



BELFAST CATHEDRAL

**MORNING PRAYER:
A SHORTENED SERVICE OF THE WORD
The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
Sunday 4th October 2020**

(followed by the Annual General Vestry Meeting)

*Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast.
Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens.
Under government guidance for the purposes of keeping
Contact Tracing Records
it is essential that you complete the following information
with the pencil provided, or a pen of your own.
Please leave this service sheet in the box at the West End
when you leave at the end of the service.
These will be retained for 21 days, after which they will be destroyed.
Thank you.*

Name(s): _____

Telephone contact: _____



ANNUAL GENERAL VESTRY 2020.

The Annual General Vestry for our Cathedral Parish is usually held around Eastertime, hence the more usual name of “Annual Easter Vestry”. However this year, because of the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Annual General Vestry had to be postponed. At the instruction of the Diocesan Council a new set of dates have been authorized. This allows the General Vestry for the Cathedral Parish to take place this morning. This will be the first time the Annual General Vestry Meeting for the Cathedral has been held on a Sunday and in the cathedral Nave. This is to allow the General Vestry to be held within the current Covid regulations for social distancing. We encourage those who are registered Vestry members to sit towards the front of the cathedral for both the service and General Vestry.

This morning’s General Vestry Meeting will be in two parts. Today’s morning service will be slightly shortened, to allow the business part of the General Vestry to start at 11.50am. The Dean’s Address to Vestry will be delivered as this morning’s sermon.

At the end of the service we ask all those who are registered vestry members to remain in their seats in the Nave. Others who are not registered vestry members are free to leave at the end of the service.

This is a “triennial year”. This means that there are additional important elections to be held. After the Financial Accounts for the past year have been presented, there will be nominations and elections for the following positions:

A Cathedral People’s Warden (1 Year Appointment, open to re-election)

Five members to the Cathedral Board (3 Year Appointment)

Four Cathedral Nominators to choose a new Dean, should the situation arise, with up to 4 supplementarlists (3 Year Appointment)

Eight Cathedral representatives to Diocesan Synod (including one person under 35) with supplementarlists (3 Year Appointment)

Process for elections

Once nominations have been received, all registered General Vestry Members will vote on the voting paper provided on your seats. Due to Covid restrictions, these papers will be kept for 72 hours, and then counted. The results will be posted on the Cathedral Website and printed in next Sunday’s Service Sheets.

Organ voluntary: Canzona Quarta Girolamo Frescobaldi (1583-1643)

Please stand and sing the **PROCESSIONAL HYMN** (ICH 97) during the entrance of the clergy:
(Members of the congregation are welcome to sing hymns quietly while still wearing face coverings)



**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does his successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like incense, shall arise
with every morning sacrifice.**

**Let all creation rise and bring
peculiar honours to our Kind;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long Amen.**

*Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) based on Psalm 72: 12-19
Tune: TRURO Melody from Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica (London, 1789)*

The Dean welcomes the congregation.

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Psalm 124:7

Beloved in Christ, we come together to offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

Please kneel or sit

Heavenly Father, **we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault; by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand

PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD

○ Lord, open our lips
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

○ God, make speed to save us.

○ Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

*Please remain seated as the choir sings the **CANTICLE:** Jubilate Deo in B flat (Psalm 100) Henry Purcell (1659-95)*

○ be joyful in the Lord all ye lands;

Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;

it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves, we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

○ go our way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise;

be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting,

and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Please stand for the **GLORIA:**

Glory be to the Father:

and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Please sit for the **READING:** Matthew 21:33-46

‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’

Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes”?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON by the Very Reverend Stephen Forde, Dean

Please remain seated as the choir sings the **ANTHEM: O God, thou art my God**
Henry Purcell

O God, thou art my God: early will I seek thee.

My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh also longeth after thee:

in a barren and dry land where no water is. Thus have I looked for thee in holiness: that I might behold thy power and glory.

For thy loving-kindness is better than life itself: my lips shall praise thee.

As long as I live will I magnify thee on this manner: and lift up my hands in thy Name.

Because thou hast been my helper: therefore under the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

Hallelujah.

Please stand and face east for the **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the **Father** almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again to judge the living and the dead.

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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us pray.

Please kneel or sit

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen
and grant her government wisdom.

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.

O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.

O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: teach us to offer ourselves to your service, that here we may have your peace, and in the world to come may see you face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in your protection, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everliving God, we give you thanks for bringing us safely to this day: Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger, and in all things guide us to know and do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray that the Church and the world shall be conformed to the sovereignty of God:

Grant that the Church may reveal the loving power of God in her works and in her worship. As we seek to use rightly the gifts we have received, teach us to honour those in every generation who make known God's commands.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give wisdom to all in authority not to seek for more power than has been entrusted to them. May all who have control of this world's goods be just and faithful in their dealings.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless us with the grace to tell our families and friends and all our acquaintance that all good things come from God and to show that faith in our lives. May this community be blessed with justice and compassion in all that affects the welfare of its members. Bless the meeting of the Cathedral General Vestry with wisdom, grace and understanding amidst the challenges of the present time.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Have mercy on those who suffer for speaking the words of truth and claiming for God the honour and obedience that are his due. Bring relief to all who suffer because what they need for their sustenance has been unjustly withheld.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who after being ignored and rejected in this world have entered into glory. May they rejoice in the good fruit of eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all who care for the sick, and those suffering from or recovering from Coronavirus. Give your strength to all who work in nursing homes, and all who give care in the community. Guide all who are planning for the future. We pray for our own cathedral family, gathered here or still at home. Continue to protect our communities in this new wave of infection we pray, and give wisdom to all who have responsibility in church and society for leading us forward. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service for others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Please stand to sing the **HYMN** (ICH 634):*



**Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art,
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.**

**Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.**

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) based on Matthew 3:1-2; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 5:17
Tune: BLAENWERN William P. Rowlands (1860-1937)*

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes 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 Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as the choir and clergy depart and sit for the **Organ Voluntary:***

Fuge g-moll BWV 578 J.S. Bach (1687-1750)

Please remain seated until the end of the Voluntary, and exit in rows from the back to the front, as directed by the Cathedral Wardens.



We are pleased that flower arrangements are being placed in the cathedral once more. The arrangement today was donated by Roshan Kinkead in memory of Bill.



NOTICES



Blessing of Pets on the Cathedral Steps

Sunday 4 October 2.00- 3.00pm

This year we are unable to host a Pets Service within the cathedral.

However, marking the feast day of St Francis of Assisi on 3 October, we encourage owners to bring their pets or working animals to the steps of the cathedral this afternoon for a Blessing and in Thanksgiving for the aid these animals give to human health and wellbeing.

Please join us at 3.30pm for Choral Evensong

Harvest Sunday and Cathedral Gift Day

Sunday 11th October 2020

11.00am Harvest Thanksgiving Service

3.30pm Choral Evensong for Harvest

Even throughout the Pandemic of the past six months, there is much for which we can give thanks to God though His provision to our places of greatest need.

Our services of Harvest Thanksgiving, with the return of flowers to the cathedral and other tokens which reflect today's world, give us opportunity to return thanks.

The Cathedral Gift Day also allows us to make a special financial thanksgiving to the significant financial needs of our cathedral in this year.

Please make a donation in your regular FWO envelope for 11th October or in a specially marked envelope of your own.