

St Paul's Knightsbridge  
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## DAILY SERVICES THIS WEEK:

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018:**

**CHRIST THE KING**

Family Mass at 09:00 (NM)

Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (VS)

Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup>:** Feria

Low Mass at 18:00 (+M)

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>:** Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00 (NM)

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> :** Feria

Wednesday Evening Mass at  
19:00 (NM)

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>:** Feria

Low Mass at 18:00 (+M)

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup>:** **ANDREW THE  
APOSTLE**

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00 (AG)

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December:** Feria

Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at noon (AG)

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December:**

**ADVENT SUNDAY**

Family Mass at 09:00 (AG)

Solemn Eucharist at 11:00 (NM)

Preacher: Fr Alan Gyle

Advent Carol Service at 18:00

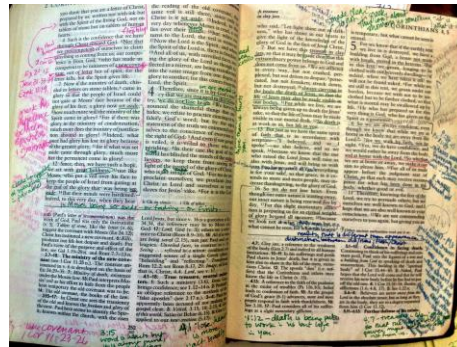
### This week at St Paul's:

Oscar Yilnaz will be baptized in church on Friday morning and Josh Shepherd and Vivien Pivcevic will be married on Saturday afternoon.

The London Euphonia Orchestra will be rehearsing for their next concert in church during the evenings and The Royal College of Music will be recording in church during the day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

The Hall will be in use on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings by 12-step support groups.

## Marginal truth



The European Jewish Congress suggested this past week that future editions of the Bible should be printed with marginal notes warning readers about passages that might be deemed anti-semitic. Over-anxious reaction or reasonable suggestion?

The New Testament is littered with passages that express a view, widely-held in the first-century society in which the Christian Scriptures were written down, that in some way many of Jews had 'missed' the point of Jesus. Converts from Judaism to 'the Way' (it took a long time for 'Christians' to be designated as such, and even then it happened first in the Gentile world) believed Jesus to have been the longed-for Messiah; those who stood firm in their traditional beliefs and who could *not* accept Jesus were perceived by his followers to be, at best, obdurate. But in a few places the frustration of those who accepted Jesus with those who didn't was expressed in a framing of the story of Jesus in such a way as to *blame* Jews for the crucifixion. The Gospel of St Matthew is particularly guilty of this sectarian story-telling, but passages elsewhere display the same bias.

This is not, of course, anti-semitism in the modern sense of that term – but in these passages lie *some* of the origins of anti-semitic thinking and these passages have – historically – been used to justify hostility towards those of the Jewish faith. Do Bibles therefore need a health-warning?

The Bible is full of dangerous material. Step back from the narrower issue of anti-semitism and we see that, on an uncritical and over-literal reading, the Bible appears also to be bad news for women, foreigners, gay people, divorcees, people who have tattoos and those who wear mixed fibres! If we were to start inserting marginal warning notes, it would be hard to know where to stop. This is why 'an uncritical and over-literal reading' can never suffice.

In the Coronation service, the Archbishop presents the Sovereign with a Bible and says: "we present you with this Book, the most valuable thing that this world affords. Here is Wisdom; This is the royal Law; These are the lively Oracles of God."

Holding in tension this 'high' sense of Scripture's value *and* the reality that its pages contain many passages that express the societal views and understandings of the age in which they were written (and, of course, have attached to them the views of past eras of Christian thinking too!) requires effort. Like any successful relationship, our relationship with Scripture needs to be a nuanced and sophisticated one. When it is, this relationship can be joyous and life-giving. Rather than warn people off passages with marginal notes, we need to invited them to explore more deeply their complexities.

Week by week our Sunday morning service paper at 11 am contains notes on the readings of the day. Do you take time to read them? They are a simple way of stepping into the Bible's back-story and adding depth to our understanding. And if you'd like some suggestions about how to go even deeper, just ask.

Fr Alan Gyle



## Who is doing what this Sunday?

### **The Family Mass at 09:00**

Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Nick Mercer  
Reader: Joanna Panasiuk  
Server: Phil Davies

### **The Solemn Eucharist at 11:00**

Celebrant: Fr Victor Stock  
Deacon & preacher: Fr Nick Mercer  
Subdeacon: Tim Pontius  
Reader: Jeremy Orlebar  
Intercessor: Gardenia Griffith  
Hospitality: Veronica & Mike Scott

## For your prayers

### **We pray this week for:**

Sarah, Bishop of London;  
Lorna Gradden and Rob Clouston, our Churchwardens; for our staff team; our Sister and Partner Parishes, St Paul's K-Street in Washington DC and All Saints Church, Nhamavilah in Mozambique

We pray for those who lead the church that they may do so with integrity, and we pray for the constant renewal of the church.

### **Among the sick and those in need:**

Hope Bennett; Raymond Willetts; Mylène Leenhardt; Maya Habboush; Alan Bennyworth; Sall Allen; David Eckland; Joanna Panasiuk; Nicky Lindsay; Penny Higgs; Fr Bill Scott; Alastair Sword; Benjamin Sword.

### **All the recently departed**

Ingrid Gray; William Mader; Dennis Capon


### **And we pray for those whose year's mind falls during the month of November:**


Gordon Fenwick	2nd
Nora Powell	2nd
Felicity Millais	3rd
Sally Windham	5th
Charlie Green	6th
Kerry St Johnston	6th
Guna Marita Ligere	14th
Hamish Nicholson	15th
Terry H Stanford	16th
Alfred Sydney Frederick	
Maitland, priest	27th
David Vick	28th

## LOOKING AHEAD

**NEXT SUNDAY: Advent Sunday Parish Lunch**  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 12:45 after the main mass  
Chef du jour, Patricia Dopheide. All welcome.

**NEXT SUNDAY: Advent Carol Service**  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 18:00 in association with   
We mark the start of the Church's year with a sequence of readings and music sung by the congregation and the choir of St Paul's. Followed by refreshments at the West End of the church provided by Harrods.

**Foundation Carol Service**  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 18:30 in association with   
Tickets are shifting fast for the Foundation Carol Service. Come and hear the choirs of Knightsbridge School, Frances Holland and St Paul's Knightsbridge together with celebrity readers, candlelight and drink champagne by Laurent Perrier and shots by Sipsmith. Tickets available via the Parish Website.

**The Parish Carol Service**  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 19:00 in association with   
But if celebrities and champagne are not for you, fear not: our own Parish Carol Service is the traditional 'real thing' – with readings for the season from Scripture and traditional carols for congregation and choir. What's more, it is entirely free. Come along and bring your friends. Refreshments at the end courtesy of The Hari Hotel.

## WHO'S WHO at ST PAUL'S?

### THE CLERGY



(l-r) **The Vicar** Fr Alan Gyle ([alan@spkb.org](mailto:alan@spkb.org));

**Honorary Assistant Clergy** Bishop Michael Colclough; Fr Victor Stock; Fr Nick Mercer;

*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.*

### LAY OFFICERS



(l-r) **Churchwardens:** Lorna Gradden & Robert Clouston ([wardens@spkb.org](mailto:wardens@spkb.org))

**Treasurer:** Noel Craven **Safeguarding officer:** Margaret Gadow

### **The Deputy Churchwardens & their responsibilities:**

Caroline Docker (Hospitality); Gardenia Griffith (Welcoming); Roland Brunner (Volunteering); Serena Butt (Incorporation) Margaret Gadow (Safeguarding); Virginia Craven (Children's Advocacy); Susie Thornton (Communication & brand); Sarah Tytherleigh (Vestments, fabric & plate); Tom Tull (Wednesday evenings); Aidan Linton-Smith (Family Mass); Jeremy Orlebar (Building maintenance)

### THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



(l-r) **Director of Music** Dr Stephen Farr ([sforganist@gmail.com](mailto:sforganist@gmail.com))

**Assistant Director of Music** Michael Papadopoulos ([michael.pap514@gmail.com](mailto:michael.pap514@gmail.com))

**Music Scholars** Benjamin Newlove (organ) & Findlay Spence ('cello and composition)

### IN THE PARISH OFFICE



(l-r) **The Vicar's PA:** Felicity Cranfield ([felicity@spkb.org](mailto:felicity@spkb.org)), Claire Pilton ([claire@spkb.org](mailto:claire@spkb.org)); **Head of Future Programmes:** Phil Davies ([phil@spkb.org](mailto:phil@spkb.org)); **Caretaker:** Adam Modzelewski