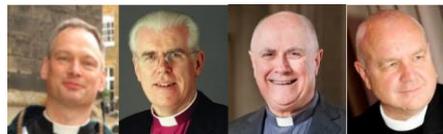
The Parish Carol Service

Tuesday 18th December at 19:00 in association with THE HARI

But if celebrities and champagne are not for you, fear not: our own Parish Carol Service is the traditional 'real thing' – with readings for the season from Scripture and traditional carols for congregation and choir. What's more, it is entirely free. Come along and bring your friends. Refreshments at the end courtesy of The Hari Hotel.

WHO'S WHO at ST PAUL'S?

THE CLERGY



(l-r) **The Vicar** Fr Alan Gyle (alan@spkb.org);

Honorary Assistant Clergy Bishop Michael Colclough; Fr Victor Stock; Fr Nick Mercer;

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.

LAY OFFICERS



(l-r) **Churchwardens:** Lorna Gradden & Robert Clouston (wardens@spkb.org)

Treasurer: Noel Craven **Safeguarding officer:** Margaret Gadow

The Deputy Churchwardens & their responsibilities:

Caroline Docker (Hospitality); Gardenia Griffith (Welcoming); Roland Brunner (Volunteering); Serena Butt (Incorporation) Margaret Gadow (Safeguarding); Virginia Craven (Children's Advocacy); Susie Thornton (Communication & brand); Sarah Tytherleigh (Vestments, fabric & plate); Tom Tull (Wednesday evenings); Aidan Linton-Smith (Family Mass); Jeremy Orlebar (Building maintenance)

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



(l-r) **Director of Music** Dr Stephen Farr (sforganist@gmail.com)

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

Music Scholars Benjamin Newlove (organ) & Findlay Spence ('cello and composition)

IN THE PARISH OFFICE



(l-r) **The Vicar's PA:** Felicity Cranfield (felicity@spkb.org), Claire Pilton (claire@spkb.org); **Head of Future Programmes:** Phil Davies (phil@spkb.org); **Caretaker:** Adam Modzelewski