



# **The Ordination of Priests**

Saturday 3rd October, 2020



CHESTER  
CATHEDRAL

# **WELCOME**

We welcome you to this celebration of the Holy Eucharist and Ordination of Priests. This cathedral is the seat of the Bishop, Mother Church of the Diocese of Chester and the core of a Christian community which has worshipped here and worked together for over 1100 years.

## **THE DECLARATION OF ASSENT**

This Declaration of Assent is made by deacons, priests and Bishops of the Church of England when they are ordained and on each occasion when they take up a new appointment.

### **PREFACE**

The Church of England is part of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It professes the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation. Led by the Holy Spirit, it has borne witness to Christian truth in its historic formularies, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, The Book of Common Prayer and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons. In the declaration you are about to make, will you affirm your loyalty to this inheritance of faith as your inspiration and guidance under God in bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making Him known to those in your care?

### **DECLARATION OF ASSENT**

I, A B, do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorized or allowed by Canon.

# THOSE TO BE ORDAINED PRIEST

We are here to pray for and to celebrate the ministries of those to be ordained to the priesthood and the parishes where they serve:

## 12 noon

Karen Andrews	Kelsall, St Philip
Janine Arnott	Stockport, St George
Jeremy Beatty	Marple, All Saints
Callum Boothroyd	Hyde, St George with St Thomas
Lucinda (Lucy) Brewster	Partington & Carrington, St Mary
Ian Chidlow	Cheadle, St Mary
Deborah (Debbie) Dalby	Grange, St Andrew
Peter Dooley	Heald Green, St Catherine

## 2.30pm

Robert Icke	Latchford, St James & Stockton Heath, St Thomas
Heather Kemball	Alsager, Christ Church
Jennifer (Jenny) McKay	Great Budworth, St Mary & All Saints
Stephen (Steve) Murphy	Prestbury, St Peter
Paul North	Wistaston, St Mary the Virgin
Anina Thomas	Lache cum Saltney, St Mark
Elaine White	Liscard The Resurrection, St Mary
	Seacombe, St Paul and Poulton, St Luke

## 5.00pm

Louise Annison	Chester, Holy Trinity Without-the-Walls (Blacon)
Stephanie (Steph) Morris	Sutton, St James, Wincle, St Michael, Wildboarclough, St Saviour & Bosley, St Mary the Virgin
Julian Osborne	Tarporley, St Helen
Giselle Rusted	Hale, St Peter & Ashley, St Elizabeth
Josette (Josie) Tuplin	Woodchurch, Holy Cross
Paul Wheeler	Nantwich, St Mary
Dorothy (Dot) Woods	Baddiley, St Michael and Wrenbury, St Margaret with Burleydam, St Mary & St Michael

# THE ORDINATION OF PRIESTS

## THE GATHERING AND PRESENTATION

### THE GREETING

*The Bishop greets the people*

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

There is one body and one spirit.

**There is one hope to which we were called.**

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

**one God and Father of all.**

Peace be with you

**and also with you.**

*The Bishop continues with words of welcome*

Brothers and sisters, we have come together in the presence of almighty God for the ordination of those called to serve as priests in his Church; though we are few in number in the cathedral, many join us in prayer and worship over the weekend, in the parishes and on line, to celebrate the ministries of those who are to be ordained and support them as they will continue to live and proclaim the Gospel in the communities where they serve.

God calls his people to follow Christ, and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light. The Church is the Body of Christ, the people of God and the dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit.

In baptism the whole Church is summoned to witness to God's love and to work for the coming of his kingdom. To serve this royal priesthood, God has given particular ministries. Priests are ordained to lead God's people in the offering of praise and the proclamation of the gospel. They share with the Bishop in the oversight of the Church, delighting in its beauty and rejoicing in its well-being. They are to set the example of the Good Shepherd always before them as the pattern of their calling. With the Bishop and their fellow presbyters, they are to sustain the community of the faithful by the ministry of word and sacrament, that we all may grow into the fullness of Christ and be a living sacrifice acceptable to God.

## PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

*The Bishop introduces the invitation to confession to which all then respond*

As we stand together before God,  
and trusting in his grace alone,  
let us join with these ordinands in confessing our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

*The Bishop says*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*The guests sit whilst the ordinands and training incumbents remain standing*

## THE PRESENTATION

*Each ordinand is presented by The Ven Dr Mike Gilbertson, Archdeacon of Chester*

Reverend Father in God, I present these persons  
to be ordained to the office of priest in the Church of God.

*As the names are read, each ordinand comes forward;  
the training incumbents then stand and respond to the Bishop*

Have those whose duty it is to know these ordinands and examine them  
found them to be of godly life and sound learning?

**They have.**

Do they believe them to be duly called to serve God in this ministry?

**They do.**

*The training incumbents sit; the Bishop then addresses the ordinands*

Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry?

**I do so believe.**

*The Bishop continues*

I invite the Registrar to confirm that the ordinands have taken the  
necessary oaths and made the Declaration of Assent.

*The Registrar of the Diocese, Lisa Moncur, responds*

Those who are required to do so have duly made the oath of allegiance to  
the Sovereign. They have all made an oath or a solemn affirmation of  
canonical obedience to the Bishop. They have affirmed and declared their  
belief in 'the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in  
the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of  
England bear witness'.

*The ordinands sit*

## THE COLLECT

*The Bishop introduces a period of silent prayer and then says*

Let us pray for those about to be ordained priests,  
and for the ministry of the whole people of God.

God our Father, Lord of all the world,  
through your Son you have called us into the fellowship  
of your universal Church:  
hear our prayer for your faithful people  
that in their vocation and ministry  
each may be an instrument of your love,  
and give to your servants now to be ordained the needful gifts of grace;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### THE NEW TESTAMENT

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians. 5. 17 - 6.2

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 145

*I will bless you and praise you for ever, O God my King.*

I will exalt you, O God my King,  
and bless your name for ever and ever.  
Every day will I bless you  
and praise your name for ever and ever.  
Great is the Lord and highly to be praised;  
his greatness is beyond all searching out.

One generation shall praise your works to another  
and declare your mighty acts.  
They shall speak of the majesty of your glory,  
and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts,  
and I will also tell of your greatness.  
They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

Gerry Fitzpatrick

*At the end of the psalm all stand*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. 20. 19-23  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*All sit after the preacher has led a prayer*

## SERMON

*At the end of the sermon, a short silence is kept; all then stand*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Bishop says*

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

*cf Philippians 2.6-11*

*The training incumbents and guests sit; the ordinands remain standing*

# THE LITURGY OF ORDINATION

## THE DECLARATIONS

Priests are called to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent. With their Bishop and fellow ministers, they are to proclaim the word of the Lord and to watch for the signs of God's new creation. They are to be messengers, watchmen and stewards of the Lord; they are to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for his family, to search for his children in the wilderness of this world's temptations, and to guide them through its confusions, that they may be saved through Christ for ever.

Formed by the word, they are to call their hearers to repentance and to declare in Christ's name the absolution and forgiveness of their sins. With all God's people, they are to tell the story of God's love. They are to baptise new disciples in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and to walk with them in the way of Christ, nurturing them in the faith. They are to unfold the Scriptures, to preach the word in season and out of season, and to declare the mighty acts of God. They are to preside at the Lord's table and lead his people in worship, offering with them a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. They are to bless the people in God's name. They are to resist evil, support the weak, defend the poor, and intercede for all in need. They are to minister to the sick and prepare the dying for their death. Guided by the Spirit, they are to discern and foster the gifts of all God's people, that the whole Church may be built up in unity and faith.

*The Bishop continues*

We trust that long ago you began to weigh and ponder all this, and that you are fully determined, by the grace of God, to devote yourself wholly to his service, so that as you daily follow the rule and teaching of our Lord and grow into his likeness, God may sanctify the lives of all with whom you have to do. And now, in order that we may know your mind and purpose, you must make the declarations we put to you.

Do you accept the Holy Scriptures as revealing all things necessary for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ?

**I do so accept them.**

Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading Holy Scripture, and in all studies that will deepen your faith and fit you to bear witness to the truth of the gospel?

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you lead Christ's people in proclaiming his glorious gospel,  
so that the good news of salvation may be heard in every place?

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you faithfully minister the doctrine and sacraments of Christ  
as the Church of England has received them,  
so that the people committed to your charge  
may be defended against error and flourish in the faith?

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you, knowing yourself to be reconciled to God in Christ,  
strive to be an instrument of God's peace in the Church and in the world?

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you endeavour to fashion your own life and that of your household  
according to the way of Christ,  
that you may be a pattern and example to Christ's people?

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you work with your fellow servants in the gospel  
for the sake of the kingdom of God?

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you accept and minister the discipline of this Church,  
and respect authority duly exercised within it?

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you then, in the strength of the Holy Spirit,  
continually stir up the gift of God that is in you,  
to make Christ known among all whom you serve?

**By the help of God, I will.**

*The ordinands turn to face their training incumbents and guests*

Brothers and sisters, you have heard how great is the charge  
that these ordinands are ready to undertake,  
and you have heard their declarations.

Is it now your will that they should be ordained?

**It is.**

Will you continually pray for them?

**We will.**

Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

**We will.**

*The ordinands turn back to face the Bishop*

*The Bishop continues*

In the name of our Lord we bid you remember the greatness of the trust that is now to be committed to your charge. Remember always with thanksgiving that the treasure now to be entrusted to you is Christ's own flock, bought by the shedding of his blood on the cross. It is to him that you will render account for your stewardship of his people. You cannot bear the weight of this calling in your own strength, but only by the grace and power of God. Pray therefore that your heart may daily be enlarged and your understanding of the Scriptures enlightened. Pray earnestly for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

*The Ordinands sit; silence is kept*

## **VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS**

*A cantor sings*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
and lighten with celestial fire;  
thou the anointing Spirit art,  
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above  
is comfort, life and fire of love;  
enable with perpetual light  
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soilèd face  
with the abundance of thy grace;  
keep far our foes, give peace at home;  
where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
and thee, of both, to be but one;  
that through the ages all along  
this may be our endless song:

Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*John Cosin (1594 - 1672)*

VENI CREATOR

## THE LITANY

*The Director of Vocations leads the litany*

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to the Father.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all the members of the Church in their vocation and ministry,  
that they may serve him in truth and love,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Mark and Keith our bishops, and for all bishops, priests and deacons,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those called to be priests in his Church,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church,  
that in faithful witness we may proclaim the gospel of reconciliation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the unity of the Church, that we may be one in Christ, according to his will,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are lost and for those who have strayed,  
that they may return to the way of Christ,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who suffer for those affected by the Covid Pandemic  
and for all those who care for the sick and dying,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the hungry, for the homeless and the oppressed,  
for all prisoners and those who are persecuted for their faith,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For ourselves;  
for grace to repent and amend our lives,  
that we may be pardoned and absolved from all our sins,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering all who have gone before us in faith,  
and in communion with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,  
we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God;  
**to you, O Lord.**

## THE ORDINATION PRAYER

*The Bishop continues*

We praise and glorify you, almighty Father, because in your infinite love you have formed throughout the world a holy people for your own possession, a royal priesthood, a universal Church.

We praise and glorify you because you have given us your only Son Jesus Christ, the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn of all creation and head of the Church.

We praise and glorify you that by his death he has overcome death; and that, having ascended into heaven, he has given his gifts abundantly, to equip your holy people for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ.

And now we give you thanks that you have called these your servants, whom we ordain in your name, to share as priests in the ministry of the gospel of Christ, the Apostle and High Priest of our faith, and the Shepherd of our souls.

Therefore, Father, through Christ our Lord we pray

*The Bishop and two designated priests lay their hands on the head of each ordinand;  
the Bishop prays the following*

Send down the Holy Spirit on your servant N.  
for the office and work of a priest in your Church.

*Candidates may adjust their stoles signifying the order of their priestly ministry*

*The newly ordained priests return to sit; the Bishop continues*

Through your Spirit, heavenly Father, give these your servants grace and power to proclaim the gospel of your salvation and minister the sacraments of the new covenant. Renew them in holiness, and give them wisdom and discipline to work faithfully with those committed to their charge. In union with their fellow servants in Christ, may they reconcile what is divided, heal what is wounded and restore what is lost. May they declare your blessings to your people; may they proclaim Christ's victory over the powers of darkness, and absolve in Christ's name those who turn to him in faith; so shall a people made whole in Christ offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you, our God and Father, to whom, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, belong glory and honour, worship and praise, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE GIVING OF THE BIBLE**

*The Bishop continues*

Receive this book, as a sign of the authority which God has given you this day to preach the gospel of Christ and to minister his holy sacraments.

*Each priest comes forward to take the Gospel and their licence*

## **THE WELCOME**

*The training incumbent and guests stand and the newly ordained priests turn to face them;*

*The Very Revd Dr Tim Stratford, Dean of Chester, says*

God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

**We welcome you as ambassadors for Christ:  
let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.**

# **THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

## **THE PEACE**

*The Bishop says*

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us, and as a pledge of what is to come  
has given us the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

*The Bishop says*

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. **Amen.**

### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise  
through your Son Jesus Christ, our great high priest.  
He was lifted up for us on the cross  
that he might reveal your glory and draw all people to himself.  
You exalted him to your right hand on high  
and through your Holy Spirit you sent upon your people  
a rich diversity of gifts.

From this royal priestly people you raise up ministers  
to proclaim your word, to care for your people  
and to be stewards of your holy mysteries.  
You call them to serve the world your Son redeemed  
and build up his body the Church to be his bride at all times and in all places.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

*The choir sings*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

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

## LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## BREAKING OF BREAD

*The Bishop says*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## GIVING OF 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.**

## AGNUS DEI

*The Choir sings*

○ Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
○ Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
○ Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*After a silence, the Bishop says*

Lord God,  
heavenly Father, grant to your Church today the faith of her apostles,  
the hope of her martyrs and the love of her Lord,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**We thank you, gracious Father,  
for welcoming your children to feast in your kingdom;  
by your love unite us and with your Spirit send us,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE SENDING OUT

### THE BLESSING

*The Bishop says*

God who has called you is faithful.  
May the Father, whose glory fills the heavens,  
cleanse you by his holiness and send you to proclaim his word.  
**Amen.**

May Christ, who has ascended to the heights,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.  
**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

*The Dean says*

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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