

11 May 2014: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YOU ARE UNIQUE AND PRECIOUS...

The abduction of more than 200 girls from their school in Nigeria on 14th April has been the cause of mounting anger on the global stage. What might have been dismissed as 'just another outrage' in a country in which outrages are not unknown, seems to have captured the mind of the world's people in an unprecedented way. From East to West and North to South, national leaders have used the world's media to draw attention to what has happened, to call for an urgent robust response by Nigeria's and

government in tracking the terrorists down and releasing the captives.

The Islamist group Boko

Haram has proudly claimed responsibility. This abduction is in pursuit of their espoused agenda, according to which girls ought not to be educated. This, they claim, is the view of Islam. It is nothing of the sort, of course: what they preach and teach is a scandalous twisting and misrepresentation of Islam's high ideals and noble purposes and we, in the 'Christian' West, with our tendency to imprecision of language when it comes to Islam, need to be wary lest we unwittingly stoke the already wellof Islamophobia that established fire threatens the fabric of society. This week my Muslim friends were as vociferous as my Christian ones in their condemnation of Boko Haram's stance and actions.

But it is not so much the proposition that girls shouldn't be *educated* that has stirred so many into action, so much as the proposal of *Boko Haram* leader Abubakar Shekau that the girls would now be 'sold' – as if they were goods or chattels. For some reason it is *this* that sends a chill through us.

Slavery finally ended here in the early nineteenth century – and since then the ideal of a free society cherished in this country has ensured that individuals act voluntarily not through compulsion, and have the freedom to obtain the resources they need to fulfil their own potential. People may not be owned, or sold.

But even if the law makes this a right, we have a creeping tendency – especially in a freemarket age – to slip into viewing

everything as something that 'has its price'. This tendency is called 'commodification' – and it is not only Marxists who rightly warn against its insidious power to undermine our sense of wonder at the uniqueness of every individual person. Remember, you are unique and precious!

The proposal that '*they*' be '*sold*' offends so deeply because it confounds our belief that we are each made in God's image as a unique gift and creature – and that each of us is of infinite value, precious in the sight of God and therefore to one another.

Thankfully commodification's grip hasn't so tightened around us that we don't still instinctively shiver at this crude example of its impact – but the irony is that here in the West we don't need terrorists to do this for us: we fall into this way of thinking without any help whatsoever! *Fr. Alan Gyle*

PARISH NOTICES

'DOUBLE THE CONGREGATION' DAY- OUR ASCENSION DAY PARTY

Here is a challenge. First: will you make sure that *you* are in church on Thursday 29th May at 19:00 for our High Mass for Ascension Day. Second: will you think of one person who doesn't normally come along to St Paul's and *invite them to join you* at mass – and afterwards at our Ascension Day party? In the Vicarage and garden from 20:15 onwards... You + one other. Simples...

DEPUTY CHURCHWARDENS

The Churchwardens are pleased to announce the appointment as Deputy Churchwardens for 2014-15 of Caroline Docker, Margaret Gadow, Nicoletta Lindsay, Aidan Linton-Smith, Jeremy Orlebar and Susie Thornton.

PCC MEETINGS FOR 2014-15

Members of the Parochial Church Council and other members of the congregation may be glad to have the confirmed dates of meetings for the coming year (all at 19:00 unless otherwise noted): Tuesday 17th June 2014; Saturday 12th July 2014 (from 10:00 till 14:00 with a working lunch); Tuesday 23rd September 2014; Tuesday 4th November 2014; Tuesday 27th January 2015; and Tuesday 17th March 2015. The APCM will take place on Sunday 26th April 2015 at 12:30.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Please join us for our next Knightsbridge Soiree Thursday 15th May from 18.45-20.15pm. We



will explore <u>"The</u> <u>Pilgrimage of Harold</u> <u>Fry"</u> by Rachel Joyce. Please sign the sheet at the back of the church.



Please meet at the West end of the church after the 6pm Mass to walk along Knightsbridge to Fr.

Graham's flat. The evening will end by 20:15.

PILGIMAGE TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY

On Wednesday, 28th May there is a Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey - please sign the sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Advance Notice. On Wednesday 28 May we shall have a

rather unique opportunity to have Westminster Abbey to ourselves, devoid of tourists, for a guided pilgrimage. Evensong for those who can be there is at 17:00. The guided pilgrimage starts at 18:00 and will last until approximately 20:00. In order to assist those organizing this at the Abbey, please would you put your name on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church. A wonderful and rare opportunity to take in the sacred space of this historic building with the shrine of St. Edward the Confessor at its heart.

DAY PILGRIMAGE TO CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL



On Saturday 7 June, Fr Andrew Sloane will be leading a pilgrimage,

leaving St. Paul's at 08.30 and back here by about 18.00. The day will include a Mass at the cathedral for our group, lunch at

the Cathedral Cafe, a guided pilgrimage of the cathedral and free time. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church as soon as possible, the deadline will be next Sunday. Fr Andrew will take payments please this week to secure reservations and to finalize arrangements at Canterbury - £40 to St. Paul's Church with a note "Canterbury". This amount includes transportation and lunch. Many thanks.

PILGRIMS IN CHRIST

Our yearlong series on Wednesday evenings is nearing its end. Part V (the final part) began last Wednesday 7 May with our trip to the Choral Pilgrimage of the Sixteen at the Chapel at Greenwich. On Wednesday 14 and 21 May we shall review the year's progress and begin to make plans for next year. Wednesday, 28 May a Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey - see the announcement elsewhere in the Weekly Sheet and please sign the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

JUNE RETREAT



Details of the **Assisi Pilgrimage 9th – 12th June** are now available on <u>www.spkbinfo.org</u> – and on a flier that can be collected from church or downloaded from the same website.

Please register your intention to come as soon as possible, either online (see above) or with Felicity on 020 7201 9999 / felicity@spkb.org



IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**. **THE COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

We pray daily for:

- The renewal of the Church in Easteride
- our Bishop, Richard
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street, Washington, USA
- those on active service overseas
- 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)
- our sisters and brothers of the Roman Catholic Church and for Pope Francis I, and for the Eastern Orthodox churches and Bartholomew the Ecumenical Patriarch.

Among the sick and those in need:

Jean Marc Lehut; Elizabeth Gordon; Kathleen Pilton; Clariette Wilmot; Lane Davenport; Janet Sturdy; John Soderquist; Carole Taylor; Sara Carroll-Parker; Maggie Millbourn; John Millbourn; Christiane Dupont Nangle; Peter Brook; Michael Cook; John King; Daphne Nugent; John Willmington; Alexandra Holesh; Penri Morgan; Malcolm Walsh; Gordon Gray

Our departed loved ones: Mark Shand

Mark Shand

Those whose Year's Mind is at this time:

14 May
15 May
17 May
18 May

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.

Data and	Page where are	the lections to be found
Date and observance	🗧 Tuesday 5 February – feria 🏑	
Colour of vestments	 Mass at 18:00; DEL p.80, year 1; I will proclaim your name among the 	
Response to the psalm	people	

THE FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER

Sunday 11 May – The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

Monday 12 May – feria of Eastertide COMMEMORATION OF DOM GREGORY DIX

• Mass at 18:00 DEL p. 212 (Year A gospel) *My soul is athirst for God, the living God.*

Tuesday 13 May – feria of Eastertide

Mass at 18:00 DEL p. 214
 Glorious things are spoken of you, Zion, city of our God.

Wednesday 14 May – St Matthias the Apostle

• Mass at 18:45; EH p.191 Lord, you know the hearts of all.

Thursday 15 May – feria of Eastertide
Mass at 18:00; DEL p.217
I shall sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

Friday 16 May – feria of Eastertide

• Mass at 18:00; DEL p.218 You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.

Saturday 17 May – feria of Eastertide • Mass at noon DEL p. 220

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth.

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! Many thanks.

PARISH CONTACTS



www.spkb.org parish microsite www.spkbinfo.org



@StPKbridge



StPaulsKnightsbridge

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



(I-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



Assistant Director of Music Jeremy Cole



Organ Scholar Georgina Sherriff

LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



Churchwarden John Tweddle john.tweddle@bidwells.co.uk 020 77363878



Churchwarden Phil Davies philip@spkb.org 07989 387198

Deputy Churchwardens

Caroline Docker, Margaret Gadow, Nicoletta Lindsay, Aidan Linton-Smith, Jeremy Orlebar and Susie Thornton.

Treasurer Noel Craven

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

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