



ST PAUL'S
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

17 November 2013

The Second Sunday before Advent

THIS WEEK: opera on Tuesday evening
FLIERS AVAILABLE AT THE BACK



The Sound of Silence



Leaving the kitchen, I switch *off* the consoling sound of Radio 4 which has been my companion since my alarm sounded and I got up. Dear John Humphries, Jim Naughtie and Evan Davis. They are like friends. Entering my study, mug of tea precariously in hand, I switch *on* the calming sound of a Bach solo violin sonata which plays in the background as I survey the desk and plan the day. When I remember to, I eventually switch *off* the music so that I can again switch *on* the radio and listen to Thought for the Day at 7.45am. Irritated that once again I've been stupid enough to sacrifice good music for second-rate rambling (how many of us across the nation shout at the radio after Thought for the Day?!), I return briefly to the kitchen to make – this time – coffee and switch *on* Radio 3 which will be my companion until the bell rings for Morning Prayer... All of this before the day even begins.

I realise that I am a sound-junkie. A background-noise junkie! My motivation? Perhaps just weary habit. Perhaps, in part, a desire to be informed and entertained, but there is more to it than that... Perhaps that noise in the background is a fix that distracts me from aspects of my reality which might overwhelm me in silence. Like the puppy or kitten which has the ticking clock wrapped in

a blanket and placed in its bed overnight to keep it quiet in the dark, perhaps noise is a comfort to me that stops me from panicking. And I notice something else: that I am not alone. Millions of us are sound junkies.

If light pollution is a curse of modern urban living, so too is sound pollution. Not just traffic noise; that is an inevitable cost of the choice to live in the city. I mean the noise we *choose* to have around us: everything from the radio on from dawn to dusk, the chatter of day-long daytime TV to the shopping music which is played in shops and supermarkets. And I heard my first Christmas music this week... How many of us actively choose silence?

This weekend a small group of us have been with Fr Andrew Norwood at West Malling Abbey, joining the Benedictine Sisters there for a retreat. Each Sister is committed to a life of constant prayer and the community lives in almost complete silence: silence not merely as 'absence of noise' (although West Malling is much quieter than central London), but rather silence as an actively engaged space in which to encounter self and God. Just as I switch *on* the radio, the Sisters switch *on* silence as their daily habit.

I wonder how challenging a weekend it will have been for our parishioners? Silence is a blessing – but too much of it all at once can be really challenging. Cold turkey for noise-junkies! Pray for them, and for their safe return later today – but perhaps also pause, prayerfully, to reflect on the place silence has in your own life. Should there possibly be more? And how could you make that possibility a reality in the coming week?

Fr Alan Gyle

GUIDED SILENT MEDITATION IN ST PAUL'S: HALF AN HOUR OR SO AT 07:30 ON TUESDAY MORNINGS

COMING UP: AT A GLANCE...



NOVEMBER 2013

| | |
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| 17 Sun | Family Mass at 09:00 High Mass at 11:00 |
| 18 Mon | 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass |
| 19 Tue | 07:30 Silent Meditation 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass Prayer Branch 19:00-20:00 |
| 20 Wed | 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:45: PILGRIMS IN CHRIST |
| 21 Thu | 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass 19:00 Knightsbridge Soirée |
| 22 Fri | 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass |
| 23 Sat | 09:00 Morning Prayer noon Low Mass |
| 24 Sun | Family Mass at 09:00 High Mass at 11:00 |
| 26 Mon | 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass |
| 27 Tue | 07:30 Silent Meditation 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass |
| 28 Wed | 09:00 Morning Prayer Noon: Funeral of Dr. Guna Ligere 18:45: PILGRIMS IN CHRIST |
| 29 Thu | 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass |
| 30 Fri | 09:00 Morning Prayer 18:00 Low Mass |

DECEMBER 2013

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| 1 Sat | 09:00 Morning Prayer noon Low Mass |
| 2 Sun | Family Mass at 09:00 High Mass at 11:00 Parish Lunch 13:00 Advent Carol Service 18:00 |

Forthcoming events & thanks..

HEALING SERVICES: This morning a priest will be available in the St. Luke's Chapel during Communion at the 11am Mass for any who wish to receive the Laying on of Hands and Holy Unction for healing.

TUESDAY EVENING: The Prayer Branch meets. Details from Caroline Docker 07767 436487

ALSO ON TUESDAY EVENING: The Retrospect Ensemble perform Haydn's opera 'Lo Speziale' in a semi-staged production in St Paul's Church. Tickets £25/£21/£17/£13 from www.retrospectensemble.com

WEDNESDAY EVENING: Part II of our ongoing Christian Study Programme, a four week series, "The Hope of Glory", continues on Wednesday, 20 November. 18:45. All welcome.

THURSDAY SOIREE: The second of our "Knightsbridge Soirees" will take place this coming Thursday evening. This month our theme is "Art and the Theme of Pilgrimage". Fr. Andrew Sloane will lead us in a look at the book "Being a Pilgrim; Art and Ritual on the Medieval Route to Santiago" by Kathleen Ashley. But please also bring your own ideas and images on our theme. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church today so we can make appropriate arrangements for our gathering. Please meet after the 18:00 Mass at the church - we shall then go to Fr. Andrew's flat just around the corner from the church - minimal walking but there are steps. The evening will end by 8.15PM at the latest. Join us for fun, fellowship, discovery and challenge! The Knightsbridge Soirees will not convene in December or January but will regroup on 20th February: "The Story of the Eton Choir Book" with Fr. Alan.

FOUNDATION CAROL SERVICE

Tuesday 3rd December 2013 at 18:30.

Tickets £50 adults and £25 children from
<http://www.spkfoundation.org>

IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure, that when he shall appear again with power and great glory we may be like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Spirit, he liveth and reigneth, one God now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

We pray daily for:

- our Bishop, Richard
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street, Washington, USA
- the peoples of Egypt and Syria
- the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and for the unity and health of the Anglican Communion (*the daily cycle of prayer for the Anglican Communion is to be found at: www.anglicancommunion.org/acp*)

Among the bereaved, the sick and those in any kind of need:

Jenny Cochrane; Pepper Clarita Pay; Sara Carroll-Parker; William Humbert; Maggie Millbourn; June Poland; Christiane Dupont Nangle; Tessa Murphy; Annelise Bowser; Kelsey Brockbank; Sal Allen; Peter Brook; Michael Cook; John King; Daphne Nugent; Jean Steers; Katherine Davis; John Willmington; Andrew Westwood; Alexandra Holesh; John Millbourn; Diana Kemp Welch

We pray for the bereaved, and all the faithful departed, among them especially:

Guna Ligere; Richard Von Oskeuls; Lana Zazaeva; Sean Edwards; Charles Black; Patricia Hutton; James Taylor

and those whose Year's Mind is at this time:

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|-----------------|-------------|
| Terry Stanford | 16 November |
| Alfred Maitland | 27 November |
| David Vick | 28 November |

MASSES & PSALM RESPONSES

There is a mass daily at St Paul's and all are welcome to attend. Service papers are available outside the Chapel or Chancel.

Diagram illustrating the structure of a service card for Tuesday 5 February – feria. The card contains the following text:

- Tuesday 5 February – feria
- Mass at 18:00; DEL p.80, year 1;
- I will proclaim your name among the people

Annotations point to specific parts of the card:

- Date and observance: Tuesday 5 February – feria
- Colour of vestments: ●
- Response to the psalm: I will proclaim your name among the people
- Page where the lections are to be found: DEL p.80, year 1;

Sunday 17 November – Second Sunday before Advent

- Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

Monday 18 November – Elizabeth of Hungary

- Mass at 18:00; EH p. 411;
- Arise, O God, and rule the earth.**

Tuesday 19 November – Hilda

- Mass at 18:00; EH p. 414;
- I will greatly rejoice in the Lord.**

Wednesday 20 November – Edmund, king and martyr

- Mass at 18:45; EH p. 417;
- Restore us again, O God of hosts.**

Thursday 21 November – feria

- Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 787 (year 1);
- Remember us, O God, and keep your covenant with us.**

Friday 22 November – feria

- Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 789 (year 1);
- Let us go to the house of the Lord.**

Saturday 23 November – Clement, bishop

- Mass at noon; EH p. 420;
- Hear my teaching, O my people, says God.**

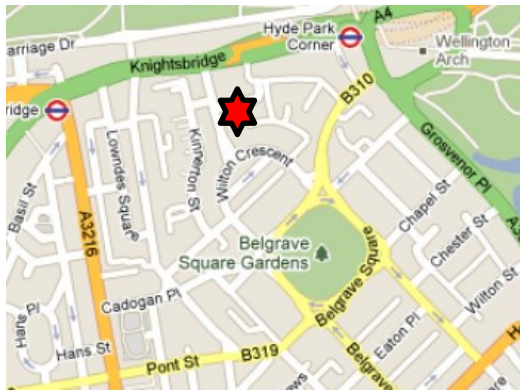
Sunday 24 November – Christ the King

- Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

Anyone who is interested in or who may have any questions about being baptized and/or confirmed in the coming months is asked to please contact Fr. Andrew Sloane (AndrewSloane@spkb.org - or by phone: **0207201 9999**) at your earliest convenience so we can organize some appropriate and enjoyable preparation!

PARISH CONTACTS



THE PARISH OFFICE

32a Wilton Place, London SW1X 8SH

Telephone 020 7201 9999 • Fax 020 7201 9997

THE PARISH CLERGY



Vicar

Fr Alan Gyle

alan@spkb.org

020 7201 9999 • 07939 805970



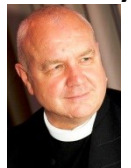
Associate Vicar

Fr Andrew Sloane

AndrewSloane@spkb.org

020 7201 9996 • 07429 806173

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 Mondays and Fr Andrew Sloane on Fridays.

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Director of Music

Stevie Farr

stephen.farr@yahoo.co.uk

07930 542555



Organ Scholar

Georgina Sherriff

LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



Churchwarden

John Tweddle

john.tweddle@bidwells.co.uk

020 77363878



Churchwarden

Caroline Docker

dockercaroline@gmail.com

020 7384 1165

Deputy Churchwardens

2013-14

Noel Craven

Phil Davies

Nicky Lindsay

Susie Thornton

Treasurer

Phil Davies

philip@spkb.org

07989 387198

Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy

Veronica Scott

veronicamscott@hotmail.com

020 7603 7680

Vicar's PA



Felicity Cranfield

felicitycranfield@spkb.org

020 7201 9999



Parish Administrator

Dimitrios Dalageorgos

pa@spkb.org

020 7201 9999

www.spkb.org

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