



Service of Licensing of the

Revd. Marian Ruth Needham

as Associate Priest
of the Chase Benefice

*on the Feast of Hildegard of Bingen
Thursday 17th September 2015*

Order of Processions

Licensed Lay Ministers

Deacons

Priests

Rector

New Priest

Area Dean and Lay chairperson

Churchwardens

Bishop

During the service a collection will be taken for the Bishop's Outreach Fund.

The Outreach Fund is dedicated to supporting the mission of the Church worldwide and is generated by offerings at services across the diocese – particularly confirmations, institutions and licensings. Through the fund the Bishop is able to respond to a wide range of requests for help, particularly in the areas of humanitarian need, Christian education and training and mission. In 2013, gifts totalling £54,307 (of which £4,700 was recovered via Gift Aid) supported a number of projects, groups and individuals. Within the diocese, grants were made amongst others to support the Green ham Youth and community project who work with young people and their families, especially from two local estates. Further afield we supported the Sheldon Community, Devon who host retreats for clergy and church families, and the Prison Phoenix Trust who seek to improve prisoners spiritual well-being by teaching meditation techniques.

Our support for projects overseas included Hand in Hand for Syria, who provide refugee children on the Turkish border with school bags of pens, pencils and paper for their education; Lunch4Learning developing a self-sufficient means to provide children with school lunch in the Jinja District of Uganda; and L'Arche supporting disabled children in Zimbabwe. The fund also continues to support our link diocese of Kimberley and Kuruman, South Africa.

Immediately after the service there will be refreshments served in Church. We do hope as many as possible will stay and greet our new Associate Priest.

THE GATHERING

Introit

The Benefice Choir sings Psalm antiphon for the Virgin by Hildegard of Bingen

O frondens virga,
in tua nobilitate stans
sicut aurora procedit:
nunc gaude et letare
et nos debiles dignare
a mala consuetudine liberare
atque manum tuam porrigere
ad erigendum nos.

O blooming branch,
you stand upright in your nobility,
as breaks the dawn on high:
Rejoice now and be glad,
and deign to free us, frail and weakened,
from the wicked habits of our age;
stretch forth your hand
to lift us up aright.

*The Rector welcomes the congregation and bids them pray for Marian.
Silence is kept.*

Processional hymn

During which the Procession enters the church

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.**

**All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.**

**To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with thy wonted loving-kindness
hear thy servants as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.**

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee of gain;
what they gain from thee, for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.

At the Chancel step the Bishop says this greeting:

Bishop Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All **and also with you.**

The Bishop informally welcomes the congregation.

Collect

We remain standing as we pray

Bishop Most glorious and holy God,
whose servant Hildegard, strong in the faith,
was caught up in the vision of your heavenly courts:
by the breath of your Spirit
open our eyes to glimpse your glory
and our lips to sing your praises with all the angels;
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

Old Testament Reading

The Old Testament reading is read by Lois Partridge

A reading from the book Proverbs.

I, wisdom, live with prudence, and I attain knowledge and discretion. The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. I have good advice and sound wisdom; I have insight, I have strength.

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth -- when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.

When he established the heavens I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

Proverbs 8. 12-14, 22-31

At the end of the reading

For the Word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

**When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried
Alleluia!**

How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
Alleluia!

So has the church in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue,
Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

The Gospel is read by the Rector, the Revd. Mark Abrey.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, "Blessèd are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

Luke 10. 21-24

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

The Congregation sits.

After the sermon the Choir sings the anthem 'Be thou my vision' music by Bob Chilcott

THE LITURGY OF LICENSING

The Congregation stands for the Renewal of Baptismal Vows.

The Bishop says

My brothers and sisters, you are the body of Christ, the Church, in the Chase Benefice. With your priests you represent our Lord Jesus Christ in the world. Your life and example are one of the means Christ will use to draw men and women into fellowship with himself. It is right, therefore, that you, together with Mark and Marian, should renew the promises made at your Baptism and Confirmation affirming your allegiance to Christ and your rejection of all that is evil. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?

All **We turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?

All **We repent of our sins.**

Do you renounce evil?

All **We renounce evil.**

And now I ask you to profess the faith of the Church, into which you were baptised and in which you live and grow.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the
world?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

All **This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

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

All **Amen.**

The Presentation and Reaffirmation of Ordination Vows

*The Congregation sits and the Incumbent of the Benefice stands
with the new priest and says*

Reverend Father in God, after due consultation and prayerful
consideration, Marian Ruth Needham has been nominated and has
accepted to be the Associate Priest of this benefice. I now present
her to you to be licensed.

The Incumbent returns to his seat and the Bishop says

Marian, do you believe, so far as you know your own heart,
that God has called you to serve here?

Marian **I believe that God has called me.**

Will you commit yourself to the mission and ministry of the people
in this place to further the kingdom of God?

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

Marian turns to face the congregation, whom the bishop addresses as a whole

People of God, will you welcome Marian and support and uphold
her in her ministry now and in the years to come?

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

The bishop prays for Marian, saying

Bishop Almighty God,
lover of all people and giver of all that is good:
hear our prayer for your servant Marian
now called to care for this benefice;
by your Holy Spirit fill her with love for your people
that she may faithfully preach your word,
minister your sacraments and shepherd your flock
to the glory of your name through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Declaration and Oaths

The bishop addresses the new priest

I request you, Marian, to make the declaration and to take the oaths,
which are required by law.

The Declaration of Assent is made by the priest facing the people.

*The Oath of Canonical Obedience is made facing the bishop, the new priest
holding a copy of the Bible. The new priest signs with her full name.*

The Licensing

The people stand.

The bishop reads the licence with the priest standing beside him.

The bishop delivers the licence to her saying

Receive the cure of souls, which is both yours and mine,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The new priest kneels and, taking his pastoral staff, the bishop blesses her

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead
our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the eternal covenant,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;
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 congregation remains standing in prayer for Marian as the Choir sings
'The Lord bless you and keep you', music by David Ore*

THE WELCOME

The churchwardens greet the new priest saying

Marian, on behalf of the parishes of the Chase Benefice we welcome you as our associate priest.

All **We are members together of the Body of Christ;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The Peace

All stand. The Bishop says

We are the Body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

*The bishop exchanges a sign of peace with the new priest, who accompanied by
the churchwardens, exchanges a sign of peace with the civil representatives,
the lay chairperson, the area dean and the representatives of local churches.*

Offertory Hymn

*The Bishop's Outreach Fund will be supported from the Collection taken during
the Offertory Hymn.*

**May the mind of Christ, my Saviour,
Live in me from day to day,
By His love and power controlling
All I do and say.**

May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His power.

May the peace of God my Father
Rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort
Sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing,
This is victory.

May I run the race before me,
Strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus
As I onward go.

May His beauty rest upon me,
As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only Him.

AFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT

The Churchwardens stand beside the Incumbent and Associate Priest, and the congregation stands. The Bishop commissions the leaders of the Church and the congregation for their ministry together. The Bishop says

People of 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, we 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, we will.**

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

All With the help of God, we will.

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

All With the help of God, we 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, we will.

May God guide and strengthen you
in your mission to these parishes
and as you are renewed by the Holy Spirit
so may the Church be rebuilt to God's glory
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The congregation sits or kneels as the Associate Priest leads the congregation in prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

**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.**

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew,
me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendor, light and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore, from his store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth the almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand, at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

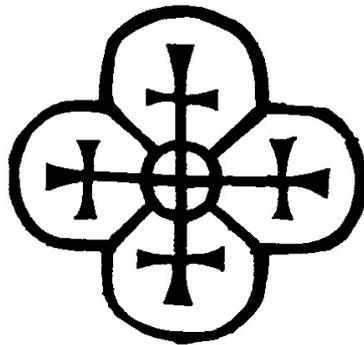
Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ, his Son.
Christ doth call, one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

THE DISMISSAL

Bishop Almighty God, who for the salvation of the world
gives to his people many gifts and ministries
to the advancement of his glory,
stir up in you the gifts of his grace,
and sustain each one of you in your ministry;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

*The Procession leaves the Church and refreshments are served.
Please take this booklet away as a reminder of this service.*



The Chase Benefice

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