

This week's calendar | *The Fourth Week of Advent*

Sun 21 Dec | Fourth Sunday of Advent

AT ST BARNABAS PIMLICO

9.30am **Sung Mass**

Preacher: Fr Alexander McGregor

AT ST MARY'S BOURNE ST

8.45am Morning Prayer

9am Low Mass

11am **High Mass**

Preacher: Fr Neil Bunker

Missa Ecce ego Joannis-Palestrina

6pm **Solemn Evensong &**

Benediction

7pm Low Mass

NEXT SUNDAY

Sun 28 Dec | Sunday within the Octave

AT ST BARNABAS PIMLICO

9.30am **Sung Mass**

Preacher: The Vicar

AT ST MARY'S BOURNE ST

8.45am Morning Prayer

9am Low Mass

11am **High Mass**

Preacher: Fr Robert Ferguson

Mass for Four Voices - Byrd

6pm **Solemn Evensong &**

Benediction

7pm Low Mass

DURING THIS WEEK AT ST BARNABAS PIMLICO

Wed 24 Dec | Eve of the Nativity of the Lord

12.45pm Low Mass

11.30pm **Midnight Mass**

Preacher: The Vicar

Thu 25 Dec | Nativity of the Lord

9.30am **Sung Mass**

Preacher: Fr Alexander McGregor

DURING THIS WEEK AT ST MARY'S BOURNE ST

Mon 22 Dec | Feria

No morning Low Mass

2pm Confessions

6pm Evening Prayer

6.30pm Low Mass

Tue 23 Dec | Feria

8am Low Mass

6pm Evening Prayer

6.30pm Low Mass

Wed 24 Dec | Eve of the Nativity of the Lord

No morning Low Mass

4.30pm Confessions

10.30 pm **Carols by Candlelight**

11pm **Midnight Mass**

Preacher: Fr Stuart Leamy

Missa Sancti Nicolai - Haydn

Thu 25 Dec | Nativity of the Lord

9am Low Mass

11am **High Mass**

Preacher: Fr Robert Ferguson

Missa Rorate Caeli - Haydn

No evening Low Mass

Fri 26 Dec | St Stephen, the first Martyr

11am Morning Prayer

11.30am Low Mass

No evening Low Mass

Sat 27 Dec | St John, Apostle & Evangelist

11am Morning Prayer

11.30am Low Mass

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

✧ 21 December 2014

Welcome to St Mary's, especially if you are visiting us for the first time.

Please join us for drinks after High Mass.

- ❖ *The Order of High Mass with the Ordinary texts is provided in the High Mass booklet.*
- ❖ *The Propers (prayers, readings and verses) of the Mass are set out overleaf.*
- ❖ *The Hymns are found in The New English Hymnal.*

- ❖ **The Advent Special Collection** is for St Mary's, Cable Street. If you are using a Gift Aid envelope, please mark it "Cable Street".
- ❖ There will be a collection after Mass for **flowers for the Church at Christmas.**
- ❖ The **Parish Office** closes at 2pm on Tuesday 23 December and re-opens Tuesday 30 December.
- ❖ **The Study Group** will next meet on Tuesday 3 February, 7-9pm. Please note that the Study Group will not meet in January. Contact Amanda Wright amanda@londonarttherapy.com

THE INTERCESSIONS: *Of your charity please pray for the sick. Please continue to leave the names of the sick on the list at the entrance to church. Copies of the full list are available in the porch.*
Recently departed: Karin Hinchliffe, John Howard, June Baxter, Rosemary Chrome, Philip Hughes, Patricia Baxter
Anniversaries of death: Sun 21st Dec Richard Fletcher; Tues 23rd Dec John Cotton; Wed 24th Dec Paul de Fortis, pr, Lola Allason; Thurs 25th Dec Robert Proctor, Mary Queen; Fri 26th Dec Emma Keogh; Sat 27th Dec May Hawkins, Herbert Spring, Marmaduke Hussey, Mollie Jenkins, Frederick Elliott

In the Gospel, John the Baptist is pointing to the Lamb of God. John preaches an absolute and impossible righteousness – no compromises. The Pharisees, who want to continually moderate the law to make it attainable, ask John, "Are you the Messiah?". He tells them he is not, rather, he is the one who preaches the straight path and he can only baptize with water. Human effort always falls short. If we are to attain the righteousness of God, only grace and mercy (the Lamb sacrificed for us) can do that. John is preaching a liberation from the Law. But it is necessary for us in our lives right now to realize we cannot attain it by our own effort, and only when this happens is opened to us the new covenant of grace. God's Word dwelling in us now is cause for rejoicing. Paul says, "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice." Rejoice in the presence of the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! In sum, (1) God's temple, our souls, are awakened and cleansed by the coming of the indwelling Word (2) that indwelling Word is the ground of our hope in a passing world (3) we are to bear witness to that hope to the world and (4) our hope is fulfilled in our rejoicing in the Lamb! ✧ FATHER ROBERT CROUSE



Parish Priest and Vicar: Fr David Cherry

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THE SETTING OF THE MASS is Missa Ecce ego Joannis by *G P Da Palestrina (1525-1594)*

HYMN 501

Rorate

INTROIT *↪ Rorate Coeli*

Isaiah 45 & Psalm 19

Drop down ye heavens, from above and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let her bring forth salvation. The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

COLLECT

OLORD, RAISE UP, WE PRAY THEE, THY POWER, and come among us: and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us: through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 40.1-9

THUS SAITH THE LORD: 'Comfort ye, comfort ye my people. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins.' The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: 'Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight and the rough places plain: and the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.' The voice said: 'Cry!' And he said: 'What shall I cry?' 'All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.' O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah: 'Behold your God!'

GRADUAL *↪ Prope est Dominus*

Psalm 145

The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him: yea, all such as call upon him faithfully. My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh give thanks unto his holy Name.

EPISTLE

Philippians 4.4-7

BRETHREN: Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say: Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in every thing, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus our Lord.

ALLELUIA *↪ Veni domine*

Psalm 145

Alleluia, alleluia. Come, O LORD, make no long tarrying: deliver thy people from their misdeeds. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

St John 1.19-28

AT THAT TIME: The Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to John to ask him: 'Who art thou?' And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed: 'I am not the Christ.' And they asked him: 'What then? Art thou Elias?' And he saith: 'I am not.' 'Art thou that prophet?' And he answered: 'No.' Then said they unto him: 'Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?' He said: 'I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the Lord," as said the prophet Esaias.' And they which were sent were of the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said unto him: 'Why baptisest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet?' John answered them, saying: 'I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose.' These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.

SERMON

Fr Neil Bunker

CREED *↪ Cardinalis*

p.5 of the High Mass booklet

OFFERTORY MOTET

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

A spotless rose is blowing, Sprung from a tender root, Of ancient seers foreshowing, Of Jesse promised fruit; Its fairest bud unfolds to light Amid the cold, cold winter, And in the dark midnight. The rose which I am singing, Whereof Isaiah said, Is from its sweet root springing In Mary purest maid; For through our God's great love and might, The Blessed Babe she bare us In a cold, cold winter's night.

HYMN 9

Lo! he comes with clouds descending

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

WE BESEECH THEE, O LORD, mercifully to have respect unto these our oblations: that the same may be profitable unto us for our increase in all godliness, and for the attainment of everlasting salvation.

COMMUNION *↪ Ecce Virgo*

Isaiah 7

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.

COMMUNION MOTET

Robert Parsons (c.1535-1571/2)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum; benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui. | *Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.*

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

OLORD, WHO HAST HERE VOUCHSAFED unto us to be partakers of thy bounty: grant, we beseech thee, that we may so continue to draw near unto the same, that growing more and more in grace, we may attain in the end to everlasting life.