

St Paul's Knightsbridge
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The Vicar
The Reverend Alan Gyle
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Honorary Assistant Clergy:
The Rt Reverend Michael Colclough
The Very Reverend Victor Stock
The Venerable Nick Mercer
The Revd Prebendary Bill Scott

SERVICES THIS WEEK:

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
15 April 2018
Family Mass at 09:00 (AG)
Solemn Eucharist at 11:00
Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle

Mon 16 April:
Feria of Eastertide
Low Mass at 18:00 (+M)

Tues 17 April:
Feria of Eastertide
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Low Mass at 18:00 (AG)

Wed 18 April:
Feria of Eastertide
Morning Prayer at 09:00
**The Big Wednesday Evening
Service, followed by a supper
at 19:00 (AG & VS)**

Thu 19 April:
Alphege, archbishop & martyr
Morning Prayer at 09:00
Low Mass at 18:00 (WS)

Fri 20 April:
Feria of Eastertide
Low Mass at 18:00 (AG)

Sat 21 April:
Anselm, abbot & archbishop
Low Mass at Noon (AG)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
22 April 2018
Family Mass at 09:00 (AG)
Sung Eucharist at 11:00
Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD



In 1965, George Stevens produced and directed one of the most astonishing films ever to come out of Hollywood, 'The Greatest Story Ever Told.' The film had had its origins in a series devised for American Public Radio in the late 1940s that told an eager audience the whole story of Jesus from the nativity through to the resurrection, in a series of half hour episodes. Fulton Oursler turned the radio script into a book, and 20th Century Fox acquired the rights to the book, though did nothing with it. Some years later, Stevens stumbled across the book and realised the impact of telling the whole story in one long sequence, rather than breaking it up into bite-sized chunks. The idea for the greatest Hollywood blockbuster was born. If you have seen the film (and which of us hasn't seen it at least once – many of us over and over again!), you will remember some of the casting, including Telly Savalas as Pontius Pilate and John Wayne as the centurion at the foot of the cross, drawling the words, 'truly this man was the Son of God!'

When we tell the story of Jesus in church, we tend to cut it up into

seasonal bite-sized chunks: at Christmas we focus on the Incarnation; in Lent and Holy Week on the Passion; at Easter the Resurrection, and so on. We do so in order to be drawn down into the depths of the different parts of the story and to allow its mystery to penetrate our hardened hearts and minds. The upside of this is obvious; the downside is that we seldom sit and read the whole story through from beginning to end – and in failing to do so we miss the impact of the sweep of the narrative.

Back in England in the 1700s, long before either radio or film, Charles Jennens recognised this power of reading the whole story from beginning to end. He wrote a libretto, drawing his text variously from the King James Bible and from the Psalms in the Book of Common Prayer. The result? A text he called 'Messiah' – which was famously set to music in 1741 by George Frideric Handel. Handel intended the oratorio to be listened to from beginning to end – although we, in our digital age, tend to listen to our favourite movements in abstraction and isolation from the whole.

Not so this coming Thursday (19th April) when at 7:30pm the church will be packed for our Eastertide Concert – Messiah sung by our choir, accompanied by the Royal College of Music Music Ensemble, directed by Michael Papadopoulos. Come along and hear 'the greatest story ever told!'

Fr Alan Gyle

The Eastertide Concert Handel Messiah

sung by the Choir of St Paul's Knightsbridge with The Royal College of Music Ensemble, directed by Michael Papadopoulos.
Thursday, 19th April at 7:30pm

Tickets available online (www.spkb.org) or at the door



Who's who this Sunday At 09:00 (Low Mass)

Celebrant: Fr Alan Gyle

At 11:00 (Sung Mass)

Celebrant: Fr Alan Gyle
Deacon: Fr Nick Mercer
Subdeacon: James Wilcox
Reader: Dr Steven Harrison
Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle
Intercessor: Charlotte Wolseley Brinton

The Music Dinner

LAST FEW PLACES AVAILABLE

for This year's Music Dinner will take place on **Monday 14th May at 7pm for 7:30pm**. Black tie or equivalent – tables of 10, or individual tickets – a ticket cost of £50 with an additional (gift-aidable) donation of £150 means £200pp or £2,000 per table. Please speak to John Tweddle for more information.

Who am I? Identity, Faith and Being Human: with John Swinton and Rowan Williams



What is it that makes you who you are? In the West we live with a passionately autobiographical sense of self – I am who I am so long as I can tell my own story.

Research tells us that people are more afraid of dementia than cancer because loss of identity is the worst thing we can imagine.

You are warmly invited to St Paul's Cathedral **tomorrow evening (Monday 16th April from 6:30pm till 8pm)**. Free tickets can be reserved on the Cathedral website.

Notices

TODAY: Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Today at **12:20pm** we hold our Annual Parochial Church Meeting. It is an opportunity for members of the congregation to receive the annual report of the parish's life, with a chance to scrutinize the accounts for 2017. We will also be electing new members to fill spaces on the Parochial Church Council left empty by our resignation by rotation process. Even if the prospect of a business meeting fills you with something less than delight, please try to come along. This annual process is an important aspect of good governance in our common life. A copy of the annual report has been displayed on the noticeboard in the porch, as required by law, for you to scrutinize in advance: copies are available at the meeting.

BIG WEDNESDAY: This week's Wednesday Evening Service



Once a month the usual Wednesday evening mass at 7pm is 'augmented' with fuller music, two clergy and a supper in the church afterwards. The attendance jumps from a handful to the 20s or 30s. This week Fr Alan and Fr Victor will be the clerical double act, exploring the theme of 'News' – and supper is being cooked by Dr Tom Tull. Come along!

Ascension Day Mass & Party

On Ascension Day, Thursday 10th May at 7pm there will be an evening mass followed by a party in the Vicarage to which all are warmly invited.

If you are a new member of the congregation, or a visitor, it is a good opportunity to meet other members of the congregation. Please 'save the date'.

The Jumble Sale

Thanks to Niki Bartman and her team for yesterday's Spring Jumble Sale; the event raised fractionally over £1,000. Congratulations to all.

Sunday Evening at the Abbey

Every Sunday evening, at the end of a long day of sung services, Westminster Abbey holds a short & simple said service with hymns at 18:30; **this evening (15th April)** the service will be conducted by Fr Alan Gyle (who is a Priest Vicar of the Abbey).



His sermon will be on 'Memory and Identity'. Supporters most welcome!

Forthcoming Trips and Visits

Please visit the parish website for more information:

BOOKING NOW OPEN:

**Coventry Cathedral
Saturday 16th June from 08:00 – 18:00**



A visit to Basil Spence's remarkable 1960s Cathedral and to reflect on its distinctive ministry in the face of conflict. We will travel by train and enjoy a late lunch together after a tour and Eucharist.

**Berwick Church in Sussex,
Saturday 28th July from 09:00 – 17:30**



Grade 1 listed church with extensive 20th Century murals which cover the nave walls, chancel arch, screen and pulpit, painted by the Bloomsbury artists, Duncan Grant, Vanessa Bell and Quentin Bell; followed by a late lunch in the countryside.

Please pray for...

We pray this week for:

Sarah, Bishop of London;
Lorna Gradden and John Tweddle, our Churchwardens; for our staff team;
All Christians in the Easter Season and for the renewal of the Church.

Among the sick and those in need:

Fr Alfredo; John King; Ingrid Gray; Gregory Galitzine; Maya Habboush; Federico Fernandes; Alan Bennyworth; John and Julia Watson; Ruth and David; Sall Allen; David Eckland.

And we pray for the recently departed and for those whose year's mind falls at this time:

APRIL
Ross Davies 14th April
Francis Lyall 21st April

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.spkb.org

AND REGISTER FOR OUR WEEKLY EMAIL