

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; Diana Wellesley.

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Millicent Worrall; Margaret Moore; Letitia McMulan; Francis Leith Boyd, priest.

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

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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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Senior Curate: Fr Richard Coles
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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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ST PAUL'S
KNIGHTSBRIDGE



THE WEEKLY SHEET December 5th – 11th 2010

And every eye shall behold...

Another uncomfortable week for the now resign leadership of the United States as Julian Assange and Wikileaks organisation have continued to disclose content of confidential diplomatic (actually many of them rather undiplomatic!) 'cables'. Not – for once – what is politely and up-front in front of cameras at press conferences, but the 'real deal'... a cascade of fresh assessment of world leaders and world situations. It is sort of chatter that is usually confined to the back room hidden from the public eye – but now, thanks to the power of the internet, revealed in all its excruciating detail. Closer to home the Bishop of Willesden fell foul of the same technology: and that which was intended to be 'private' (at least relatively so) has been laid open to all eyes.

The prurient parts of our selves love it, of course: our high principled selves 'tut tut' at the indiscretion, the lack of judgement, the harsh words – but it sells newspapers: for most of us, if we are honest, there is a delicious enjoyment of the detail. The reason? That it is not us under scrutiny... for if we were, which of us would stand?

If the gulf between the public and the private is a hot topic in the media it is also one of the great Advent themes explored unrelentingly by the prophetic and apocalyptic scriptures we read at this time of year: what will it be like, that great day (perhaps, for most of us 'not so great') when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed and all revealed in terrible transparency?

The good news is that in that excruciating moment when lives are laid bare before the judgement seat (it is a metaphor – but not such a bad one!), we shall be gazed not with prurient interest, nor pored over with scandalized-delight of a committed Daily Mail reader, but with love: the love of God who looking, sees with generosity born of the creator's instinct and first delight, and a wisdom born of having seen the very worst human being can do, and having overcome it.

If this is 'good news' for us, it also comes with a cost... rather, a challenge: that now, long before that great day, we should strive to look upon *each other* with the same quality of love, forgiveness, generosity and care... not relishing that which is amiss, but delighting in that which we see to be good.

Fr Alan Gyle, Vicar

SERVICES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

Monday 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 6th December 9.30 a.m. Low Mass

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

Wednesday 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8th December 4 p.m. Silent Prayer
 6.45 p.m. **Wednesday Evening Service**
 followed by refreshments

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

Friday 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 10th December 9.30 a.m. Low Mass
 7 p.m. Carol Service

Saturday 9 a.m. Morning Prayer
 11th December 11.30 Baptism
 Noon Low Mass

Sunday 9 a.m. **Family Mass**
 12th December 11 a.m. **Solemn Mass**
ADVENT 3 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.

DAILY SERVICES IN ADVENT

A reminder that throughout Advent and Christmas Low Mass at 6pm is suspended in order to allow for Charity Carol Services. There will be a daily Low Mass at 9.30 a.m. Wednesdays are being kept clear for parish use this year, with Silent Prayer at 4 p.m. and the Wednesday Evening Service continuing as normal at 6.45 p.m. Do join us, particularly if you feel the need for a respite from premature Yuletide cheer. Normal service resumes in January after the Feast of the Epiphany.

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 today, 5th December, after Mass 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).

FOUNDATION CAROL SERVICE

A few tickets are left 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.

AWARENESS COURSE AT ST PAUL'S

Beginning on Tuesday 11th January and continuing for eight Tuesdays ending 1st March, a new course will be offered here at St Paul's. Led by Bishop Michael Marshall and Fr Nadim Nassar, a Syrian Anglican priest, the course offers the participants a chance to renew and strengthen their faith. Called CITIZENS OF TWO KINGDOMS, the sessions will begin with the 6.30 p.m. Mass and run from 7 - 8.30 p.m. in the church. This is a perfect opportunity to invite friends, family and neighbours to meet together and share insights into the place of Christianity in our world today. Please RSVP by email to: education@awareness-foundation.com or phone Canon Jim Rosenthal 0207 730 8830. All are most welcome to attend. It is interesting to note that our sister parish in Washington DC is the USA office for the Awareness Foundation. See you at the first session.

MASS INTENTIONS & PSALM RESPONSES

5th – 11th December 2010

Sunday 5th December: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Bl

Pray for prophets
 Psalm: *In his time shall the righteous flourish*
 Gospel reading: Matthew 3: 1-

Mon 6th: Nicholas, bishop (c. 326) Wh

Pray for children
 Psalm (EH p548): *Let the righteous be glad and rejoice before*
 Gospel reading (EH p 548): Mark 10: 13-

Tuesday 7th: Ambrose, bishop (397) Wh

Pray for the Church in Milan
 Psalm (EH p.551): *You are my servant, I have chosen you*
 Gospel reading (EH p.552): Luke 22: 24-

Weds 8th: CONCEPTION OF THE BVM Wh

Pray for expectant mothers
 Psalm (EH p554): *Your name will be remembered from generation to generation*
 Gospel reading (EH p 555): Luke 1: 26-

Thursday 9th: feria Bl

Pray for attentiveness to God's call
 Psalm: *I will exalt you, O God my King*
 Gospel reading: Matthew 11: 11-

Friday 10th: Ember Day Bl

Pray for Examining Chaplains
 Psalm: *The Lord teaches us what is good*
 Gospel reading: Matthew 11: 16-

Saturday 11th: feria of the BVM Ember Day Wh

Pray for ordinands
 Psalm: *Make your face shine upon us, O Lord*
 Gospel reading: Matthew 17: 10-

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.

