

St Paul's Knightsbridge
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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday 22nd September:
Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
Family Mass at 09:00 (AG)
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (MC)
Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle

Monday 23rd : Feria
No services

Tuesday 24th : Feria
Morning Prayer at 09:00

Wednesday 25th :
Lancelot Andrewes
Morning Prayer at 09:00
The Wednesday Evening Service
at 19:00 *Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle*

Thursday 26th : Wilson Carlile
Morning Prayer at 09:00
**Memorial Service for the late
Tommy Sopwith** at 11:00

Friday 27th : Vincent de Paul
Morning Prayer at 09:00

Saturday 28th : Ember Day
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Low Mass at noon (AG)

Sunday 29th September:
Michael & All Angels
Family Mass at 09:00 (VS)
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (VS)
Preacher: Fr Victor Stock

DIAMOND JUBILEE

Join us after the 11AM Mass today to raise a glass to Fr Graham Palmer as he celebrates the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.



"I WAS A PALE YOUNG CURATE THEN" - W.S. Gilbert

Today, Fr Graham – who celebrates his sixtieth anniversary of ordination – shares some recollections of his long clerical life:

The world moves on, pulling the church with it, faster and faster, but in my naivety it seemed to be pausing when I was made Deacon on Sunday, 21 September 1958 by Bishop Bertram Simpson to serve in the parish of St Giles Camberwell, a major training parish in the Diocese of Southwark. I was the latest in the line of curates. There seemed to be plenty of those then. The staff consisted of the Vicar, three (later four) curates and a Lady Worker. We lived, with a housekeeper in a clergy house accommodated in the 1844 Scott vicarage – 22 large rooms as bedsits. It was a simply ordered austere life – acres of lino, and after the first winter you became used to the cold in the house and the church.

Parish life was run from the vicarage with the usual organisations of those days – Scouts, Guides, Sunday evening youth club, weekly women's guild, monthly men's guild, Sunday school, voluntary choir including a few boys. Sundays: 8am Low Mass, 9:30am Parish Communion, 6pm Evensong. Sound catholic teaching, no-frills – "they can have incense when they all come to confession." "Confession taught to all and practiced by some." Daily Morning and Evening prayer, daily Mass at 7am and an additional celebration at 10am on Wednesdays.

The parish population was about 18,000. Each curate was responsible for one area, socially mixed. Door-to-door visiting was the norm. There was a convent of the Servants of Mary where we shared the chaplaincy with another parish, a nursing home for the Metropolitan Police, the Maudsley hospital (later exchanged for St Giles General Hospital.) We did our best to welcome the Windrush immigrants for the from the West Indies and tried to call on all the people who moved into the new housing estate that more recently has become notorious for the Lakanal fire.

Apart from those changes life seemed to be set in a traditional pattern. We staff led a very regulated life with all meals together, one morning in, one day off (Thursday for all), one bath a week, the office of Sext before lunch and Compline on Saturday evening in the house oratory. Corporate cocoa at 9:45pm in the kitchen. A few days

off after Christmas and Easter and the inside of three weeks in the summer, negotiated after we had fixed or annual retreat.

This settled existence was in for a shake up. I was ordained priest on the 20th September 1959 by a new Bishop, Mervyn Stockwood and said my first mass at 7am on the Monday morning with the vicar and server in case of errors or accidents. No-frills!

The new Bishop had new ideas for the diocese. This was beginning of what came to be called "Southbank religion" and to help this the author of "Honest to God" became Suffragan Bishop of Woolwich. We junior clergy had the shock of the Southwark Junior Clergy School as a new form of post-ordination training. "School" was the right word: during term one day a week started with marking the register. It was run by a very left-wing priest from the East End, a polymath with a very acerbic style. Actually the syllabus covered many social subjects as well as theology, was very good and enriched with visiting speakers, but it could be an uncomfortable experience at times.

The next shock was when my vicar decided it was time to move and the Bishop appointed a priest he had seen on television who we did not take to. But naturally he wanted his own staff. Two of us moved of their own volition and two were given notice. I had hoped to stay in the diocese but I was labelled old-fashioned and did not fit the new style. After being unemployed for six weeks during which I went on my first visit to the Holy Land, I found a curacy at St Augustine Kilburn to serve in one of the most splendid churches in London and live in a modern clergy house with the vicar, another curate, and the vicar's sister as housekeeper (she was no cook!) It was a more relaxed regime with more independence and the worship was more splendid. Here, long since the congregation has asked for incense. We had a small-ish parish but two schools and a congregation partly local, partly eclectic. My new vicar was much involved in the central councils of the church, which was interesting as we saw the tidying up of canon law, the setting up of synodical government, raised hopes for Christian unity, conversations with the Methodists, and echoes of the Vatican Council.

I stayed there six years until I got my own parish in Fulham where I stayed for 30 years until I retired with Fr Guy Shea to Knightsbridge and found a home at St Paul's.

Fr Graham Palmer



Who is doing what this Sunday?

The Family Mass at 09:00

Celebrant & Preacher: *Fr Alan Gyle*
Server: *Robert Thomas*

The Solemn Eucharist at 11:00

Celebrant: *Bp Michael Colclough*
Deacon & Preacher: *Fr Alan Gyle*
Subdeacon: *Robert Thomas*
Reader: *Claudio Cornini*
Intercessor: *Gardenia Griffith*
Hospitality: *Lorraine Bondarenko*

For your prayers

We pray this week for:

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

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

The Queen and her government; the leaders of the nations.

Among the sick and those in need:

Victoria Jones; Maya Habboush; Sall Allen; David Eckland; Nicky Lindsay; Penny Higgs; Tessa Murphy; Reg Francis; Philippe Romano; Paule Bedford; Nicole Lejeune; Stewart Bell; Rosemary Gomersall.

All the recently departed:

Simon King; Ada Dawnay; Donald Gosling

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

David Loveridge 1st
Ian Powe 2nd
Victor Danenza 3rd
Henry Montagu Villiers, priest 9th
Richard Coke 12th
John McMullan 12th
Caroline Imrie 13th
Ian Cullerne Bown 23rd
William Haite 25th
Joyce Eileen McGee 25th
Hisako Bartle 25th
John King 25th
Doris Palmer 29th
Peter Edwards 29th

UPCOMING EVENTS...

SONGHAVEN – BBC Music Day
Thursday 26th September at 3pm



Our next dementia-friendly tea concert will form part of national BBC Music Day on Thursday 26th September at 3pm. Come join us – all welcome!

If you are interested in helping with welcoming our guests, please be in touch with Caroline Docker via the parish office.

PARISH LUNCH & RECITAL

Sunday 6th October

Join us after the 11am Mass on Sunday, 6th October, for **Parish Lunch** followed at 2pm by a **Songhaven dementia-friendly recital featuring our own Eleanor Ross and Paul Sheehan!** This will be a great opportunity to experience our music outreach work with those living with dementia along with their carers and friends – all welcome.

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.

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.

LICENSED LAY MINISTER



Roland Brunner

LAY OFFICERS



(l-r) **Churchwardens:** Lorna Gradden & Robert Clouston (wardens@spkb.org)
Treasurer: Noel Craven
Safeguarding officer: David Hayton

The Deputy Churchwardens & their responsibilities:

Virginia Craven (Children's Advocacy); Caroline Docker (Hospitality); Gardenia Griffith (Welcoming); Iago Griffith (Electoral Roll Officer & Incorporation); David Hayton (Safeguarding); Steven Hicks (Archives); Aidan Linton-Smith (Family Mass); Tom Tull (Wednesday evenings); Sarah Tytherleigh (Vestments, fabric & plate).

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



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

Music Scholars Michael Koenig (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

LEARNING AT THE CATHEDRAL

There is an excellent programme of workshops and talks exploring the Christian faith at St Paul's Cathedral. Upcoming events include:



The Eucharist in Six Objects

Saturday 21st September, 2pm-4:30pm

Canon James Milne (Precentor) will explore the meaning of the Eucharist through six objects – ranging from the everyday to precious works of art - recognizing that partaking in the Eucharist is not merely a cerebral experience but a physical encounter in which all our senses are engaged. *Tickets: £15, available on the Cathedral's website.*

Where Love Is The Way: The Jesus Movement Now

Thursday 3rd October at 6:30pm

Bishop Michael Curry (Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the USA) will explore how Christians can make a world of integrity, justice and compassion, where every single person has dignity and freedom. *Free tickets available on the Cathedral's website.*



Full details of these and other events available at www.stpauls.co.uk