

28 September 2014: Trinity 15

THE VIEW FROM UP THERE

Huge excitement at Mission Control of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Bangalore this week as India's low-budget Mars space mission proved that you don't have to spend billions to make history. The first images of the red planet, taken from 7,300 km, showed a beautiful, crater-marked orange surface pocked with dark holes. I felt the same thrill I have always felt about space travel – ever since, as a child aged just three years old, I watched the first ever grainy television images sent back to earth by Apollo 7 from orbit round the earth. A glimpse of what we must look like from 'out there'.

Vicars are supposed to quote Scripture, I'm

sure – but Scripture is silent on the view from low-space orbit, a concept completely alien to its writers. So why not Bette Middler instead: "From a distance the world looks blue and green, and the snow-capped mountains

white. From a distance the ocean meets the stream, and the eagle takes to flight. From a distance, there is harmony, and it echoes through the land. It's the voice of hope, it's the voice of peace, it's the voice of every man..." Sentimental? Certainly, but a reminder that there are different 'points of view' when it comes to surveying the world we inhabit – and it can be good to look at things from a different perspective from time to time. Like the view from 'up there'. And when we do, what do we notice?

One of the most powerful speeches at the recent 'Better Together' rally in Trafalgar Square on the eve of the Independence vote was that given by Eddie Izzard. He chose not to dwell on the economic arguments, nor indeed on anything else 'mundane'. Rather he noticed, simply, our instinct to 'draw lines' on the earth to demarcate borders and boundaries - lines drawn artificially on the map which, when the earth is viewed from the heavens, simply don't exist. We look and see in terms of territories, divisions and borders; we think in conquests, possession subjugation; our currency is power and our desire is division and control. You don't see

any of that from space: just the beauty, confluence and unity of things. We create divisions. We draw lines

Sometimes we do so for the best of reasons. It was Robert Frost in his magisterial poem,

'Mending Wall' who observed that 'good fences make good neighbors [sic]'. But often we create divisions and draw lines out of a sense of fear and anxiety – our schizoid selves taking control.

Good to be reminded, then, of a different way of seeing the world — as if from heaven — where man-made divisions are largely invisible, and the potential for unity is laid

bare. God's view of things? Perhaps.



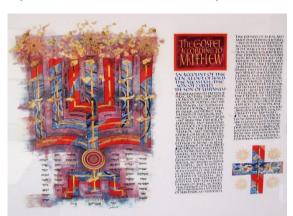
FORMATION & LEARNING

WEDNESDAY EVENING CLASSES CONTINUE on 1st OCTOBER:

THIS WEEK

We continue with week two of "Bible 101" with Fr. Nick Mercer: "The Bible Uncovered in Two Parts - The Curious Contents of the Best Selling Book in the World".

The structure of Wednesday evening is a simple one: Mass at 6.45pm with organ music and a hymn. Simple refreshments (finger food only), 7:15-7:30pm. Then from 7:30 to 8:30pm, class in the choir vestry.



On Friday 10th October we shall meet at the Church of St Martin's in the Fields for a viewing of the magnificent St. John's Bible. This will be followed by supper in the Cafe in the crypt and in turn followed by a talk, "An Introduction to St. Matthew's Gospel" by Sara Schumacher.

All by way of preparation for a **7 week series** on Wednesday evenings starting on 15th October with Fr. Andrew Sloane, "**Discovering St. Matthew's Gospel**". More details in the Christian Formation Programme. Please sign the sign-up sheet at the back of the church for the visit to St. Martin's in the Fields.

SPIRITUALITY & PRAYER

THE FAMILY MASS: The Sunday morning Family Mass at 09:00 just got musical! For details of how you can be involved, please contact Adam English or Virginia Craven.

20 MINUTES TO CHANGE THIS WEEK YOUR LIFE: SILENT MEDITATION. Aidan Hawkes invites you to

join the group, which begins its autumn term on **Tuesday 30th September at 08:00** and then again on **Thursday 2nd October at 17:30**, meeting twice a week thereafter at the same times.

Robert Gregory Freuhwirth, is leading a study day at St PAUL'S Paul's Cathedral on Saturday 4th October 2014. The cost is £40 and includes a sandwich lunch and refreshments. Booking online at www.stpauls.co.uk/forum.

AWARENESS & ACTION

THE HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP:

THIS WEEK



the initial meeting of the new Amnesty International/ Human

Rights Awareness group, being convened by Lois Moore and Fr Alan Gyle on **Tuesday 30**th **September at 8:00pm** in the Wilton Arms.

SOCIAL & COMMUNITY

ST PAUL'S KNIGHTSBRIDGE TEA DANCE: Who would have imagined that a tea dance could have been such fun?! Thank you to the committee who made yesterday afternoon's



social event at St Columba's Church in Pont Street such a success – and to the wondrous Jade who led the assembled throng through the intricacies of the Rumba, the Foxtrot and the 'Cha cha cha'. When's the next one?

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

>REMEMBRANCETIDE EVENING: The Vicar invites you to 'save the date' for an evening of music and remembrance on Monday 10th November 2014.

>THE ANNUAL ALL SOULS REQUIEM 18:00 on Sunday 2nd November. Please plan now to join us.

>MUSIC DINNER: please note the date for the hugely popular Music Dinner at The Berkeley Hotel – Monday 2nd February 2015.

IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR TRINITY 15

God, who of thy generous mercy didst send the Holy Spirit upon thy Church in the burning fire of thy love: grant that thy people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, ever abiding in thee, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

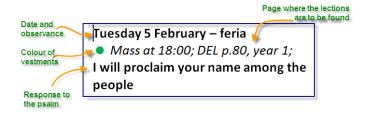
Amen.

POST COMMUNION FOR TRINITY 15

Keep, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy; and, because our human frailty without thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

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.



THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sunday 28 September – Trinity 15

Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

Monday 29 September – Michael & All Angels

(DEL week 26)

Mass at 18:00; EH p. 326;

Give your angels charge over us, O God, to keep us in all our ways.

Tuesday 30 September – Jerome

OMass at 18:00; EH p. 473 Common of Teachers;

Come, children, and listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Wednesday 1 October – feria

• Mass at 18:45; DEL p. 675 (year 2);

To you, O Lord, will I cry.

Thursday 2 October - feria

Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 678 (year 2);
 I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Friday 3 October – feria

Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 681 (year 2);

O Lord, you have searched me out and known me.

Saturday 4 October – Francis of Assisi

OMass at noon; EH p. 332;

The Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

We pray daily for:

- The renewal of the Church.
- our Bishop, Richard
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street
- those on active service overseas
- the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and for the unity and health of the Anglican Communion
- 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:

Rosemary Powell; Ian McDonald; Ian Frazer; Clifford Browne; Christopher Browne; Paule and Bernard Bedford; Jessica Macdonald Johnston; Elizabeth Gordon; Clariette Wilmot; Lane Davenport; Janet Sturdy; John Soderquist; Carole Taylor; Sara Carroll-Parker; Maggie Millbourn; John Millbourn; Christiane Dupont Nangle; Peter Brook; Michael Cooke; John King; Daphne Nugent; John Willmington; Alexandra Holesh; Penri Morgan; Malcolm Walsh; Jean Marc Lehut.

The departed:

Ian Goddard; John Farrant

Those whose Year's Mind is at this time:

Doris Palmer 29 September Peter Edwards 29 September Nora Cauldfield-Stoker 6 October

CONTACTS





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THE PARISH CLERGY



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Honorary Assistant Clergy









(l-r) Fr Nick Mercer; Fr Andrew Norwood; Fr Graham Palmer; Bishop Michael Colclough

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 Luke Navin

LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



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Deputy Churchwardens

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TreasurerNoel Craven

Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy Veronica Scott veronicamscott@hotmail.com 020 7603 7680



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