

# CHESTER CATHEDRAL

# Maundy Thursday Chrism Eucharist

with the

**Blessing of Oils** 

and

# Renewal of Ministerial Commitment

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Celebrant: The Rt Revd Julie Conalty

Bishop of Birkenhead

Preacher: The Rt Revd Mark Tanner

Bishop of Chester

### **WELCOME**

We welcome you to Chester Cathedral! It is a place where the mission of the church to proclaim God's love is central, and your welcome presence here for worship helps to strengthen this vital act of witness.

We're a paperless Cathedral and are working environmentally to save paper. The service can be downloaded to your device using the QR code at the back of the nave, or by visiting Services - Chester Cathedral

Hymns, readings and responses will be presented on the screens.

#### Music

Communion Setting
Messe Basse Gabriel Fauré 1845-1924

Communion Motet
Salvator mundi David Bednall b. 1979

Voluntary
Pange lingua en taille à 4
Nicolas de Grigny 1672-1703

#### **Children**

If you have children with you, they are welcome to use the activity tables in the south transept children's chapel: please ask any sidesperson for directions.

#### **Receiving Communion**

We warmly invite Christians of all denominations to come and receive bread and wine at the distribution of Holy Communion. Gluten-free wafers are available – please indicate to the priest if you require one. If you prefer not to receive communion, you are invited either to come forward for a blessing or to remain in your seat.

#### COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection which can be made with cash or using the Contactless Donation Plates if you wish. Proceeds will go towards the Chester Clergy Family Charitable Trust.

Thank you very much.

## **RECEPTION OF OILS**

The oils of healing, baptism and/or chrism can be collected under the crossing, behind the nave altar.

After the service, please approach by coming up the north aisle (under the organ) and depart back down the south aisle.

#### LUNCH

If you have booked for lunch, this will be served in the Chapter House.

# THE ORDER OF PROCESSION

Cathedral Choir

Servers

Readers

Diocesan Clergy

The Deacons of the oils

The Deacon of the Rite

The Dean's Vicar

The Canon Residentiary

The Vice Dean

The Interim Acting Archdeacons

The Archdeacon of Chester

The Dean

The Honorary Assistant Bishops

The Bishop of Stockport The Bishop of Birkenhead

The Bishop of Chester he Bishop's Chaplain

#### THE GATHERING

The Dean offers informal words of welcome before we stand to sing the hymn together, during which the procession enters the Cathedral.

# **Opening Hymn**

Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word." Lest the Church neglect its mission and the Gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy:
"This my body, this my blood."
Let your priests, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward, asking that the world around us share your children's liberty; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us to a just society; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end." Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend, and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Jeffery Rowthorn b. 1934 HYFRYDOL Rowland H. Pritchard 1811-87

# **Greeting**

#### Bishop Julie says

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

Glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.

Grace, mercy and peace be with you and also with you.

Please be seated for words of welcome.

# **Prayers of Penitence**

The Deacon of the Rite, The Revd Anees Gill, says

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask his forgiveness and peace.

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

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.

#### **Absolution**

#### Bishop Julie says

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. **Amen.** 

#### The Gloria

Please stand to sing together.

Glory be to God in heaven, and to all his people, peace. Heav'nly King, almighty Father, may our worship never cease; may our voices ever thank you, songs of blessing ever send, may we always live to praise you, for your glory without end.

Jesus, Son of God the Father, merciful beyond compare, all our sin, by you forgiven; Lamb of God, receive our prayer. Jesus, you alone are holy, Jesus, you alone are Lord, with the Holy Spirit reigning, and the Father—glorious God!

Alexander Crawford ABBOT'S LEIGH after 'Gloria in excelsis Deo' Cyril V. Taylor 1907-92

#### Collect

Please remain standing as Bishop Julie prays

Let us pray.

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 our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

# **Old Testament reading**

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.'

Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now

before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said. 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

I Samuel 16.1-13a

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **New Testament Reading**

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and

ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

2 Corinthians 3.17-4.12

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# Gradual hymn

Please stand to sing together.

Here is love, vast as the ocean, loving kindness as the flood: when the Prince of Life, our Ransom, shed for us His precious blood. Who His love will not remember? Who can cease to sing His praise? He can never be forgotten throughout heav'n's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion fountains opened deep and wide; through the floodgates of God's mercy flowed a vast and gracious tide. Grace and love, like mighty rivers, poured incessant from above, and heav'n's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me by Thy Spirit through Thy word; and Thy grace my need is meeting as I trust in Thee, my Lord.

Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring Thy great love and pow'r on me without measure, full and boundless, drawing out my heart to Thee.

William Rees 1802-1883

# **Gospel Acclamation**

# Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

# **Holy Gospel**

#### The Deacon says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But Jesus said to them, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like

the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Luke 22.24-30

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

Please be seated.

#### Sermon

The Rt Revd Mark Tanner, Bishop of Chester

Please stand if you are able.

# THE RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT TO MINISTRY

#### Bishop Mark says

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.

# The bishops stand and a chorister addresses them

At your ordination as bishops you received the gift of the Spirit, that you might lead the Church in mission, and send out ministers in Christ's name; that you might promote its unity, uphold its discipline, and guard its faith; and that you might teach and govern the people committed to your charge.

Will you continue faithfully in this ministry, watching over Christ's own flock, and building them up in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace?

By the help of God, I will.

The priests also stand, and Bishop Julie addresses them.

At your ordination to the priesthood, you took authority to watch over and care for God's people, to absolve and bless them in his name, to proclaim the gospel of salvation, and to minister the sacraments of his New Covenant.

Will you continue as faithful stewards of the mysteries of God, preaching the gospel of Christ and ministering his holy sacraments?

By the help of God, I will.

The deacons also stand, and Bishop Sam addresses them.

At your ordination as a deacon, you received the yoke of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve.

Will you continue faithfully in this ministry, to build up God's people in his truth and serve them in his name?

By the help of God, I will.

The lay ministers also stand, and Bishop Mark addresses them.

When you were commissioned, you undertook to be faithful in prayer and by word and example to minister to those for whom Christ died.

Will you do all that is in your power to witness God's love for his people?

By the help of God, I will.

#### A chorister addresses all of the ministers

May the God of peace sanctify you; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, and he will accomplish it.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Please be seated as we continue in prayer.

#### Bishop Sam addresses all present

My brothers and sisters, pray for all who minister, that they may be constant in prayer and steadfast in faith, and serve your people with joy.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

#### Bishop Julie continues

Pray for your deacons, that the Lord may pour upon them the riches of his grace.
Pray that he who has called them to his service may make them worthy of his calling.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

#### Bishop Mark continues

Pray for your priests.
Ask the Lord to bless them with the fullness of his love, that they may be faithful ministers of his word and sacrament, and lead his people in the way of salvation.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

#### Bishop Sam continues

Pray for your bishops, that despite our unworthiness we may be faithful to the great trust that has been handed to us.

Pray that we may become more like our Good Shepherd and great High Priest, the teacher and servant of us all, and so become more and more a sign of Christ's loving presence among you.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

#### Bishop Julie continues

Pray for the families of those who minister, for their homes, and for all with whom they share their lives.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

#### Bishop Mark concludes

May the Lord in his love keep us ever close to him, and may he bring us all to the fullness of eternal life.

#### Amen.

Please stand if you are able.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

#### The Peace

#### Bishop Julie says

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.

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

We exchange a sign of peace as we feel comfortable.

# Offertory Hymn

Blest by the sun, the olive tree brought clusters of fair fruit to birth, whose ripeness now we bring with prayer, Lord Christ, redeemer of the earth.

Eternal King, look down and bless the oil your servants offer here, and may it be a lively sign which all the powers of darkness fear. From those washed in the sacred font let Satan's influence depart, and when this oil the brow shall seal, transforming grace invade the heart.

Our wounded nature thus be healed by your anointing grace, O Lord; in men and women so renewed shall God's own image be restored.

Lord Christ, the Father's only Son, who took our flesh in Mary's womb, give light to your anointed ones, and break the power of death's dark tomb.

So may this joyous paschal feast, the time when saving grace is given, fill every Christian soul with praise, and raise our minds from earth to heaven. Amen.

Early Latin trans. R. Rutt 1925-2011

GONFALON ROYAL Percy Buck 1871-1947

# The Blessing of Oils

#### Bishop Sam says

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

#### A deacon, The Revd Jo Pemberton, says

The oil for the anointing of the sick and dying.

#### Bishop Sam says

Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful, creator of heaven and earth. Your Word brought light out of darkness, and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth.

Your anointed Son brought healing to those in weakness and distress. He broke the power of evil and set us free from sin and death that we might praise your name for ever.

By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest on those who are anointed with this oil in your name; may they be made whole in body, mind and spirit, restored in your image, renewed in your love, and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom.

#### Blessed be God for ever.

#### A deacon, The Revd Tom Ruston, says

The oil for the signing with the cross at baptism.

#### Bishop Sam says

Blessed are you, sovereign God, the protector of all who believe in you. Your anointed Son overcame the powers of evil when he was lifted high upon the cross.

By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest on those who are anointed with this oil in your name; as they come to the waters of baptism, may it be for them a sign of your defence in their fight against sin, the world and the devil, and bring them to share in Christ's victory.

#### Blessed be God for ever.

#### A deacon, The Revd Jenny Eades, says

The oil of chrism.

#### Bishop Sam says

Blessed are you, sovereign God and eternal Father, upholding by your grace all who hear your call.

Under your Old Covenant priests and kings were anointed to serve you and in the fullness of time you anointed your Son by the Holy Spirit to be the Christ, the Saviour and Servant of all.

By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest on those who are anointed with this chrism in your name; let it be for them a sign of joy and gladness, as they share in the royal priesthood of the New Covenant and make known the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit we lift our voices of thanks and praise.

Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation, now and for ever. Amen.

# Preparation of the Altar

#### Bishop Julie says

Pour upon the poverty of our love and the weakness of our praise the transforming fire of your presence. **Amen.** 

# **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is indeed right and good always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. By the outpouring of your Holy Spirit you anointed him to be the servant of all and ordained that he should enter into your kingdom through suffering.

And now he stands by us and pours out for our healing

the oil of consolation and the wine of renewed hope. In your wisdom and love you anoint your holy people to be a royal priesthood, to share in Christ's suffering and to reveal his glory to the world.

Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song of praise; we too join with angels and archangels as they proclaim your glory without end.

#### The choir sings

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,

that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory. Christ is the bread of life:

When we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

# The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer can be offered in your own language.

Believing the promises of God, let us pray as our Saviour has taught us:

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.

# **Breaking of the Bread**

Bishop Julie says

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

# **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

# **Agnus Dei**

#### The choir sings

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

All are invited to come forward to receive the sacrament. Anointing is also available as you return to your seat via the side aisle.

#### **Communion Motet**

Salvator mundi, salva nos, qui per crucem et sanguinem redemisti nos, auxiliare nobis, te deprecamur, Deus noster.

O Saviour of the world, save us, who by thy cross and blood hast redeemed us, help us, we pray thee, O Lord our God.

Antiphon at Holy Unction David Bednall b. 1979 and for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

# **Communion hymn**

Please remain seated to sing together

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.

How great the pain of searing loss — the Father turns his face away, as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders; ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished; his dying breath has brought me life — I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom; but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.

Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer; but this I know with all my heart — his wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend b. 1963

#### Communion chant

If needed, please join in singing together

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be. Set your seal upon my heart, and live in me.

John Bell b. 1949

# **Post Communion Prayer**

Bishop Julie says

Let us pray.

Good Shepherd, you have welcomed us at your table and have anointed us with the oil of gladness: may your goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our life, that we may dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Amen.

Please stand if you are able.

#### THE DISMISSAL

# Final Hymn

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet and let them be, swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips and let them be, filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Frances R. Havergal 1836-79 NOTTINGHAM W.A. Mozart 1756-1791 (ad.)

# **Blessing**

The Bishop says

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

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

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

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

#### The Deacon says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please remain standing as the processions leave, and then be seated for the organ voluntary.

# **Voluntary**

Pange lingua en taille à 4 Nicolas de Grigny 1672-1703

The oils can be collected under the crossing, behind the nave altar. Lunch (for those who have booked) is in the Chapter House.

An organ recital follows at 1.10pm in the Nave, to which all are welcome.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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