

Weekly Newsletter

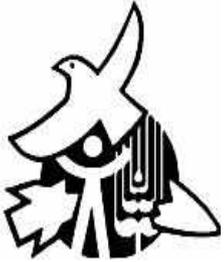
Sunday 24th May 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter (A) Psalter Week 3

The Parish of the Holy Trinity,
Stroud Green



with
Holy Innocents, Hornsey



Seeking to know and serve God and our local community



Being fully Alive (John 17:1-11)

'The glory of God is a human being fully alive,' says St Irenaeus.

Here he captures in a few words something central to what we as Christians believe. However, it is important not to think that he means God's glory somehow depends on the existence of human beings, nor that he is referring to transitory adrenaline-filled experiences that thrill some people! So how is it true that the glory of God *is* a human being fully alive? Because Jesus is a human being and Jesus is God, incarnate in our world, showing to us, as he prayed at the Last Supper, the glory of the Father with whom he is one. What does a human being fully alive look like? Jesus - who is so alive that even though he died he now lives. God has taken on our human nature, and in Christ that human nature has died, risen and ascended into heaven, so that a human being is glorified with the glory the Son had with the Father before ever the world was.

In Jesus' prayer in our Gospel passage today it is clear that he gives eternal life (and what is the fullness of life, if not life without limit?) to his disciples. Because they share in this life, which is his, they are so closely united with him that his glory is manifested in them. The fullness of human life then is 'to know you, the true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent', and this is only possible by being drawn – through Jesus – into the very life of God.

Both today's Gospel passage, and St Irenaeus' statement with its striking and succinct immediacy speak of the awesome hope which lies at the centre of our faith: that because Jesus and the Father are one, and Jesus has shared his life with us, we may be fully alive with the very life of God.

News about Sunday and weekday Masses

From today I am hoping that the regular services, starting with the 11.30 am Sunday Mass, will be held in church with people able to take part from home through Zoom. As always, the necessary login information will be emailed out to people who would like it. If we experience technical problems on the day (as we did last Sunday) I will record the Mass in church and hopefully have a link to it on the front parish of the parish website later. I will also attempt to 'Zoom' the usual Tuesday evening 7.30 Mass before the study group.



Tuesday Easter Groups at 8.00 pm

This Tuesday we will again use Zoom to look at two short passages chosen from Acts 16:1 to 20:38. This week we focus on St. Paul's missionary journeys. You may want to read the section of Acts before the meeting to get a general sense of the context of what we will be discussing. You will need to email Fr. Patrick for a Zoom meeting ID and password if you do not already have it.

No internet? - Daily Hope Telephone Service

An organisation called Daily Hope is offering music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services at the end of a telephone line. The line is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044.

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