

IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

The Baptism of Christ is recalled in each of the Gospels. This is how St Mark's gospel begins: Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased.' These words are a quotation from Psalm 2, a coronation psalm, and Isaiah 42.1, one of the Suffering Servant Songs in which the deliverer of Israel is identified as one who suffers for the whole people. Here Jesus' ministry as the royal Son of his Father who will bear the sins of the whole people is revealed, and our baptism, signed with the cross – the badge of suffering - and anointed as his royal, priestly people is prefigured:

Servant-Christ, help us to follow you into the deep waters of baptism; to link our lives with all those who grieve about the injustice of human life; to break free from the chain of past wrongs; to become ready to face your coming age; and to be renewed by your Spirit, and anointed to preach the good news to the poor, the oppressed and the prisoner. Servant-Christ, help us to follow you. (from 'Worship in an Indian context').

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;

THE SICK & THOSE IN NEED

Eve Margolies; Roger Bowser; Federico Fernandez; Joan Watson; Arabella Elliott; Philip Sapsford; Tessa Murphy; John McGinty; Rene Gatiss; Alex Bridgman; Dorothy Jones; Kitty Baxter; Dominique Murray; Vivian Greblo; Monika Stephanopoli; Simon Murphy; Michael Taylor; Thomas Keatley; Kathleen Phillips; Bernadette O'Brien; Gert Van Der Geer.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Grace Sheppard; Elizabeth Bramwell.

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Guy Shea, priest; Frank Dawson; Irene Dawson; Isabel Llewellyn; Kurt Hoxter; James Longcroft; Marjorie Garrett

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.

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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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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Homeward bound

When I was a lad in the 1970s, the main road between Kettering and Thrapston in Northamptonshire, where I grew up, was the A604. I got to know it well, first as a passenger in my parents' car, then on my purple moped. I was in Northamptonshire again last week, on a recce in my new parish, but when I got to the turn off for the A604, the road I knew so well, it was no longer there. Everything else was where it should be, the towns and villages, the woods and hills the chippy and the Ford dealership, but the A604 had been superseded by the A14, a wider road which more or less followed the old one, but gave a different view. A journey I'd taken often through country I knew well was suddenly different and I felt like a stranger in familiar territory. It reminded me of the story in Matthew of the wise men's return to their own country *by another road*, the gospel for the Epiphany last Sunday. By a strange coincidence as I drove, puzzled, round the A14/A6 roundabout, TS Eliot's voice suddenly came out of the car radio, in a scratchy old recording of his great poem on the same theme, *The Journey of the Magi*. I'm not suggesting that being caught in a moment of cognitive dissonance on the A1/M1 link, unable to reconcile what I saw with what I remembered, compares with the Wise Men's return to their sherbet and palaces, but as I too am about to journey to the place I came from, it felt especially resonant.

When we make a return, what is it we return to? Some seek to recapture past sensations - nostalgia, I suppose, with its inevitable disappointments. Others seek to reconnect to their own origins, in an attempt, perhaps, to establish a pattern to their lives, which in these wildly fluid times can quickly grow obscure. If I'm honest, I think I feel the attraction of both; but then I see the Magi approaching. Homeward bound they may have been, but as the stable and Bethlehem disappeared into the distance behind them, and the camels slowly journeyed on, what came into view was a radically different landscape from what they'd passed through on the outward leg. In a stable in Bethlehem, that most unprepossessing of venues, they had encountered God, God incarnate, the power that created the universe in the form of a new-born child. For their lives to intersect with that life meant transformation, a vision of possibilities to make stargazing look like blindness, a vision that remaps the universe, and calls all of us *go by another road* not backwards into an imaginary past, but into a new way of existence. What might that look like? Come and join in an exploration of this new landscape at the Awareness Course, each Tuesday evening in Church until the 1st March. Details overleaf.

Fr Richard Coles, Senior Curate

THIS WEEK AT ST PAUL'S

Sunday 9 th January	9 a.m. 11 a.m.	Family Mass Solemn Mass
Monday 10th	9 a.m. 6 p.m.	Morning Prayer Low Mass
Tuesday 11th	9 a.m. 11 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Morning Prayer Memorial Service Low Mass followed by the Awareness Course.
Wednesday 12th	9 a.m. 6.45 p.m.	Morning Prayer Wednesday Evening Service <i>From the alphabet of grace, 'F' for Friendship</i>
Thursday 13th	9 a.m. 6 p.m.	Morning Prayer Low Mass
Friday 14th	9 a.m. 6 p.m.	Morning Prayer Low Mass
Saturday 15th	9 a.m. noon	Morning Prayer Low Mass
Sunday 16 th January	9 a.m. 11 a.m. 6 p.m.	Family Mass Solemn Mass Evening Prayer



The ordination of St Hilary (14th C Manuscript).

AWARENESS COURSE: A PATH TO PEACE COMING TO KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Beginning Tuesday 11 January and running through 1 March 2011, a course, **CITIZENS OF TWO KINGDOMS** will be taught here at St Paul's. Each evening will begin with the 6.30 p.m. Mass followed by the course session in the church with a question and answer session and drinks to follow. Created by the Awareness Foundation, the course helps Christians explore their faith in the 21st century. Teaching the course will be Father Nadim Nassar, a Syrian-born Anglican priest, with Bishop Michael Marshall and Canon James Rosenthal. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the Patron of the Society and the office is at Holy Trinity Sloane Square. All are welcome to this perfect introduction to the Christian faith. Come and invite your friends. Register by calling 020 7730 8830 or education@awareness-foundation.com. There is no charge.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MASS TIMES ON TUESDAYS

To accommodate the Awareness Course Low Mass on Tuesdays will begin at 6.30 pm rather than 6 p.m. until March 1st.

RICHARD COLES

Fr Richard Coles' last Sunday will be next Sunday, 16th January 2010. He will preach at the 11 o'clock mass and afterwards there will be drinks and a presentation at the back of church. Then, informally, there'll be a migration to the Spaghetti House where a fixed-menu lunch is on offer... Please ring 020 7201 9999 to reserve a place! Donations for Fr Richard to the Churchwardens, please.

CANDLELIT CONVERSATIONS

On three Thursday nights in January 2011, an opportunity to hear from leading Jewish, Muslim and Christian thinkers in conversation with Canon Chris Chivers. The conversations will conclude with plainsong Night Prayer and drinks. Next Thursday, 13th January Rabbi Lionel Blue OBE, is the guest, to be followed on Thursday, 20th January, by Leslie Griffiths (Lord Griffiths of Burry Port). All are welcome at John Keble Church, Deans Lane, Edgware HA8 9NT at 7.30pm. Admission is free, any enquiries to 020 8959 1312

Mass at St Paul's: 9th – 15th January 2011

Sunday 9th January: The Baptism of Christ (Solemnity)

MASS AT 09:00 & 11:00; WHITE; GL, CR. PRF. OF EPIPHANY
Intention: *Pray for all the baptised*
Gospel reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

Mon 10th: *William Laud, martyr*

MASS AT 18:00; R; NO GL; CMN & PRF. OF MARTYRS; EH P. 592
Intention: *Pray for all who suffer for their faith*
Psalm: *Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit (p.595)*
Gospel reading: Matthew 16: 24-26 (EHp. 601)

Tue 11th : feria

MASS AT 18:00; W; NO GL; PRF. EPIPH; BLUE LECTIONARY P.249 (YEAR 1)
Intention: *Pray for the Awareness Course*
Psalm: *O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world.*
Gospel reading: Mark 1: 21-28

Wed 12th: Aelred, Abbot

MASS AT 18:45; W; NO GL; PRF. SAINT; PROPS FOR AELRED EH P. 43
IN THE ALPHABET OF GRACE: 'F' FOR FRIENDSHIP
HYMN: GIVE ME THE WINGS OF FAITH TO RISE (NEH 225 – TUNE II 'SAN ROCCO')
Intention: *Pray for all called to live in Christian community*

Thur 13th : Hilary, bishop & teacher

MASS AT 18:00; W; NO GL; PRF. SAINT; PROPS FOR HILARY, EH P. 46
Intention: *Pray for all who teach the faith*
Psalm: *Send us your light and truth, O God*
Gospel reading: John 8: 25-32

Fri 14th : feria

MASS AT 18:00; W; NO GL; PRF. EPIPH; BLUE LECTIONARY P.251 YEAR 1
Intention: *Pray for the Bishops of the Church*
Psalm: *We will recount the praises of the Lord*
Gospel reading: Mark 2. 1-12

Sat 15th : feria

MASS AT NOON; W; NO GL; PRF. EPIPH; PROPS OF OUR LADY CW P. 585
Intention: *Pray for the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham*
Psalm: *The Holy Spirit will come upon you (p. 587)*
Gospel reading: Luke 1: 39-47 (p. 590)