

ST CYPRIAN'S NEWSLETTER

March 2016

Services in March

Saturday 5th March

3pm – Evensong and Benediction

Responses: Byrd

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis: Walmisley in D minor

Motet: Finzi *Welcome sweet and sacred feast*

Sunday 6th March – Mothering Sunday

10.30am Mass Celebrant: Father Julian Browning

Mass setting: Merbecke

Sunday 13th March – Passion Sunday

10.30am Mass Celebrant: Father Michael Fuller

Mass setting: Rheinberger *Cantus Missae*

Motet: Tallis *Verily verily I say unto you*

Sunday 20th March – Palm Sunday

10.30am Mass Celebrant: Father Michael Fuller

Mass setting: Kodaly *Missa brevis*

Motet: Weelkes *Hosanna to the son of David*

Thursday 24th March – Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Mass of the Last Supper: Celebrant: Father Michael Fuller

Mass setting: Byrd *Mass for four voices*

Motet: Durufle *Ubi caritas*

Friday 25th March – Good Friday

12 noon Mass Celebrant: Father Julian Browning

Victoria *Passion according to St. John*

Motet: Lotti *Crucifixus*

Sunday 27th March – Easter Sunday

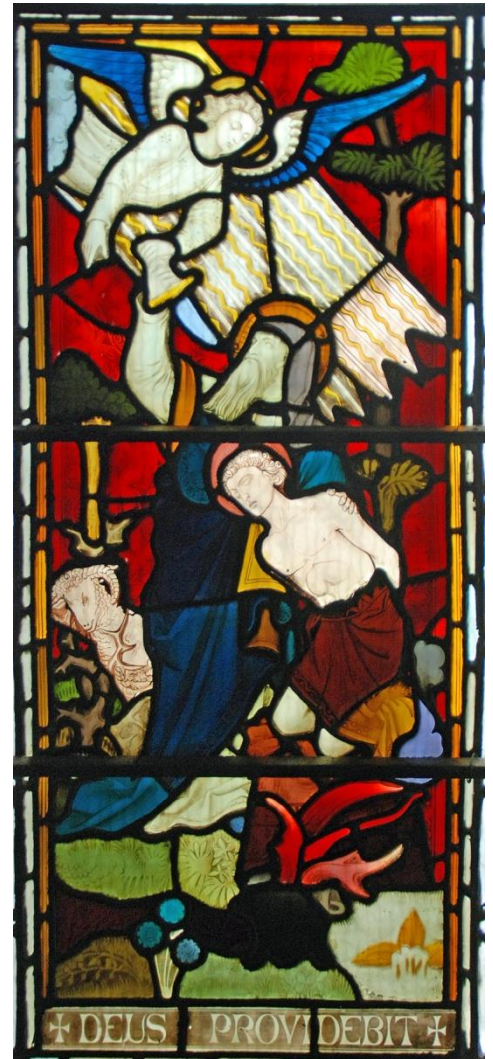
10.30am Mass Celebrant: Father Michael Fuller

Mass setting: Haydn *Missa brevis St Joannis de Deo*

Motet: Lassus *Surrexit pastor bonus*

Weekday Mass – Thursday, 1.10pm,

Morning Prayer – Tuesday – Friday, 8am



Traditionally the Third Lesson at the Easter Vigil (which falls this year on 26th March) related the story of Abraham, Isaac and the ram in the thicket to be found in Genesis 22. This glass panel is in the Holy Name Chapel, hidden behind the paneled stair to the small Organ Loft.

Manufactured by the London firm of Clayton & Bell, the busiest producer of Victorian glass, it is one of six rectangular panels which (with one other now lost) were ranged horizontally above the Altar of the Mission Church at the other end of Glentworth Street where our Founder, Fr. Charles Gutch, ministered for thirty years to the poor of the area. [Photo: David Peet]

Letter from Father Gerald

Many preachers this year will be making much of the fact that 25th March - traditionally the Feast of the Annunciation - is Good Friday. There's a minority view among scholars that the Feast of the Annunciation, the celebration of Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she is to be the Mother of the Son of God was fixed on 25th March before the Emperor Constantine persuaded the church to keep Christ's nativity on 25th December in the fourth century. I suspect that this is a bit of a chicken-and-egg argument but there's no doubt that by the time of Constantine thought about the origins of Jesus had become very sophisticated. If what Christ achieves in the transformation of humanity is so great how does he connect heaven and earth from all eternity? What is the sign of salvation? The uncomfortable truth is in the shedding of blood.

Most of us are squeamish. Our culture shields us from blood in all sorts of ways. We rarely see meat butchered and we can buy all manner of parts of animals in the supermarket without ever seeing the whole carcass. If we injure ourselves we are whisked off to A&E. Few of us have seen battle. Yet the flow of blood is essential for the continuation of life. For men 'the battle of the sexes' is based partly on the fear of women as those who menstruate, generate and lactate. Women have a power that men don't have. In Western Christianity the disempowering of women was particularly strong in the mediaeval church. Legends abounded that the Blessed Virgin Mary had given birth without pain. She had delivered her child bloodlessly standing against a pillar. The shedding of blood was the task for Jesus' as he hung upon the cross.

Well, life has moved on. As a wit once remarked: 'The battle of the sexes will never be won because there's too much fraternizing with the enemy.' Quite. But the shedding of blood is no joke. In many parts of the world women are still downtrodden because of their gender. Men and women die needlessly in wars that seem to have lost any sense or reason – assuming at they had any in the first place. The shedding of blood by both Mary and Christ was God's final word to humanity that blood is to be spilled only in the service of life never its destruction. 'In my beginning is my end' wrote T. S. Eliot. The Alpha and the Omega assures us of our destiny and shapes our lives.

Yours in Christ

Fr Gerald

News

The Rikkyo University Choir visit on Sunday 28 February was a great success. Julian Collings writes:



The Rikkyo University chapel choir joined the St Cyprian's Singers for Mass. Rikkyo is the largest Anglican affiliated university in Japan and St Cyprian's was the last stop on a two week tour which also included concerts in Malvern, Worcester and Cambridge. Having worked with them in Tokyo last summer, I knew their singing to be of a very high standard and so it proved with excellent renditions of the Palestrina Missa Brevis and Howells 'Like as the Hart'. Many thanks to them, their conductor Scott Shaw and all those from St Cyprian's who provided cakes to feed the 53 strong choir!

Events

Wednesday 9 March, 1.10pm - Organ Recital

Matthew Bladen (St Mary Magdalene, Richmond).

Programme tba

Friday 11 March, 7.30pm

Concert by Ensemble III

Programme tba

Saturday 12 March, 10.30am

British Museum Visit.

Meet at the main doors. Please sign the list at the back of the church or let Fr Gerald know if you are coming.

We will book lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Saturday 19 March, 7.30pm

Camden Symphony Orchestra Concert of Russian Music (Glazunov, Rachmaninov & Shostakovich

£12/£10 concs

Services for Holy Week and Easter

Sunday 20 March, 10.30am Palm Sunday

Mass & Distribution of Palms

Wednesday 23 March, 9.00am

Francis Holland School Mass

Thursday 24 March, 7.30pm

Mass of the Last Supper

Friday 25 March, 12.00 noon

Good Friday Liturgy

Sunday 27 March, 10.30am

Blessing of the Easter Candle & Mass of Easter Day

St Paul's Rossmore Road invites us to the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the Centre on Friday 11 March, 7.00pm.

Preacher: Rev Jack Maple.

All welcome.

S^t. CYPRIANS CHURCH
CLARENCE GATE, NW1 6AX

CHORAL EVENING PRAYER & BENEDICTION



SATURDAY 7th February 2016

at 3pm

Responses: Byrd

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis: Walmisley in D minor

Motet: Finzi *Welcome sweet and sacred feast*

With the S^t. Cyprian's Singers

Directed by: Julian Collings