

Peterfide: 28th June 2015

CALLING

How do you 'choose' what to do in life? How did *you* choose to become what you are?

Though we imagine we have free choice, schooling and home influences subtly shape our internal map of what it's possible to do and be – and how often children echo in their direction of travel what parents have done before them. Teachers beget teachers, accounts often accountants, and doctors, doctors. Are you your father's son or mother's daughter in more than narrowly genetic terms!

Perhaps you believe it is about discovering what you're *good* at. Those skills we stumble upon along the way, and then play to. Which is often the case, albeit that many of us only discover what we're *really* good at some way down the line.

Perhaps this accounts for the fact that though many people pursue one career or trade all their life, lots of people change direction and, sometimes to the surprise of those around them, veer off in new and unexpected directions. 'It was that course I did when I was thirty that made me realise that upholstery was a real strength and that I'm good with my hands.'

To this 'strengths' analysis, add the idea of 'passions'. In life, we slowly discover, there are things we are good at that we are not in the least passionate about – and conversely, that there are things about which we are passionate that we are really not very skilled in. But somewhere, in the intersection of those two is a 'sweet-spot' where skills and passions coincide. Perhaps we could call those 'talents' – and when you discover them, it can be liberating to pursue them.



Not that any of this is worked out in abstraction. So, to the ideas of shaping and conditioning, skills, passions and talents, add the idea of the world's needs. Aristotle said that where your talents and the needs of the world cross, that is your vocation – and it is true that even in our very self-serving generation in which ideas of self-actualisation and 'being fully myself' is accorded high status, many people are driven in life-choices by a notion of response to perceived need, and by the satisfaction that flows from responding to it.

For the Christian, of course, there is a deeper resonance to this Aristotelian concept of vocation. A *vocation* is – in the language of Scripture – a response to a call (that's the Latin root of the word, from *vocare*, to call), the call of God. In the picturesque stories of the Bible, God's 'call' is often presented as a 'voice from heaven', literally. But you don't have to be literalistic about it for this to be an image communicating profound truth. In practice, God speaks through prayerful discernment of *all* of the above: through loving families and in key relationships (parents and godparents, spouses and friends); through noticing the skills God has given us in this astonishing creation and the delight that is possible for us to have in life; through concentration on the preoccupations and plight of others and possibilities inherent in relating to them and meeting their needs.

Life choices – if, in this life, we are to be fully alive – demand prayerful thinking and engagement. What, I wonder, has God called you to be? And are you *yet* being or doing it?

Fr Alan Gyle

WELCOME

You will find in the pews, in addition to the yellow envelopes, blue and gold "Visitor Cards". We invite visitors who would like to keep in touch with us to complete one of these and to hand it to one of the clergy.

DRINKS AFTER MASS

Welcome to Artemis – and her parents Hugo and Bianca, her godparents and their friends – to be baptised at today's 11am mass, and to other visitors. There is a great deal to celebrate this weekend, including the vicar's birthday! He, and they, hope that all visitors and regular members of the congregation will join us for drinks after mass.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of John Hollamby will be held at St Paul's Knightsbridge on **Tuesday 30th June at 11:00**



PCC

The Parochial Church Council will meet on **Tuesday 14th July at 19:00**. Papers will be circulated in advance. Apologies for absence to Felicity Cranfield in the Parish Office.



INFORMATION EVENTS: BUILDING FOR MISSION



Members of the congregation and members of the local community are warmly invited to one of two information events at which they will be able to engage with the emerging plans for the development of St Paul's and its fundraising strategy. These will take place on **Saturday 18th July at 10:30am** and **Wednesday 22nd July at 5:00pm**. Each will last for up to one hour. Refreshments will be available.



GARDEN PARTY

The Parish Autumn Garden Party will take place in the Vicarage



Garden on **Thursday 10th September 2015 from 6:30pm**. Please note the date now and plan to be with us.

JOIN US IN KRAKOW



"I'm not sure I could face going to Auschwitz" a number of people have said to me.



The central theme of our forthcoming visit to Krakow is that we need to explore – as thinking, believing people – the reality of evil and the collective potential of humanity for evil as well as good, if we are to be mature in our theological outlook. None of us wants to confront evil – and perhaps we instinctively reach for the remote control when the latest images of human atrocity flash onto our screens on the daily news. But for many of us, confronting truth is ultimately more creative than denying it or avoiding it, however briefly painful that may seem. And if we *are* to do so, and to engage this dimension of our human experience, where better to do it than in good and prayerful company among friends – and with thoughtful guidance along the way. I hope that you'll pause and consider joining us. Pre-work and preparation for the visit begins in early September.

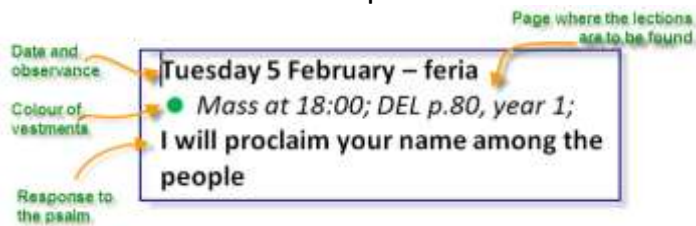
Fuller information about the planned trip to Kraków and Auschwitz ('Theology after Auschwitz' with Fr Alan Gyle) is available at the back of church. **17th – 20th September 2015**

MEDITATION

The Tuesday morning Silent Meditation/Centering Prayer group will **not** meet in the months of June, July or August

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.



COLLECT FOR PETER & PAUL

Almighty God, whose blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified thee in their death as in their life: grant that thy Church, inspired by their teaching and example, and made one by thy Spirit, may ever stand firm on the one foundation which is thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR TRINITY 4

O God, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us thy mercy that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Everlasting God, comforter to the afflicted and healer to the broken, who hast nourished us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY & THE 13th WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B; DEL YEAR 1)

Sunday 28 June – Peter & Paul, Apostles

● Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

Monday 29 June – feria

● Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 450 year 1

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

Tuesday 30 June – feria

● Mass at 18:00; DEL P. 454 year 1

Your love, O Lord, is before my eyes.

Wednesday 1 July – feria

● Mass at 18:45; DEL p. 457 year 1

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Thursday 2 July – feria

● Mass at 18:00; DEL p. 460 year 1

O Lord, deliver my soul.

Friday 3 July – St Thomas, Apostle

● Mass at 18:00; EH p. 215

Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Saturday 4 July – feria

● Mass at noon; DEL p. 466 year 1

Praise the Lord for he is good.

Sunday 5 July – Fifth after Trinity

● Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

We pray daily for:

- For our Bishop, Richard
- For the 40 ordinands to be made deacon on Saturday in the Cathedral, and for all the newly ordained
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street and its Rector Designate
- our emerging mission link with All Saints, Nhamavila in Mozambique
- 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:

Julie Hardman; Alan Lintott; Bishop Michael Colclough; Vivienne Mallinson; Margot Stewart; Ian Powe; Bernard Gordon-Lennox; Jane Elstub; Sal Allen; Clariette Wilmot; Tim Touhey; Ian Frazer; Elizabeth Gordon; Fr.Lane Davenport; Carole Taylor; Michael Cooke; John King; Alexandra Holesh; Cath Dunkley

We pray for all the recently departed,

Fr. Richard Martin; Heidi
Hoell; John Hollamby

ST PAUL'S

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

WHO'S WHO

THE PARISH OFFICE

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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.

IN THE PARISH OFFICE



Vicar's PA

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THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



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Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy

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