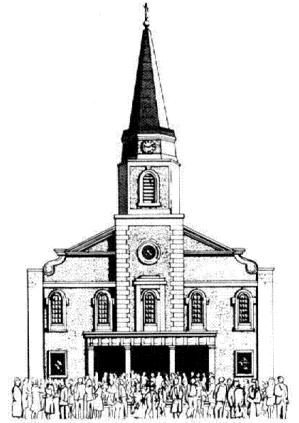


NEWSLETTER

Parish of St George

Hanover Square



St George's Church

Grosvenor Chapel

March – June 2018: issue 39



SAINT JAMES

In an earlier edition of this publication, we announced that **Seamus O'Hare**, vergier at St George's for the past 25 years, would be reducing his hours. At the end of last year, he retired. A large congregation stayed behind after the Sung Eucharist on 11th February to thank Seamus for all he has done for St George's and to wish him well in his retirement. During the service the Rector had presented him with a stone statue of St James (see above) and cheques from the congregation and choir.

It would be difficult to overstate all that Seamus has contributed to the life and work of St George's over a quarter of a century. During this time, he has

served three rectors and six church wardens and worked alongside five vestry clerk/administrators. But he has of course been responsible for far more than his job title would suggest. His prowess as a fundraiser may have reached its peak with the substantial sum he raised from his pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in 2012, but year in year out he has braved the chill November wind selling poppies for the Royal British Legion, generating ever larger amounts in heavy collecting tins. However, it is probably for his work with the less fortunate who come each day to the church's door that he will be most sorely missed. Before the introduction of the Homeless Food Voucher Scheme six years ago, he would daily reach into his own pocket in response to pleas for the price of 'a cup of tea'. Thereafter he still did so when the need was for more than a food ticket and this is before mention is made of the 'miraculous' appearance at Christmas and Easter of baskets of sweets, eggs and fruit. His will truly be a hard act to follow.

Work on the **Undercroft** progresses apace. Photographs of the present state of play punctuate later pages of this publication. The editor anticipates that the next edition - its milestone 40th - will be substantially dedicated to the future plans of what will by then be a two-storey church.

That is if there is to be a 40th edition! On 25th May 2018, St George's, like all organisations throughout the European Un-

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ion, will be subject to the **General Data Protection Regulation** which in the UK replaces the 1998 Data Protection Act. To ensure we are compliant with GDPR, recipients of printed copies of this 39th edition of the St George's Newsletter will receive a personalised consent form to complete and return to us in the stamped addressed envelope provided. If you do not wish to continue receiving our Newsletter you have nothing to do and your details will be removed from our database. If on the other hand you would like to go on receiving it either electronically or through your letter box, please say so by indicating your wishes on the consent form and returning it to us at your earliest convenience. You will also be given the option of receiving our electronic Weekly Bulletin. It's up to you.



The Rector writes . . .

The Orange Tree Theatre in Richmond is gradually working its way through George Bernard Shaw plays, and early in the the New Year some friends had a spare ticket for *Misalliance*. Set in the conservatory of a large country house in Hindhead, Surrey, a strong and colourful Polish acrobat called Lina literally drops in halfway through - her plane having crashed. She then proceeds to juggle with the helplessly smitten men. In the midst of which I was surprised at how much reference Shaw gives to matters of faith and religion. I'd always assumed he was an atheist or at least agnostic. However, it seems after a childhood of attending Church and then becoming an atheist, he gave up atheism around the age of 30. And he was in his mid 50s when this play was written in 1909/10. Just a couple of years earlier he wrote this: *When you are asked, "Where is God? Who is God?" stand up and say, "I am God and here is God, not as yet completed, but still advancing towards completion, just in so much as I am working for the purpose of the universe, working for the good of the whole of society and the whole world, instead of merely looking after my personal ends.*

He ultimately believed that from the life force driving evolution will emerge a godlike race, following the approach of Nietzsche and a *Superman*. But he certainly gave Lina a line I shall never forget in *Misalliance*. One of the

characters is rather cynically suggesting that prayer is only really about oneself and one's own needs and wants. He asks Lina a direct question - *Why do you pray?* And her reply comes: *To remind myself I have a soul.*

To remind myself I have a soul. Perhaps timely in an age when the collective notion of the soul of a nation has all but disappeared, but more importantly our own individual souls, and our awareness in this regard. If we are conscious merely of the physical and some vague spiritual aspect of ourselves (so many reject organised religion and label themselves as spiritual - approaching traditional religion as if it were just one option worthy of equal attention as any New Age philosophy) and have forgotten we have a soul, then perhaps it is understandable there isn't the profound care and concern about where this soul of ours ends up. It is only very recently that we seem not to be bothered about Heaven and Hell in the way that our forbears were.

What is the Christian teaching about the soul? Each of us is made in the image of God. Body and soul. Human persons are beings who are at once corporeal and spiritual. The soul is our innermost aspect. The Church teaches that the unity of soul and body is so profound that one has to consider the soul to be the 'form' of the body...i.e. it is because of its spiritual soul that the body made of matter becomes a living, human body. Spirit and matter, in man, are not two natures united, but rather their union forms a single nature.

Perhaps worth mentioning is the Church's teaching that every spiritual soul is created by God - it is not 'produced' by the parents. Also that it is immortal...it does not perish when it separates from the body at death. It will be reunited with the body at the final Resurrection. Sometimes the soul is distinguished from the spirit - St Paul for example

prays that God may sanctify his people 'wholly', with 'spirit and soul and body' kept sound and blameless at the Lord's coming. Not forgetting the spiritual tradition of the Church which also emphasises the *heart*, in the biblical sense of the depth of one's being, where the person decides for or against God.

Holy Week Services:

Sunday 25th March
Palm Sunday Liturgy at 11am

Monday-Thursday
Holy Communion at 1.10pm

Good Friday
Liturgy of the Passion at 10am
Bach's St Matthew Passion (with sermon) at 2.30pm

Sunday 1st April
Easter Sunday
Sung Eucharist with renewal of vows at 11am followed by a reception.

Members of the congregation (but regretfully not their guests due to limited space) who wish to attend the St Matthew Passion should please inform the Verger, Richard Buck by **Monday 26th March**.

Mothering Sunday is on **Sunday 11th March** and all children and families are warmly invited to join us for what are thrice yearly services where children are involved in leading worship/reading, and the sermon geared to families with children at the Sung Eucharist at 11am. Followed by customary refreshments.

Whitsunday on **20th May** is of course another Sunday when we extend a similar invitation to families to celebrate Pentecost, and again followed by drinks.

St George's Patronal Festival will be kept this year on Sunday 22nd April at which The Very Revd Nicholas Frayling - retired Dean of Chichester will be the

preacher, and the Sung Eucharist will be followed by a festive reception.

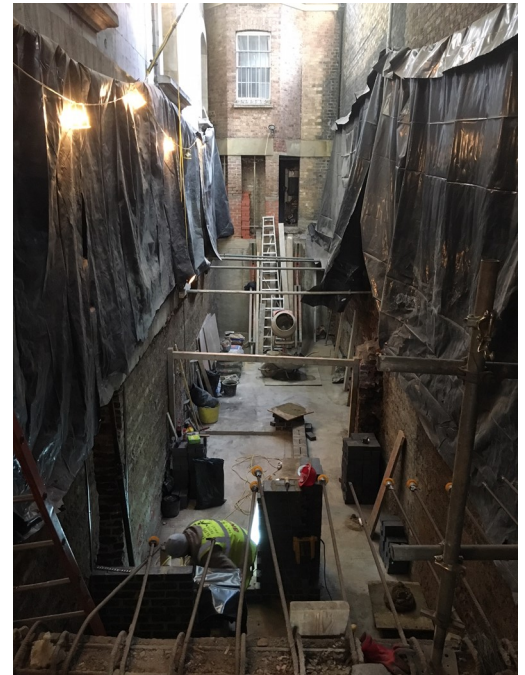
The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on Wednesday 25th April at 6.30pm. Members of the Parochial Church Council are elected at this meeting which is preceded by the **Annual Vestry Meeting** to elect Churchwardens. Please join us to hear reports and plans for the future.

Marriage Renewal Sunday will be on Sunday 8th July followed by a reception.

There are daily prayers in church, **Monday - Thursday at 12.10pm** The Midday Office is said on most days except when the Eucharist is celebrated on Fridays and Saints Days. Please join us if you are in the area.

Requiem for departed loved ones will be celebrated on Friday 13th April at 1.10pm. Please inform the Verger if you wish to include names for prayer. Contact details are on the back page.

Holy Cocktail Hour Open House - all are welcome for drinks on Wednesdays 9th May, 13th June and 4th July at 6.30pm until 8pm at the Rectory, 21a Down Street W1J 7AW - entrance in Brick Street opposite the tapas bar - top bell.



UNDERCROFT DEVELOPMENT
EXCAVATION IN THE SOUTH YARD

Mayfair Organ Concerts

A weekly series of lunchtime organ concerts now beginning its sixth year at St George's, Hanover Square & the Grosvenor Chapel.
Every Tuesday 1.10-1.50pm
Free admission—retiring collection

March 6
St George's
Ben Comeau (London)
J S Bach, Brahms, Debussy, Liddle

March 13
Grosvenor Chapel
Christopher Strange
(Organ Scholar, Chelmsford Cathedral)
J S Bach, Brahms, Stanley

March 20
St George's (LHF)
Marko Sever (Royal Academy of Music)

March 27
Grosvenor Chapel (LHF)
Grosvenor Chapel Choir
Jacob Collins (organ),
Richard Hobson (director)
Music for Holy Week by Heinrich Schütz and English contemporaries of Handel

April 3
St George's (LHF)
Graham Thorpe (RCM)

April 10
Grosvenor Chapel
Alexander Hamilton
(Organ Scholar, Trinity College, Cambridge)

April 17
St George's
Nicholas Morris (St George's)

April 24
Grosvenor Chapel
Jacob Collins
(Organ Scholar, Grosvenor Chapel)

May 1
St George's
Jonathan Allsopp
(Organ Scholar, Westminster Cathedral)

May 8
Grosvenor Chapel
Richard Hobson (Grosvenor Chapel)
Couperin, J S Bach, Franck, Stanley, Reger

May 15
St George's
Jillian Gardner
(Waco, Texas)

May 22
Grosvenor Chapel
Chris Bragg (University of St Andrews)

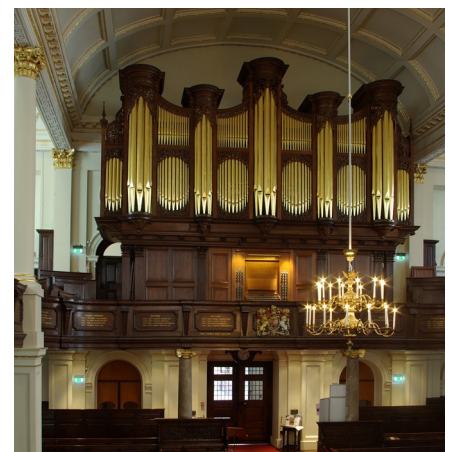
May 29
St George's
Janette Fishell

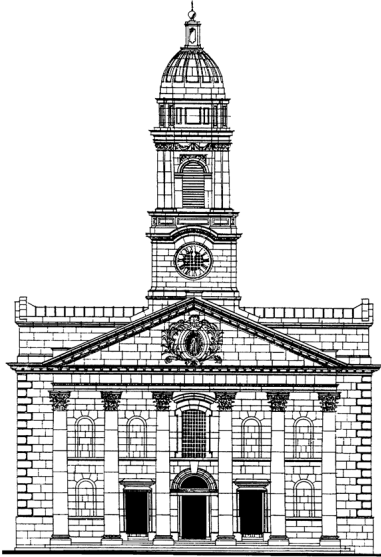
June 5
Grosvenor Chapel
Travis Baker (St Mary's, Putney)

June 12
St George's
Ashley Wagner
(Birmingham Conservatoire)

June 19
Grosvenor Chapel (Seattle)

June 26
St George's
Natalia Letyuk (Moscow)





Services at St George's March – June 2018

Thursday 1st March
St David, Bp of Minevia,
Patron of Wales c 601
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 2nd March
St Chad, Bp of Lichfield,
Missionary, 672
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 4th March
3rd Sunday in Lent
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Missa Sine Nomine (Hassler)
Purge me, O Lord (Tallis)
Psalm Prelude Set 2/i
'de profundis' (Howells)

Monday 5th March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 6th March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 7th March
St Perpetua,
Martyr at Carthage, 203
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 8th March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 9th March
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 11th March
4th Sunday in Lent
Mothering Sunday
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis (Grayston Ives)
Wash me thoroughly (S S Wesley)
Kleine Choralpartita (Eben)

Monday 12th March
St Gregory the Great,
Bishop of Rome 604
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 13th March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 14th March
12.10 Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 15th March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 16th March
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 18th March
5th Sunday in Lent
Passion Sunday
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Iste Confessor (Palestrina)
Christus factus est (Bruckner)
Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir
(J S Bach)

Monday 19th March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 20th March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 21st March
St Benedict,
Abbot of Monte Cassino, c550
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 22nd March
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 23rd March
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 25th March
Palm Sunday
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Alan McCormack
Missa Brevis (Mathias)
Passion according to St Matthew
(Lassus)
Hosanna to the Son of David
(Weelkes)
Sonata No 3 - Con moto maestoso
(Mendelssohn)

Monday 26th March
Monday in Holy Week
1.10pm Holy Communion

Tuesday 27th March
Tuesday in Holy Week
1.10pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 28th March
Wednesday in Holy Week
1.10pm Holy Communion

Thursday 29th March
Maundy Thursday
1.10pm Holy Communion

Friday 30th March
Good Friday
10.00am Liturgy BCP (said)
2.30pm Vespers
Preacher: The Rector
St Matthew Passion (J S Bach)
(by ticket only:
from London Handel Festival box
office 01460 54660)

Sunday 1st April
EASTER DAY
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Coronation Mass (Mozart)
Haec Dies (Byrd)
Prelude in G major (Bach)

Monday 2nd April
No services

Tuesday 3rd April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 4th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 5th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 6th April
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 8th April
1st Sunday after Easter
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
Canon Alistair MacDonald-Radcliff
Communion Service in C (Ireland)
Since by man came death (Handel)
Paraphrase sur un chœur de
'Judas Maccabæus' (Guilmant)

Monday 9th April
The Annunciation of the BVM
(transferred)
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 10th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 11th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 12th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 13th April
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 15th April
2nd Sunday after Easter
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Che fa' hoggi il mio sole
(Allegri)
Surgens Jesus (Phillips)
Toccata in C (Sweelinck)

Monday 16th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 17th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 18th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 19th April
St Alphege, Archbishop of
Canterbury, Martyr 1012
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 20th April
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd April
St George's Patronal Festival
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Nicholas Frayling
Communion Service in A
(Stanford)
Anthem for St George
(Antony le Fleming)
Exsultate (Bryan Kelly)

Monday 23rd April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 24th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 25th April
St Mark the Evangelist
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 26th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 27th April
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 29th April
4th Sunday after Easter
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa in tempore Paschali
(Philip Moore)
Let all mortal flesh keep silence
(Bairstow)
Paeon (Howells)

Monday 30th April
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 1st May
Ss Philip and James, Apostles
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 2nd May
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 3rd May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 4th May
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 6th May
5th Sunday after Easter
Rogation Sunday
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher:
Preb William Scott
Missa Brevis in D (Mozart)
Vidi aquam (Gabriel Jackson)
Meditation on John Keble's Rogation-
tide Hymn (Ireland)

Monday 7th May
Rogation Day
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 8th May
Rogation Day
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 9th May
Rogation Day
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 10th May
ASCENSION DAY
1.10pm Holy Communion

Friday 11th May
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 13th May
Sunday after Ascension Day
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Part of the London Festival of
Contemporary Church Music
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa San Marco (Ronald Corp)
O clap your hands (Grayston Ives)
Vox Dicentis (Simon Preston)

Monday 14th May
St Matthias, Apostle
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 15th May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 16th May
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 17th May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 18th May
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 20th May
WHIT SUNDAY
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Mass in F sharp minor (Widor)
Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré)
Choral varié sur le theme du
'Veni Creator' (Durufle)

Monday 21st May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 22nd May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 23rd May
Ember Day
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 24th May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 25th May
Ember Day
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 27th May
TRINITY SUNDAY
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Mass in G (Schubert)
Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky)
Te Deum (Demessieux)

Monday 28th May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 29th May
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 30th May
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 31st May
The Visitation of the BVM
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 1st June
St Nicomede, Priest &
Martyr at Rome
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 3rd June
1st Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis (Simon Williams)
O Jesu Christ, meus Lebens Licht
(J S Bach)
Prelude in E minor (J S Bach)

Monday 4th June
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 5th June
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 6th June
St Boniface of Crediton, Bishop,
Apostle of Germany, Martyr 754
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 7th June
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 8th June
1.10pm Holy Communion



Sunday 10th June
2nd Sunday after Trinity
 8.30am Holy Communion (said)
 11.00am Sung Eucharist
 Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Cantate Domino (Lobo)
Ego sum panis vivus (Byrd)
Fugue in C major (J S Bach)

Monday 11th June
St Barnabas the Apostle
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Tuesday 12th June
 12.10 Middy Prayer

Wednesday 13th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer
 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 14th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Friday 15th June
 1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 17th June
3rd Sunday after Trinity
 8.30am Holy Communion (said)
 11.00am Sung Eucharist
 Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Collegium Regale (Howells)
Like as the hart (Howells)
Rhapsody No 3 in C sharp minor Howells)

Monday 18th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Tuesday 19th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Wednesday 20th June
Translation of Edward,
King of the West Saxons, 979
 12.10pm Middy Prayer
 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 21st June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Friday 22nd June
 1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 24th June
4th Sunday after Trinity
Nativity of St John the Baptist
 8.30am Holy Communion (said)
 11.00am Sung Eucharist
 Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis in D minor (Mozart)
This is the record of John (Gibbons)
Fantasia in A minor (Byrd)

Monday 25th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Tuesday 26th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Wednesday 27th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer
 5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 28th June
 12.10pm Middy Prayer

Friday 29th June
St Peter, the Apostle
 1.10pm Holy Communion

London Handel Festival

‘Handel in London’

17 March–16 April 2018

Performances at
 St George’s include
 a liturgical performance at
 2.30pm on Good Friday of

Bach St Matthew Passion

Nathan Vale Evangelist & tenor
 George Humphreys Christus &
 bass

Marie Lys soprano
 Marcjanna Myrlak contralto
 Choir of St George’s
 London Handel Orchestra
 Laurence Cummings conductor

For full details and tickets
www.london-handel-

STOP PRESS

The Rector is planning a St George’s fun weekend in Dublin in June, thanks to the good offices and connections of Dr Alan McCormack who for nearly ten years was Dean of Chapel and Chaplain of Trinity College Dublin, as well as working at St Patrick’s Cathedral, and being the Archbishops’s Domestic Chaplain. Would anybody who is interested in joining this trip please contact the Rector at rector@stgeorgheshanoversquare.org

Participants will be expected to make their own travel arrangements and book their own hotel, although of course as we gauge interest he will inform those who are coming where he plans to stay. We are at an early stage of planning at the moment, but the provisional plans are:

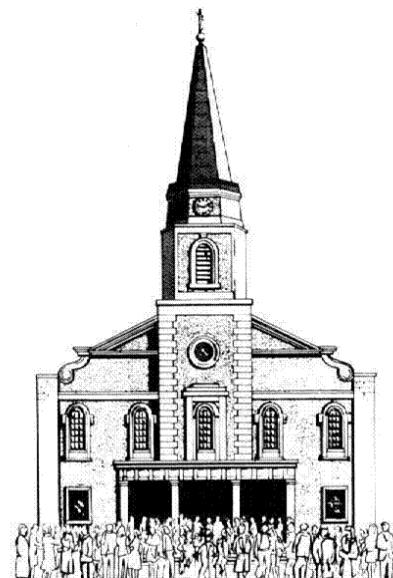
Friday 15th June
18:00 Prosecco Party hosted by a friend of Fr Alan followed by fun dinner locally...possibly Italian

Saturday 16th June
10:00 VIP Tour of Trinity College Dublin with Book of Kells and Old Library, Chapel etc. led by Joseph O’Gorman, Dean of Discipline
12:30 Lunch locally
14:30 Tour of Parliament/National Museum/Marsh’s Library/Fishamble Street (Handel connections of course) and shopping
19:00 Smart Dinner at the University Club with the Archbishop of Dublin as our guest

Sunday 17th June
11:00 The Rector has been invited to preach at Christ Church Cathedral by Dean Dermot Dunne who we shall invite to be our guest for lunch afterwards
15:15 Evensong at St Patrick’s Cathedral
 Free to return to London after **16:30**

Services at Grosvenor Chapel

March – June 2018



Sunday 4th March

The Third Sunday of Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Allegri

Missa Che fa hoggi il mio sole

Walton Drop, drop slow tears

Wednesday 7th March

6.30 Vespers

Music by James MacMillan

Sunday 11th March

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Britten Missa Brevis

Mathias

As truly as God is our Father

Bach Kyrie, Gott Heiliger Geist

Sunday 18th March

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Guerrero

Missa de la Batalla Escoutez

Robert White

Ad te levavi oculos meos

Sunday 25th March

Palm Sunday

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Weelkes

Hosanna to the Son of David

Lassus

Missa super osculetur me

Victoria St Matthew Passion

Lassus Improperium

Thursday 29th March

Maundy Thursday

Victoria Missa Quarti Toni

Stanford Gloria in B flat

Durufle Ubi caritas

Vaughan Williams

Love bade me welcome

Anerio Christus factus est

Tallis

The Lamentation of Jeremiah

Friday 30th March

Good Friday

Plainsong The St John Passion

John of Portugal Crux Fidelis

Victoria The Reproaches

Lotti

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis

Sunday 1st April

Easter Day

11.00 Sung Eucharist

with orchestra

Walford Davies

O sons and daughters

Mozart Mass in C major K259

Mozart Regina coeli K276

Vivaldi

Concerto for Two Trumpets

Sunday 8th April

The Second Sunday of Easter

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Mass with hymns & organ music

Sunday 15th April

The Third Sunday of Easter

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Guerrero

Missa Simile est regnum

Lheritier Surrexit pastor bonus

Sunday 22nd April

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Darke Communion Service in E

Stanford

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem

Sunday 29th April

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Palestrina Missa Brevis

Byrd Cibavit eos

Sunday 6th May

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Ireland Communion Service in C

Ireland Greater love

Sunday 13th May

Sunday after Ascension Day

11.00 Sung Eucharist & dedica-

tion of tympanum sculpture

Haydn Missa Brevis in F

Amner He that descended

James MacMillan New work

Sunday 20th May

Pentecost

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Victoria

Missa Alma redemptoris

Francis Jackson

Come, thou Holy Paraclete

Sunday 27th May

Trinity Sunday

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Mozart Trinitatis-Messe K167

Philips Tibi laus, tibi gloria

Sunday 3rd June

The First Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Hobson Mass for Five Voices

Messiaen O sacrum convivium

Sunday 10th June

The Second Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Grayston Ives Missa Brevis

Elizabeth Poston Jesus Christ,

the apple tree

Sunday 17th June

The Third Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Victoria Missa Trahe me post te

Giaches de Wert

Ascendente Jesus in naviculum

Sunday 24th June

The Nativity of

St John the Baptist

11.00 Sung Eucharist

Bartolini Messa a Cinque Voci

Gibbons

Grosvenor Chapel
Bank Holiday Special
Monday 28th May
3.00pm

Organ Recital
by
William Whitehead

Followed by tea & cake!

Churches Together in Westminster Prisons Mission

HEATHROW

IMMIGRATION REMOVAL CENTRE

The Revd Richard Carter of St Martin-in-the-Fields recently joined a group of Prisons Mission volunteers to visit the Centre at Heathrow - a prison in all but name. In his sermon soon after, he explained: "we had to apply in advance in order to visit. Arriving we had to have our documents checked, finger prints taken, show proof of identity, show proof of address, before being led into a small room for a body search - and then through one set of security doors and then another. Eventually I am inside. And what is inside - well basically corridors and corridors of 100s of people waiting they know not how long, people who have been locked up as the Home Office waits to try and process them for deportation. They have not been charged or sentenced. They are just waiting. Here there is no grass, no garden, nothing grows, just cells, and corridors, a tarmac courtyard and people locked in this prefabricated labyrinth of corridors. One room has been made into a prayer room for Muslims, another for Christians. And the prayers of those who sat inside were palpable. Next door was a music room with a set of drums which someone was banging loudly. Small cells, bunk beds and these long corridors with no way out. Some of those in this centre have been here for as long as two years, waiting to hear what will happen to them. They are not criminals, they are people who came to our country seeking a future, a place to belong, and an escape from poverty. Human beings with all the diversity that fills this church. Somehow the institutional efficiency of it all makes the incredible tragedy and waste of people's lives starker. And yet what do I also see here? I see despite all that is stacked against these lives a human courage and a resilience. Yes, a grace and a dignity. I don't know how it survives but it does. In this despair it is somehow more abundantly evident than in so called liberty." After further descriptions, Richard goes on to say: "I walk away from the centre free but I walk away that night held captive by these lives going round and round in my head. How can we live the Christian life when we read the signs of the times and there seems no hope? How can we dream of something better? And though I pray that we will never face the same extreme - is their story not a metaphor for all our stories - how to overcome futility, how to face our despair and how to

become the people we are in spite of all adversity? How to discover meaning for our lives even in the corridors of unknowing."

The Managing Chaplain Revd Patrick Wright, and the detainees need more volunteers to visit the Immigration Removal Centre and walk these corridors.

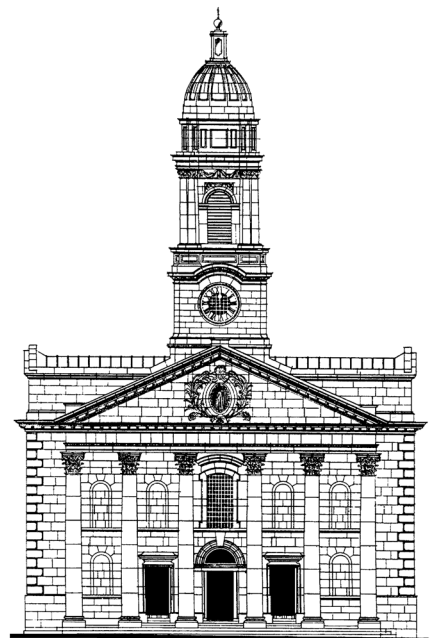


TOOTHPICK LADY
DON'T GO TO THE DENTIST IN
PRISON!

CHRISTMAS IN PRISON

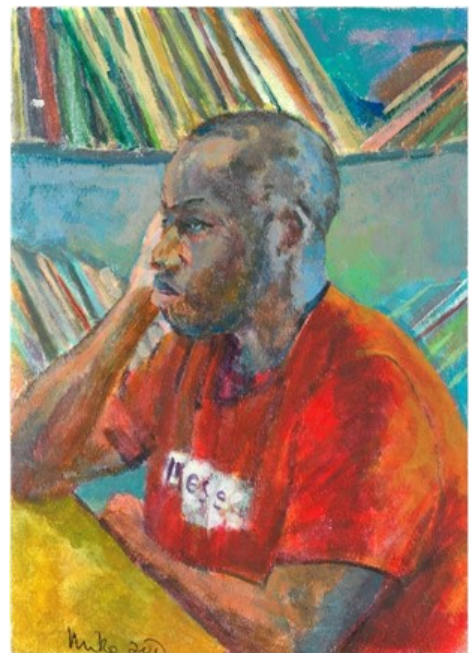
Prisons Mission volunteers attended or contributed to special Christmas services inside HMPs Bronzefield and Wormwood Scrubs as well as Heathrow Immigration Removal Centre. Christmas is an especially difficult time for inmates. In addition to the pain of separation from any remaining links with families and children, many prison officers have time off work to be with their families. As a result, prisoners are often locked up in shared cells for up to 23 hours each day, with no access to recreation, education, worship, or other activities. There is extra tension as sad and lonely inmates also become angry.

Christmas services provide a focus for enthusiastic singing and participation. A group of francophone women from sub Saharan African countries formed a group from Notre Dame de France to visit the detainees' service at Heathrow. They were warmly



welcomed by the multi-faith Chaplaincy Team and have been invited to sing at a special service at Easter. It is clear that special services provide a welcome change from the grim daily routine and are enjoyed by some non-Christian inmates.

At Bronzefield prison, every one of the 560 women and girls was given a "Goody Bag" on Christmas Day, containing face cream, chocolate and other small gifts. This was the result of a lot of work by the Chaplaincy Team, who had collected the items from local shops, with the help of several churches.



INSIDE THE PRISON LIBRARY

CHURCHES SHOW PRISONERS' ART

The Koestler Trust is the UK's leading prison arts charity. It plays a vital part in the rehabilitation journey offered to prisoners and ex-

prisoners to transform their lives through participation in arts. Our Prisons Mission has developed a very useful relationship with the Koestler Trust. This Spring we will launch the Four Churches Show of Art by Prisoners. Artwork will be exhibited at St James's Piccadilly, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Notre Dame de France and Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church. It is hoped that the artwork will be the focus for other prison related activities, discussions, lectures, displays and dramas, providing information about the prison and criminal justice system, not only to the regular congregations, but to a wider audience.



INSIDE OUT

BEFRIENDING PROGRAMMES

Several Prisons Mission volunteers have undertaken special training in order to mentor prisoners for a few weeks both before and after discharge from custody. This is intended to aid resettlement and reduce the incidence of reoffending. It is often a frustrating task when, for example, a 'persistent prolific offender' is released with no suitable accommodation, no employment, broken family links and a £46 Discharge Grant. Such programmes are much better than nothing, do achieve some positive results and are a valued form of ministry.

The Befriending Programme at Wandsworth prison is about to be revived and a new scheme will soon start at Wormwood Scrubs. The new Community Chaplain at Bronzefield is beginning a mentoring project to help women and girls on release.

Suitable volunteers are urgently needed for regular work inside and outside all three prisons and at Heathrow. Training is provided, volunteers are not dropped into the deep end and support is given by peers and at bi-monthly Review Meetings. But, the process of security clearance takes several months, so potential volunteers are advised to discuss prospects and opportunities with the Coordinator early, in order to begin the useful, worthwhile and rewarding work in the Summer or Autumn.

PRISONS WEEK

14th to 21st OCTOBER 2018

Our review of Prisons Week 2017 has shown that more churches, of different denominations, than ever before, conducted a variety of services and other events to mark the week. Our Resources for Prisons Week booklet was much improved and was widely used by churches far beyond London and even a few overseas.

We are keen to encourage and enable more churches to bring the crisis in our prisons to the attention of congregations in 2018. We have therefore decided to revise and refresh our booklet for use this year, between 14th and 21st October. Sarah Jane Vernon has agreed to edit the material again, John Rowland will assist with the design and the Koestler Trust will provide the artwork by prisoners. We need the help of the congregation of St George's church and other friends. Please send us your suggestions for prayers, readings, reflections, poetry, or other material which you think will help to bring the subject to the attention of people who know little about prisoners, their families, prison officers and



DARK PAST BRIGHT FUTURE

victims of crime.

NOT A CAMPAIGN - BUT!

Our Prisons Mission is not a campaign for prison reform. It is a modest and

simple form of Christian ministry which aims to support the multi-faith Prison Chaplaincy Teams, visit isolated and vulnerable inmates and take learning about prisons and the system back to the congregations of member churches. All the inmates are there in our name. Despite these aims, we find that as volunteers become more informed about life behind prison walls, they often feel compelled to argue about it. One example was the concern felt on learning that Bronzefield prison discharges an average of 58 women and girls each month to "no fixed abode". They are not even "sofa surfing". Such ex-offenders have little prospect of avoiding re-offending.

The recent appointment of David Gauke, as the sixth Justice Secretary since 2010, is a sign of further change within the prison and probation system. Lord Ramsbotham, the former HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, who now sits as a Crossbench Peer, tells the newspaper Inside Time (February 2018) of "The critical importance for staff of consistent policy direction." He argues that "unless things are right for staff, nothing will be right for offenders, which as report after report from respective Chief Inspectors disclose, they clearly are not at present". The present Chief Inspector Peter Clarke has demanded that the new Justice Secretary "intervenes to ensure urgent action to save lives and protect fearful prisoners in the fundamentally unsafe HMP Nottingham." The new protocol requires David Gauke to respond within 28 days.

Nottingham prison is not on the regular beat of our Prisons Mission, but the Coordinator studies all inspection reports and they make very worrying reading. Many British prisons are overcrowded, unsafe, dirty, vermin infested and inadequately staffed. These establishments are not places of hope and restoration for often damaged and vulnerable men, women and children, convicted of criminal offences, or awaiting trial. We must provide places in which such people are encouraged and assisted towards independent crime free lives, while serving the custodial sentences imposed by our courts.

John Plummer

Coordinator. Prisons Mission

Churches Together in Westminster



St George's Hanover Square Primary School



Mrs Judith Standing, Headteacher of St George's Hanover Square Primary School writes:

Before Christmas we were able to tell you a little bit about our amazing school, its history and its links with the church. We are now half-way through our school year and so much has happened, we would love to tell you some more about us.

Christmas seems such a long time ago now, but at St George's we celebrated in style. Our Christmas service, held at the Grosvenor Chapel, included the children singing in English and Latin. Each class as well as our choir took turns in leading carols

for parents and friends. Our choir also sang at several events across Westminster, including at St John's Smith Square.

As well as loving music, we are very active, and after Christmas we started before-school fitness sessions. From 8:30am our pupils are able to join in with exercise activities which are led by experienced sports coaches. All the additional exercise helps the children learn!

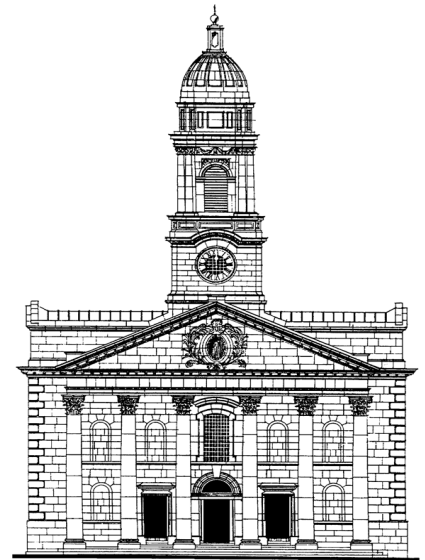
We have had three values days this year. These have been on respect, friendship and kindness. Our value for this half term is forgiveness. We will continue to learn about the life

of Jesus, how he forgave people and how we can learn to be more like him. We are still looking for members of the local church community to help us lead a prayer space day. If this is something you might be interested in, please email me at head@sghsprimary.co.uk or speak to the Rector or Sarah Jackson-Stevens (Chair of Governors and PCC member) for more information. We would love your support.

As always, if you haven't visited our school yet and would like to, please contact me on the above email and I would love to arrange a visit for you.



Hyde Park Place Estate Charity



CIVIL TRUSTEES

At their meeting on 29th November 2017, the Civil Trustees of the Hyde Park Place Estate Charity awarded grants totalling £66,808 to the following organisations working in the City of Westminster:

St Andrew's Club
Beanstalk
Blind in Business
Shelter
Hyde Park Appeal (Liberty Drives)
All Souls Clubhouse
The Cara Trust
St John's Wood Adventure Playground
Crisis UK - Crisis at Christmas
UCanDoIT
Zacchaeus 2000 Trust
St John's Hyde Park
St George's Hanover Square - 'Morning Calm'
Age UK Westminster
The Princes Trust
London Handel Society - London Handel Festival
St George's School
St George's Hanover Square - Refreshment Coupon Scheme

The next meeting of the Civil Trustees will be on Wednesday 7th March 2018 (application deadline 19th February). A further meeting will be held in May/June.

ECCLESIASTICAL TRUSTEES

A total of £490,875 was awarded in grants at the Ecclesiastical Trustees' meeting held on Sunday 26th November 2017, for the benefit of the churches and clergy based in the original historic parish of St George's Hanover Square. The next meeting will be held in May.

Shirley Vaughan
Clerk to the Trustees

UNDERCROFT DEVELOPMENT
UPPER: THE FOORING GOES DOWN
LOWER: THE NEW STAIRCASE AWAITING STONE SLABS



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St George's Hanover Square Foundation

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