

IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

PRAY FOR the unity of the Anglican Communion and for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams; for Richard our Bishop and the Area Bishops in London; for The Deanery of St Margaret's (Westminster); for this parish of St Paul and all who dwell and work here; for our sister parish of St Paul's K Street, Washington;

THOSE TO BE MARRIED

THE SICK & THOSE IN NEED

Arabella Elliott; Philip Sapsford; Betty Scroggie; James McLoughlin; Tessa Murphy; John McGinty; Rene Gatiss; Alex Bridgman; Mary Ann Brashler; Dorothy Jones; Kitty Baxter; Clariette Wilmot; Dominique Murray; Vivian Greblo; Monika Stephanopoli; Penri Morgan; Simon Murphy; Michael Taylor; Thomas Keatley; Kathleen Phillips; Bernadette O'Brien; Gert Van Der Geer; Till & Stephanie Becker.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Grace Sheppard; Elizabeth Cheeseman; Ilsa Hom; Grahame East; Roger Holloway (priest); Diana Wellesley.

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Alfred Maitland (priest); Millicent Worrall; Margaret Moore; Letitia McMullan.

All names will be included on lists for the clergy to pray for day by day for as long as people wish us to pray for them, but on the Weekly Sheet names will be removed after two weeks. We would be very grateful if people could keep us informed about those for whom we pray.

Are you spending Christmas at home this year? Would you consider including an international student from a university in the UK in your plans? There are so many students here from China, India, and many other countries, who are unable to go back at Christmas. They would love to spend two or three days in a real home, rather than an empty hall of residence. Your link with a student will be arranged by one of HOST's voluntary regional organisers, who do their best to match hosts and guests who will enjoy one another's company. HOST is a long-established national charity, founded by the British Council. Every HOST visit, whether for Christmas or for a weekend during the year, is a one-off, although sometimes lasting friendships are formed. The cultural exchange, and the contribution to international goodwill, are what makes it all worthwhile. If you would like to know more about volunteering as a host, please see www.hostuk.org or call HOST on 020 7739 6292.

CONTACTS

THE PARISH OFFICE

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You can support our work by donating online at:
www.justgiving.com/stpaulsknightsbridge/donate

THE PARISH CLERGY



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07939 805970 (mobile)



Senior Curate: Fr Richard Coles
richard@spkb.org
020 7201 9996 (home)
07885 967960 (mobile)

Honorary Assistant Clergy:

Fr Nick Mercer; Fr Andrew Norwood; Fr Graham Palmer

A priest is available before or after the daily Eucharist for confession and spiritual guidance, and also by appointment. If you would like to meet with the clergy, please ring the parish office to make a weekday 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 Fridays and Fr Richard on Tuesdays.

OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF

Churchwardens:

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THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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*A thighearn a Dhé mo shláinte...**

Paradoxical, at this time of year, with the slap of leaves from pl trees landing on the pavements and the radiators creaking clicking as the central heating comes on, to speak of renewal. approach the year's midnight, and the promise of spring and r birth lies far off. But Advent, the season which begins to reminds us that even in the bleakest mid-winter, the promise of coming of Christ's light means we can look forward in hope.

It is an irony, then, that often the churches seem so bad at doing exactly that. Declining numbers, ageing congregations, general fatigue, and a sense that we're moving further from the centre of most people's concerns, can make us very inward looking and gloomy.

A propos, the Free Church of Scotland has been in the news this week – the Wee Frees – and it is hard to think of a Christian denomination which appears more resistant to change. A friend of mine whose father was a v Free minister in Ross-shire in the seventies was not allowed to r novels and remembers even upholstery being frowned on remains to this day strictly Sabbatarian, Calvinist, with a remark: austere liturgy to match. They have no hymns, you won't find musical instruments in church, only the unaccompanied singing psalms is permitted. I once heard a Gaelic congregation singing the Isle of Lewis, and while they were unlikely to be signed up Simon Cowell, it was oddly moving in a strange sort of way doesn't really sound European, let alone British, as old and unadorned as the landscape it's sung in. So it was with gi surprise that we learned this week that the Church's pler general assembly decided, by a vote of 98 to 84, to permit introduction of hymns and instrumental accompaniment for th congregations wishing to have them. Some might say tha corrupts the purity of the church's tradition; others might obse that making Gaelic-speaking crofters on Raasay sing *Shine Je Shine* may not universally be construed as progress; but if the v Frees can get their act together and strike out in a new direc then there's hope for us all.

Advent reminds us always to look for the light that breaks on edge of the cold, dark winter's night. For Christ is coming; all will well.

* *Psalm 98: 1*



Boillsq, Iosa, boillsq!

SERVICES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

Sunday 28th November
 9 a.m. **Family Mass**
 11 a.m. **Solemn Mass**
ADVENT SUNDAY 2.30 p.m. Baptism
 6 p.m. **Advent Carol Service**

Monday 29th November
 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 9.30 a.m. Low Mass

Tuesday 30th November
 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 9.30 a.m. Low Mass
 7 p.m. Carol Service

Wednesday 1st December
 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 6.45 p.m. **Wednesday Evening Service**
 followed by refreshments

Thursday 2nd December
 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 9.30 a.m. Low Mass
 7 p.m. Carol Service

Friday 3rd December
 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 9.30 a.m. Low Mass
 7 p.m. Carol Service

Saturday 4th December
 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 11.30 Baptism
 Noon Low Mass

Sunday 5th December
 9 a.m. **Family Mass**
 11 a.m. **Solemn Mass**
ADVENT 2 1 p.m. Parish Lunch
 6 p.m. Evening Prayer

St Paul's Knightsbridge maintains a tradition of daily prayer and a daily mass, with clergy available each day for conversation and counsel. However, our main focuses are Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. You will be very welcome. The church is open for prayer from 09:00 till after the evening service.

PARISH LUNCH

What better preparation for the penitential character of Advent than to blow out on Sunday (every Sunday a feast, remember) at the Parish Lunch? December's takes place after Mass on Sunday next, 5th December, in the Parish Hall at 77 Kinnerton St. Suggested donation: £8. If you would like to come, please sign up in the blue book at the back of church (and it is *strongly* rumoured to coincide with a significant birthday for Mary Aird).

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

The advent of our God with eager prayers we meet... The Parish Advent Carol Service takes place this evening, Advent Sunday, at 6 p.m., with music by Handel, Bach, Elgar, Goldschmidt and others, and readings to set the Advent hope before us.

FOUNDATION CAROL SERVICE

Tickets are on sale for the Foundation Carol Service which will take place at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday December 7th here at St Paul's Knightsbridge. Sir Terry Wogan, Bill Nighy, Helen Fielding, Siena Miller and Ben Fogle are among our readers this year and a Christmas Fair, a visit from Father Christmas, and the lighting of the tree in Wilton Place, will follow. Tickets are £50 for adults, £25 for children with all proceeds going to the Knightsbridge Foundation.

NEW COMMONWEALTH VOICES

On 15th December New Commonwealth Voices choir will be performing at the Commonwealth Carol Service in St Martins-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. The choir is recruiting new members with ties to Commonwealth member states. Rehearsals will then take place on alternate Wednesday evenings (venue to be confirmed). Subscriptions for one term cost £45 /concessions £25. If you are interested please contact Joy Hill by email: newcommonwealthvoices@hotmail.co.uk

T.S. ELIOT & THE HUMAN JOURNEY

Three lectures for Advent by Nicholas Sagovsky, Canon Theologian, will take place at Westminster Abbey on the 1st, 8th and 15th of December, looking at aspects of the poetry of TS Eliot. 6.15pm-7.30pm, free, tickets not required. Enquiries www.westminster-abbey.org

SUNDAY FORUM AT ST PAUL'S: THE SPIRIT OF ADVENT

At lunchtime on Sunday 5th December Paula Gooder, Biblical scholar, Canon Theologian of Birmingham Cathedral and author of *The Meaning is in the Waiting: The Spirit of Advent*, will be in conversation with Sarah Eynstone, Chaplain of St Paul's Cathedral. The event takes place in the Cathedral, via the Crypt Entrance, and is free and unticketed. 1 - 2pm.

Enquiries to St Paul's Forum, 3b Amen Court, London EC7BU, 020 7236 3553. forum@stpaulscathedral.org.uk

MASS INTENTIONS & PSALM RESPONSES

28th November – 4th December 2010

Sunday 28th: ADVENT SUNDAY (YEAR A begins) BI

Pray for the coming of the Kingdom

Psalm: *I was glad when they said to me let us go to God's house*

Gospel reading: Matthew 24: 36-

Mon 29th: DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH BI

Pray for the Church's mission

Psalm: *Let us go to the house of the Lord*

Gospel reading: Matthew 8: 5-

Tuesday 30th: ANDREW, APOSTLE (First Week of Advent) R

Pray for the people of Scotland

Psalm (EH p.540): *The law of the Lord is perfect*

Gospel reading (EH p.541): Matthew 4.18-

Weds 1st December: feria BI

Pray for those affected by HIV and AIDS

Psalm: *I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever*

Gospel reading: Matthew 12: 38-e

Thursday 2nd December: feria BI

Pray for those who live in conditions of slavery

Psalm: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*

Gospel reading: Matthew 7: 21, 24-

Friday 3rd December: feria BI

Pray for people with disabilities

Psalm: *The Lord is my light and my salvation*

Gospel reading: Matthew 9: 27-

Saturday 4th: Nicholas Ferrar, deacon (1637) Wh

Pray for the Anglican Communion

Psalm: *The Lord is a God of justice*

Gospel reading: Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 1, 6

Mailchimp, our new email distribution system is up and running – but if we don't have your email address we can't help you to connect 'virtually' with our life and keep you up to date. If you're not on our list, fill in a yellow slip and either pop it into the collection plate or hand it to us after the service.

