



Southwell
Minster

*The Cathedral and Parish Church
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham



DIOCESAN CONFIRMATIONS

*by the Bishop of Sherwood,
The Rt Revd Dr Andy Emerton*

The Eve of Pentecost

Saturday 22 May 2021

6.00pm

Welcome to Southwell Minster



As you prepare for worship, please be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.



A loop system is in operation throughout the Minster. Hearing aids that are equipped to do so should be switched to the 'T' position or the loop setting appropriate to your equipment.



Large print orders of service are available. Please ask a Churchwarden, Sidesman or Verger for a copy.



Please speak to a Verger if you need to use the toilet facilities.



We are a Fairtrade cathedral, committed to continuing and increasing our use of fairly traded goods wherever possible.

The President and Preacher is the Bishop of Sherwood, The Rt Revd Dr Andrew Emerton.

The Lay Clerks of the Cathedral Choir are directed by Paul Provost, *Rector Chori*.
The organ is played by James Furniss-Roe, *Organ Scholar*.

The congregation is invited to join in all texts printed in **bold**.

Face coverings are currently required in places of worship, so please wear one inside the Cathedral unless you have a medically recognised reason not to do so.

No collection will be taken at this service, but donations as you leave in support of the mission and ministry of the Cathedral are very welcome. Envelopes and cash may be deposited in the donation box, or preferably use the contactless donation station. Alternatively, you can give online at www.southwellminster.org.uk/donate. Please give generously.

This service will be livestreamed to the internet, and will be available at www.southwellminster.org.uk/worship-online and on the Minster's YouTube channel. Livestreaming allows those joining from home to participate in the same act of worship as those in the Cathedral.

The Rite of Confirmation

It is a deeply significant day in the life of all those who have decided to make a considerable and very public statement of their faith; for some they will be 'confirming' promises made by godparents and parents many years ago: a promise to try to live a trusting life following the call of Christ and being open to the grace of the Holy Spirit, 'quickenings' us in the Christian faith. For increasing numbers of people it will be the beginning of a relationship with a believable God who has drawn them from right outside any structure of belief or belonging.

From whatever background or experience, through their decision to turn to Christ, they give those of us who come with our faith tremendous encouragement to celebrate our shared faith, and challenge us afresh to make effective our promises to God and to serve his world which he has loved from before the beginning of all things as he continues to draw us into his own future.

If you come this day to support a member of the family or a friend or colleague, yet remain outside the Christian faith, we are delighted you are here and hope you can relax and find genuine welcome.

Standing, Sitting and Kneeling

Throughout the booklet, you will find various references to posture:

- **Standing** is used for parts of the service where the emphasis is on praising or praying to God together; so we usually stand to sing hymns, and for certain important prayers.
- **Sitting** indicates listening and receiving; so we sit for the first and second readings from the Bible, and for the sermon.
- **Kneeling** is the traditional position for personal prayer. Please speak to one of the Vergers or Sidesmen if you would like a cushion for kneeling.

Adopting the same posture is a way of showing that we are worshipping God together, as his people. However, please always feel free to adopt a different posture, especially if standing or kneeling is uncomfortable.

Use of Personal Data for NHS Test and Trace

Thank you for providing your name and contact details when you registered for or arrived at this service. This measure is in support of the NHS's Test and Trace programme. Your personal details will be stored securely for 21 days in compliance with data protection regulations, and will then be securely disposed of. If during that time someone who has been at the service tests positive for Covid-19, you will be contacted by the NHS.

We pray for those who are being confirmed today:

St. Wilfrid's, Kirkby in Ashfield
The Revd Kevin Charles

Dora-Leigh Chadwick

St. Margaret's, Bilsthorpe
The Revd Margaret Groves

Benjamin Edward Blair

St. Luke's, Gamston & Bridgford
The Revd Jonathan Mole

David Rankin

St. Michael & All Angels, Bramcote
The Revd Paul Reynolds

Claire Gee

The United Benefice of Tuxford
The Revd Greg Price

David Naylor

St. Peter's, Ruddington
The Revd Andrew Buchanan

Lizzie Mack

ORDER OF SERVICE

ORGAN PRELUDES

Veni Creator Spiritus (from *Le Tombeau de Titelouze*) Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)
Komm, Gott Schöpfer, heiliger Geist, BWV 631 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Before the service, The Very Revd Nicola Sullivan, Dean of Southwell, welcomes the congregation and gives notices.

THE GATHERING

HYMN *sung by the choir*

Please do not sing along, but you may wish to pray the words silently as you listen

Come, O Creator Spirit, come,
and make within our heart thy home;
to us thy grace celestial give,
who of thy breathing move and live.

O Comforter, that name is thine,
of God most high the gift divine;
the well of life, the fire of love,
our souls' anointing from above.

Our senses with thy light inflame,
our hearts to heavenly love reclaim;
our bodies' poor infirmity
with strength perpetual fortify.

May we by thee the Father learn,
and know the Son, and thee discern,
who art of both; and thus adore
in perfect faith for evermore.

*Words: Latin, attributed to Rabanus Maurus (c.780-856)
trans. Robert Bridges (1844-1930)*

*Tune: VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS
Mode viii*

Between the verses of the hymn *Chorale Variations on the theme "Veni Creator"* by Maurice Duruflé (1902-86) will be played on the organ.

GREETING

Bishop Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

There is one body and one spirit.
There is one hope to which we are called.

One Lord, one faith, one baptism.
One God and Father of all.

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

Let us pray.

**Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful people
and kindle in us the fire of your love,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Bishop introduces the service.

COLLECT

Bishop Let us pray.

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
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

FIRST READING

Ephesians 3: 14–21

read by Mark Picken

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
 In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your
 creatures.
 There is the sea, spread far and wide,
 and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.
 There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan
 which you have made to play in the deep.
 All of these look to you
 to give them their food in due season.
 When you give it them, they gather it;
 you open your hand and they are filled with good.
 When you hide your face they are troubled;
 when you take away their breath, they die and return again to the
 dust.
 When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
 and you renew the face of the earth.
 May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;
 may the Lord rejoice in his works;
 He looks on the earth and it trembles;
 he touches the mountains and they smoke.
 I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
 I will make music to my God while I have my being.
 So shall my song please him
 while I rejoice in the Lord.
 Bless the Lord, O my soul. Alleluia.

Music: Mode iii

Please turn to face the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Choir Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

This is my Son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Music: Mode vi and Paul Provost (b. 1985)

Dean Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

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

Please turn back, and sit when invited

SERMON *given by the Bishop*

MOTET *sung by the choir, during which the Bishop leads the candidates, clergy and sponsoring ministers to the Font*

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth.

Words: John 14: 15-16

Music: Thomas Tallis (c.1505-85)

Please stand and turn to face the Font

THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

At the Font, sponsoring ministers present their candidates for confirmation to the Bishop:

Ministers Bishop, from the Parish of X, I present...

The Bishop asks the candidates for confirmation:

Have you been baptised in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

Candidates ***I have.***

Are you ready with your own mouth
and from your own heart
to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

Candidates ***I am.***

The Bishop addresses the congregation:

People of God, will you welcome these candidates
and uphold them in their life in Christ?

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

THE DECISION

The Bishop addresses the candidates:

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness
into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin
and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?
Candidates I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?
Candidates I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?
Candidates I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
Candidates I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?
Candidates I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?
Candidates I come to Christ.

May God, who has given you the desire to follow Christ,
give you strength to continue in the Way.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

Bishop Praise God who made heaven and earth,
All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
You are our light and our salvation.
From the deep waters of death
you have raised your Son to life in triumph.

Grant that all who have been born anew by water and the Spirit,
may daily be renewed in your image,
walk by the light of faith,
and serve you in newness of life;
through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
we lift our voices of praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Bishop addresses the congregation:

Brothers and sisters,
I ask you to profess
together with these candidates
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptised into your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

When the organist begins to play, please turn back to listen to the hymn overleaf as the candidates and their sponsoring ministers are led back to their seats by the Bishop

HYMN *sung by the choir*

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)
trans. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-90)*

*Tune: DOWN AMPNEY NEH 137
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

Please sit

David Rankin, one of the candidates for confirmation, gives a short testimony.

Please remain seated or kneel

CONFIRMATION

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

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

The Bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says:

Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given these your servants new birth
in baptism by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven them all their sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord.
Amen.

The candidates come forward in turn with their sponsoring minister.

The Bishop addresses each candidate by name:

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

He then lays his hand on the head of each, saying:

Confirm, O Lord, your servant N with your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid:

**Defend, O Lord, these your servants
with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more
until they come to your everlasting kingdom.
Amen.**

Please stand

THE WELCOME AND PEACE

Bishop 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 the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

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

Please be seated

MOTET *sung by the choir*

Great Lord of lords, supreme immortal King,
O give us grace to sing
Thy praise, which makes earth, air, and heaven to ring.

O Word of God, from ages unbegun,
The Father's only Son,
With him in power, in substance, thou art one.

O Holy Ghost, whose care doth all embrace,
Thy watch is o'er our race,
Thou source of life, thou spring of peace and grace.

One living Trinity, one unseen light,
All, all is thine; thy light
Beholds alike the bounds of depth and height.
Amen.

Words: Henry Ramsden Bramley (1833-1917)

Music: Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Please sit or kneel

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *led by the Revd Margaret Groves, Associate Priest in the Benefice of Bilsthorpe, Eakring, Eganton, Kirton, Kneesall, Laxton with Moorhouse, Ollerton with Boughton, Walesby and Wellow with Rufford.*

As a royal priesthood, let us pray to the Father
through Christ who ever lives to intercede for us.

Reveal your kingdom among the nations;
may peace abound and justice flourish.

Especially for ...

Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit
and renew your Church with power from on high.

Especially for ...

Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

Deliver the oppressed, strengthen the weak,
heal and restore your creation.

Especially for ...

Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth,
we join our prayers with all the saints in glory.

Your name be hallowed.

Your kingdom come.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
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.**

BLESSING

Bishop God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you by his life-giving Spirit
to walk with him in the paths of righteousness and peace;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

THE SENDING OUT

GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

The newly confirmed receive a candle lit from the Paschal Candle. Once all have received a candle, the Bishop says:

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

DISMISSAL

Dean Go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

The ministers and the newly confirmed depart through the west door. All are invited to follow them outside to sing the final hymn in the churchyard. Please be careful to keep social distance as you process, and please be mindful of the need to make space for others as we gather outside. If using the west door is difficult for mobility reasons, please use the north door instead.

HYMN



1. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

*Words: Welsh, William Williams (1717-91)
trans. Peter Williams (1727-96) and others*

*Tune: CWM RHONDDA NEH 368
John Hughes (1873-1932)*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccata

Georgi Mushel (1909-89)

Please take this order of service away with you.

Extracts taken from the testimonies written by the candidates as part of their preparation for Confirmation:

'After a near death experience....I believe that God saved me that night for a purpose and I desire to be closer to God, whom I worship and love. Last September I attended an Alpha Course...and this greatly helped me in my questions and understanding of faith. I want to be 'all in' with God and the church. I have a great desire to be confirmed and to receive more of the gift of the Holy Spirit and to continue to serve others in his strength.'

'I was baptised as a baby and was brought up as a Christian, and although we did not attend church, we, as a family, have always had Christian faith and values. When my Mum died, it was then that I felt the calling to start to explore my faith more, but I was unsure how to move forward on my journey. I bought myself a Bible and knew that I needed to start to attend church. I spoke with my minister about how I was feeling, and he encouraged me to start to attend church and introduced me to the Pilgrim Course. My faith means the world to me and it has meant a lot to me to feel my sense of becoming confirmed and to continue my journey with Jesus Christ.'

'I go to church with my family – my parents, sister, brothers and grandparents. As a family, we play together, talk together, eat together and look after each other. I also have a church family. God is our Father. We talk, sing and pray together. After my confirmation I will be able to take holy communion with my church family too.'

'I see now how for years God had been reaching out to me, as I was searching for him without knowing, and he saved me when my heart was broken. I started going to church during tough times and met some amazing people there, who encouraged and comforted me, and helped me to recognize the gifts God has given me. People who I would probably not in the normal course of life have become friends with, but they have become my family, warts and all! My Mum has constantly supported and encouraged me in my whole life of faith, to challenge and question things I don't understand, and helping me to find answers. I have watched my children grow in their personal faith and am so grateful that God is so evident in our home, both for us and for others. Life with God is an adventure; I am excited for the future, wherever he leads'.

'I was baptised as an infant and brought up in a Christian family. In my adult life I have not always attended church, but began attending again two years ago. A few months after I did an Alpha Course and that introduced me to a housegroup which I have also regularly taken part in. Through the housegroup, I have done other studies including the 'The Bible Course'. These have strengthened my Christian faith and I feel that I want to be Confirmed so I have the chance to declare my faith publicly and commit to my Baptism vows.'

'Throughout my life I have always believed in God. Ever since I was christened as a baby and then went on to attend a fairly Christian school as a teenager with regular chapel services and so on, I was always surrounded by Christianity. However, as I went through my teens and into adulthood I often felt it hard to reconcile my personal life with faith or religion. I also felt very distant and at times not especially welcome in many churches I went to. Recently however, through the personal ups and the downs life has sent my way, I have realised faith in God is not about attending a building each week, but what is inside our hearts as a person and how we live our daily lives and treat others around us. I also find my local church non judgemental and like my second family. It is also very welcoming to new people. This is therefore why I have decided to confirm my faith in God through Jesus as I think my faith has helped pull me through difficult times.'

The Minster office is currently closed, but you can contact us if needed using these details:

Tel.: [01636 817290](tel:01636817290)

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