



ST PAUL'S
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

5 October 2014: **Trinity 16**

A LAUGHING MATTER?

Previewing from last night at Stratford East, *THE INFIDEL* is a musical based on David Badiel's hit film of the same name. It promises great show tunes and laughs from end to end. The plot? The death of his mother and the discovery in her papers of his birth certificate propels Mahmoud, a Muslim east London minicab driver, from the midst of mourning into a voyage of discovery. It reveals that he was, in fact, adopted at birth – the first shock – but there's more: his given name at birth was Solly and he was, by birth, Jewish. *Oy vay!* An existential crisis unfolds. Who *is* he? *What* is he? And what does he need to learn about what he is not? On one (superficial) level the journey is hilarious as Mahmoud turns to the only Jew he knows for help, a clinically depressed, border-line alcoholic called Lenny, whose take on what you need to know to become

Jewish involves lessons in dancing. The superficial is easy (and very amusing!). The *real* fun takes place at a deeper level as Mahmoud turns from being a mildly Judeophobic Muslim into a mildly self-loathing Jew, these two identities being coloured by a third: Mahmud the commonsense secular rationalist, who senses that religio-tribal "identity" of this or any sort is comforting, but also absurd. Fun!

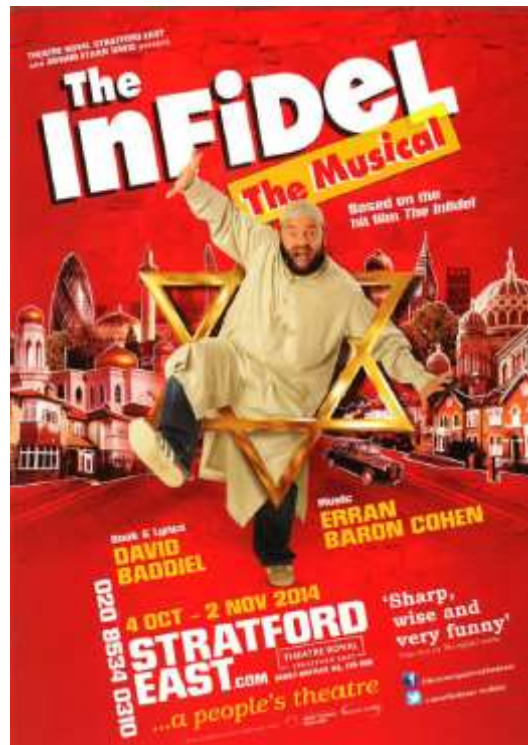
What will the musical be like? Well, a friend of mine, actor Andy Paul, is playing one of the characters – and so I'll find out soon! Off to the Theatre Royal in Stratford East. I'll let you know.

Part of us bristles, of course. Is this *suitable* material for a musical? In an era in which orange-suited captives kneel in desert-filmed videos and in which fear of the power of

religious fanaticism stalks the globe, can it possibly be right to laugh at this sort of stuff? Is it ever right to laugh about religion, still less laugh at it?

Aristotle, though cautious about an excess of humour, believed that laughter is what separates us from the beasts – and that a baby doesn't have a soul until the moment it laughs for the first time. He was, I think, onto something, at least in the second of those three thoughts! To be able

to laugh 'at ourselves' is redemptive as it often allows us to cut through pomposity and pretence and to get to the heart of things. To smile *with* others is to reveal creativity of thought and makes possible a creative playfulness that opens things up rather than closing them down. A little more laughter in inter-religious dialogue (and a little more laughter in the life of the Church) might allow us to see possibilities and self-evident truths currently obscured by our fearful straight-



facèdness and sometimes 'dour' religious anxiety.

Fr Alan Gyle

FORMATION & LEARNING

THE ST JOHN BIBLE, SUPPER & LECTURE: **THIS WEEK**



This Friday evening (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". PLEASE FIND FULL DETAILS ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET AT THE BACK OF CHURCH or CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

A **7 week series** begins on Wednesday evenings starting on 15th October with Fr. Andrew Sloane, "**Discovering St. Matthew's Gospel**". More details in the Christian Formation Programme.

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 YOUR LIFE: SILENT MEDITATION. Aidan Hawkes invites you to join the group, which meets twice a week (you need only come once!) on **Tuesday at 08:00** and then again on **Thursday at 17:30.** **THIS WEEK**

AWARENESS & ACTION

THE HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP: following the first meeting of the group, those who are interested in being part



of the on-going discussion and future activities are invited to join the email group. Please email felicity@spkb.org or speak to Phil Davies, Churchwarden.

SOCIAL & COMMUNITY

PARISH LUNCH today at 13:00 in the Hall. *Chef du jour*, Joe Dickerson. **Please join us for drinks and stay for lunch.**



FLOWERS IN CHURCH today are from yesterday's wedding of Charlie Longcroft and Donna Marsh. We extend our congratulations to them.

THE AUTUMN JUMBLE SALE takes place on the 1st November in the Church Hall. Anyone willing may bring contributions, bricabrac, books, etc. either to the church on a Sunday, or to the Hall on the evening of Friday the 31st of October.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



REMEMBRANCETIDE EVENING: During the war years, the Vicar of St Paul's Knightsbridge kept a journal and wrote in the parish magazine. Fr Alan Gyle and Ben Fleetwood Smyth have assembled the story of **St Paul's and the Great War**, and invite you to 'save the date' for an evening of music and remembrance on **Monday 10th November 2014**. Music will be provided by the British Art Music Series Ensemble and Choir. Admission will be by £20 donation at the door. Please join us for a unique evening that promises to be memorable!

>THE ANNUAL ALL SOULS REQUIEM

A sign-up sheet is available at the back of church upon which we invite you to note the names of all those departed friends and family members you would like us to pray for All Souls Day at the Solemn Requiem: **18:00 on Sunday 2nd November.**

>**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 16

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people which call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; 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 16

Almighty God, who hast taught us through thy Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love thee with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; 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.

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

- Date and observance:** Tuesday 5 February – feria
- Colour of vestments:** ● Mass at 18:00; DEL p.80, year 1;
- Response to the psalm:** I will proclaim your name among the people

Annotations indicate the location of the lections page (DEL p.80, year 1;).

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

S Sunday 5 October – Trinity 16

● Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

Monday 6 October – William Tyndale (DEL week 27)

○ Mass at 18:00; EH p. 334;

Wisdom will speak noble things, from her lips will come what is right.

Tuesday 7 October – feria

● Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 690 (year 2);

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

Wednesday 8 October – feria

● Mass at 18:45; DEL p. 692 (year 2);

All nations shall come and worship you, O Lord.

Thursday 9 October – feria

● Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 695 (year 2);

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.

Friday 10 October – Paulinus

○ Mass at 18:00; EH p. 338;

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob.

Saturday 11 October – feria

● Mass at noon; DEL p. 701 (year 2);

Remember the marvels the Lord has done.

We pray daily for:

- Peace in the Middle East, an easing of tension between warring groups and the eradication of religious fundamentalism.
- 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:

Eric Maidment; 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; baby Harry (Fitzgerald)

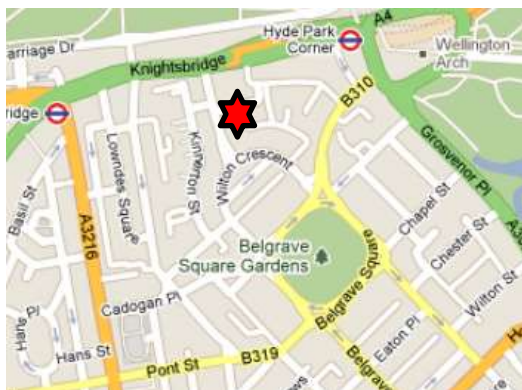
The departed:

Alan Henning; Norman Webb.

Those whose Year's Mind is at this time:

Nora Cauldfield-Stoker	6 October
Thomas Welsh Jr	6 October
Sheila Hanwell	7 October
Lena Chidi Sowole	7 October
Charles Black	9 October
Cecily Jackson	9 October

CONTACTS



www.spkb.org

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THE PARISH CLERGY



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Associate Vicar

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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

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Assistant Director of Music

Jeremy Cole



Organ Scholar

Luke Navin

LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



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Churchwarden

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Deputy Churchwardens

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Treasurer

Noel Craven

Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy

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