



**ST PAUL'S**  
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

## 26 January 2014: **The Conversion of St Paul**



Epiphanytide 2014  
at St Paul's Knightsbridge

### **A BOLT FROM THE BLUE**

Work began in Rio de Janeiro this week to repair the right index finger of the massive Christ the Redeemer statue which overlooks the city. In the course of a freak lightning storm on 14<sup>th</sup> January, the statue was struck by a bolt from the blue and damage was caused – damage which now has to be patched up by a small group of workers who have a head for heights; if, like me, you *don't* particularly have a head for heights, I'd suggest *not* looking at the images of the ongoing repairs on the BBC News website!

The idea of a 'bolt from the blue' being the means of God's speaking is a commonly held one. Not lightning bolts literally, of course – they often strike you dead! – but the metaphorical lightning bolt representing the sudden moment of insight and the occasion of blinding revelation.

The ancient story of our patron saint's conversion from his life as Saul, persecutor of the Church to Paul, it's greatest evangelist and advocate, probably has a lot to do with this. It is a story of high drama in which Saul is struck down from on high on the Damascus Road and only later regains his 'proper' sight. He sees anew. And what he sees is a new life at the heart of which is a call to service, mission and proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. After that moment, according to the legend, nothing was ever quite the same again.

Lives do change. Paradigms shift. Insights grip our imaginations and – occasionally – lives take a sharp right or left turn and head off in a different

direction. Sometimes. The danger is that, in our thinking about God, we can fall into the trap of imagining that this is the *only* way conversion happens, and that this pattern of radical change and new direction is the *only* pattern for authentic response to God.

But for many people life is devoid of bolts from the blue. Rather life is steadily unfolding, samey, familiar, unsurprising. Is life experienced thus *less* authentic, *less* touched by God?



The answer is 'no', of course. Conversion of life and faithfulness of response to God is, for many, an unspectacular process of gradual change. For most Christians it is simply about being regular, faithful and dutiful – receiving the sacraments, saying our prayers, trying to be both humble and compassionate in our daily living. And being open to possibility... This, though

perhaps less dramatic than sudden and radical conversion, is no less authentic.

Thank God that this community in Knightsbridge, under St Paul's patronage, is one in which many of us who experience this slow process of life-long conversion support and encourage one another in faithfulness and openness. A happy Patronal Festival to you all!

Fr Alan Gyle, Vicar.

**THIS WEEK: SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY**  
**SATURDAY FORUM: "How do we sing the Lord's Song?"**  
**Bring your own lunch 9.30 AM to 2.00PM – a discussion in association with The Awareness Foundation**

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Jeremy Cole as Assistant Director of Music at St Paul's Knightsbridge in succession to Christian Wilson. Jeremy has been acting ADM since last September, and we are very pleased that he has agreed to take up the role as a permanent position.

## THE MUSIC DINNER

Will you join us on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February at the Berkeley Hotel for the annual Music Dinner? Tickets £150. Black tie. Entertainment between courses by the musicians of St Paul's Knightsbridge. Information from John Tweddle or Fr Alan Gyle.

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014

26 Sun **PATRONAL FESTIVAL:**

### **The Conversion of St Paul**

Family Mass at 09:00

**High Mass at 11:00**

**with drinks afterwards**

27 Mon Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00

28 Tue **Silent Meditation at 07:30**

Morning Prayer at 09:00

**BBC SINGERS Composers'**

*Workshop: writing for choirs – 11:00  
tickets available at the BBC Singers'  
Website*

Low Mass at 18:00

PCC Meeting at 19:00

29 Wed Morning Prayer at 09:00

**Low Mass at 18:45**

30 Thu Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00

31 Fri Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00

1 Sat Morning Prayer at 09:00

**SATURDAY FORUM: "How do we sing the Lord's Song?" Bring your own lunch 9.30 AM to 2.00PM – a discussion in association with The Awareness Foundation**

Low Mass at noon

2 Sun **CANDLEMASS:**

**Feast of the Presentation of Christ**

Family Mass at 09:00

**High Mass at 11:00**

**Parish Lunch at 13:00**

3 Mon Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00

4 Tue **Silent Meditation at 07:30**

Morning Prayer at 09:00

**Low Mass at 18:00 and The Kekkonji Group: 'Dealing with Conflict' workshop with Fr Alan and Laura Herman (and supper in the Vicarage).**

5 Wed Morning Prayer at 09:00

**Low Mass at 18:45 followed by PILGRIMS IN CHRIST – supper, study and discussion – ALL WELCOME**

6 Thu Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00

7 Fri Morning Prayer at 09:00

Low Mass at 18:00

8 Sat Morning Prayer at 09:00

Wedding at 11 a.m. Low Mass at noon

9 Sun **4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

Family Mass at 09:00

**High Mass & Baptism at 11:00**

## LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD

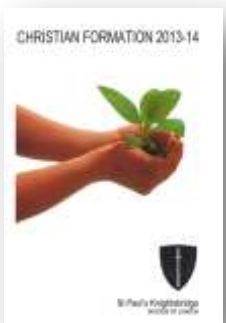
The next **KNIGHTSBRIDGE SOIREE** will be on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February. In preparation for the Choral Pilgrimage to Greenwich in May, Fr Alan Gyle gives an introduction to the Eton Choir Book.

There will be a **SHROVE TUESDAY PARTY** on the evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> March.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** is on the 5<sup>th</sup> March and **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER** from 13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> April.

There is a **CHORAL PILGRIMAGE** hear The Sixteen perform at The Chapel at Greenwich on Wednesday 7 May 2014.

**Details of these and many other events and activities are detailed in the Christian Formation Handbook, available from the Parish Office.**



## NEW PILGRIMS MINI SERIES

(Part III) continues on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January: THE MEANS OF GRACE; a 4 weeks series looking at the sacramental life in its fullness and with special emphasis in weeks 2 and 3 on the Holy Eucharist, its origins, forms and meaning. The class will meet as usual in the choir vestry at 7.45 to 8.30PM on 22,29 January and 12,19 February. If you have been to Parts I and/ or II welcome back! if you haven't been before do come along to learn more about this ESSENTIAL aspect of our Christian living. It is also a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, colleagues and neighbours who may be inquirers of the Faith.

## IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

**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.**

*COLLECT FOR THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL*

### We pray daily for:

- our Bishop, Richard
- our sister parish, St Paul's K-Street, Washington, USA
- the peoples of Egypt, Syria and Lebanon
- the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and for the unity and health of the Anglican Communion (*the daily cycle of prayer for the Anglican Communion is to be found at: [www.anglicancommunion.org/acp](http://www.anglicancommunion.org/acp)*)

### Among the bereaved, the sick and those in any kind of need:

Lane Davenport; Kathleen Hall; Janet Sturdy; John Soderquist; Pepper Clarita Pay; Sara Carroll-Parker; William Humbert; Maggie Millbourn; Christiane Dupont Nangle; Sal Allen; Peter Brook; Michael Cook; John King; Daphne Nugent; John Willmington; Alexandra Holesh; John Millbourn; Jean Marc Lehut; Marijo Bergé

### We pray for the bereaved, and all the faithful departed, among them especially:

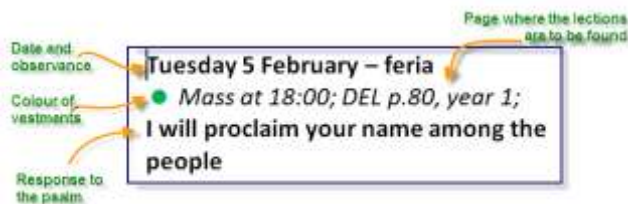
Christopher Courtauld, priest;  
Diana Kemp Welch; James Taylor; Pearl Clymer;  
Robert Mallon; Roger Borg.

### and those whose Year's Mind is at this time:

Eileen Gosse	30 January
Frank Gosse	30 January
Kathleen Mary Cooke	31 January

## 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.



### Sunday 26 January – **THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL (Patronal Festival)**

- Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

### Monday 27 January – **feria of Epiphanytide**

o Mass at 18:00 DEL p. 280 (Year 2)

**Your love, O God, is established for ever.**

### Tuesday 28 January – **St Thomas Aquinas**

- Mass at 18:00 EH p. 72;

**Let the words of my mouth, O Lord, be acceptable in your sight.**

### Wednesday 29 January – **feria of Epiphanytide**

o Mass at 18:45; DEL p.284 (year 2);

**Your love, O God, is established for ever.**

### Thursday 30 January – **Charles, K&M**

o Mass at 18:00 EH p. 75

**O Lord, save the king**

### Friday 31 January – **feria of Epiphanytide**

o; Mass at 18:00 EH p. 62

**The heavens declare the glory of God.**

### Saturday 1 February – **feria of Epiphanytide**

o Mass at noon DEL p. 293 (Year 2)

**Make me a clean heart, O God.**

### Sunday 2 February – **The Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)**

- Masses at 09:00 & 11:00

## BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION

Anyone who is interested in or who may have any questions about being baptized and/or confirmed in the coming months is asked to please contact Fr. Andrew Sloane ([AndrewSloane@spkb.org](mailto:AndrewSloane@spkb.org) - or by phone: **0207201 9999**) at your earliest convenience so we can organize some appropriate and enjoyable preparation!

# PARISH CONTACTS



[www.spkbinfo.org](http://www.spkbinfo.org)

## THE PARISH OFFICE

32a Wilton Place, London SW1X 8SH

Telephone 020 7201 9999 • Fax 020 7201 9997

## THE PARISH CLERGY



### Vicar

Fr Alan Gyle  
alan@spkb.org  
020 7201 9999 • 07939 805970



### Associate Vicar

Fr Andrew Sloane  
AndrewSloane@spkb.org  
020 7201 9996 • 07429 806173

## Honorary Assistant Clergy



(l-r) Fr Nick Mercer; Fr Andrew Norwood;  
Fr Graham Palmer

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.

## THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



### Director of Music

Stevie Farr  
stephen.farr@yahoo.co.uk  
07930 542555

### Assistant Director of Music

Jeremy Cole



### Organ Scholar

Georgina Sherriff

## LAY OFFICERS & OTHER STAFF



### Churchwarden

John Tweddle  
john.tweddle@bidwells.co.uk  
020 77363878



### Churchwarden

Caroline Docker  
dockercaroline@gmail.com  
020 7384 1165

## Deputy Churchwardens

Noel Craven  
Phil Davies  
Nicky Lindsay  
Susie Thornton

## Treasurer

Phil Davies  
philip@spkb.org  
07989 387198

## Lady Verger & Churchwardens' Deputy

Veronica Scott  
veronicamscott@hotmail.com  
020 7603 7680



### Vicar's PA

Felicity Cranfield  
felicitycranfield@spkb.org  
020 7201 9999



### Parish Administrator

Dimitrios Dalageorgos  
pa@spkb.org  
020 7201 9999

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