



St Vedast-alias-Foster

Peace and Contemplation in the City

NEWS FROM FOSTER LANE

Newsletter No. 12, 14 March 2021

News from Fr Paul

The future is an uncertain place and, even as signs of spring appear, the future is harder to discern than usual. However, one bit of good news looking forward: I am being made Rector of St. Vedast.

These days, there is little practical difference between my current post of Priest-in-Charge and Rector, but this does feel like a recognition of the place of St. Vedast within the City and Diocese. Personally, I have been impressed by how we have pulled together over this last year: adapting service and online provision; raising funds and contributing fully to the diocese; being imaginative and responsive with music for carol services and often remaining open. Pastorally, socially and with care of the fabric we have done well, and I feel this has been recognised by the Diocese. How we take these experiences forward to a post-Covid City is uncertain, but I am looking forward to doing so as your Rector.

I will be instituted as Rector by Bishop Sarah one weekday Mass in April. She will be on Zoom and I plan to stream via YouTube as well as welcoming an in-person congregation. Archdeacon Luke will induct me later by coming to St. Vedast. This is where I am placed in the Rector's stall in the church. My hope is that this can take place after lockdown and be combined with the parish bbq one Sunday.

Thank you to all of you for what you do at St. Vedast and in this corner of the City.

Revision of Electoral Roll 27 March 2021 – 10 April 2021, see separate attached notice

Every year before the annual parish meeting the Electoral Roll needs to be revised. It is not necessary for anybody already on the roll to reapply, but if anyone would like to be entered on the roll for the first time or if anyone wishes their address to be changed, they should contact the Electoral Roll Officer, Valerie James at valerie7semaj@gmail.com."

Sunday opening

We open every Sunday for our 11 am Parish Mass along with opening Monday to Friday 11.30 am - 2 pm - including our weekday 12.15 pm Mass.

We are not yet able to gather socially, so we are unable to offer refreshments or the opportunity to catch up, but we now open for private prayer and for all our services. Streaming on YouTube will continue as will Zoom coffee after our Sunday service.

If you are vulnerable to COVID-19, please consider remaining at home until you have had both vaccinations and a period of three weeks has passed - especially if you are using public transport. If you would like to discuss coming to church, please call my mobile 07877211307.

Service information

You can join us for live weekday masses & our Sunday Service

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq5Plrgy_zMhluHu-ZePfRQ?view_as=subscriber

After the Sunday Service

Paul Kennedy is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Post Eucharist coffee

Time: This is a recurring meeting each Sunday after Mass

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89210467362>

Meeting ID: 892 1046 7362

Donate

As with most charities the lockdown has stretched our finances considerably. If you would like to donate, or catchup on your giving, the easiest way is online at:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/3020d4c5-77d2-4718-8e2c-d9047a66f720>

Or alternatively you can make a bank transfer to: CAF Bank LTD, 40-52-40, acct name St Vedast alias Foster, acct num 00024014

Readings for this Sunday printed below.

Sunday 14 March, Lent 4

Numbers 21.4-9

From Mount Hor Israel set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Psalm 107.1-3,17-22

R Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever. Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe. He gathered them out of the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. **R**

Some went down to the sea in ships and plied their trade in deep waters; they beheld the works of the Lord and his wonders in the deep. Then he spoke and a stormy wind arose, which tossed high the waves of the sea. **R**

They mounted up to the heavens and fell back to the depths; their hearts melted because of their peril. They reeled and staggered like drunkards and were at their wits' end. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. **R**

He stilled the storm to a whisper and quieted the waves of the sea. Then were they glad because of the calm, and he brought them to the harbour they were bound for. **R**

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy and the wonders he does for his children. Let them exalt him in the congregation of the people and praise him in the council of the elders. **R**

John 3.14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

