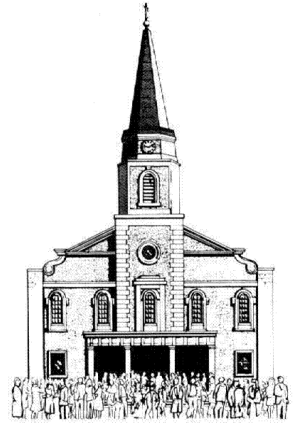


NEWSLETTER

Parish of St George

Hanover Square



St George's Church

Grosvenor Chapel

November 2018 – February 2019: issue 41



Inside this issue

The Rector writes	2
Mayfair Organ Concerts	4
Services at St George's	5
Jake Thompson	7
Grosvenor Chapel services	8
St George's School	9
St George's Undercroft	10
Prisons Mission	12
HPPEC	15

Selecting an appropriate photograph for page one of this august publication exercises the editor perhaps more than it should. Recent editions have tended to reflect our current preoccupation with the conversion of the Undercroft now, we are told, in its final stages of completion. Mercifully, the splendid new lavatory facilities are already available for people coming to the church for evening concerts and Sunday services and the access lift for disabled people will be in place before too long. Michael Beckett, Church Warden at St George's until the end of April and still very much the Undercroft's guiding hand, has written about the project in great

er detail on pages ten and eleven.

But what of the photograph? Angelo Hornak's timeless shot of the tranquil interior is a timely and most welcome reminder of what St George's is in the context of noisy building work beneath our feet and all around us. Hanover Square itself has been a building site for a number of years now and is likely to remain so until the eventual opening of the Bond Street Elizabeth Line station. But nothing had prepared us for the fact that most of the western side of St George Street south of Maddox Street is currently enveloped in scaffolding. The attendant

road works have not only added to the cacophony but rendered vehicular access to the church during the 'working week' even more trying than usual. Which is not for a moment to suggest we are innocent bystanders in this mayhem. Our abortive second - or was it third - attempt to get an electrical cable across Maddox Street to power the 'new' Undercroft involved closing the street for a whole week. And yes, the whole exercise has to be repeated in mid-November but with this time, we hope, better results.

For loftier matters, please turn the page noting in particular the Rector's trenchant words on 'balance' and the state of the National Church in its absence.

The Rector writes . . .



As we approach the seeming mad rush and frenetic lead up to Christmas - a time of year for charity and kindness and still for a number of people, for religion too - I am thinking about the idea of balance. How to spread out and spread around the spirit of generosity and thinking of others that becomes so compressed and ultimately fleeting as soon as Christmas day is come and gone.

Traditionally one of the gifts of Anglicanism has been built around a spirit of balance, informed and influenced as we have been by the humane balanced life of Benedictine communities. This used to be one of the main attractions of a broad Church of England, and our sense of balance was allegedly part of our genius. Sadly, perhaps even scandalously, the checks and balances of the Church of England have been gradually eroded by a creeping managerialism (though, as always with the C of E, conforming to already outdated ideas). The Welbyfication of the C of E, though it all started long before him.

We cherish the three-fold ministry of Deacons, Priests and Bishops inherited from the early days of the Church - and all Priests and Bishops need to be mindful of their Diaconal role of service, and the importance of attending to administration. However, we seem now to have forgotten the wisdom of appointing holy and wise Bishops with gifts of leadership and inspirers of the people

of God and people with vision. The 'managers' really should be those who flourish as 'Number 2s'. So the problem we face is that we are increasingly 'led' by 'Number 2s' who might be good administrators and managers but cannot cut it as 'Number 1s'. And this lack of leadership has led to the disastrous collective failure of the House of Bishops in recent years in matters such as human sexuality. It seemed obvious to many of us when Civil Partnerships were introduced that there should have been an authorised service of celebration for couples in this position. And I note that in recent years there are Catholic bishops who are making a similar call. Had this happened, then the heat might have been taken out of the debate, a real pastoral need met, and the C of E allowed time to discuss the much more problematic and complicated issue of Same Sex Marriage. The point is that rather than 'leading' on whatever the issues might be, they are instead 'managed'.

Perhaps with a more 'balanced' leadership we would not be in such a lamentable position as the National Church. Time was when the three most senior appointments in the Church aimed at a balance between Evangelical, Broad Church, Traditional and Liberal Catholic. Gone. Time was when there was an eye to appoint learned and gifted theologians to the bench of Bishops - not least to Durham but also to Oxford and Winchester. Gone. The 'balance' is now heavily weighted in favour of a certain sort of Evangelicalism. And now of course, gender trumps everything.

What about our own lives? How to balance time spent at work, or at home? And when home how to balance enjoying yourself, relaxing, building relationships with family members, or spending time doing chores - fixing this, cleaning that? Both are necessary.

It's hard to maintain balance. Most of the time, we're probably tipped too far one way or the other - either we work too much, or not enough. Either we're too busy doing chores at home, or we neglect them too much. It's easy to develop bad habits and live an unbalanced life.

What about our spiritual life? How balanced is our relationship with God? How do we enjoy the balance of the Holy Trinity? One lovely prayer that perhaps captures the sense of balance is by a former Dean of St Paul's, John Donne (1571-1631):

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity: in the habitations of thy majesty and glory, world without end. Amen.

At the beginning of August, we welcomed **Jake Thompson** to our team of Vergers. On Page 7, Jake has written a short introductory autobiographical note.

From Monday 29th October - the day after the clocks go back - our **weekday opening hours will be 8.30am - 4.30pm**. Over the years I have noticed that relatively few people come into St George's between 8.00 and 8.30am but when locking up at 4.00pm there are very often people in the building whose visit has to be cut short. The Vestry hours have been similarly adjusted.

The **All Souls Requiem for departed loved ones** will be celebrated on Friday 2nd November at 1.10pm. Please inform one of the Vergers if you wish to include names for prayer. Their contact details will be found on the back page. One person we shall remember will be David

Vermont (13th February 1931 - 1st September 2018) who was a good friend to me and to the parish - involved for many years with the London Handel Festival and a long serving member of our PCC. Among other things, David was a distinguished member of the Worshipful Company of Mercers with a great passion and commitment to the work of Gresham College. May he rest in God's peace.

On Saturday 10th November members of the PCC and others from the St George's congregation are meeting to review and revise our **Mission Action Plan**. Most helpfully, the Diocese has jotted down the following bullet point suggestions for parishes undertaking this exercise:

Parish Profile: describe as many aspects of your church as possible such as: styles of worship; a profile of the people who come; church school; church resources; activities within the church.

History Audit: an exploration of the themes that have shaped the church and community, including points of growth and sticking points.

Community Audit: compile a profile of your neighbourhood. Include information about local organisations and amenities. Use Census data to profile the population. Plot the demography of your Parish on a map.

Envisioning Exercise: brainstorm with as many people as possible to come up with new ideas and ventures. Be bold - don't worry about practicalities at this stage.

SWOT Analysis: take the ideas from the envisioning exercise and consider the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats for each one. This will help you to think realistically about what might be possible. Remember to include financial and buildings considerations in the process.

Resources: consider what people and skills will be needed to accomplish your objectives. Will local partners need to be involved? Who in the church community might take this forward? What else might be needed?

Prioritise: divide your ideas into three categories - 'Quick Wins': things that can be introduced and make an impact quickly. 'Medium range': things that will require preparation. 'Long range': things which will need an investment of significant time and resources.

Do please join us if you can in the Vestry between 10.00am and midday.

Christmas Services

The Parish Carol Service (the traditional Nine Lessons and Carols) is to take place this year on **Sunday 16th December at 6.00pm** followed by refreshments. A good preparation for Christmas and an ideal occasion to ask friends along. We always invite people from local hotels and embassies and shops and businesses, as this is a memorable celebration for the whole community. In addition, I also invite members of various organisations to which I am Chaplain (The Royal Society of St George, the Gastronomes, the Royal Society of Musicians, and others) who are most welcome.

Once again there will be a service for **families and children** on **Christmas Eve Monday 24th December at 4.30pm**. **Solemn Sung Eucharist of the Vigil of Christmas**, this year will be the first with full choir, and will include the singing of children's carols around the crib. The sermon will be short and geared towards children, and the style of worship relaxed, although still with a normal sung setting of the Mass.

I would encourage as many as are able to come to the main celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord, which is the glorious **11.00am Sung Eucharist on Christmas Day**. Please do invite your family and visitors to join you for this, or the Christmas Eve service if you find Christmas Day impracticable.

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.

With the completion - finally - of work on the conversion of the Undercroft, we are once again planning to present **Morning**

Calm at 8.45am on weekday mornings during academic term times. This is a short meditative 'service' starting with seven or eight minutes of (usually) piano music, played by post-graduate students from the Royal College of Music, followed by a time for private silent recollection and concluding with one or two short prayers. Further details will be published in due course.

Holy Cocktail Hour Open House - all are welcome for drinks on Wednesdays 28th November and 16th January at 6.30pm until 8pm at the Rectory, 21a Down Street W1J 7AW - entrance in Brick Street opposite the tapas bar - top bell. This follows the 5.45pm celebration of Holy Communion at St George's.

Thursday 6th December
700pm
ST GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE

Messiah HWV 56

Our annual performance of Messiah is now a firm fixture in the Christmas calendar. Simon Williams will conduct the Choir of St George's, the London Handel Orchestra and star soloists, including three past finalists of the Handel Singing Competition.

LAUREN LODGE-CAMPBELL
soprano
ALEXANDRA GIBSON
mezzo-soprano
ALEXANDER SPRAGUE
tenor
TREVOR BOWES
bass-baritone
LONDON HANDEL ORCHESTRA
CHOIR OF ST GEORGE'S,
HANOVER SQUARE
SIMON WILLIAMS conductor

TICKETS: £55, £45, £40, £15, £12
(from London Handel Festival)



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

November 6	Grosvenor Chapel	Lukas Hasler (Graz, Austria)
November 13	St George's	Richard Hobson (Grosvenor Chapel)
November 20	Grosvenor Chapel	Polina Sosnina (St Thomas, Brentwood)
November 27	St George's	Nicholas Morris (St George's)
December 4	Grosvenor Chapel	James Johnstone (Trinity Laban Conservatoire)
December 11	St George's	George Parsons (Sheffield)
December 18	Grosvenor Chapel	Richard Hobson (Grosvenor Chapel)
January 8	St George's	David Gammie (Sacred Heart, Wimbledon)
January 15	Grosvenor Chapel	Benjamin Newlove (St Paul's, Knightsbridge)
January 22	St George's	Anthony Gritten (Royal Academy of Music)
January 29	Grosvenor Chapel	Samuel Ali (Christ Church, Chelsea)
February 5	St George's	George de Voil (St James, Sussex Gardens)
February 12	Grosvenor Chapel	Ben Giddens (London)
February 19	St George's	Joshua Xerri (Birmingham)
February 26	Grosvenor Chapel	Simon Williams (St George's)

Thursday 22 November

7.30pm

ST GEORGE'S, HANOVER SQUARE

Handel Singing Competition Finalists' Showcase

The London Handel Festival's annual showcase of the finalists from the Handel Singing Competition takes place earlier than usual this year, on St Cecilia's Day, appropriately, bringing you the usual mouth-watering selection of Handel and other baroque composers sung by four prize-winners from the 2018 Competition.

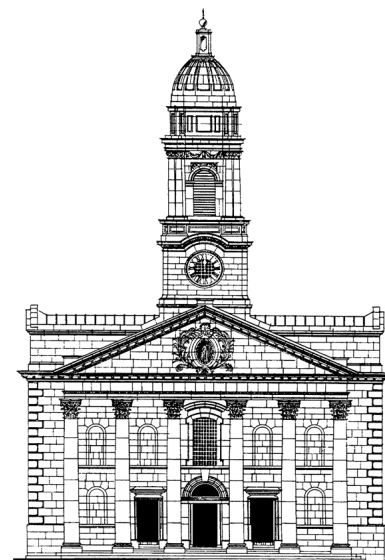
Se bramate d'amar chi vi sdegnate Serse HWV 40
Tu se il cor Giulio Cesare HWV 17 O care parolette Orlando HWV 31
Vedi l'ape che ingegnosa Berenice HWV 38
Che vai pensando, folle pensier HWV 184
Scoglio d'immota fronte Scipione HWV 20
Tra sospetti, affetti, e timori Rodelinda HWV 19
Volate più dei venti Muzio Scevola HWV 13
Where shall I fly? Hercules HWV 60

Love in her eyes sits playing; As when the dove; Happy we! Acis and Galatea HWV 49

LAUREN LODGE-CAMPBELL soprano
 EMMA STANNARD mezzo-soprano
 DANIEL MULLANEY tenor
 ED BALLARD bass-baritone
 LAURENCE CUMMINGS harpsichord

TICKETS: £12 (£10 Friends) unreserved seating

Services at St George's November 2018–February 2019



Thursday 1st November
All Saints' Day
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Friday 2nd November
All Souls' Day
1.10pm Requiem BCP (said)

Sunday 4th November
Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Simile est regnum coelorum
(Victoria)
In spiritu humilitatis (Croce)
Fugue in C major (J S Bach)

Monday 5th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 6th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 7th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 8th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 9th November
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 11th November
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity
Remembrance Sunday
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
10.55am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Requiem (Fauré)
Prélude et Fugue sur le nom d'Alain
(Durufle)

Monday 12th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 13th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 14th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 15th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 16th November
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 18th November
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Revd Dr
Alan McCormack
Missa Brevis (Mozart)
O salutaris hostia (Rossini)
Toccata (Gigout)

Monday 19th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 20th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 21st November
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 22nd November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 23rd November
**St Clement, Bishop of Rome, Mar-
tyr c 100**
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 25th November
Sunday next before Advent
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: Canon
Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff
Missa Brevis (MacMillan)
Rejoice in the Lord alway (Purcell)
Voluntary for Double Organ
(Purcell)

Monday 26th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 27th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 28th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 29th November
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 30th November
St Andrew, the Apostle
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 2nd December
First Sunday in Advent
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
(attended by the Réunion des
Gastronomes)
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher: The Revd Keith Powell
(Chaplain of the Worshipful
Company of Cooks)
Missa sine nomine (Hassler)
Lift up your heads (Handel)
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland
BWV 661 (Bach)

Monday 3rd December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 4th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 5th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm No service

Thursday 6th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 7th December
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 9th December
Second Sunday in Advent
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Che fa' hoggi il mio sole
(Allegri)
Laetentur coeli (Byrd)
Vox Dicentis (Simon Preston)

Monday 10th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 11th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 12th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm No service

Thursday 13th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 14th December
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 16th December
Third Sunday in Advent

8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Preacher: The Rector
Missa Iste confessor (Palestrina)
This is the record of John (Gibbons)
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland
BWV 659 (Bach)
6.00pm Parish Carol Service

Monday 17th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 18th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 19th December
Ember Day
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 20th December
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 21st December
St Thomas, the Apostle
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 23rd December
Fourth Sunday in Advent
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Missa Sancta et immaculata
(Guerrero)
How beautiful upon the mountains
(Stainer)

Monday 24th December
Christmas Eve
4.30pm Solemn First Vigil Mass of
Christmas
for families and children
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
A Christmas Mass (Ronald Corp)
Silent Night ((Grüber arr Cashmore)
In dulci jubilo BWV 729 Bach)

Tuesday 25th December
CHRISTMAS DAY
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
St Nicholas Mass (Haydn)
A child is born in Bethlehem (Scheidt
arr Willcocks)
This lovely lady (Kelly)
Noël Suisse (Daquin)

Wednesday 26th - Saturday 29th
December
Church closed - no services

Sunday 30th December
Sunday after Christmas
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa O magnum mysterium
(Victoria)
O magnum mysterium (Victoria)
Toccata in F (Buxtehude)

Monday 31st December
Church closed - no service

Tuesday 1st January
Church closed - no service

Wednesday 2nd January
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 3rd January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 4th January
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 6th January
The Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: Canon Alistair
Macdonald-Radcliff
Messe Solennelle (Langlais)
Videntes stellam (Poulenc)
Final from Triptyque (Langlais)

Monday 7th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 8th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 9th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 10th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 11th January
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 13th January
First Sunday after Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Communion Service in A minor
(Darke)
Here is the little door (Howells)

Monday 14th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 15th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 16th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 17th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 18th January
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 20th January
Second Sunday after Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Ego flos campi (Padilla)
Omnes de Saba venient (Handl)
Prelude and Fugue in A (J S Bach)

Monday 21st January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 22nd January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 23rd January
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 24th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 25th January
Conversion of St Paul
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 27th January
Third Sunday after Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis St Joannis de Deo
(Haydn)
Beati quorum via (Stanford)

Monday 28th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 29th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 30th January
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 31st January
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 1st February
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 3rd February
The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Candlemas) - transferred
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Communion Service in C (Stanford)
Light of the World (Elgar)

Monday 4th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 5th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 6th February
The Accession of Queen Elizabeth II (1952)
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 7th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 8th February
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 10th February
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Mass in G minor (Vaughan Williams)
O taste and see (Vaughan Williams)
Choral Song (S S Wesley)

Monday 11th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 12th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 13th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 14th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 15th February
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 17th February
Septuagesima
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis in D minor (Mozart)
Lord, I trust thee (Handel)

Monday 18th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 19th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 20th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 21st February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 22nd February
1.10pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Sunday 24th February
St Matthias, the Apostle
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: TBA
Missa Brevis (le Fleming)
Give us the wings of faith (Bullock)

Monday 25th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 26th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 27th February
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion BCP (said)

Thursday 28st February
12.10pm Midday Prayer



Jake Thompson

Jake Thompson

When our long-serving Verger, Seamus O'Hare expressed a wish to reduce his hours back in 2016, a review of the role concluded that St George's needed a verging team of two to ensure staffing a building that is often open for more than 70 hours a week. Richard Buck joined us in October 2017. Seamus retired in December that year and in August 2018 we were joined by Jake Thompson.

Jake writes about himself as follows:

Jake is from the riverside town of Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex where he spent his late teens and early twenties working as a labourer, care-worker, and maintenance worker. A devout Christian and regular attendee of the parish church, he began to sense a calling to the priesthood. After informing his parish priest at the time, he moved to north London to join the North London Pastoral Assistant Scheme in 2013.

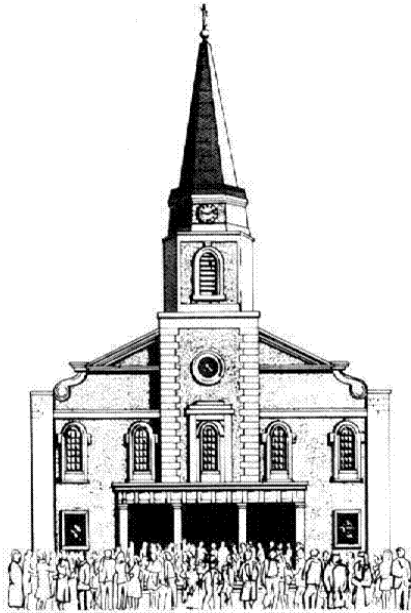
As pastoral assistant of St Mary's church, Tottenham, Jake worked side by side with the rector. He helped to attend to the pastoral needs of the congregation through home and hospital visits, leading infant Sunday school, assisting in the parish youth ministry and even preaching on occasions. Jake also gained the experience of coordinating the church's winter night shelter, which is part of the larger Haringey Winter Night Shelter Scheme.

After two years in Tottenham, Jake moved into the vicarage of Holy Innocents, Hornsey as a lodger, and joined an access course in theology at St Melli-

tus College, London. Meanwhile he took on two jobs: one as a support worker and the other as assistant coordinator of the Haringey Winter Night Shelter, working to tackle homelessness with several churches of various denominations in the Haringey and Enfield area.

Jake completed his course in two years and moved with the former rector of Holy Innocents into the parish vicarage of St Michael's Croydon, where, once again, he was appointed as a pastoral assistant. There, he met many new challenges, different from St Mary's and Holy Innocents; one of which was to help use the church to accommodate child refugees from Calais for one day while they were being brought into the UK to be united with their families. The event inspired a visit from former Archbishop Rowan Williams which took place on Jake's birthday.

Jake met his fiancée, Charlotte, in St Michael's Croydon and the two of them will be getting married in the same church next year. At the moment he is less inclined towards the priesthood and would like to settle down with his future wife. He can play the guitar and is a fan of 20th century retro music. As a Christian, he enjoys studying the bible, apologetics, and debating. He is currently enjoying a book on how scholars date the books of the Old Testament.



Services at Grosvenor Chapel November 2018—February 2019

Sunday 4th November All Saints Sunday

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Victoria *Missa O quam gloriosum*
Victoria *O quam gloriosum*
Couperin *Dialogue sur les grands jeux*
(*Messe pour les Couvents*)

Sunday 11th November Remembrance Sunday

10.55am Sung Eucharist
Fauré *Requiem Mass*
(with orchestra)

Sunday 18th November Second Sunday before Advent

11.00 Confirmation
with the Bishop of London
Mozart *Missa Brevis in C K 258*
James MacMillan *I have sought Thee and Thy face*
Théodore Salomé *Grand Chœur*

Sunday 25th November The Feast of Christ the King

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Alonso Lobo *Missa O Rex gloriae*
Byrd *Atollite portas*
Percy Whitlock *Exultemus*

Sunday 2nd December Advent Sunday

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Plainsong *The Advent Prose*
Byrd *Mass for Five Voices*
Byrd *Laetentur coeli*
Andrew Carter *Toccata on Veni Emmanuel*

Sunday 9th December The Second Sunday of Advent

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Magalhães *Missa O soberana luz*
Francisco Guerrero *Canite tuba*
J.S.Bach *Nun komm, der heiden heiland BWV 661*

Tuesday 11th December

7.00pm Community Carol Service

Sunday 16th December Third Sunday of Advent

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Andrea Gabrieli *Missa Brevis*
Sweelinck *Gaude et laetare*
J.S.Bach *Fugue on the Magnificat*

Sunday 23rd December Fourth Sunday of Advent

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Kenneth Leighton *Missa Brevis*
Victoria *Ne timeas Maria*
J.S.Bach *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*

Monday 24th December Christmas Eve

11.00pm Carols
11.30pm Midnight Mass
Haydn *Missa Brevis in F major*
Lauridsen *O magnum mysterium*
Tavener *Christmas Proclamation*
J.S.Bach *In dulci jubilo*

Tuesday 25th December Christmas Day

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Victoria *Missa O magnum mysterium*
Sweelinck *Hodie Christus natus est*

Sunday 30th December Sunday after Christmas

11.00am Sung Eucharist
Mass with Cantor & organ

Sunday 6th January The Epiphany of our Lord

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Mozart *Spatzenmesse K220*
Jacobus Clemens non Papa
Magi veniunt ab oriente
Peter Cornelius *The Three Kings*

Sunday 13th January The Baptism of Christ

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Byrd *Mass for Four Voices*
Marenzio *Tribus Miraculis*

Sunday 20th January The Third Sunday of Epiphany

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Monteverdi *Mass for Four Voices*
Purcell *Thy word is a lantern*

Sunday 27th January The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Lassus *Missa super Frère Thibault*
Guerrero *Hoc est praeceptum meum*

Sunday 3rd February The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Stanford *Communion Service in C*
Eccard *Maria das Jungfräulein*
Stanford *Nunc Dimittis in G*

Sunday 10th February Fourth Sunday before Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Palestrina *Missa Iste Confessor*
Philip Moore *Antiphon*

Sunday 17th February Third Sunday before Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Gabriel Jackson *Missa St Margaretae*
Stanford *Beati quorum via*

Sunday 24th February Second Sunday before Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Victoria *Missa Trahe me post te*
Giaches de Wert *Ascendente Jesu in naviculam*

St George's Hanover Square Primary School

**Judith Standing,
Headteacher, writes:**

We have had an excellent start to our new academic year with lots of very exciting events and activities taking place.

We began the year with a whole school book project. Each class retold the story in their own way with lots of writing and artwork. We made some fabulous displays. We then followed this with Roald Dahl Day. Each class learnt one of Roald Dahl's poems and practised performing them. These were then showcased for parents on National Poetry Day in October. We also had a famous poet visit us in our classes and share his poems with us.

Our faith group has met this term. This meeting is led by our pupils who are our RE leaders. They shared what work they had been doing in RE and talked through the activities, including drama, debating, drawing, writing and art activities. This term our topics are all aligned to Christianity and include things such as 'The Lord's Prayer' and 'The Liturgy'.

Andrew from 'The Passage', a homeless charity in Westminster visited us and talked to the children about how they could help homeless people. The 'Just Enough' charity also visited Year 5 and Year 6.

We have been on various trips so far this term, including Hyde Park Lookout centre, Na-



Prize Giving at St George's in July 2018. Craig McWilliam, Chief Executive of Grosvenor, Britain and Ireland addresses the children, parents and staff.

tional Maritime Museum, and Hampton Court Palace. We have run a number of parent workshops this term: maths, phonics reading, wellbeing, assessment and curriculum. We have also held our termly parent meetings.

So as you can see we have had a very busy start to the year. We are now looking forward to our harvest thanksgiving service and then a week's rest at half term.

If you would like to visit us, we would love to see you. Please just make an appointment at the school office.

**Judith Standing
Headteacher**



The Undercroft at St George's



The undercroft of St George's we believe was constructed as part of the church in 1724 with a view to housing a free school, as outlined in the *New Churches in London and Westminster Act of 1710*, which set up a Commission to build fifty new churches (known as Queen Anne Churches) in the West End and the City of London. In the end only ten new churches were

Horsleydown and St Luke, Old Street.

Hawksmoor built four of the other churches, Christ Church, Spitalfields, St Anne's, Limehouse, St George's Bloomsbury, and St George in the East. Thomas Archer two, St John's, Smith Square and St Paul's, Deptford, and James Gibb one, St Mary le Strand.

John James's design included entrances along Maddox Street and on the south side of the church which allowed a certain amount of daylight to enter the undercroft. However, for reasons we don't fully understand, but lack of daylight was possibly one of them, a free school never opened and the space was used for storage for most of the next three centuries. Our first Church school opened in 1742 in South Street, on a site adjacent to the present school.



The Green Room takes shape

main as landlords and find new tenants, or embark on plans to engage the space with the mission action plan of the church.

New plans were drawn up by Colin Kerr, Church architect, and the decision to improve the church facilities with a new lavatory block under the portico, a green room /large meeting room and restaurant facilities was taken by the PCC in 2016, with building works starting in July of last year.

The building works are now nearing completion. The new lavatory block reopened at the beginning of October, and the rest of the first phase fit out, including a new lift which will provide disabled access to both the church and undercroft should be completed by the year end. In the new year the second phase fit out of the restaurant and bar area will commence, and we are hoping to be fully open and operational in the late spring of next year.

The new facilities should greatly enhance the life of the church, both in terms of far better amenities for all church users, and when the construction costs are paid, an additional income stream for the church. The lavatory block under the portico is



The new SW Staircase

ever built between 1713 and 1730, and nine other existing churches were rebuilt or modified by the Commission. St George's Hanover Square is the only one of the churches architect John James built on his own account, but he was also joint architect with Nicholas Hawksmoor for St John,

During the inter war years of the twentieth century the undercroft space was used for wine storage by a local vintner. This continued until the Bishop of London received too many complaints about the noise, and this ended his occupation. During the Second World War the undercroft was used to store all the stained glass from the East windows which were removed in early 1940, and not reinstated until after the war ended. From the early 1950s the space was again rented out, with Sotheby's being the tenant for most of this period until they vacated in 2013.

Thought and plans as to how to re-integrate the space into the life of the church have been ongoing since 2007, and Maxwell Hutchinson, architect, drew up some plans in 2009, but at the time we were about to undertake the refurbishment of the interior of the church, and install a new organ, so funds were not available. When Sotheby's finally gave notice in 2012, we had to make some decisions, whether to re-

entered via a new Portland stone staircase at the south west corner of the church. This staircase can be accessed either internally, from the south west side of the church, or from a new exterior entrance on the south west side of the church into the church yard, next to the large metal gates on to St George's Street. Those who remember the rickety staircase to the old lavatories will notice a great improvement.

The green room/large meeting room provides greatly improved facilities for musicians and other users of the church, who up to now have had to manage in the cramped conditions of the vestry and choir vestry. This room will also be used for all larger church meetings, PCC meetings, and the Little Dragons Sunday School.

The restaurant area will include a bar which will serve interval drinks during concerts, and a seated dining area for up to 150 covers. The restaurant will be open weekdays, Monday to Friday only. On Saturdays the space will be available for private hire and wedding receptions, which we hope will increase St George's attraction as a wedding venue. On Sundays, the space will be used to serve drinks when we have refreshments following the service in church.

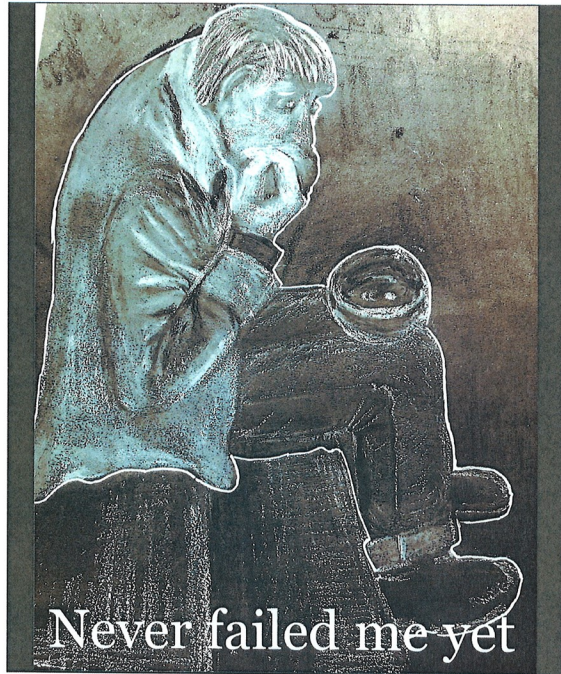
We were lucky with the space in terms of its good headroom. A lot of undercrofts and crypts were built with low ceiling heights and left unfinished. Our vaulted ceiling was plastered back in 1724 and well finished; again, leading us to believe the space was built to be occupied, and not just to be used as storage vaults.

So, in 2019, after a mere two hundred and ninety-five years, the undercroft of St George's Church will for the first time become an integral part of the body of the Church, and in its own way, help the church to continue to profess the Gospel of Christ.



Thursday 8 November 2018
11.00am

A Service of Commemoration for those who have died homeless in the last year



Picture by Don Pollard

A service organised by St Martin-in-the-Fields, The Connection at St Martin's, and Housing Justice with Streetwise Opera, Choir with No Name and Gavin Bryars & Ensemble
More information from Housing Justice: 020 3544 8094 info@housingjustice.org.uk

St Oscar Romero - Thanksgiving

SOLEMN EVENSONG TO CELEBRATE ST OSCAR ROMERO



Holiness and Apostolic Courage

National Celebration of the Canonization
of St Oscar Romero

Westminster Abbey

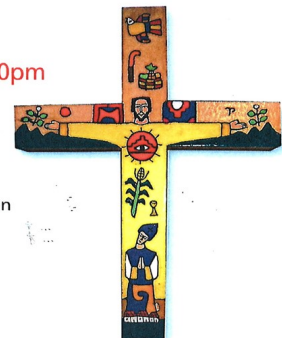
Saturday 17 November at 3.00pm

The Address will be given by
Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Evensong will include chosen readings
and music reflecting this special occasion

Book tickets online through Eventbrite:
<http://bit.ly/StOscarRomero>

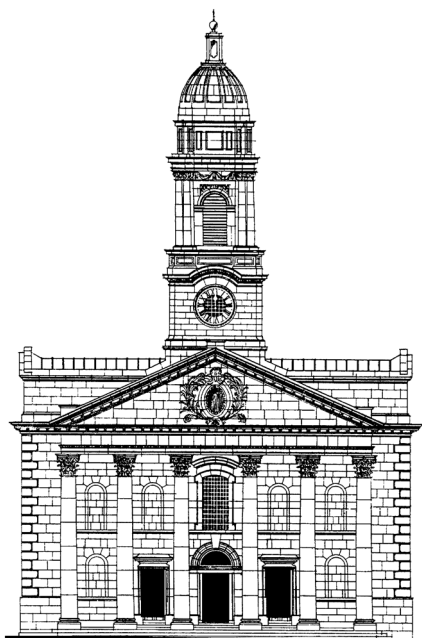
ALL ARE WELCOME



contact: romerotrust@gmail.com website: www.romerotrust.org.uk

Archdiocese Romero Trust registered charity no. 1110069

Churches Together in Westminster Prisons Mission



PRISONS WEEK 2018

The crisis in British prisons has attracted more media attention in recent months, with the “re-nationalisation” of Birmingham prison, Minister Rory Stewart’s identification of the “ten worst jails” in Britain, and big increases in violence, self-harm and suicides. In these circumstances, our Prisons Mission team worked hard to bring accurate and relevant information to the attention of the congregations of many churches, of different denominations. The latest edition of our booklet of resource material for

Prisons Week was collected and compiled largely by Sarah Jane Vernon of our church. It has been circulated far beyond the central London churches, even overseas, and very well received. It contains not only prayers, readings and reflections for prisoners, families, prison staff, victims of crime and the prison system, but information which will be useful to lay and ordained people for the whole year, rather than just one week in October.

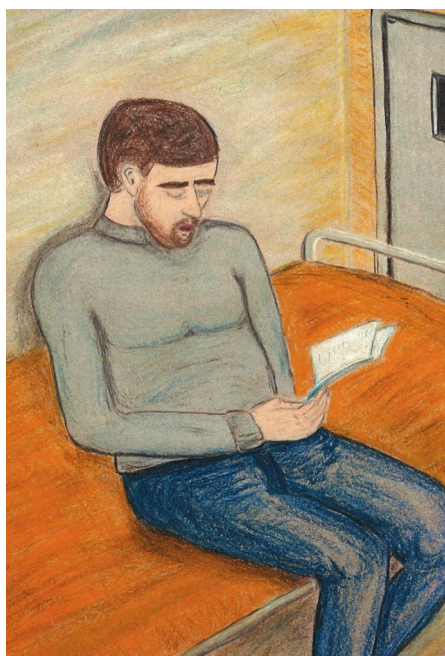


Blue Sky Thinking

HM Prison Altcourse

fested, violent, overcrowded, foul smelling and understaffed”.

He argued that there is too little public awareness of the shameful state of our prisons. The loss of liberty and removal from all that is familiar is a very real punishment. This is compounded by incarceration within overcrowded and understaffed prisons, which are also unsafe and dirty. There seems to be quite widespread public agreement that prisons must be clean, safe and well staffed, if there is to be any realistic prospect of them becoming the bases from which some very troubled men, women and children can begin the process of recovery and rehabilitation. It is clear that suitably trained and supported volunteers can play a small, but worthwhile part in bringing the vital element of hope into the lives of some very vulnerable, damaged and lonely prisoners. During Prisons Week we focus upon and pray for all concerned with this work.



The Last Word

HM Prison Wealstun

At the 11.00am Sung Eucharist at St George’s on 14th October 2018, members of the Prisons Mission team read a specially selected Epistle, presented relevant Prayers and Intercessions and were available to answer questions and discuss issues. John Plummer used the sermon slot to describe the conditions inside one of London’s huge Victorian prisons. He quoted several very senior establishment figures, such as General Lord Ramsbotham and Dame Anne Owers, when serving as HM Chief Inspectors of Prisons. They had found the prisons they inspected, including this one, to be: “dirty, dangerous, Dickensian, vermin in-

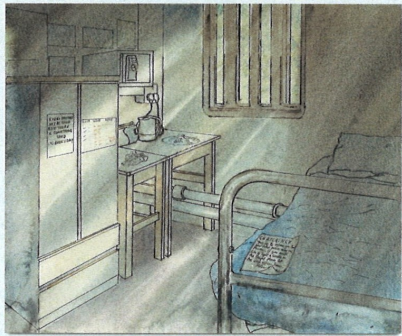


Lines

HM Prison Wymott

NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

The demand for additional volunteers continues to grow. This is partly due to the recognition of the value of Prisons Mission volunteers, but also because the crisis in British prisons is more openly acknowledged. The multi-faith Chaplaincy Teams of HMPs Wandsworth and Wormwood Scrubs - for men and youths, and HMP and Young Offenders Institution



Bad News

Exeter Probation

Bronzefield - for women and girls, as well as the Detention Centre at Heathrow, want more volunteers to undertake regular work with them.

In our efforts to meet some of this increasing demand, we have published a new Prisons Mission Volunteer Recruitment leaflet. This is available at our church, or via the CTiW website. The leaflet summarises the wide variety of activities within prisons, for which volunteers are required. It also outlines some of the jobs to be done by people interested in this ministry, but unable to commit to regular time inside a prison, for family, work, or other reasons. These include becoming a Prisoner's Penfriend, or joining a professional specialist group to counsel discharged prisoners.

When potential volunteers have discussed the opportunities and challenges with a well established member of the Prisons Mission team, and wish to go further, exploratory visits are arranged to tour one of the prisons. Many quite worldly people are deeply disturbed when they go inside a prison for the first



Back Inside

Exeter Probation

time. Freddie de Sibert, of our church, commented after visiting HMP Wormwood Scrubs that; "the prison was shockingly dirty, loud and animal like. I can now well and truly understand your horror at the conditions in which we keep people we expect to discipline, adjust to society and return to life outside". Becoming a Prisons Mission volunteer is not like visiting patients in a hospital. Prisons are hostile, strange and hidden places, which contain unfamiliar and often distressed people. But, there are safe and interesting activities which are genuinely valued by both chaplains and prisoners, as well as rewarding for volunteers. Further information is available from the Coordinator:

John Plummer
(johnplummer.audax@gmail.com) .

The images used here are taken from the Churches Together in Westminster 2018 *Resources for Prisons Week* booklet using material generously supplied by the Koestler Trust.

The Koestler Trust is the UK's leading prison arts charity. We play a vital part in the rehabilitative journey offered to prisoners and ex-prisoners to transform their lives through participation in the arts. For more information visit www.koestlertrust.org.uk or tweet [@koestlertrust](https://twitter.com/koestlertrust)

MULTI-FAITH CHAPLAINS.

AWAY DAY

Our Prisons Mission organised a very unusual event last month. The entire multi-faith Chaplaincy Team of HMP Wormwood Scrubs attended their first ever off site Away Day. Twenty one members of the team came to St Martin in the Fields. The Managing Chaplain is a Muslim Imam and the group included Hindu, Sikh, Islamic and Jewish ordained and lay leaders, as well as representatives of the main Christian denominations.

Prison chaplains have very demanding and stressful jobs. In addition to the obvious tasks of conducting worship, prayer, teaching and services for each of the faith groups among the inmates, they are also called



Circling

HM Prison Lowdham Grange

upon to support, counsel, and advise prisoners who are often distressed. In the outside world, a priest of any faith will expect some members of the average congregation to be worried about family, work, health or other matters. In prison, nearly every single inmate, man, woman, or child, is frequently desperately anxious, fearful, distressed, angry, depressed, remorseful, and many other emotions, sometimes simultaneously. The chaplains are called on by and about inmates who self-harm, are



Caged Feathers
HM Prison Send

thought to be suicidal, and they also make daily visits to all those who are segregated for their own safety, or for punishment. Family members call the chaplaincy office when they are worried about an inmate being bullied, or thought to be sick or using drugs. Chaplains are also involved with bereavements both inside and outside the prison. At Wormwood Scrubs there have been four suicides and one murder so far this year. Such incidents cause ripples of anger and tension far beyond those directly affected.

The prison holds 1,200 men and youths aged 18-24, including those remanded while awaiting trial or sentence, as well as those serving custodial sentences. The chaplains are also responsible for the pastoral care of the 300 plus officers and staff of the prison.

Prison chaplains are inclined to operate with a surprising degree of isolation and detachment from their "parent" church, temple, or mosque. For example, Christian chaplains are not regarded as part of their church's communications and management structure, are not on its pay-roll, or within the housing and pension schemes. Bishops occasionally attend the prison chapel for the introduction of a new chaplain, or to preach at a Christmas Day service. In these circumstances, it is not surprising that chaplains

are inclined to relate more closely with the management of the prison, than with churches outside the walls.

The job is such that chaplains tend to rush from one crisis to another and from one distressed inmate to the next. They seldom have an opportunity to plan ahead, or to sit together to think about their objectives and how best these might be achieved in the difficult prevailing environment. The chaplains of different faiths do not often exchange ideas, learning, or experiences with each other. Each one knows when he, or she, is responsible for the long list of duties and essential tasks, which are shared out across all faiths, but little else.

The first purpose of our Prisons Mission is to support the multi-faith Prison Chaplaincy Teams and to provide, through our volunteers, the services they identify and need. After many discussions with chaplains, we formed the view that an Away Day for all of them together would be a substantial benefit. Rev Richard Carter of St Martin-in-the-Fields, another very active Prisons Mission church agreed with this and we decided to be co-hosts. The Away Day took place in the comfortable church meeting rooms, which are in stark contrast to the noisy and crowded chaplaincy offices and began with a guided tour of the whole complex establishment. Richard led a Christian prayer while the party was in the church and was promptly followed by extemporary prayers led by the Muslim, Sikh and Hindu chaplains. The chaplains were told of the very large and effective work of The Connections in addressing the needs of the homeless, and rough sleepers and learned more about the wide range of activities which are part of the everyday life of this very busy church. The chaplains were given lunch and had the use of rooms for a private meeting in the afternoon. The group found the Away Day to be very productive and a valuable learning experience and were very generous in their thanks to the co-hosts. The next step is that the Senior Management Team of the whole prison, of which the Managing Chaplain is a member, is to ask the co-hosts to allow them to hold an Away Day with us.

Christmas at St George's

Thursday 6th December
7.00pm

Handel's *Messiah*
(for details see page 3)

Tuesday 11th December
7.00pm
Grosvenor Chapel: Community
Carol Service

Sunday 16th December
6.00pm
Parish Carol Service

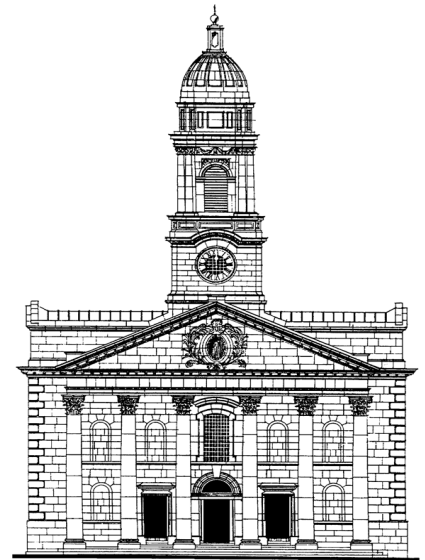
Monday 24th December
Christmas Eve
4.30pm
Solemn First Vigil Mass
of Christmas
for families & children
11.00pm
Carols
(at Grosvenor Chapel)
11.30pm
Midnight Mass
(at Grosvenor Chapel)

Tuesday 25th December
CHRISTMAS DAY
11.00am Sung Eucharist

All services and events take place at St George's Church unless otherwise indicated.



Hyde Park Place Estate Charity



CIVIL TRUSTEES

At their meeting on 26th September 2018, the Civil Trustees of the Hyde Park Place Estate Charity awarded grants totalling £46,190 to the following organisations working in the City of Westminster:

Shakespeare Schools Foundation

Listening Books

Church Homeless Trust

The Food Chain

Depaul UK

Cardinal Hume Centre

St John's Hospice

Octavia Foundation

Mousetrap Theatre Projects

WLM Seymour Place

St George's School

St George's Hanover Square - Refreshment Coupon Scheme

The next meeting of the Civil Trustees will be on Wednesday 28th November (application deadline: Monday 12th November). A further meeting will be held in February/March 2019.

ECCLESIASTICAL TRUSTEES

The next meeting of the Ecclesiastical Trustees will be held on Thursday 29th November (application deadline: Monday 12th November)

Shirley Vaughan

Clerk to the Trustees

PARISH OF ST GEORGE, HANOVER SQUARE

Charity No: 1134811

Rector: The Revd Roderick Leece

St George's Church

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St George's Hanover Square Foundation

Charity No 1120505

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Hyde Park Place Estate Charity

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