

## IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

### Collect for Advent II

*Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.*

**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

Piers Thynne and Lucinda Wharton; Mairi Brewis and Benjamin White; George Idicula and Sophie Woodward; Gavin Kelly and Simone Sigouin.

### THE SICK & THOSE IN NEED

Kathleen Phillips; Mary Ann Brashler; Dorothy Jones; Frances Stonor; Kitty Baxter; Clariette Wilmot; Chantal Patel; Dominique Murray; Ralph Dunstan; Cynthia Angus; Vivian Greblo; Monika Stephanopoli; Penri Morgan; Juliet Merz; James Bedford; Simon Murphy; Michael Taylor; Thomas Keatley; Kathleen Phillips.

### THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Tom Bingham; Farah Russell; Molly Roberts; Nancy Geikie.

### ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

Joyce McGee; Hisako Bartle.

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

### THE PARISH OFFICE

32a Wilton Place, London SW1X 8SH  
Telephone: 020 7201 9999 • Fax: 020 7201 9997

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### THE PARISH CLERGY



**Vicar:** Fr Alan Gyle  
alan@spkb.org  
020 7201 9999 (office)  
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:

John Tweddle john.tweddle@bidwells.co.uk 020 7235 0747  
Caroline Docker dockercaroline@gmail.com 020 7384 1165

#### Deputy Churchwardens:

Noel Craven noel\_craven@yahoo.co.uk 07813 611 641  
Gardenia Griffith gardeniag@btinternet.com 07785 252 153

#### Treasurer:

Phil Davies philip@spkb.org 07989 387 198

#### PCC Secretary & Parish Administrator:

Rosie Kennedy rosie@spkb.org 020 7201 9999

#### Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy:

Veronica Scott veronicasmcscott@hotmail.com 020 7603 7680

### THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

#### Director of Music:

Stevie Farr stephen.farr@yahoo.co.uk 07930 542555

#### Assistant Director of Music:

Christian Wilson christian.wilson@hotmail.co.uk 07966 425303

# ST PAUL'S KNIGHTSBRIDGE



## THE WEEKLY SHEET

19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2010

### The Manchester Fragment

If you are ever at a loose end in Lancashire, why not go and see the Manchester Fragment? Sounds like a band, but in fact you will need to go to the John Rylands Library rather than the Hacienda (that dates me). There, on permanent display, is the Manchester Fragment, or P52 as it is more formally known, a corner torn off from a papyrus manuscript that was written around AD 125. It's not much to look at, but it is the earliest New Testament manuscript in existence.

On it you can make out a few words from the Gospel of St John; again, not much to look at, but these must have been written around the time the gospel first appeared. It is practically a first edition. What's the earliest New Testament manuscript doing in Manchester? And what could possibly be founded on something as flimsy as this fragment?



The answer to the first question lies in the acquisitive habits of Bernard Grenfell, an ancient historian who dug up a hoard of manuscript fragments in the appropriately named village of Oxyrhynchus (*sharp-nosed*) in Egypt in the 1920s. Grenfell ended up as Professor of Papyrology at Oxford, but P52 ended up in the library named in memory of its benefactor John Rylands, Manchester's first textile millionaire.

The second question is more difficult, more searching. We, in the Church of England, acknowledge Scripture, along with Reason and Tradition, as authoritative in all things necessary for salvation. Scripture, most would say is *primus inter pares*, and some would say stands alone in its authority. We may look back with nostalgia to a time, before Biblical scholarship did to Holy Writ what Darwinism did to Natural Law, when the authority of Scripture was a straightforward matter, a case of *Thou shalt* and *shalt not*. In fact Scripture has never been as straightforward as that, as the writings of the early Fathers of the Church reveal. Christians have always argued over jots and tittles and whether something was really by Paul and added bits and taken other bits out. So it's questionable that it ever was the rock upon which Christ builds his church, just as the history of the early Roman church casts doubt on the model of direct succession from St Peter onwards. Christ, of course, laid his foundations with a lively sense of irony, no-one better aware of the provisional nature of human enterprise than he. We've already talked a bit about the Papacy, but why not join me next Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup>, for the last of my talks when we turn to the Bible, *The Harp With a Thousand Strings*?

Fr Richard Coles, Curate

## SERVICES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> September	9 a.m. 11 a.m. 5 p.m.	<b>Family Mass</b> <b>Solemn Mass</b> <b>Father Richard's Talk</b> <b>'Between a Papist and a Puritan'</b>
6 p.m.		Evening Prayer
<b>Monday</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> September	9 a.m. 6 p.m.	Morning Prayer Low Mass
<b>Tuesday</b> 21 <sup>st</sup> September	9 a.m. 6 p.m.	Morning Prayer Low Mass
<b>Wednesday</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	9 a.m. 6.45 p.m.	Morning Prayer <b>Wednesday Evening Service</b> <i>followed by refreshments.</i>
<b>Thursday</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	9 a.m. 6 p.m.	Morning Prayer Low Mass
<b>Friday</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> September	9 a.m. 6 p.m.	Morning Prayer Low Mass
<b>Saturday</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> September	9 a.m. 12 noon	Morning Prayer Low Mass
<b>Sunday</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> September	9 a.m. 11 a.m. 5 p.m. 6 p.m.	<b>Family Mass</b> <b>Solemn Mass</b> <b>Father Richard's Talk</b> <b>'The Harp with a Thousand Strings'</b> 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.

## HARVEST SUPPER AND JUMBLE SALE

This year's harvest supper will take place on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased from Niki Bartman. She is happy to take payment when she is in church or can be called on 020 7602 4599. Please let Niki know if you would like to take part in the cabaret!

The jumble sale will take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. All donations gratefully received. Please bring any items by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

## SUNDAY TALKS

Fr Richard's series of Sunday talks continues next **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>** with *The Harp with a Thousand Strings*, an introduction to the Bible. If you would be interested in attending, please let the office know, or just turn up. All welcome, no charge, Evening Prayer follows at 6 for those who wish to attend.

## POETRY AND ARTS

The first Meeting of the new series of Poetry & Arts Group will take place in Knightsbridge on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> September at 7 for 7.30 pm. As usual for the first meeting members are invited to bring their favourite poems or prose – the subject is Landscapes & Topography. Please telephone 020 7584 4036 before the preceding Thursday (the 23rd September) if you wish to attend, and also to confirm the exact address.

## ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS

St Martin in the Fields' Autumn Education Programme for 2010 is entitled "And the Word became flesh and lived among us." In this year's Autumn Education Series a team of speakers seek to engage deeply with the Christian Scriptures, in the context of our 21st century world and our lives. Speakers include Dr Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans, and Dr Richard Burrigge, Dean of Kings London and the Revd Lucy Winkett, new Rector of St James' Piccadilly. The sessions are scheduled for Mondays 27<sup>th</sup> September, 11<sup>th</sup> October, 25<sup>th</sup> October, 8<sup>th</sup> November and 22<sup>nd</sup> November in St Martin-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square from 7.00pm-8.30pm. The events are free, unticketed, and all are welcome. For further information please email richard.carter@smitf.org or contact the Parish Office on 020 7766 1100 [www.smitf.org](http://www.smitf.org)

## MASS INTENTIONS & PSALM RESPONSES

19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September: 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity** Green

*Pray for our stewardship of God's Creation*

Psalm: *Help us, O God our Saviour,  
For the glory of your name.*

Gospel reading: Luke 16.1-13

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup>: John Coleridge Patterson, bishop, martyr, 1871** Red

*Pray for Christians facing persecution*

Psalm (EHp398): *You will show me the path of life*

Gospel reading (EHp398): Mark 8.31-35

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>: Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist** Red

*Pray for those who work in the financial sector*

Psalm (EHp400): *Happy are those who find wisdom*

Gospel reading (EHp401): Matthew 9.9-13

**Weds 22<sup>nd</sup>: (Week 25)** Green

*Pray for those of other faiths*

Psalm: *Your word, O Lord, is a lantern to my feet*

Gospel reading: Luke 9.1-6

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Green

*Pray for atheists*

Psalm: *O Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.*

Gospel reading: Luke 9.7-9

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup>:** Green

*Pray for those involved in litigation*

Psalm: *Blessed be the Lord my rock*

Gospel reading: Luke 9.18-22

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>: Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, 1626** White

*Pray for Christian writers*

Psalm (EHp405): *I will bless you, O God, as long as I live*

Gospel reading (EHp405): Matthew 13.44-46, 52

**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.

