

# Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 21st June 2020

12th Sunday of the Year (A) Psalter Week 4

The Parish of the Holy Trinity,  
Stroud Green



with  
Holy Innocents, Hornsey



*Seeking to know and serve God and our local community*



## The Call of Christ

A distinguished university professor was once asked if he was a Christian. He answered, "Yes, but not offensively so." Clearly he felt that Christianity should not intrude on the society he kept, nor put obstacles in the pursuit of any pleasure that attracted him. This could easily be a description of the Christianity of many today. While we are quite prepared to admit that we are Christians, we are, by and large, careful not to take things too far, particularly if doing so would bring hardship, rejection or ridicule.

A genuine Christian cannot fully escape Christ's call to be different from the world. What he asks us is not to conform to the standards of this world, but rather to transform those standards. St Paul thought of sin entering this world through one man, Adam, and through sin death, so that death has spread throughout the whole human race, because sin is so universal. The world's greatest sin is unbelief, and the task of the Church is to challenge this unbelief, relying on the help of the Holy Spirit. The last words of Jesus, according to St Matthew, were, "Go and make disciples of people everywhere; baptise them and teach them to observe all that I taught you. And I am with you always, yes to the end of time."

While we live in this world, we are meant to remain aware of the world to come, and live for God by pursuing the standards Jesus set for us. When the Apostles worried about the future, Christ encouraged them, "Don't be afraid. I am with you always." The deepest truth about God that Jesus taught is that he is a caring God, compassionate and forgiving, a God who is on our side. Our attitude to life can be that of the psalmist who says, "In God I trust – I shall not fear". The only thing to fear is losing God, loss of trust in God. This lack of trust begins when we look for security through our own efforts, in the works and wealth of our own making. Jesus criticised the feverish efforts, the anxious haste and worry of those worldly people who refuse to grant God any part in their lives. "In God I trust; I shall not fear."

Jesus himself on the night of his last Passover, was about to suffer more than anyone had ever suffered, or ever will suffer in time to come. Yet, he remained affectionate and caring towards his friends and shared the meal with them, even the one who was plotting his betrayal. Later in Gethsemane when the terror of what lay ahead caused his sweat to fall like great drops of blood, his prayer was still, "Not my will but yours be done." No matter how uncertain the future may seem, this should be our prayer and our spirit too.

### Tuesday Mass and Talk

This week on Tuesday we will 'Zoom' the weekday 7.30 pm Mass and follow it at 8.00 pm with a 'Life in Lockdown' discussion with a family in our congregation, one of whom is a nurse.

### Towards re-opening the church for private prayer

I hope to be able to open the church next Sunday afternoon from 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm for private prayer. However, we need volunteers to be present in the church to manage the flow of entry into the church, and to clean it afterwards. These volunteers must be under 70 and must **not** be people who need to shield. If you are under 70, not shielding and feel you might be able to facilitate opening the church, please contact Fr. Patrick.

### Sunday and weekday Masses

Sunday 11.30 am and Tuesday 7.30 pm Masses are now streamed from the church itself via Zoom. Please email Fr. Patrick for a Zoom meeting ID and password if you do not already have it.