



THE
RE-CONSECRATION
OF THE CHURCH OF
ST CLEMENT DANES
LONDON
19 OCTOBER 1958

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE
TO BE USED AT THE
RE-CONSECRATION
OF THE CHURCH OF
ST CLEMENT DANES
LONDON

BY THE RIGHT REVEREND AND RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON

IN THE PRESENCE OF

Her Majesty the Queen

AND

*His Royal Highness the Prince Philip
Duke of Edinburgh*



SUNDAY 19TH OCTOBER 1958
AT 11.30 O'CLOCK

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PROEM

‘... BRETHREN, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.’ *Phil.* 4. 8.

YOU have been bidden here, and are well come, today, representing a great fellowship of men and women in all parts of the world, to assist at the solemn ceremony of the re-sacring of this Church on the place of which men have worshipped God from the time of Alfred the Great unto this present; to hold again in honoured memory those whose names are recorded herein; and especially to dedicate afresh your length of days to those high purposes which this Ancient Church of St Clement Danes, restored anew to the glory of God, now enshrines.

Think on these things.

‘Whatsoever things are true ... honest ... just.’

When the early Church emerged from the catacombs and Christians were able to worship their Lord openly and to serve him without fear, they, following the use

of men through all recorded history, began to set apart and to hallow buildings to the Most High God. This they did in fealty to Jesus who for his followers comprehends all that is true, all that is honest (or revered), all that is just. These places were considered as having been devoted for all time to this one purpose, and if such intent should be voided by any desecrating act of man, more especially if walls or altar should be ruined, it became the custom of the Church to reconsecrate to God, in the cause of truth, reverence, and justice, that which man in anger or by negligence had defiled.

It is such an act, in the consecration of the Altar, simple but beyond sense awe-ful, that you who fear God shall witness today.

The Lord is in his holy temple; let the whole earth keep silence before Him.

‘Whatsoever things are pure . . . lovely . . . of good report.’

The motives of men and nations are hard to search out; found, they are seen most often to be compounded of many values, ranging from the craven to the heroic. Happy he who once or twice in a lifetime shall remark a deed deriving from motives which the mean man may not impugn, which even the churl must deem

bountiful. From such motives has this lovely building been restored. A decade and more ago, the idea was born that the Royal Air Force should have a Church for herself, and it befell most happily that she should restore a Church designed by a Professor of Astronomy. *Per Ardua Ad Astra*. From the very first this superb idea has evoked the kindly hearts and skilful hands of many thousands; not only of this country, not only of the Commonwealth and Dominions, but of those our Allies in the days when loveliness lay stricken and good report was but mockery on the lips of the scornful. Lovely and pleasing are the gifts of our friends; we shall make record soon of their goodness and of our gratitude in a Book of Donors which shall be treasured in this sacred place for all to read. Around you lies great beauty. Upon the floor is a legend of the Royal Air Force in her badges; in the Tower a restored peal of bells rings out sweet intelligence; North and South are the shrines which are to contain the names of those who died in our ranks; in the West a great organ which in God's providence shall sound to his praise for ages to come; and Eastward is an image of Christ Ascended, the hope of glory. And a hundred other pure and lovely things there are about you; born of devotion, of art, of skill, and not a little sacrifice; all consecrate to the Eternal King.

‘If there be any virtue, if there be any praise.’

Virtue, the essence of manliness, has been lavished upon this building. It is virtuous that in the shrine wherein she lays her battle honours, and wherein she pledges troth for the New Age, the Royal Air Force should proclaim her faith in the Lord of all Time and Space; who, in the teeming, transcendent words of the Prophet, ‘Inhabiteth Eternity’.

It is a virtuous deed you come to do this day; again, well come. In the doing thereof, let praise such as even this ancient City has never heard ring to the glory of God.

Think on these things.

THE PROCESSIONS

At 11.0 a.m. the Choir, followed by the Trumpeters of the Central Band, Royal Air Force, and Wing Commander A. E. Sims, O.B.E., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., Organizing Director of Music, R.A.F., shall proceed from the Crypt to their places in the Gallery.

At 11.5 a.m. a procession shall leave the Crypt and proceed to the East End in the following order :

A Mace-bearer

The Principal Chaplain (Methodist)

The Principal Chaplain (United Board)

Rev. A. McHardy, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., M.A., D.D.

(formerly Principal Chaplain (Presbyterian))

Visiting Clergy

The Assistant Chaplains-in-Chief

A Verger

The Chaplain General to the Forces

The Lord Bishop of the Windward Islands

Rt. Rev. J. A. JAGOE, C.B., C.B.E., D.D. (formerly

Chaplain-in-Chief, R.A.F.)

The Lord Bishop of Maidstone

At 11.15 a.m. the Chaplain-in-Chief, and the Honorary Chaplains to the Queen, shall receive and escort to their places (the congregation standing) :

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent

Her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra of Kent

Suites in attendance

At 11.25 a.m. Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, shall be received at the West Door by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the following procession shall then move to the East End (the congregation again standing):

A Mace-bearer

The Archbishop's Chaplain

The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

A Mace-bearer

A Verger

The Honorary Chaplains to the Queen

Rev. T. Madoc Jones	Rev. G. W. N. Groves	Rev. J. N. Keeling
O.B.E., B.A., Q.H.C.	O.B.E., A.L.C.D., Q.H.C.	M.A., Q.H.C.

Her Majesty the Queen

and

His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

escorted by the Chaplain-in-Chief, the Venerable A. S. Giles

C.B., C.B.E., M.A., Q.H.C.

and followed by Suite in attendance

The Service

At 11.30 the Lord Bishop of London, taking his Pastoral Staff, shall knock three times on the closed door at the West of the Church.

The doors being opened wide, the congregation standing, the Bishop shall enter and say:

PEACE be to this House from God, our Heavenly Father,

PEACE be to this House from His Son, who is our Peace,

PEACE be to this House from the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Then the Choir shall sing Psalm 122, during which the following procession shall move from the Vestibule to the Sanctuary:

The Cross of St Clement Danes

A Verger

Resident Chaplain Assistant Chaplain-in-Chief

A Verger

The Chaplain-in-Chief

The Apparitor of the Diocese of London

The Registrar of the Diocese of London

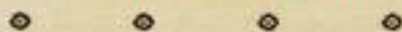
The Chancellor of the Diocese of London

The Archdeacon of Middlesex

The Lord Bishop

attended by his Chaplain

On arrival at the Sanctuary, the Bishop with his Pastoral Staff shall trace the Sign of the Cross upon the pavement, together with the Alpha and the Omega, in token that he takes possession in the name of Christ of the ground upon which the Church stands.



Then the Bishop, standing before the Altar, shall say (the people still standing):

ENTER, O Lord, we beseech thee, this House which is built to thy glory, that it may be hallowed by thine abiding presence, and within the hearts of thy faithful people establish for thyself an everlasting habitation: through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE CONSECRATION

Here shall follow the solemn Act of Consecration, the Bishop standing before the Altar, and turning himself to the people, also standing, shall say:

The Lord be with you

People. And with thy spirit.

Bishop. Lift up your hearts.

People. We lift them up unto the Lord.

Bishop. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People. It is meet and right so to do.

Then turning himself to the Altar the Bishop shall say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God:

Who, though the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee and thy glory is in all the world; Dost deign to hallow places for thy worship, and in them dost pour forth gifts of grace upon thy faithful people.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that, according to thy most gracious promise by Jesus Christ our Lord, thou art present in our prayers and holy rites.

Let thy Holy Spirit descend upon this place in the fullness of sevenfold grace, to the glory of thy holy name.

That whensoever thy holy name is invoked within these walls, the prayers of those who call on thee may be heard by thee, O Lord, merciful and gracious.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, who dost give purity, strength, and beauty to that which thou hast created:

* (Here the Bishop shall trace the Sign of the Cross at the four corners and in the centre of the Holy Table.)

We most humbly beseech thee to bless, hallow, and sanctify this Holy Table; * and to bless, hallow, and consecrate this whole building with the everlasting fullness of thy sanctifying power:

Who livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

The Bishop then dedicating the ornaments and other gifts shall say:

GRANT, O Lord, that these gifts, which are here dedicated to thee by our office and ministry, may be hallowed for thy service, and for ever set apart from all common and profane uses; through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

HYMN

Words by Samuel Johnson, a former worshipper in this Church

CITY of God, how broad and far
Outspread thy walls sublime!
The true thy chartered freemen are
Of every age and clime.

One holy Church, one army strong,
One steadfast, high intent;
One working band, one harvest-song,
One King omnipotent.

How purely hath thy speech come down
From man's primaeval youth!
How grandly hath thine empire grown
Of freedom, love and truth!

How gleam thy watch-fires through the night
With never-fainting ray!
How rise thy towers, serene and bright,
To meet the dawning day!

In vain the surge's angry shock,
In vain the drifting sands:
Unharmed upon the eternal Rock
The eternal City stands.

During the singing of the Hymn the Altar shall be vested, the ornaments be placed thereon, and the candles lighted.

THE LESSON

ST LUKE 6. 45-49 will be read by His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

HYMN

CHRIST is our corner-stone,
On him alone we build;
With his true Saints alone
The courts of heav'n are fill'd:
On his great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.

Oh, then with hymns of praise
These hallow'd courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The three in one to sing;
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious Name.

Here, gracious God, do thou
For evermore draw nigh;
Accept each faithful vow,
And mark each suppliant sigh;
In copious shower
On all who pray
Each holy day
Thy blessings pour.

Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore;
And may that grace, once given,
Be with us evermore,
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are call'd away.

Then the Bishop shall say:

LET the congregation be seated, and let the Chancellor of the diocese read the Sentence of Consecration.

Then shall the Sentence of Consecration be read.

The Bishop, having inquired and satisfied himself that all is in order, shall sign the Sentence of Consecration and direct the Chancellor to deliver the Sentence to the Chaplain-in-Chief.

Which being done, the Bishop, standing and holding his Pastoral Staff in his hand, shall turn himself to the people and say:

Let the congregation stand.

GOOD PEOPLE, BY VIRTUE OF OUR SACRED OFFICE IN THE CHURCH OF GOD, WE DO NOW DECLARE TO BE CONSECRATE, AND FOR EVER SET APART FROM PROFANE, COMMON, AND ORDINARY USES THIS HOUSE OF GOD, UNDER THE DEDICATION OF ST CLEMENT DANES. IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY GHOST. AMEN.

Then shall the Bishop say:

Let us pray.

(All shall kneel)

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us we are bold to say:

OUR Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

After which there shall be silence for a space, and the ancient Sanctus Bell shall ring.

Then, the people still kneeling, the Choir shall sing:

GOD be in my head,
And in my understanding;

God be in mine eyes,
And in my looking;

God be in my mouth,
And in my speaking;

God be in my heart,
And in my thinking;

God be at mine end,
And at my departing.

Then the Bishop shall say:

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

HYMN

'Pilgrim Song.' English Traditional Melody

HE who would valiant be
'Gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy
Follow the Master.

There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent
To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
With dismal stories,
Do but themselves confound—
His strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might,
Though he with giants fight:
He will make good his right
To be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend
Us with thy Spirit,
We know we at the end
Shall life inherit.

Then fancies flee away!
I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labour night and day
To be a pilgrim.

THE SERMON

by the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury

HYMN

Arranged R. Vaughan Williams

ALL people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his flock, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

Choir only

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

Choir only

For why? the Lord our God is good;
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From men and from the Angel-host
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

GOD save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us;
God save the Queen.

The National Anthem being ended, a Procession shall move to the West Door in the following order:

The Cross of St Clement Danes
The Principal Chaplains
Visiting Clergy
Assistant Chaplains-in-Chief
The Chaplain General to the Forces
The Lord Bishop of the The Rt. Rev. J. A. Jagoe
Windward Islands
The Lord Bishop of Maidstone
The Apparitor
The Registrar
The Chancellor
The Archdeacon of Middlesex



A Verger
The Bishop of London
attended by his Chaplain



A Mace-bearer
The Archbishop's Chaplain
The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury



A Mace-bearer
The Honorary Chaplains to the Queen
A Verger
The Chaplain-in-Chief

Her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Prince Philip
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother
H.R.H. the Princess Margaret
H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester
H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester
H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent
H.R.H. the Princess Alexandra of Kent
and their suites in attendance

**The withdrawal of members of the congregation will be directed
by the Ushers.**

ST CLEMENT DANES CHURCH

CLERGY

Priest-in-Charge: Venerable A. S. Giles, C.B., C.B.E., M.A., Q.H.C.,
Chaplain-in-Chief, Royal Air Force

Resident Chaplain: Rev. G. W. N. Groves, O.B.E., A.L.C.D., Q.H.C.,
Assistant Chaplain-in-Chief

Organist: Martindale Sidwell, F.R.C.O., A.R.A.M.

Guest Organist: J. Dykes Bower, C.V.O., D.MUS., F.R.C.O.

Bellringers (Serving or ex-R.A.F.): 1. E. A. Barnett. 2. Wing Com-
mander J. S. Mason. 3. A. W. Coles. 4. T. Cullingworth.
5. E. P. Duffield. 6. F. I. Hairs. 7. I. H. Oram. 8. F. C. Price.
9. J. G. A. Prior. 10. H. C. Spencer.

Vergers: Mr. L. H. Veness, *Head Verger*
Mr. I. R. Gardner, *Hon. Assistant Verger*

Choir: The boys of St Clement Danes Church Choir are drawn from Vanbrugh Castle School, a school for orphan sons of Royal Air Force parents, administered by the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund. On this occasion the Choir is augmented by the Choir of Hampstead Parish Church.

CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAYS

Holy Communion 8.30 a.m. Matins 11.00 a.m.

Evensong 3.30 p.m.

SAINTS' DAYS

Holy Communion 8.30 a.m.

Other services will be announced in the daily Press
from time to time.

*The address of the Resident Chaplain will be, for the time being,
Air Ministry, Turnstile House, 94 High Holborn, London, W.C. 1*