

Trinity XVIII: 25th September 2016

The different faces of discipleship

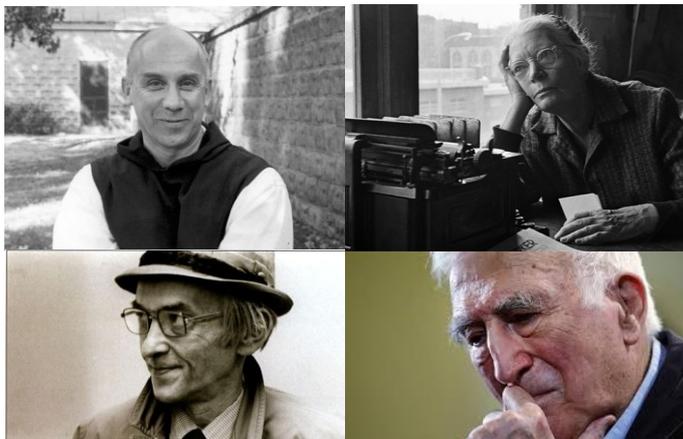
As I write this I'm looking out onto the vicarage garden from my desk. It's a beautiful early autumn afternoon. The transition of one season to another reminds us yet again that we are creatures of time set within a particular place. To pay attention to the movements of the natural world causes an interior expression of praise.

I once lived on the Blackwater Estuary in Maldon and recall the times when the Brent geese would arrive on our shores to escape the harsh winters of Scandinavia. The vast open skies of East Anglia spoke of grandeur and space. Equilibrium in my spirit was often restored by walking along the sea wall and contemplating the shifting patterns and hues of the salt flats.

As someone who values solitude, this gift came easily living by a river estuary, but life is different now. The invitation is to discover God in the city, in the myriad patterns of urban life. St Ignatius of Loyola spoke of finding God in all things – and to find God in all things is to find God in all people.

We're sharing details today of a series of evenings entitled 'In the Image of Christ: reflections on the different faces of discipleship'. I wanted to create a space where we can pay attention to the movement of God's spirits in four very different lives. There are so many people I could have chosen, but the four people I decided upon came to me easily. I'm wondering if this itself is significant. Might there be a message for all of us in the lives of the four Christians we will consider?

So often our natural reaction is to weigh up a person and make a quick judgement and whilst there *is* a place for first impressions, I hope these evenings will help us to slow down and pay closer attention to four remarkable lives.



(clockwise) Thomas Merton, Dorothy Day, Jean Vanier & William Stringfellow

In learning about a monk, a journalist, a lawyer and a philosopher so we can make connections and how their lives might speak to us as we develop the life and witness of St Paul's Knightsbridge.

Discipleship might not be a word we identify with readily, but it's what each of us began in our baptism and

describes the movement of following Christ daily in our lives seeking to become more and more open to the fullness of God's Spirit. If we take the time to familiarise ourselves with the discipleship of other Christians we will find our own experience being renewed and enlivened. God will honour our desire for growth in Spirit and send us guides to encourage and inspire that we might be deepen our trust in his life.

The church is a learning community and we are learners in the company of Christ. We never stop learning of God - from each other and from those we will never meet, but whose lives still speak to us of the life of the Spirit. I encourage you to take the time to get to know these particular disciples that you might recognise more readily the movement of God's Spirit.

Fr Louis Darrant

News & Events

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

A Christian Meditation group meets every Monday in the chancel of the church at 6.30pm. This form of silent, imageless prayer using a mantra or prayer word is rooted in the Gospel, the letters of St Paul and originated with the early Desert Fathers of the 4th century. Newcomers are welcome to share in this space which includes quiet music, a reading from the writings of the late Fr John Main, followed by 20 minutes of silent meditation.

NEW CONFIRMATION GROUP TO START

A new confirmation group is starting at St Paul's. If you would like to have a conversation about being prepared for Confirmation, please speak to a member of the clergy team.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK AND THE DEPARTED

There is now a book at the back of church for you to add names to be included in the weekly sheet. Names will be included for a period of four weeks, following which you will be asked if you would still like the name to be included in the weekly prayers.

A LIFE REMEMBERED

Rosemary Powell, a member of our community, has published her memoirs recording a long and fascinating life. Copies are available from her son Giles, who can be contacted at gilespowell@gmail.com and are priced at £30 each.

ROYAL PARKS HALF MARATHON

Fr Louis will be running in the Royal Parks Half Marathon on Sunday 9th October on behalf of the Terrence Higgins Trust. Please use the sponsorship form at the back of church or visit uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LouisDarrant.

A TASTE OF ITALY

In anticipation of next year's trip to Sicily, yet another event, this time focusing on the flavours from the island - with wine, oil and sweet tastings. "A Taste of Sicily" is organised by the Order of St John and corporate sponsors CVSS and PFE as a charity even to raise funds for the Order. This coming **Tuesday September 27th**, from 6.30pm at the Museum of the Order, at St John's Gate, St John's Lane, Clerkenwell. Entrance

donation of £25 per person (also online at www.stjohnengland.org.uk).

AUTUMN GALA CONCERT

A gala concert in St Paul's Knightsbridge: Mendelssohn Hebrides Overture; Schumann Piano Concerto (soloist: Howard Shelley); Mozart Ch'io mi scordi di te (soloist: Clare McCaldin); Mozart Jupiter Symphony. The Thames Chamber Orchestra, directed by Keith Marshall Saturday 15th October, 2016



at 7.30pm Tickets now available online at www.spkb.org

NEW WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY SERIES: IN THE IMAGE OF CHRIST: REFLECTIONS OF DIFFERENT FACES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Wednesday 28th September: Thomas Merton
Wednesday 5th October: Dorothy Day
Wednesday 19th October: William Stringfellow
Wednesday 26th October: Jean Vanier

Each session will begin at 7.45pm and conclude at 8.45pm. Refreshments will be served from 7.30pm.

THE ART OF INTERCESSION

An evening exploring the place and purpose of intercession in both private and public prayer. Wednesday, 12th October from 7.45 to 9.00pm. Refreshments served from 7.30pm. Please do join us.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE AT 6.45PM

The daily mass is one of the privileges of our life here at St Paul's. Many people appreciate the reflective character of a weekday mass which lasts no longer than 25 minutes. The Wednesday Evening Service is slightly different in having a simple mass setting, hymn and sermon followed by refreshments. Please consider making this part of your own practice.

The Ordo & Intercessions

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:

Tuesday 5 February – feria

● Mass at 18:00; DEL p.80, year 1;

I will proclaim your name among the people

Annotations:

- Date and observance
- Colour of vestments
- Response to the psalm
- Page where the lections are to be found

COLLECT FOR TRINITY 18

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us thy gift of faith that, forsaking that which is behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of thy commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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 PRAYER

We give thee praise and thanks, Lord Jesus Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive thee, here the memory of thy passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here we are given a pledge of the glory to come, when we shall feast at that table where thou reignest with all thy saints for ever. **Amen.**

SERVICES TIMES

Sunday 25 September: 18th Sunday after Trinity - green

[Proper 21 DEL week 26, year 2]

◇ Masses at 09:00 & 11:00;

Monday 26 September: Wilson Carlile - white

◇ Mass at 18:00; EH p. 632 (Common of Missionaries)

R: May God give us his blessing.

Tuesday 27 September: Vincent de Paul - white

◇ Mass at 8:00; EH p. 407

R: Your light shall break forth like the dawn.

Wednesday 28 September: Ember Day - green

◇ Mass at 18:45

Thursday 29 September: The Feast of St Michael and All Angels - White

◇ Mass at 18:00; EH p. 410

R: Give your angels charge over us, O God.

Friday 30 September: St Jerome - white

◇ Mass at 18:00; EH p. 602

R: The testimony of the Lord gives wisdom to the innocent.

Saturday 1 October: Remigius - white

◇ Mass at noon; EH p. 632 (Common of Missionaries)

R: Be joyful in the Lord, all the earth.

We pray this week for:

- our Bishop, Richard, the work of General Synod and all who lead the Church
- the media and the arts
- the social services
- local government & community leaders
- those who work with young or elderly people
- those whose work is unfulfilling, stressful or fraught with danger
- all who work in the medical and healing professions

Among the sick and those in need:

Patricia Dopheide; Kathleen Pilton; Nick Samuelson; Simon Spence; John Watson; Stephen Allen; Jean Marc Lehut; Geoffrey Wilcox; Jamie Britten; Alan Lintott; Bishop Michael Colclough; Jane Elstub; Michael Cooke; John King; Alexandra Holesh; Vivienne Mallinson; Alain Joutet.

We pray for all the recently departed

Peter Kemmis Betty, Helen Pontius, Rob Beckett, Stanley Baxter, priest

and for all those whose year's mind falls at this time.

ST PAUL'S

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

WHO'S WHO

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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 Louis is unavailable on Fridays.

IN THE PARISH OFFICE



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THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



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Music Scholars



(l-r) Adam Mathias (Organ); Findlay Spence (Cello & Composition)

LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



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Churchwarden

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Treasurer: Noel Craven

Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy

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