



every itinerary for every single day will be planned, walked, timed and approved, rehearsed and re-rehearsed; paint tins will be opened, streets cleaned, bunting hung, flower beds planted, and eyesores long lived-with will be transformed. In short, the departure of the 10.15 from St Pancras heralds a busy year of detail, detail, detail.

11 March 2012 Third Sunday of Lent

All aboard the 10.15 to Leicester...



On Thursday the departure of the 10.15 from St Pancras marked the start of a Royal Diamond Jubilee Tour of the Realm – as The Queen and Prince Philip, accompanied by the Duchess of Cambridge, headed off to multi-cultural Leicester, the city at the ‘heart of England’. Over the coming months – and especially from May to August – The Queen will tour England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland extensively – and further-flung parts of the Commonwealth.

It is said that wherever The Queen goes she smells new paint! And such an extensive tour as the one planned will demand – of Lord’s Lieutenant and others across the country – an astonishing amount of planning and preparation. Nothing will be left to chance;

There is a wonderful poem by the early seventeenth century poet Thomas Ford which captures this spirit of busyness and preparation:

Yet if his majesty our sovereign lord / Should of his own accord / Friendly himself invite, / And say "I'll be your guest to-morrow night." / How should we stir ourselves, call and command / All hands to work! "Let no man idle stand. / Set me fine Spanish tables in the hall, / See they be fitted all; / Let there be room to eat, / And order taken that there want no meat... / ... Thus if the king were coming would we do, / And 'twere good reason too; / For 'tis a duteous thing / To show all honour to an earthly king.

The poem, though, is not simply about duty and monarchy; it seeks to make a moral and religious point, for Ford continues:

And after all our travail and our cost, / So he be pleas'd, to think no labour lost. / But at the coming of the King of Heaven / All's set at six and seven: / We wallow in our sin, / Christ cannot find a chamber in the inn. / We entertain him always like a stranger, / And as at first still lodge him in the manger.

Although often read at Christmas, the poem might make us reflect in this holy Season of Lent. As we get ready to witness Christ our King – on Good Friday – reigning from Calvary’s tree, and – on Easter Day – exalted in the glory of the Resurrection, how energetic will our preparations be? And should we not stir ourselves to be ready to meet – in word and sacrament – the King of Heaven, God’s own Son?

Fr Alan Gyle

EVENTS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, 11 March 2012 - Third Sunday of Lent

0900 Family Mass - celebrant and preacher is Fr Stephen Young

1100 Solemn Mass - celebrant is Fr Nick Mercer; preacher Fr Stephen Young

Missa in simplicitate - Langlais
Long since in Egypt's plenteous land - Parry

Ave verum corpus - Fauré
(Ladies' voices)

1800 Evening Service with led Reflection - Fr Stephen Young

THIS WEEK

Low Mass is said daily at 1800 and on Saturday at noon

There is no Wednesday Evening Service because of the BBC Singers Lent broadcast

NEXT SUNDAY, 18 March 2012 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

0900 Family Mass - the celebrant and preacher is Fr Nick Mercer

1100 Solemn Mass - the celebrant is Fr Alan Gyle; preacher Fr Nick Mercer

Messe cum júbilo - Duruflé
Beati mortui - Mendelssohn
Adoramus te, Christe - Lassus
(Men's voices)

1800 Evening Service with led Reflection - Fr Stephen Young

JUMBLE SALE

The Parish Jumble Sale will be held in the Hall on Saturday 14 April at 1000. If you have any donations, please contact Nikki Bartman or the Parish Office. There will be an exclusive preview for members of the congregation on Friday 13 April at 1830 hrs, after Mass.

READING FOR LENT

This year's parish Lent Book is *Soul Feast*, by Marjorie J Thompson. The book offers a framework for understanding and nurturing classic spiritual disciplines, including prayer, fasting, spiritual reading, self-examination, worship and hospitality. It provides the background to our **Wednesday Evening Services at 1845 hrs**, and the series of guided reflections on **Sunday evenings at**

1800 hrs. Copies of the book (£15) are available from the Parish Office.

TWO LENTEN MUSICAL EVENTS AT ST PAUL'S

BBC Singers Live from St Paul's

Music for Lent with the BBC Singers, accompanied by Stevie Farr



Wednesday 14 March
1930 - 2145 hrs

Free tickets available - sign-up sheet at the back of church

One of the most solemn periods of the church year, Lent is a season which encourages spiritual reflection and self-examination. This concert explores music in this vein that have become classics of the repertoire, including: Poulenc *Motets*; John Rutter *Requiem*; and Tuckey *Litanies*. Our own Director of Music, Stephen Farr, will be playing the organ for the concert.

BBC Singers Live from St Paul's

A Sequence for Passiontide
Schubert *Stabat Mater*



Wednesday 28 March
1530 - 1630 hrs

Please be seated by 1515 hrs

The BBC Singers return to St Paul's for the live Choral Evensong slot on Wednesday 28 March. Schubert's *Stabat Mater*, introduced by Fr Alan Gyle, with readings by members of the congregation. A free event. Tickets not necessary – but please be seated by 1515 hrs on 28 March at 1530 hrs. You are warmly invited to join the congregation for the service.

CONCERT

There will be a joint concert here at St Paul's this coming Saturday, 17 March at 7.30pm, given by Concordia University Choir from the USA and the Capital Arts Childrens Choir. The concert is in support of Macmillan Cancer Care. Tickets and information from the Macmillan website.



Masses & Psalm Responses

Monday 12 - feria

Mass at 1800. Week 3 of Lent; Lect 118; Blue
'My soul is a thirst for God, the living God'

Tuesday 13 - feria

Mass at 1800. Week 3 of Lent; Lect 120; Blue
'With contrite heart and humble spirit we come to you, O Lord'

Wednesday 14 - feria

Music for the Holy Season of Lent
BBC Radio 3 live broadcast at 1930.

Thursday 15 - feria

Mass at 1800. Week 3 of Lent; Lect 124; Blue
'Come, let us sing to the Lord: and rejoice in the rock of our salvation'

Friday 16 - feria

Mass at 1800. Week 3 of Lent; Lect 125; Blue
'The ways of the Lord are right'

Saturday 17 - Patrick, Patron of Ireland

Mass at noon. Week 3 of Lent; EH 123; White
'I will exalt you O God my King'

In our prayers

On this day we pray for:

- our Bishop, Richard
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street
- the people of Syria
- the nations of the European Union
- those on active service overseas

Among the sick and those in need, we pray for:

Elizabeth Doig; Ian Powe; Elizabeth Gordon, Daphne Nugent; Peter Brook; Ryan King, Ian O'Hara, Richard Thornton, Eve Margolies, Frederico Fernandez, Philip Sapsford, Dominique Murray, Michael Taylor, Thomas Keatley, Robin Higgs, John Willmington, Rachel Morris; James Clapp, Paule Bedford, Joey Walsh and Nancy Seligman.

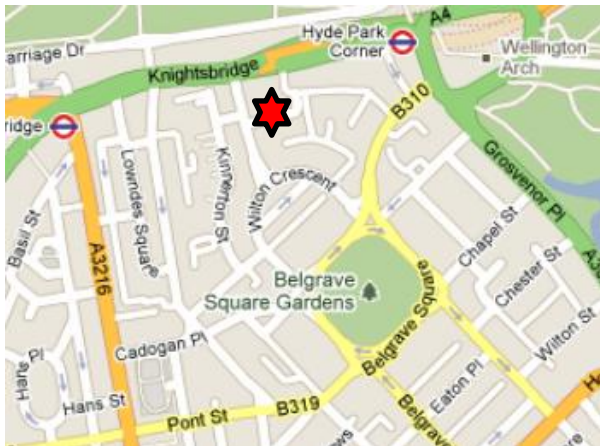
Among the recently departed:

Olive Ferdinando 5 March

and those whose year's mind is at this time:

Richard Butler	8 March
Margaret Thornton	17 March
Irene Swinford Edwards	19 March
David Davies	20 March
David Llewellyn	21 March
Richard Oskatel Latham	23 March
Eileene Gross	23 March

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Honorary Assistant Clergy



(l-r) 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. 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 Stephen is unavailable on Tuesdays.

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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