

# St George's Paris

## Advent 4 : 22nd December 2019

A warm welcome to St George's. You will find the readings and hymn numbers on this newsletter, hymns are in the green book and the service outline is in the cream booklets. Today the choir sings the **Plainsong Mass VII in Dominicus Adventus** and the motet during Communion will be **Ave Maria Jacob Handl (aka Gallus) (1550-1591)**.

### This week:

Sunday 22nd	<b>Advent 4</b> 0830 Mass (BCP) 1030 Solemn Mass
Monday 23rd	<i>O Emmanuel</i>
Tuesday 24th	<b>Christmas Eve</b> 1800 Confessions 2230 Midnight Mass of Christmas
Wednesday 25th	<b>Christmas Day</b> 0830 Mass (BCP) 1030 Solemn Mass 1630 Messe Malgache
Thursday 26th	<i>St Stephen, martyr</i> 1800 Evensong 1830 Mass
Friday 27th	<i>St John the Divine</i>
Saturday 28th	<i>The Holy Innocents</i> 1200 Mass
Sunday 29th	<b>Christmas I</b> 0830 Mass (BCP) 1030 Solemn Mass

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Please stand for the opening hymn (**181**) when the bell rings. During Advent the Choir will sing a verse of the Advent Prose (**501**) as an entrance antiphon. The service continues in the cream service books on page 1—**please note the seasonal changes which you find in this sheet.**

### Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

### Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand for the hymn (**11**). After the Blessing and Dismissal the clergy and servers leave.

**In Your Prayers please remember those on our sick-list:** Mary Berg, Jean-Paul Buffet, Paul Bultez, Angela Casone, Anne Cozic, Jeanine & Caroline Cullinan, Gregor Dallas, Mimi de Bentzmann -Fouilland, Isabelle Foulon, Ophélie Gourbault, Françoise Guibert, Irene Hicks, Prudence Kupka, Muriel Lamoureux, Kenneth Nyakana, Bernadette Pédeflous, Simone Rabaud, Maxie Stavritch, Pascale Stephany, Grace Valéry, HRH Prince Philip, Margaret Woods, Anitha Yannick and for Margo, Alex and Max, Sarah, Maroussia, Laurence, Marie-Thérèse, Susan, David, Paul, Saul.

**Those who have died:** David Coles (priest)

### Notices :

**Welcome to the Eucharist today.** We are delighted to meet visitors and newcomers after the service, when drinks will be served in the Parish Hall. Wine or coffee is available for 1.5 euro: the money goes towards choir funds.

**Bienvenue à Saint-Georges.** Nous vous invitons à prendre un verre de vin ou une tasse de café (1.5 euro) après la messe dans la salle paroissiale, et si vous êtes de passage dans notre église nous serons heureux de faire votre connaissance.

**Many thanks to David Smith for the new Crib.** It will be blessed for the Feast at the Midnight Mass.

**Champagne is offered** after the Midnight Mass of Christmas and on Christmas Day. If you'd like to sponsor the Champagne please speak to Fr Mark.

**Confessions during Advent** will be heard on Christmas Eve but if that's not helpful please contact Fr Mark either on his mobile (06.59.37.49.54) or via [chaplain@stgeorgesparis.org](mailto:chaplain@stgeorgesparis.org)

**Giving at St George's:** now is the time to consider if you would like to top-up your giving to St George's for this tax year. If you pay tax in France and give by either standing order or cheque, you can have up to 66% of your giving to St George's deducted from your income tax liability. More details are available from Fr Mark or our Treasurer, Mike Orrin.

**The revised Lunch List is up today.** Please think if you'd like to cook lunch on the spiffy new cooker! There are some very wise heads who will be happy to give you helpful advice. Eating together has been at the heart of life at St George's for a very long time and it would be good to welcome new cooks to our rota.

**Fr Andrew Bigg is marrying Anna on 3rd January!** He's also been appointed to a parish in Oxford Diocese. They have received our gift and write : Many thanks indeed. That is hugely generous of people and very much appreciated. This will help us greatly in setting ourselves up. All best wishes for Christmas and New Year. Fr Andrew



## Prayer of Penitence

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.  
We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.  
We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.  
Amen**

## Opening Prayer

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

*Please remain seated for the choir to sing the Magnificat from Great Service by William Byrd. The antiphon is **O virgo virginum.***

*O Virgo virginum, quomodo fiet istud? Quia nec primam similem visa es nec habere sequentem. Filiae Jerusalem, quid me admiramini? Divinum est mysterium hoc quod cernitis.*

*O Virgin of virgins, how shall this be? For neither before thee was any like thee, nor shall there be after. Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me? The thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.*

*My soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel : as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.*

## Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and

was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

*Please stand for the gradual hymn (1).*

## Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

## Creed

*You will find the Creed to a setting by Merbecke in the hymnbook (542).*

## Intercessions:

We call on your name, O God: **restore and revive us.**

## Offertory

*Please stand for the hymn (17) at the preparation of the altar; during this hymn a collection will be taken. During the Eucharistic Prayer we proclaim the mystery of faith by using the following:*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*At the end of the prayer we all respond*

*... in songs of everlasting praise:*

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## Breaking of the bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion if you do so in your own church. If you would prefer, please come forward and bow your head for a blessing.*