

St Paul's Knightsbridge

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DAILY SERVICES

Sunday 17th : Second Sunday of Lent

Family Mass at 09:00 (AG)
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (AG)
Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer

Monday 18th : Cyril
No services.

Tuesday 19th : Joseph of Nazareth
Morning Prayer at 09:00

Wednesday 20th : Cuthbert
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Wednesday Evening Service at 19:00 (VS)

Thursday 21st : Thomas Cranmer
Morning Prayer at 09:00

Friday 22nd : Feria
Morning Prayer at 09:00

Saturday 23rd : Feria
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Low Mass at noon (AG)

Sunday 24th : Third Sunday of Lent
Family Mass at 09:00 (NM)
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (VS)
Preacher: Bp Michael Colclough

LAST CALL!
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Every six years each parish in the Church of England has to renew its membership list from scratch. 2019 is such a year, which means that **all** our members need to register, regardless of how long they have been a member of St Paul's! The deadline for registration is **this Friday**. The easiest way to register is online at www.spkb.org/member.

If you'd prefer a paper form, these are available at the back of church or from the parish office.

If you don't register you will fall off our membership list!

"OVER THERE"



One of my favourite numbers by the comic singing group Fascinating Aida is a song about the desire to escape the chaotic frenzy of life here and to head, metaphorically, for the far-away hills. With typically brilliant rhymes, verse two ends: "...there's a good life to be had/ far away from the Jihad/ as neighbours of Bilbo and Frodo...", before leading into the very singable refrain, "Suddenly New Zealand doesn't seem so boring, suddenly New Zealand seems attractively remote, lots of sheep and lambs, and sheep, and lambs, and sheep....and the occasional goat." Google it: I promise you'll smile.

On Friday at lunchtime, the idyll of life in New Zealand was shattered as 49 men and women were killed and another 40 or so wounded in two coordinated Islamophobic terrorist attacks on Muslims attending Friday Prayers at their Mosques in Christchurch. Those whose lives were ended, and perhaps even more so those whose lives have been blighted by injury and the loss of loved ones, are in our prayers.

In the global wave of journalistic comment that followed the atrocity, one theme recurred: that this was the last thing you'd have expected 'over there.' It is an interesting thought, isn't it? 'Over there' it is safer.

This way of thinking has less to do with an honest risk assessment of life in New Zealand than it has to do with a phenomenon of human thinking that often expresses itself in the view that 'the grass on the other side is greener.' It is – technically – an avoidant, 'schizoid' way of thinking in which we neatly separate the confusing intermingling of good and bad and put one in one place and the other in another. *Schizo*, from the Greek, means 'split' or 'cut' or 'divided'. So we say, "London is complex, noisy and dangerous, New Zealand is verdant, pleasant and remote" and that is easier to deal with than the acknowledgement that there is good and evil in both places. This pattern of 'schizoid' thinking is the same mental reflex that makes us feel better when someone is blamed and, as we say, scapegoated: "I am all good, and they are all bad, and that's much easier to live with than the acknowledgement that there is

good and bad in us all." At its worst, the schizoid tendency allows us to see others as the 'evil enemy', and to resort to their destruction.

Lent is a time to come home to our true selves and to face into the complex experience of human life. We are – we are assured – created by a loving God in his image and are beautiful, gifted and called; and at the same time we carry within ourselves a propensity for sin and darkness; both aspects of our humanity are real. We struggle with this, just as St Paul our patron wrestles with this reality in his letter to the Romans: "For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do." (Romans 7). Self-righteousness is the schizoid pretence that we are simply 'good people'. Spiritual *maturity* and wholeness are rooted in the assertion that we are a complex mixture of light and dark and more, that God's love for and acceptance of us has nothing to do with our goodness; spiritual *healing* begins when we open up our lives to the possibility that this astonishing claim might actually be true, that God desires for us the best and fullest experience of life and that his Spirit is at work in the world, embracing us as we are. And Lent is a season for spiritual healing.

All of this requires honesty, boldness and a degree of self-knowledge – oh, and a community in which to find the support that makes this view of life bearable. Schizoid existence is so much easier: but so much less rewarding.

Fr Alan Gyle



FULLY ALIVE?

Wednesdays at 19:00 in Lent

Join Fr Alan at 19:00 on Wednesday evenings during the Holy Season of Lent for our journey of preparation, renewal and return to God.

This week: "But who do you say that I am? Considering Jesus."

The talk will be followed by Mass with Fr Victor Stock, then refreshments.

And on **Saturday, 6th April** there will be a **Quiet Morning** in church, 10:00-13:00.



Who is doing what this Sunday?

The Family Mass at 09:00

Celebrant & Preacher: *Fr Alan Gyle*
Reader: *Joanna Panasiuk*
Server: *Robert Thomas*

The Solemn Eucharist at 11:00

Celebrant: *Fr Alan Gyle*
Deacon & Preacher: *Fr Nick Mercer*
Subdeacon: *Robert Thomas*
Reader: *James Folkes*
Hospitality: *Louise Nixon*

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, Nhamavilah, 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:

Keith Butt; Maya Habboush; Sall Allen; David Eckland; Nicky Lindsay; Penny Higgs; Amanda Orlebar; Tessa Murphy, Victoria Jones, Reg Francis, Philippe Romano, Cecily Worrall.

All the recently departed

Irene Garrity. All who have died as victims of terrorism.

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

David Woolley	1 st
William Humbert	4 th
Mark Johnstone	5 th
Audrey Simons	5 th
Olive Ferdinando	5 th
Ronnie Lindsay	6 th
Joan Kelly	7 th
Joy Linton-Smith	7 th
William Courtauld	7 th
Ross Benson	8 th
Richard Austin Butler	8 th
Julian Goldsmid	13 th
Kathleen Baxter	16 th
Margaret Thornton	17 th
Irene Swinford-Evans	19 th
David Davies	20 th
David Llewellyn	21 st
Richard Oskatel Latham	23 rd
Eileen Gross	23 rd
Raymond Linton-Smith	25 th
Sheilagh Galitzine	27 th
Roland Bull	28 th
John Tynan	29 th

UPCOMING EVENTS

THIS WEEK: St Paul's Knightsbridge Festival Choir **Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm**

A special performance of Verdi Requiem to celebrate many years of music making under the baton of Richard Latham as he retires as director of the St Paul's Knightsbridge Festival Choir. Tickets: £20 on the door, or in advance at www.spkfc.com.



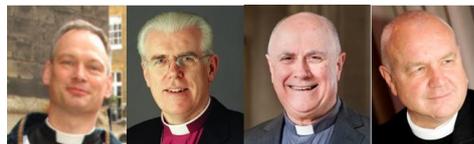
THE MUSIC DINNER

Monday 13th May at 7pm for 7:30pm

Join us for our hugely popular annual Music Dinner to raise funds for the St Paul's Music Programme. Black tie dinner in the ballroom of The Berkeley Hotel, our hugely generous neighbours who give the dinner at no cost to St Paul's, with all proceeds going to church funds. Tickets: £50 with suggested Gift Aid donation of £130. Please email wardens@spkb.org or call the parish office for further information.

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 services 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) **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

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO CHARTRES

Monday 20th – Thursday 23rd May 2019

Join Fr Alan Gyle on our pilgrimage to Chartres – the first of two foreign pilgrimages in 2019 to sites of some of the most distinguished stained glass in Europe.



Each day will include a time of prayer, some study and learning, a visit to the Cathedral and Stained Glass Institute nearby, and time for self-guided exploration, rest or leisure activities. Each evening we will eat together.

As is customary on our trips, pilgrims will make their own travel and accommodation arrangements and the cost of the evening meal will be divided equitably. Sign-up fee: £95 to cover local tours and admin costs.

Full details - including transport and hotel suggestions – and sign-up details at www.spkb.org/chartres, or by calling the parish office.