

ST PAUL'S

KNIGHTSBRIDGE



**The Solemn Eucharist
with Confirmation & Reception**

The Conversion of St Paul
25th January 2015 at 11 a.m.

Welcome to St Paul's Knightsbridge, part of the Diocese of London and a church of the worldwide Anglican Communion. If you are visiting us from another church, please make yourself known to the sidesmen or to one of the clergy after the service. Members of all Christian churches are welcome to share with us in this Eucharist – and those who do not wish to receive the Sacrament are invited to approach the altar at the time of Communion, to receive a blessing.

There is a loop system in the lower parts of the church for the benefit of the hearing-impaired. Hearing aid users should switch their devices to 'T'.

During the service a collection will be taken for the work of the church in this parish, throughout the Diocese of London and further afield. Please use the special envelopes at the end of each pew to maximise your giving through the 'Giftaid' scheme.

Members of the congregation are asked to ensure that mobile phones are switched off (or to silent) and are reminded that the taking of photographs or the making of audio or video recordings during services is prohibited.

*Cover image:
The Conversion of St Paul
Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528)*

Order of Service

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page;
thy people owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade men rise, and hasten
to share the great king's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict,
and cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
some better thing is stored;
we will maintain, unflinching,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us
the victory shall be won;
and then, by all creation,
thy name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

*Words: Edward Plumpton (1812-1891)
Music: 'Thornbury'; Basil Harwood (1859-1949)*

THE GREETING

When all are in their places the Bishop says:

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

There is one body and one spirit.
There is one hope to which we were called;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all.

Peace be with you
and with thy spirit.

THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy
Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy
holy name; through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

The choir sings:

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te. Gratias
agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex
coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens, Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris. Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem
nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam tu
solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe cum
Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise
thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for
thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father almighty. O
Lord, the only-begotten son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of
the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou
that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at
the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art the most
high, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

All stand when the sacred ministers stand.

THE COLLECT

The Celebrant introduces a period of silent prayer:

Let us pray.

Thereafter, he sings:

O God, who, through the preaching of the blessed apostle, Paul, hast caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world: grant, we beseech thee, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show forth our thankfulness unto thee for the same by following the holy doctrine which he taught; 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.

The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST READING

The Acts of the Apostles 9: 1-22

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this

man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

At the end:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALMODY

The Choir sings:

God be merciful unto us, and bless us :
and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;
That thy way may be known upon earth :
thy saving health among all nations.
Let the people praise thee, O God :
yea, let all the people praise thee.
O let the nations rejoice and be glad :
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,
and govern the nations upon earth.
Let the people praise thee, O God :
let all the people praise thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase :
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.

Psalms 67

THE SECOND READING

St Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1: 11-16a

I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being

At the end:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

**We sing the glorious conquest
before Damascus' gate,
when Saul, the Church's spoiler,
came breathing threats and hate;
the ravening wolf rushed forward
full early to the prey;
but lo! the shepherd met him,
and bound him fast today.**

**O glory most excelling
that smote across his path!
O light that pierced and blinded
the zealot in his wrath!
O voice that spake within him
the calm, reproving word!
O love that sought and held him
the bondman of his Lord!**

**Lord, teach thy Church the lesson,
still in her darkest hour
of weakness and of danger,
to trust thy hidden power;
thy grace by ways mysterious
the wrath of man can bind,
and in thy boldest foeman
thy chosen saint can find.**

Words: John Ellerton (1826-93)

Music: 'Ellacombe'; from the Mainz Gesangbuch

All remain standing.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Cantor sings:



Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I have called you friends, says the Lord,
for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All turn to face the Deacon.

THE GOSPEL READING

The Deacon says:

The Lord be with you

And with thy spirit.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Peter said to Jesus: 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

Matthew 19: 27-end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Bishop kisses the Gospel Book.

THE SERMON

The Rt Revd Michael Colclough
*Bishop in Residence at St Paul's Knightsbridge
and Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of London*

The Rite of Confirmation & Reception

The candidates are presented with their sponsors.

The Bishop asks the candidates:

Robert & Claudio, have you been baptized in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

I have.

Robert, are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart
to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

I am.

Claudio, do you acknowledge the Church of England as part of the
one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church?

I do.

Claudio, do you accept the teaching, discipline and authority of the
Church of England?

I do.

Robert & Claudio, will you take part with us in worship and mission?

I will.

The Bishop addresses the whole congregation.

People of God, will you welcome Robert & Claudio and uphold them
in their life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

THE DECISION

The Bishop addresses both the candidates.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.
Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?

I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?

I renounce evil.

The Bishop says:

May God who has given you the desire to follow Christ
give you strength to continue in the Way.

Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Bishop addresses the congregation.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess
together with these candidates the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Bishop sprinkles the candidates with Holy Water, then says:

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of
faith with all who have been baptized into your name. Keep us faithful
to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole
creation shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

CONFIRMATION

Robert Clouston kneels before the Bishop. The Bishop says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop extends his hands towards the candidate to be confirmed and says:
Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given you servant new birth
in baptism by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven him all his sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon him:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let his delight be in the fear of the Lord. **Amen.**

Robert, God has called you by name and made you his own.

He then lays his hand on his head, saying:
Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

He then anoints Robert on the crown of the head with the Oil of Chrism, saying:
Shine in the world as one of God's chosen ones, beloved and accepted
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

RECEPTION

Claudio Cornini kneels before the Bishop. The Bishop says:

God of mercy and love, by one Spirit we have all been baptized into
one body and made to drink of the one Spirit;
we thank you for the gifts you have given to this your servant
for the building up of the body of Christ.
Grant that he may continue in the life of the Spirit and walk with us in
the light and obedience of Christ.
By the same Spirit, fill the whole Church with your overflowing love;
give us knowledge and discernment of your will, and steadfastness in
your service, until we all come to the unity of the faith, to the measure
of the full stature of Christ, through whom we make our prayer.
Amen.

The Bishop takes Claudio's hand:

Claudio, we recognize you as a member of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church; and we receive you into the communion of the Church of England in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Bishop invites the congregation to pray for both candidates:

Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says:

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name, and we share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

and with thy spirit.

The Deacon says:

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace with those standing close by.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

THE OFFERTORY

The gifts of the people are carried to the altar and presented. A collection is taken. Please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided, remembering to fill in all the details.

The altar is prepared and the gifts of bread and wine, the altar, and the sanctuary party are censed.

THE COLLECTION HYMN

All sit.

**Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly,
the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!**

**Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!
The church with psalms must shout, no door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!**

Words: George Herbert (1593-1632)

Music: 'Luckington,' by Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Spirit of the Lord
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the
poor: he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach
deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the
blind, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord;
To give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes,
the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit
of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.
For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden
causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth;
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring forth before all the nations.

From The Apostles (Op. 49), text: Isaiah 61

When the Thurifer approaches, all stand to be censed.

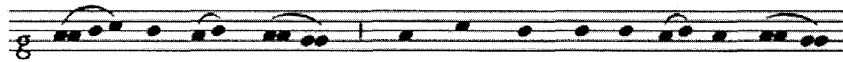
After being censed, all remain standing for the Eucharistic Prayer.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Celebrant sings: *All respond:*



The Lord be with you *R.* and with thy spi-rit.



Lift up your hearts. *R.* **We lift them up un-to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks un - to the Lord our God.



R. **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee,
O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God,
through Jesus Christ, thine only Son, our Lord.

For he is thy living Word;

through him thou hast created all things from the beginning,
and fashioned us in thine own image.

Through him thou didst redeem us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman,
to die upon the cross, and to rise again for us.

Through him thou hast made us a people for thine own possession,
exalting him to thy right hand on high,
and sending forth through him thy holy and life-giving Spirit.

And now we give thee thanks that thy glory is revealed in Paul and all
the saints. In their lives thou hast given us an example of faithfulness
to Christ. In their holiness we find encouragement and hope.

In our communion with them we share the unity of thy kingdom.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of
heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising
thee and saying:

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth,
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua, Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

Communion Service 'Collegium Regale' – Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

The prayer continues:

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of thy Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine may be unto us his body and his blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread;
and when he had given thanks to thee,
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks to thee, he gave it to them, saying:

Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of his kingdom
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ, thy Son, our Lord.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

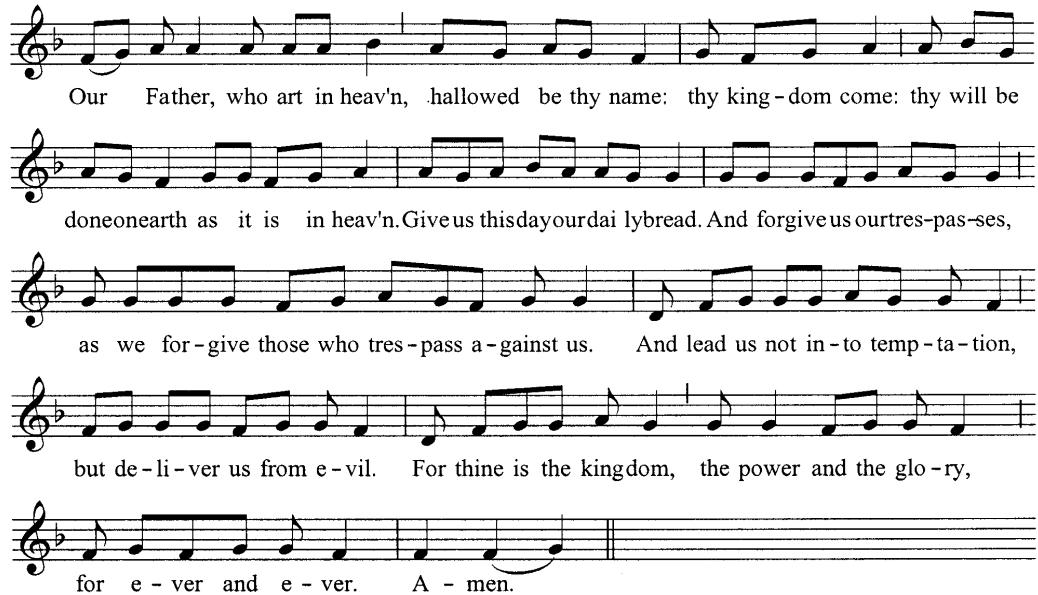
Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of thy divine majesty,
renew us by thy Holy Spirit, inspire us with thy love,
and unite us in the body of thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be unto thee,
O Father almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All kneel. The Celebrant sings:

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

All sing:



Our Father, who art in heav'n, hallowed be thy name: thy king-dom come: thy will be
done on earth as it is in heav'n. Give us this day our dai ly bread. And forgive us our tres-pas-ses,
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-against us. And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion,
but de-li-ver us from e-vil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glo-ry,
for e-ver and e-ver. A-men.

THE FRACTION

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

THE GIVING OF HOLY COMMUNION

By way of invitation to receive the Sacrament the Celebrant says:

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof,
but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.**

The Sacred Ministers and Servers receive the Holy Communion, followed by the people, beginning with those seated at the front of the Nave.

All who normally do so in their own Church are invited to receive the Sacrament. Those who do not wish to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion are invited to approach the altar to receive a blessing, carrying this booklet in their hands as an indication to the Priest.

AGNUS DEI

The choir sings:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Communion Service 'Collegium Regale' – Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

COMMUNION ANTHEM from the Oratorio 'St Paul', Op. 36 'How lovely are the messengers' *Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)*

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace. To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words, throughout all the lands their glad tidings.

Text: from Romans, Ch. 10

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

The Celebrant introduces a period of silent prayer.

Let us pray.

All kneel.

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart in Jesus Christ, our Lord..
Amen.

Almighty God,
we thank thee for feeding us
with the body and blood of thy Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer thee our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of thy Spirit
to live and work to thy praise and glory.
Amen.

All stand.

THE CONCLUDING HYMN

O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
be thou ever near me,
my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

O let me see thy footmarks,
and in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

*Words: John Ernest Bode (1816-74)
Music: 'Wolvercote', by William H. Ferguson (1874-1950)*

All remain standing.

THE BLESSING & THE DISMISSAL

The Bishop says:

The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.

Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever.

May God the Holy Spirit,
who came upon the beloved Son
at his baptism in the river Jordan,
pour out his gifts on you:
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Deacon says:

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

All remain standing as the Servers and Sacred Ministers depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

played by Jeremy Cole

Allegro maestoso e vivace
from Sonata in B flat major Op. 65, No 4
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

***Collegium Regale* – Herbert Howells (1892-1983)**

Herbert Howells was an English composer noted for his large output of Anglican choral music and organ music. He studied at the Royal College of Music under Stanford, Parry, and Wood. Howells began by writing mostly orchestral music, before branching out to the organ with his first set of psalm preludes. His music is easily recognisable for its unique harmonic language, and seems out of place anywhere except a large English cathedral or church. This Mass was published in 1957 for the choir of King's College Cambridge.

***The Spirit of the Lord* – Edward Elgar (1857-1934)**

This piece is an extract from 'The Apostles' - the first of two oratorios, composed by Edward Elgar in 1903. The oratorio text is compiled from a variety of biblical sources, put together by the composer. 'The Spirit of the Lord' is in fact the prologue to the oratorio, and hence introduces many of the themes and motifs that are to be heard throughout the rest of the work.

***'How lovely are the messengers' from the Oratorio 'St Paul', Op. 36*
- Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)**

This is an extract from Felix Mendelssohn's now infrequently performed oratorio 'St Paul', which tells the story of the life of St Paul - from his less than Christian beginnings, to his conversion and baptism, his missions, and eventually his persecution. The libretto was compiled from old and New Testament passages by Mendelssohn's childhood friend, Pastor Julius Schubring. The work was premiered in 1836. Mendelssohn includes settings of hymns (chorales), in the style that Bach - who's work Mendelssohn was largely responsible for rediscovering and bringing to public attention - had used in his own oratorios.

***Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonata in B flat major Op. 65, No 4* - Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)**

Mendelssohn, throughout his life, was particularly noted for his skill as an organist, and his playing of Bach's music in particular was always especially well received. Mendelssohn was instrumental in the rediscovery of Bach's organ music, which was largely unknown since the composer's death nearly a hundred years previously. Mendelssohn was commissioned to compose a set of organ pieces in 1844 by the English publisher Coventry and Hollier (Mendelssohn was especially popular in England, although his music was generally seen to be old fashioned). The composer eventually turned the 'set of pieces' into a set of sonatas - not sonatas in the Classical era sense (meaning 'pieces in sonata form'), but instead sonatas in the sense that Bach had used (simply a collection of varying pieces). Some of the movements were originally composed for totally unrelated purposes - such as a March composed for the wedding of the composer's sister some years earlier. The fourth sonata was the last to be written

THE CHOIR OF ST PAUL'S KNIGHTSBRIDGE

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Stephen Farr

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

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The Music & Musicians of St Paul's Knightsbridge

St Paul's Knightsbridge maintains a regular professional choir of eight and the services of both a Director and Assistant Director of Music. The organ is by Henry Willis & Sons and dates from 1888. The musical repertoire, Sunday by Sunday, is diverse and often boldly ambitious: at the Solemn Mass at 11 am there is always a choral mass setting and two seasonal anthems, one at the Offertory and the other during Communion. Full details of the music for each week – along with a programme note – is published in the service paper. The musicians also sing and play for weddings, baptisms, funerals and memorial services at the church.

St Paul's Knightsbridge is grateful to The Berkeley Hotel for its generous and neighbourly support of the music.

THE BERKELEY

KNIGHTSBRIDGE LONDON

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