

Westminster Abbey



A SERVICE TO CELEBRATE
THE 450TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
COLLEGIATE FOUNDATION OF
ST PETER IN WESTMINSTER

Friday 21 May 2010
11.00 am

HISTORICAL NOTE

THE COLLEGE OF ST PETER IN WESTMINSTER

The Charter granted by Queen Elizabeth I on this day in 1560 re-founded the former Benedictine monastery at Westminster as the Collegiate Church of St Peter under the governance of a Dean and Chapter and without reference to any bishop or diocese. It named those who were to serve as the first Dean and Chapter, assigned many of the estates and revenues of the monastery to the new Collegiate Church, and confirmed all the ancient privileges of the former Benedictine house.

The Queen's intentions in founding the Collegiate Church were to encourage true religion and to educate the young. Draft Statutes for the new foundation gave a clear indication of the Queen's wishes and have ever since been the basis on which the Collegiate foundation has been run, though the drafts were never signed and thus had no legal status. They directed that in addition to the Dean and twelve Prebendaries there should be assistant clergy, Lay Clerks and Choristers (with their Master), a Chapter Clerk and other Lay Officers. There should be also a grammar school with its Head Master, Under Master, and forty Scholars, all of whom were to be members of the College. The Statutes expressed the 'good hope that those who from their earliest childhood are reared on the sweet milk of the fear and worship of God and cultivate a happy familiarity only with honest study and sound morals, will at length develop into good men, useful in the Church and State alike.' Another of the Queen's intentions for the new foundation, care of the poor and elderly, was recognized in the appointment of Almsmen.

The Dean and Chapter were installed on 30 June 1560 and met formally in Chapter for the first time on 5 July. The first Dean, William Bill, held that office for little more than a year and died in July 1561. He was succeeded by Gabriel Goodman who, having been installed as one of the original prebendaries in 1560, served as Dean of Westminster for forty years, dying in 1601.

Westminster School became independent of The Dean and Chapter's governance in 1868, but the close relationship between Abbey and School remained. The Head Master, Under Master, Master of the Queen's Scholars, and the Scholars themselves are all members of the collegiate foundation and the School regularly uses the Abbey as its chapel.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century Westminster Abbey increasingly came to be seen as a 'national' church, occupying a unique place in the country's life by virtue of its role as the coronation church and as the place where kings, queens, and many great figures of British history are buried or commemorated. This national role became firmly established early in the twentieth century and the many State occasions, Special Services, and other events which the Abbey now hosts or organizes have become a key part of its ministry. All take place, however, alongside the regular pattern of choral services and other daily worship of almighty God which was at the heart of Queen Elizabeth I's intentions for the Collegiate Church of St Peter in Westminster.

THE COSMATI PAVEMENT

The mosaic pavement before the High Altar was laid in 1268 by Italian craftsmen, using a technique known as Cosmati work after a prominent Roman family of practitioners. An inscription records that it was given by King Henry III and laid by Odoricus, another predicts the length of time for which the world will last. Made up of over 80,000 pieces, the pavement contains green and purple porphyry, onyx marble, and other stones brought from Rome and recycled from the ruins of ancient buildings, together with other stones and small pieces of glass, laid within a framework of English Purbeck marble. Occupying such a prominent site, the scene of every coronation since that of Edward I, it has been damaged and repaired many times in the past. This month sees the completion of a two-year conservation project, funded principally by The Getty Foundation, Sir Siegmund Warburg's Voluntary Settlement, J Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Trust, and the Pilgrim Trust. The pavement has been thoroughly cleaned and stabilised using traditional and modern techniques; crude cement repairs have been removed, damaged Purbeck repaired or replaced, mosaic patterns sometimes reintroduced where the pattern was known, damaged glass pieces repaired, and the opportunity taken to find out more about the techniques and materials used. Every stone has been mapped, ground-penetrating radar has investigated the substructure and established that there is no crypt beneath, and the age and composition of the bedding mortars investigated. We can now be confident of maintaining this fascinating ancient floor in the future.

MESSAGE FROM THE VISITOR

It gives me great pleasure to be with you on a day which marks such a special celebration in the life of Westminster Abbey and Westminster School.

The relationship between the Visitor and this institution in the nation's public life is one to which I attach great personal importance. The commemoration of significant moments in our country's history has been marked many times over the centuries in this beautiful place, and I have every reason to believe that they will continue for many centuries to come, in that remarkable way which is the hallmark of all that happens in the Abbey.

I would like to offer my congratulations to you all on this happy occasion, and to say how much I look forward to the close link which you have had for so long with the Crown continuing into the future. I am confident that over the years to come Westminster School will go on providing the best possible level of education for which it is now so justly famous. I have no doubt that the Abbey will not only remain close to the heart of the Sovereign, but will also continue to reflect and inspire our national life, and to be a spiritual focus for people throughout the United Kingdom and the wider world.

Elizabeth R

Most of the church, with the exception of the North Transept, is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

Please ensure that mobile phones, cellular phones, and pagers are switched OFF.

The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.

The service is sung by The Choir of Westminster Abbey, conducted by James O'Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The organ is played by Robert Quinney, Sub-Organist.

Music before the service:

James McVinnie, Assistant Organist, plays:

Fantasia in G *Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1623-25

Fantasia of four parts *Orlando Gibbons*

Alleluyas *Simon Preston (b 1938)*
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1981-87

The Westminster School Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Tim Johnson, Director of Music, Westminster School, plays:

Capriol Suite *Peter Warlock (1894-1930)*

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Deputy High Steward of the College of St Peter in Westminster, is received by The Dean and Chapter of Westminster at the Great West Door. All remain seated.

Her Majesty The Queen, Visitor of the College of St Peter in Westminster, and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh are received by The Dean and Chapter of Westminster. All stand.

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ORDER OF THE COLLEGIATE PROCESSION

Beadle

The Banner of St Oswald

Queen's Scholars

The Banner of St George

Verger

Dr Donald Buttress LVO OBE
Surveyor of the Fabric Emeritus

Charlie Hodgetts Esq
Legal Secretary Emeritus

The Lord Mayor of Westminster
Councillor Judith Warner
Deputy High Steward

The Right Honourable
The Lord Hurd of Westwell CH CBE
High Steward

Major General David Burden CB CVO CBE
Deputy High Bailiff

Sir Roy Strong
High Bailiff

Dr Tony Trowles
Librarian

John Burton Esq
Surveyor of the Fabric

Dr Richard Mortimer
Keeper of The Muniments

David Hunt Esq
Auditor

Eddie Smith Esq
Keeper of The Sanctuary

Stuart Holmes MVO
Registrar

Jonathan Milton Esq
Headmaster,
Westminster Abbey Choir School

Chris Vyse Esq
Legal Secretary

Jim Vincent Esq
Clerk of The Works

Dr Warwick Rodwell OBE
Archaeologist

The Reverend Martin Turner
Ecumenical Member

The Reverend Canon Christopher Tuckwell
Ecumenical Member

The Reverend Gavin Williams
Chaplain,
Westminster School

The Reverend Joan Crossley
Assistant Chaplain,
Westminster School

Mark Feltham Esq
Master of the Queen's Scholars

Dr Gary Savage
Under Master, Westminster School

Dr Stephen Spurr
Head Master, Westminster School

Stuart Bailey Esq
Deputy Receiver General

Sir Stephen Lamport KCVO DL
Receiver General

The Banner of St Edward

Ivory Cross and Lights

The Choir of Westminster Abbey

James O'Donnell Esq
Organist and Master of the Choristers

The Queen's Almsmen

The Cross of Westminster and Lights

The Priests Vicar

Canons Emeriti

Sister Judith CSC
Chaplain

The Reverend Michael Macey
Minor Canon

The Reverend Graeme Napier
Minor Canon

The Banner of St Peter

Canons' Verger

The Reverend Dr Jane Hedges
Canon Steward

The Reverend Robert Reiss
Canon Treasurer

The Reverend Dr Nicholas Sagovsky
Canon Theologian

The Reverend Robert Wright
Sub-Dean, Rector of St Margaret's

Dean's Verger

The Very Reverend Dr John Hall
Dean of Westminster

His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh Her Majesty The Queen
The Visitor

Suite in Attendance

ORDER OF SERVICE

All remain standing. The Choir sings

THE INTROIT

SING joyfully unto God our strength: sing loud unto the God of Jacob.
Take the song, and bring forth the timbrel: the pleasant harp, and the viol.

Blow the trumpet in the new moon: even in the time appointed, and at our feast-day.

For this is a statute for Israel: and a law of the God of Jacob.

William Byrd (c1540-1623)

Psalm 81: 1-4

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

during which the Collegiate Procession, together with The Visitor and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, moves to places in the Quire and Sacrarium

CHRISt is made the sure foundation,
and the precious corner-stone,
who, the two walls underlying,
bound in each, binds both in one,
holy Sion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city,
dearly loved by God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody,
God the One, in threefold glory,
singing everlastingly.

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

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
gifts of grace by prayer to gain;
here to have and hold for ever,
those good things their prayers obtain,
and hereafter, in thy glory,
with thy blessed ones 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,
One in love, and One in splendour,
while unending ages run. Amen.

Westminster Abbey 205 NEH
Henry Purcell (1659-95)
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1679-95
The composer is buried in the Abbey

Latin, c7th-8th century
translated by John Mason Neale (1818-66)

All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster, says

THE BIDDING *and* PRAYER OVER THE COSMATI PAVEMENT

It is a particular pleasure for The Dean and Chapter to welcome you to Westminster Abbey on this happy and historic occasion. On this day 450 years ago, Queen Elizabeth I by Royal Charter established the Collegiate Foundation of St Peter in Westminster.

In the gracious presence of The Visitor, whom we are all delighted once more to greet with The Duke of Edinburgh, the twinned communities, Abbey and School, gather to give thanks to almighty God for our inheritance and to pray for his direction and blessing now and in the future.

We have much to celebrate and we have committed ourselves to major undertakings. Our rich heritage needs for ever to be refreshed and enhanced for the present and for the future. This restored Sacarium pavement stands as a symbol to inspire our endeavours.

IN the faith of Jesus Christ, and for the benefit and adornment of his holy Church, we offer and re-dedicate this Pavement to the glory of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

‘How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.’

Genesis 28: 17

All sit. Monika Rubens, Deputy Head Marshal, reads

DEUTERONOMY 30: 15-end

MOSES gathered the people and said: ‘See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other Gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.’

All remain seated. The Choir sings

PSALMS 133 & 134

BEHOLD, how good and joyful a thing it is: brethren, to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down unto the beard: even unto Aaron’s beard, and went down to the skirts of his clothing.

Like as the dew of Hermon: which fell upon the hill of Sion.
For there the Lord promised his blessing: and life for evermore.

*James Turle (1802-82)
Organist of Westminster Abbey 1831-82*

Behold now, praise the Lord: all ye servants of the Lord;
ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord: even in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary: and praise the Lord.
The Lord that made heaven and earth: give thee blessing out of Sion.

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.

Robert Stewart (1825-94)

The Reverend Robert Wright, Sub-Dean, Canon of Westminster, Rector of St Margaret's, and Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons, reads

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 1-12

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 practice 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.

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

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!

Blaenwern 408i NEH
William Penfro Rowlands (1860-1937)

Charles Wesley (1707-88)
Old Westminster

THE ADDRESS

by

The Dean

All remain seated. The Choir sings

THE ANTHEM

I WAS glad when they said unto me: We will go into the house of the Lord.
For thither the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord: to testify unto Israel, and to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.
For there is the seat of judgement: even the seat of the house of David.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls: and plenteousness within thy palaces.
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.

Henry Purcell

from Psalm 122

All kneel or remain seated. The Reverend Graeme Napier, Minor Canon of Westminster, leads

THE PRAYERS

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Philipp Thumfart, pupil, Westminster Under School, says:

WE give thanks for the Collegiate Foundation of St Peter in Westminster: for the foundress of this College, Queen Elizabeth I; for her ancestors and other benefactors of this holy place, by whose beneficence the life of this Foundation has been enriched.

Let us bless the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Beryl Kearns, member of the Abbey Community, says:

WE give thanks for this Abbey Church, House of God and House of Kings: for the worship offered here in sincerity and truth; for all who enrich the worship of God's holy Name; and for all who have gone before us in offering prayer and praise to God.

Let us bless the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Emma Ireland, pupil, Westminster School, says:

WE give thanks for the life and work of Westminster School: for the skill and dedication of the masters and staff; for the ability of the pupils and for their passion for learning; and for the School's commitment to excellence in scholarly endeavour.

Let us bless the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Charles Cooper, pupil, Westminster Abbey Choir School and member, the Brotherhood of St Edward, says:

WE pray for our Visitor, Her Majesty The Queen: for your blessing on her as she leads and serves this Nation and Commonwealth; that she may be endued with your Holy Spirit, enriched with your heavenly grace, and prospered with all happiness.

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Dr Tony Trowles, Librarian, Member of College, says:

WE pray for The Dean and Chapter, for the College of St Peter, and for all who live or work within the precincts of this ‘school of the Lord’s service’: that we may continue to offer divine worship that is both fitting and edifying; that we may seek to serve The Sovereign; that we may fulfil our responsibility to the Nation; and that this may be a place of welcome and hospitality to pilgrims and visitors.

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Jan Pancheri, Head Gardener, says:

WE pray for the future of this Collegiate foundation: for the gifts of wisdom and understanding in her Officers; and for grace and strength to continue faithfully as custodians of this holy place, for the benefit of all your people.

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

The Reverend Michael Macey, Minor Canon, continues:

All these prayers and praises let us now present before our heavenly Father, in the prayer our Saviour Christ has taught us:

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.

All stand to sing

THE HYMN

LET all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The heavens are not too high,
his praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!
The Church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
My God and King!

Luckington 394 NEH
Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

George Herbert (1593-1633)
Old Westminster

All sit for

THE PROCESSION OF THE ROYAL CHARTER OF 1560

*The Charter is borne through the Abbey by
The Receiver General and The Head Master,
accompanied by the Queen's Scholars, singing:*

BENEDICTUS Deus in bonis suis: et sanctus in omnibus operibus
suis.

Sit nomen Domini benedictum: ex hoc nunc usque in saeculum.

Benedic anima mea Domino: et omnia quae intra me sunt nomini sancto
ejus.

Benedic anima mea Domino: et noli oblivisci omnes retributiones ejus.

*BLESSED is God in his goodness: and holy in all his works.
Blessed be the name of the Lord: from this time forth and for
evermore.*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy
name.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and forget not all his benefits.

Psalms 113: 2; 103: 1-2

The Dean says:

Let us pray.

All stand.

ALMIGHTY God, who in your great wisdom put into the heart and mind of your servant Queen Elizabeth I to found this College of St Peter in Westminster, appointing it by Royal Charter to be a Church both for Sovereign and Nation, and to be a centre of godly learning: mercifully grant that, faithful to our heritage, we may continue humbly to serve The Sovereign and the Nation in accordance with your gracious will; through him who was the servant of all, Jesus Christ our Lord, who now lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

All remain standing. The Choir sings

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

WE praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.
To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee,
the Father, of an infinite majesty;
thine honourable, true, and only Son,
also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ;
thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst not abhor the
Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, thou didst open the
kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants, whom thou hast redeemed with
thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy saints, in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee, and we worship thy Name ever world
without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

*Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) in G
The composer's ashes are buried in the Abbey*

All remain standing. The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

GOD grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the
Queen and the Commonwealth, and to all mankind, peace and
concord; and to us sinners life eternal.
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
come down upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All remain standing to sing

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.

Music after the service:

Psalm Prelude Set II No 3

Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

Sing unto the Lord a new song: sing praises lustily unto him with a good courage.

Psalm 33: 3

All remain standing as the Collegiate Procession moves to the west end of the church.

Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their places until directed to move by the Stewards.

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung.

If you have a ticket for lunch in College Garden, please leave the Abbey by the East or West Cloister doors and make your way to the garden by the normal route through the Great and Little Cloisters. Please try to be in the garden by 12.20 pm, so that you will be able to greet Her Majesty when she comes into College Garden to look briefly at the herb garden newly-planted to commemorate the 450th anniversary. If you arrive late you will not be able to enter College Garden while The Queen is in the area.

At the end of lunch you are very welcome to make your way through Little Dean's Yard, Westminster School, to Dean's Yard to see the departure of Her Majesty by car. We hope as many of you as possible will wish to do so. You will need to leave College Garden by about 1.45 pm to be in Dean's Yard at 2.00 pm.

Abbey Marshals will be on hand to direct and help you.

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