

Diocesan Chrism Service with the Renewal of Commitment to Ministry

Maundy Thursday

Once again we find ourselves unable to all gather together in the Cathedral to break bread together and be present as we pray over the oils. Many of our church buildings remain closed, yet we are still the Church, and as the whole baptised people of God we are still 'summoned to witness to God's love and to work for the coming of his kingdom'. Those of us who are ordained and licenced are still called to recommit ourselves to the ministry of word and of sacrament.

Our calling as the Church to proclaim the mighty works of God, who in the events that we will celebrate in these coming days overcomes darkness and death with resurrection light is more precious, more needed than ever before. We live in a world that longs for hope, the hope we see in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, ascended, Lord of all time and space.

It is thus a great joy and a gift to us that we can welcome you 'virtually' into the cathedral as we gather, still not in one place but still as one body, joined from our communities across the Diocese. We do so humbly, aware of the greatness of the charge laid upon us and our need of God's grace, we do so in a spirit of service as we fashion our lives on the pattern of the one who came not to be served but to served and we do so gladly and with joy, for our trust and our confidence is in Christ.

We look forward to the day when we will gather again in one place to sing of God's goodness, and to break the bread of life and share the cup of salvation.

But we do not wait for that day, for now, this day, in this land, 'we will serve the Lord' (Joshua 24: 16), we will call on God's name, make known God's deeds, tell of God's wonderful works and Glory in God's holy name. (I Chronicles 16: 8f)

+ Rachel

+ Robert

¶ The Oils

From Common Worship Times and Seasons:

Our own baptism is the sacramental sign of our union with Christ, and of God's gift to us of his Holy Spirit, to make us God's children by adoption and grace, and to equip us for the share that all Christians have in Christ's own ministry. The New Testament speaks of this gift of the Holy Spirit as an anointing (1 John 2.20-27; 2 Corinthians 1.21-22).

From an early date, it became customary to trace the sign of the cross in oil on the heads of candidates for baptism, and to anoint them again after baptism with the perfumed oil of chrism – a sign of incorporation into the prophetic, priestly and royal life of Jesus Christ. At the same time, the Letter of James urges its recipients to anoint the sick with oil (James 5.15), as a sign of the healing and forgiveness that are also given through the Holy Spirit (cf Mark 6.13). These are the biblical roots of the ancient custom of using oils in the life of the Church, and of the three particular oils – of catechumens, of the sick, and of chrism – that are prepared in this service.

In the course of Christian history, they have come to be used in many ways – especially, as in the Old Testament, for the setting apart of people and things for a special place in the life of the Church, for bishops and priests at their ordination, for kings and queens at their crowning, and for churches and altars at their consecration.

Having not prayed over oils in 2020 we are preparing these oils today which will be available for those communities who have exhausted those from 2019 which otherwise it remains appropriate to use. If you need additional oils please be in touch with Jason Taylor at jtaylor@glosdioc.org.uk

Before our worship begins there are words of welcome from The Dean,
The Very Revd Stephen Lake.

Hymn

Come down, O love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Words: Bianco da Siena d.1434 tr. R F Littledale (1833-90)
Tune: Down Ampney, by Ralph Vaughan-Williams (1872-1958)

¶ The Gathering

Acclamation and Greeting

The Bishop says

All Grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.

‘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.

*words taken from the introduction to the ordination service
Chrism Service with
Renewal of Commitment to Ministry*

The Bishop introduces the service.

Act of Penitence

The Bishop says

Come, let us return to the Lord.

Silence is kept for a short while.

All Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Bishop says

The Lord's grace enrich you,
and the Lord's blessing nourish you;
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers,
and absolve you from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All Amen.

The Collect

After a short time in silent prayer, the Bishop says

Heavenly Father,
who anointed your Son Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit and with power
to bring to the world the blessings of your kingdom:
anoint your Church with the same Holy Spirit,
that we who share in his suffering and his victory
may bear witness to the gospel of salvation;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

First Reading *1 Samuel 16.1-13a*

Read by Karen Czapiewski

The LORD said to Samuel, ‘How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.’ Samuel said, ‘How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.’ And the LORD said, ‘Take a heifer with you, and say, “I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.” Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.’ Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, ‘Do you come peaceably?’ He said, ‘Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.’ And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.’ But the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.’ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, ‘Neither has the LORD chosen this one.’ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, ‘Neither has the LORD chosen this one.’ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The LORD has not chosen any of these.’ Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all your sons here?’ And he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.’ And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.’ He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, ‘Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.’ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

There follows a time of silence and stillness.

Gospel Reading

Luke 22:24-30

Read by Alexandra Dyer

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

'You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester

Renewal of service of the whole baptised people of God

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

May Christ dwell in your heart(s) through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.

Renewal of Ordination Vows

The Bishop says

My brothers and sisters, at his Last Supper, our Lord Jesus Christ gave his disciples a new commandment, that they should love one another, and he prayed that they might be one. He gave them an everlasting sign of his own love, in the sacrament of bread and wine.

He consecrated himself to his Father's service, to be the high priest of the New Covenant. I invite you now to dedicate yourselves afresh to his service, as stewards of the mysteries of God, and ministers of his grace.

At your ordination you accepted the yoke of Christ for love of the Lord and his Church. Are you resolved to unite yourself more closely to Christ and to become more like him, joyfully sacrificing your own pleasures and ambitions to bring his peace and love to your brothers and sisters?

The Deacons, Priests and Bishops answer

With the help of God, I am.

With the example of the Lord who washed his disciples' feet, will you be faithful in serving the needs of others and diligent in caring for those in need and trouble, in strengthening the faithful and in searching out the indifferent and the lost?

The Deacons, Priests and Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

Will you fashion your life according to the pattern of Christ, that you may be a true pastor, by word and example, to the people among whom you serve?

The Deacons, Priests and Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

Will you work in partnership with all whom the Lord has given you, and encourage all the baptized to grow as the royal priesthood of the new covenant?

The Deacons, Priests and Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

Will you be a faithful minister of the mysteries of God by leading the worship of his people with devotion and care and by teaching the Christian faith with conviction and joy?

The Deacons, Priests and Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

Will you continue to follow the way of Christ, the head and shepherd of the Church of God, whose grace is sufficient to meet your need?

The Deacons, Priests and Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

Karen Czapiewski asks the Bishops

Will you be faithful to the promise you made at your consecration to uphold the truth of the Gospel?

The Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

Will you promote unity, peace and love among all Christian people, especially in this diocese, and be diligent in prayer and the reading of the holy Scriptures?

The Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

Will you strive to become more like our High Priest and Good Shepherd, the Teacher and Servant of all, and so be an authentic sign of Christ's loving presence among us?

The Bishops answer

By the help of God, I will.

The Bishop of Tewkesbury says to the Readers and Licensed Lay Ministers

When you were commissioned and licensed, you undertook to be faithful in prayer and by word and example to minister to those for whom Christ died. Will you make every effort to promote peace and unity, and conduct yourself as becomes a worker for Christ, for the good of his Church, and for the spiritual welfare of all?

The Readers and Lay Ministers answer

By the help of God, I will.

The Bishop of Tewkesbury says to the whole congregation:

My brothers and sisters, as we pray for you as our partners in the Gospel, so we ask you to pray for us.

Ask the Lord to bless us with the fullness of his love, that we may be faithful servants of Christ, our great High Priest, serving the Church with gifts that encourage and equip the people of God, and make Christ known in our generation.

All Lord Jesus Christ,
hear us and answer our prayer.

The Bishop says

Almighty God,
who has given us the will to undertake all these things,
give us also the strength to perform them,
that the work God has begun in us may be completed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Motet: 'If ye love me' Thomas Tallis (c1515-85)

Prayer over the Oils

The Bishop of Tewkesbury says

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

All who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

The Archdeacon of Gloucester says

The oil for the anointing of the sick and dying.

The Bishop of Tewkesbury says

Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful,
creator of heaven and earth.

Your Word brought light out of darkness,
and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth.

Your anointed Son brought healing
to those in weakness and distress.

He broke the power of evil and set us free from sin and death
that we might praise your name for ever.

By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest
on those who are anointed with this oil in your name;
may they be made whole in body, mind and spirit,
restored in your image, renewed in your love,
and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Alexandra Dyer says

The oil for the signing with the cross at baptism.

The Bishop of Tewkesbury says

Blessed are you, sovereign God,
the protector of all who believe in you.
Your anointed Son overcame the powers of evil
when he was lifted high upon the cross.
By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest
on those who are anointed with this oil in your name;
as they come to the waters of baptism,
may it be for them a sign of your defence in their fight
against sin, the world and the devil,
and bring them to share in Christ's victory.

All Blessed be God for ever.

The Archdeacon of Cheltenham says

The oil of chrism.

The Bishop of Tewkesbury says

Blessed are you, sovereign God and eternal Father,
upholding by your grace all who hear your call.
Under your Old Covenant
priests and kings were anointed to serve you
and in the fullness of time you anointed your Son by the Holy Spirit
to be the Christ, the Saviour and Servant of all.
By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest
on those who are anointed with this chrism in your name;
let it be for them a sign of joy and gladness
as they share in the royal priesthood of the New Covenant
and make known the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
we lift our voices of thanks and praise.

**All Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Dean leads prayers of intercession which conclude with the LIFE prayer and the Lord's prayer

The LIFE Prayer

All God of hope and transformation,
who in our Lord Jesus Christ
offers the gift of life in all its fullness,
send your Holy Spirit and grant us
joy in our following and vision in our leadership.
May we be rich in imagination,
confident in faith,
and courageous in our engagement with
the people and places of this diocese.
As we share your life with the world,
keep us rooted and grounded in love.
As we bear witness to your glory,
we pray for your Kingdom to come.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
All 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.

Hymn

**Christ is the one who calls,
the one who loved and came,
to whom by right it falls
to bear the highest name:
and still today
our hearts are stirred
to hear his word
and walk his way.**

**Christ is the one who seeks,
to whom our souls are known.
The word of love he speaks
can wake a heart of stone;
for at that sound
the blind can see,
the slave is free,
the lost are found.**

**Christ is the one who died,
forsaken and betrayed;
who, mocked and crucified,
the price of pardon paid.
Our dying Lord,
what grief and loss,
what bitter cross
our souls restored!**

**Christ is the one who rose
in glory from the grave,
to share his life with those
whom once he died to save.**

**He drew death's sting
and broke its chains,
who lives and reigns
our risen King.**

**Christ is the one who sends,
his story to declare;
who calls his servants friends
and gives them news to share.**

**His truth proclaim
in all the earth,
his matchless worth
and saving name.**

*Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith
Tune: Love Unknown, by John Ireland (1879-1962)*

¶ *The Dismissal*

The Blessing

The Bishop says

All Our help is in the name of the Lord
who has made heaven and earth.

All Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and for ever. Amen.

The Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word.
All **Amen.**

The Son, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.
All **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.
All **Amen.**

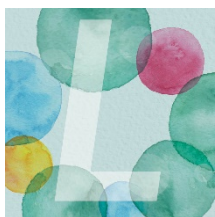
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Dean says

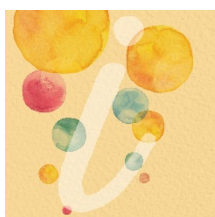
All Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Leadership: Committed to transformation



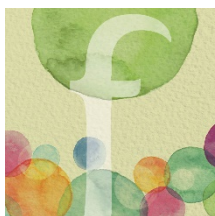
- Developing diverse lay and ordained leaders from the communities we serve
- Piloting liberating models of leadership and ministry, especially in multi-parish benefices
- Creating learning networks for lay and ordained leaders

Imagination: Opening new paths to faith



- Investing in our engagement with baptism families to spark an amazing adventure with Jesus Christ
- Placing schools at the heart of our mission with creative connections between churches and schools
- Encouraging new and courageous ways of worshipping, in different places, which connect with more people
- Approaching the use, upkeep and future of our church buildings in bold and creative ways

Faith: Living as adventurous followers of Jesus Christ



- Enabling people to discover new depths to prayer and spiritual growth, individually and together
- Nurturing confident disciples to live out their faith seven days a week
- Sharing our stories in new and different ways, including through digital media

Engagement: Living out Christ's love and hope



- Being advocates for human flourishing, through initiatives which combat injustice, environmental destruction, exclusion and isolation
- Using sport, music and art to build relationships and share the Christian faith
- Connecting with new housing developments in innovative ways
- Investing in people and programmes, which excite young people to explore and grow in faith

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