



Maundy Thursday Service with renewal of vows

9 April 2020

The Greeting

The Bishop of Leicester says

Jesus Christ has made us a kingdom of priests
to serve his God and Father.

All **Glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.**

Grace, mercy and peace be with you

All **and also with you.**

Further words of welcome may be said.

The Bishop says

God of mercy and love,

by one Spirit we have all been baptised into one body
and made to drink of the one Spirit;

we thank you for the gifts you have given to these your servants
for the building up of the body of Christ.

Grant that they may continue in the life of the Spirit
and walk in the light and obedience of Christ.

By the same Spirit, fill the whole Church with your overflowing love;
give us knowledge and discernment of your will,
and steadfastness in your service,

until we all come to the unity of the faith,
to the measure of the full stature of Christ,
through whom we make our prayer.

All **Amen.**

An Act of Penitence

The Bishop says

Come, let us return to the Lord and say

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.**

cf Hosea 6

The Lord enrich you with his grace,
and nourish you with his blessing;
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

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.

Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Reading

read by Jonathan Kerry, Diocesan Secretary and Chief Executive

A reading from the first book of Samuel

¹ Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶ The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

1 Samuel 3.1-10

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Music for reflection

from Leicester Cathedral

The New Testament Reading

read by The Revd Canon Alison Adams, Sub-Dean, Leicester Cathedral.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. ³⁷ And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸ She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.' ⁴⁰ Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' 'Teacher,' he replied, 'speak.' ⁴¹ 'A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?' ⁴³ Simon answered, 'I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.' And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.' ⁴⁴ Then turning towards the woman, he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.' ⁴⁸ Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' ⁴⁹ But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?' ⁵⁰ And he said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'

Luke 7.36-50

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Homily

The Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Loughborough

The Renewal of Commitment to Ministry

*The Bishop of Leicester addresses the **priests and deacons***

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?

Priests and deacons **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop 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?

Priests and deacons **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop 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?

Priests and deacons **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop 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?

Priests and deacons **By the help of God, I will.**

Bishop 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?

Priests and deacons **By the help of God, I will.**

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

Priests and deacons **By the help of God, I will.**

A young person addresses the bishops

Bishops, will you be faithful to the promise you made at your consecration to uphold the truth of the gospel?

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

Young person 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?

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

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

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

The Bishop addresses the congregation

My brothers and sisters, pray for your bishops, fellow priests and deacons. 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.**

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

All Amen.

The Intercessions

Led by the Revd Canon Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy, BAME Mission and Ministry Enabler, with input from IWC pioneer ministers.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God,
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.

Discussion and prayer

In Zoom 'break out rooms'

The Dismissal

The Bishop leads the recommitment

**Heavenly Father, in this time of enforced exile,
while so many in our world are suffering,
we recommit ourselves
to tend to the needs of those entrusted to our care,
and pray for those whose needs are known only to you.
Give us strength to live for you in every moment,
that our 'everyday faith' may rest secure
in your unchanging faithfulness and love.
We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who suffered, died and rose again,
for us and all humanity.
Amen.**

The Blessing

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

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

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

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

Bishop The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

Bishop Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Source material: *“Common Worship”*, © Archbishops’ Council, 2000

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