

A Celebration of Reader Ministry



Sunday 10 July 2022
3.00pm

Welcome to Manchester Cathedral for this celebration of Holy Communion

Welcome to the Cathedral and Collegiate Church of St Mary, St Denys and St George in the heart of the City of Manchester. The building is the old mediaeval Parish Church of Manchester. King Henry V first granted it Collegiate status in 1421 and it became Manchester's Cathedral on the creation of the Diocese of Manchester in 1847. It is believed that there has been a church on or near this site for over a thousand years.

Safeguarding

Manchester Cathedral works hard to create safe environments where children and young people are protected and where all people, especially those who may be vulnerable for any reason, are able to worship and pursue their faith journey with encouragement and in safety. We follow the policies and procedures detailed within the Cathedral Safeguarding Handbook.

We act promptly on any complaints made, and work in partnership with Manchester Diocese, the police and social care services whenever appropriate to do so. Details of our policy and how to voice a concern can be found on a dedicated page of our website and on the noticeboard at the south porch.

Live streaming

Please note that most acts of worship in Manchester Cathedral are now live streamed. Although cameras are focused on those leading worship, please be aware that your image may be inadvertently captured and streamed. If you would like further information on the position of the camera at a particular act of worship, please ask Cathedral Staff upon arrival.

Visiting Manchester Cathedral

For your personal safety, the Dean and Chapter strongly encourage you to wear masks and to use the hand sanitisers provided when visiting the Cathedral.

Gift Aid

During the service there will be a collection for the mission and aims of the Cathedral. If you would like the Cathedral to reclaim the tax that you have paid on the donation, at no cost to yourself, please use the Gift Aid envelope that is with this order of service.

Hearing-loop



The Cathedral has a hearing-loop.
Please set your hearing aid to setting T.

Have you turned off your mobile phone?

Please make sure that you have turned off your mobile phone and any other electronic equipment that might interrupt the service.

Photography

Please do not use cameras, photo-imaging devices or recording equipment during the service.

Gluten-free wafers

If you require a gluten-free communion wafer please inform a vergers before the service. Please note that the wine may contain traces of gluten.

Musicians

The Cathedral Voluntary Choir is conducted by Geoffrey Woollatt,
Sub-Organist.

The organ is played by Alexander Wilton, Sydney Nicholson Organ Scholar
and Christopher Stokes, Organist and Master of the Choristers.

Music Before the Service

Praeludium

A Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)

The Declaration of Assent

This Declaration is made by the Reader candidates before the service.

Preface

The Church of England is part of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It professes the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation. Led by the Holy Spirit, it has borne witness to Christian truth in its historic formularies, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, *The Book of Common Prayer* and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons. In the declaration you are about to make, will you affirm your loyalty to this inheritance of faith as your inspiration and guidance under God in bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making Him known to those in your care?

Declaration of Assent

Candidate I N, do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness;

and in public prayer, I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by Canon.

I, N, will give due obedience to the Bishop of Manchester and his successors in all things lawful and honest.

I, N, about to be licensed to exercise the office of Reader in the Diocese of Manchester, do hereby promise to endeavour, as far as in me lies, to promote peace and unity, and to conduct myself as becomes a worker for Christ, for the good of his Church, and for the spiritual welfare of all people. I will give due obedience to the minister in whose cure I may serve, in all things lawful and honest.

Please pray for those who are to be licensed as Readers today:

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Bomber
Benefice of West Bolton

Viola Kowome
Benefice of Ordsall and Salford Quays

Mark Knight
Benefice of Tottington, St Anne

Lucie Reilly
Benefice of Clarksfield and Waterhead

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Bomber - West Bolton

I moved to Bolton in December 2014 where I had been a midwife in the NHS until my retirement in November 2021, (50 years in NHS). I have been worshipping at St Luke's Halliwell and involved in other aspects of the West Bolton Team churches including C of E school and community halls. It was during 2016 that I realised I was "sleep walking" through my Christian life and I needed a wake-up call, it came in two ways, the book by Judy Hirst, A Kind of Sleepwalking, and a wonderful Cursillo weekend at Whalley Abbey. I was refreshed and reminded about the gifts from God. They are like Christmas presents, you can leave them unwrapped under the tree, unopened, unused, or open them and use them. Grace is the gift from God and God has a plan for each and every one of us. His plan for me is just beginning.

Viola Kawome - Ordsall and Salford Quays

I was born and raised in Zimbabwe and did most of my education in Zimbabwe grew up in a Christian family, raised up by my mother who was a strong believer leading Mother's Union groups in the Anglican Church until her death. I had lost my father when I was at the age of 10 years being the fifth among seven girls.

I have a degree in Banking; RMN, a mother of four, of which three live abroad- the other girl a Minister at a church in Australia. My children are my inspiration, we do have a strong family bond, blessed by a husband who feared God and was very supportive in God's work however passed away 2020. I am observant, good listener, eager to learn, strong in ZMUF and many tell me that I am a good encourager. I and my Husband attended Alpha course in Zimbabwe.

Coming to this country 20 years ago, my vicar and the PCC; seen a potential and arranged for me to attend Foundation Ministry in 2012 and thereafter ALM in Worship 2017. My life has been with God, miracle's at times and tribulations however relying on prayers. Already as God's handbook as evidenced with my services at my parish at St Clements, made a decision to become a Reader. I wish if Enoch (my Husband) was present on this day.

Mark Knight - Tottington, St Anne

Having attended FFM training and graduated from the ALM programme in both worship and Eco Church I found that the next step in the plan for me was Reader training.

I have recently started working for the Diocese of Manchester and have been constantly amazed at how much hard work goes on behind the scenes to make church work successfully in the Diocese.

Big thanks need to be given to all at St Anne Tottington who have given me their support, and to the Staff and fellow students at Emmanuel College who have made the Reader training a most pleasurable and fulfilling experience. Most of all I need to thank my family for their constant support, patience and stoicism in putting up with me while I Have been undertaking this training.

Lucie Reilly - Clarksfield and Waterhead

I'm Lucie, I'm based at Holy Trinity, Waterhead, in east Oldham. I also serve at St Barnabas Church in Clarksfield. I have, for a quite some time felt that God is calling me to ministry. Through prayer, support and encouragement, the Holy Spirit has led me to this point. I have been delighted to join such a thriving community of lay trainees who are committed to making God's Word real to today's generation and exploring new ways of making Jesus' love known and relevant to the communities that we serve.

I have been able to build connections with fellow trainees from other parishes and I have blessed to make what I believe will be lifelong friends and colleagues. During the discernment process and my training, I have been able to grow my personal relationship with God, shaping myself, gaining a better understanding of his Word within not only my community but also the wider world.

I must thank my incumbent Revd Dr Paul Monk, for his constant support, nurturing, and for allowing me to express worship and ministry in my own style and vision. I want to thank my family for all their help, support and patience during this 'rollercoaster' of a journey.

Please pray for those who are to be entitled Reader Emeritus today:

Catherine (Cath) Baines
Benefice of Atherton and Hindsford with Howe Bridge

Yvonne Griffiths
Benefice of Bury, Roch Valley

Dorothy Haynes
Benefice of Tonge, Rhodes and Alkrington

Stephen Morris
Benefice of Coldhurst, Holy Trinity and Oldham, St Stephen and All Martyrs

Barry Price
Benefice of Farnworth, Kearsley and Stoneclough

Helen Vickers
Benefice of Blackley, St Andrew

Catherine (Cath) Baines - Atherton and Hindsford with Howe Bridge

I was licensed in July 2012 to a team that was, and still is, undergoing significant change in numbers and ordained clergy. This has given exciting opportunities to work in ministries with children, care homes, visiting vulnerable and housebound parishioners and funerals.

Covid restrictions introduced new challenges and I became the hostess for the virtual coffee morning until restrictions eased and 'traditional' coffee morning could resume. Now I'm involved with supporting worship leaders as they start leading and I'm setting up a team that will focus on supporting bereaved families. I plan to continue as a Reader if I'm able to.

Yvonne Griffiths - Bury, Roch Valley

Before being licensed as a Reader in 2010, I had already been a life-long member of St Thomas's Church and a Lay Assistant since 1980. After retiring from a career in teaching in 2007 I felt called to use my skills in serving the Lord through Reader Ministry. In my 12 years as a Reader, as well as leading worship, preaching and leading Bible Studies, I have undertaken mainly pastoral work including worship in care homes; taking Communion to the housebound; funeral ministry; arranging events such as Experience Easter for local primary schools. I hope to continue, at least some of my ministry, for a few more years yet – God willing!

Dorothy Haynes - Tonge, Rhodes and Alkington

When training to be a reader I often wondered if I was up to the job. A dear friend often quoted John 15 vs 16 and advised me that as God chose me he would enable me. After 23 years as a reader serving alongside 6 incumbents I have learnt the truth of this and often as readers are at a church longer than ordained ministers there are more opportunities to build up strong relationships with church members. With God's continuing help I hope to carry on with this ministry for many more years as a reader emeritus.

Stephen Morris - Coldhurst, Holy Trinity and Oldham, St Stephen and All Martyrs

After my interview at Church House, I was assigned to train at St Stephen and All Maryrs and Holy Trinity in Oldham, under the direction of Revd Canon Nick Smeeton. This was a very happy placement and I stayed for 6 months instead of 3. My previous vicar, Keith Justice, transferred from Royton to Lawton Moor, and I was encouraged to minister there, where I became a member of the Wythenshawe Team, under the direction of the Revd Dr Stephen Edwards, who became my mentor. I preached regularly at all of the churches, officiated at funerals, led 'services of the word' and even choral evensong, which I enjoyed immensely. I was there for 8 years and then transferred back by invitation to re-join Revd Nick at St Stephen and All Martyrs where I remain to this day.

Barry Price - Farnworth, Kearsley and Stoneclough

Becoming a Reader was the fulfilment of my journey of faith from a young age – being a chorister and server at St. James' (Hope) Church. I moved to St Anne's Church, Clifton in 1977 where I became involved in the various Bible/Prayer study groups and joined the Maranatha Community in 1992 in Harpurhey. Then in 1998 our vicar, Rev. Peter Barnett asked me to consider Reader Ministry and was duly licensed in 2003. Serving others is a privilege and very humbling. In 2016 I moved my ministry into the Bolton Deanery to St. Stephen' Church, Kearsley. I was re-licensed there in 2021. The Lord has guided me over the years which has lead me to many places and people and I pray that I may continue to serve in the years to come.

Helen Vickers – Blackley, St Andrew

Most of my ministry was to help people one to one, I developed a Pastoral Care team. We would visit care homes and take communion to anyone who was ill or housebound and follow-up anyone missing a few weeks. We developed a prayer chain so people could ask for prayer, and this continues today. After retirement I volunteered at North Manchester General Hospital Chaplaincy and end of life. This stopped because of covid and has not restarted. I lead services and preach but I am still learning. When this stops it will be time to stop.

All remain seated as the Reader candidates process into the Cathedral before the service.

The Canon in Residence welcomes the congregation.

The Gathering

Please stand

Hymn

○ Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
Be thou for ever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If thou wilt be my guide.

○ let me hear thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
○ speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
○ speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised
To all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory
There shall thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

O let me see thy footmarks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in thy strength alone;
O guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then in heaven receive me,
My Saviour and my Friend.

Wolvercote NEH 420
William H Ferguson (1874-1950)

John Ernest Bode (1816-74)

The Greeting

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

We proclaim not ourselves, but Christ Jesus as Lord
and ourselves as servants for Jesus' sake.

For the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness',
has caused his light to shine within us:

so let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
as we build up one another in all wisdom.

Peace be with you.
and also with you.

Please sit

The Right Reverend Mark Ashcroft, Bishop of Bolton and Warden of Readers, introduces the service.

Bishop My brothers and sisters, God has gathered us into the fellowship of the universal Church.

As members together of his body, Christ calls us to minister in his name and, according to our gifts, to be instruments of his love in the world. Within this ministry, Readers are called to serve the Church of God and to work together with clergy and other ministers. They are to lead public worship, to preach and teach the word of God, to assist at the Eucharist and to share in pastoral and evangelistic work.

As licensed lay ministers, they are to encourage the ministries of God's people, as the Spirit distributes gifts among us all. They are called to help the whole Church to participate in God's mission to the world.

Today as we come together for the Admission and Licensing of new Readers, we also give thanks for the long service of some of our Readers and recognise their continuing contribution to the ministry of the Church, as the title of Reader Emeritus is conferred upon them.

The Collect

Bishop Let us pray for our Readers, for our candidates for Reader ministry and for the ministry of the whole Church.

Almighty and everlasting God
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:

hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Renewal of Commitment

The Bishop asks all Readers to stand and renew their commitment to ministry

Bishop My brothers and sisters,
in the name of the Church
I thank you for your faithful ministry as Readers.
I pray God's continuing blessing upon you
and invite you now to renew your commitment
to the ministry entrusted to you.

Therefore I ask:

Will you, as a Reader, continue, as far as in you lies,
to promote peace and unity
and to conduct yourself as becomes a worker for Christ,
for the good of his Church
and for the spiritual welfare of all people?

Readers **With God's help, I will.**

Will you continue to study the scriptures,
to deepen your knowledge of the Christian faith
and to grow in your discipleship of Christ?

Readers **With God's help, I will.**

Will you give obedience to those
who are set in authority over you
and will you work willingly and collaboratively
with all who are your fellow-workers in the gospel?

Readers **With God's help, I will.**

Will you then, in the strength of the Holy Spirit,
continually stir up the gift of God that is in you
to make Christ known to all?

Readers **With God's help, I will.**

Bishop Almighty God,
who has given you the will to undertake these things,
give you also the strength to perform them,
that he may complete that work that he has begun in you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Readers

**God our Father,
we offer our lives to do your work
in your Church and in the world.
Help us by your Holy Spirit
to hear more clearly your call
to deeper commitment to your service,
and give us grace to respond with gladness:
for the glory of Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Please stand

Hymn

Lord, thy word abideth,
And our footsteps guideth;
Who its truth believeth,
Light and joy receiveth.

When our foes are near us,
Then thy word doth cheer us,
Word of consolation,
Message of salvation.

When the storms are o'er us,
And dark clouds before us,
Then its light directeth,
And our way protecteth.

Who can tell the pleasure,
Who recount the treasure
By thy word imparted
To the simple-hearted?

Word of mercy, giving
Succour to the living;
Word of life, supplying
Comfort to the dying.

O that we discerning
Its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
Evermore be near thee!

Ravenshaw NEH 407
Medieval German Melody adapted and
harmonised by W H Monk (1823-89)

H W Baker (1821-77)

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 43. 1-7
read by Mrs Sheila Radford

A reading from Isaiah

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name; you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight
and honoured and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

At the end the reader says

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

Please stand

Jubilate Deo

sung by the Choir

O 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.
O go your 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.

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.

Service in C
Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Psalm 100

All sit

Second Reading

John 15. 1-17
read by the Rev'd Anne Pilkington

A reading from John

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

At the end the reader says

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

All stand

Hymn

Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, 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 NEH 408
William Rowlands (1860-1937)

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

All sit

Sermon

Canon Avril Scott

Intercessions

lead by The Rev'd Ian Bullock
Reader Chaplain

The Lord's Prayer

Leader Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **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.**

Anthem

sung by the Choir

O clap your hands, all ye people:
shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
For the Lord most high is terrible:
He is a great King over all the earth.
God is gone up with a shout:
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God; sing praises:
Sing praises to our King; sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth:
sing ye praises everyone that hath understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen:
God sitteth upon the throne of His holiness.
Sing praises to our King; sing praises.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Psalm 47. 1, 2, 5-8

Conferral of the title 'Emeritus'

The Readers are presented to the Diocesan Bishop with the following words

Bishop Mark, I present to you these persons on whom the title
Reader Emeritus is to be conferred.

As their names are called the Readers stand before the Bishop.

The Bishop addresses the congregation

Bishop It is both right and a joy that we recognise the contribution
that these individuals have made to the ministry of the Church
over the past years, and to thank God for their willingness to
offer themselves in ministry beyond retirement.
Will you, my brothers and sisters in Christ, readily and willingly
undertake to give your prayerful support to these people, and
will you continue to encourage them in their Office in the
Church of God?

All **We will.**

The Bishop invites the people to pray.

Bishop Almighty God,
giver of all good things,
sustain these your servants and give them
your strength and guidance
as they continue to offer themselves for
ministry in your Church;
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

The Readers receive their certificates from the Bishop after which they return to their places.

The Admission and Licensing of Readers The Presentation of Candidates for Admission

The Sub-Warden of Readers presents those to be licensed as Readers to the Bishop, saying

Bishop Mark, I present to you these persons to be admitted to the office of Reader.

Sponsors read the name of each candidate, and the place where they are to serve.

Bishop Have they made the Declaration of Assent, and thereby affirmed and declared their belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness? Have they also made the declaration of obedience to the Bishop and the declaration which must be made before a Reader is licensed?

Sub-Warden They have.

Bishop Are they men and women of Christian character, well versed in the Holy Scriptures and in the doctrines of our faith?

Sub-Warden They are.

Bishop Have they been sufficiently prepared for the duties of this office?

Sub-Warden They have.

The Questions

The Bishop turns to the candidates and says

In order that we may be satisfied that you are ready to begin the ministry of a Reader, you must now answer the questions we put to you.

Bishop Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry?

Candidates **I do so believe.**

Bishop Will you be faithful in leading the people of God in worship, and in preaching the word to them?

Candidates **By the grace of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you be diligent in prayer, in reading holy Scripture, and in all studies that will deepen your faith, and fit you to bear witness to the truth of the Gospel?

Candidates **By the grace of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you endeavour to fashion your life according to the way of Christ?

Candidates **By the grace of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you promote unity, peace and love in the Church and in the world, and especially among those whom you serve?

Candidates **By the grace of God, I will.**

Bishop Will you work closely with your colleagues in ministry and encourage the gifts of others?

Candidates **By the grace of God, I will.**

The candidates turn and face the congregation.

Bishop Brothers and sisters, these men and women have been chosen for the office of Reader.

Will you uphold and encourage them in their ministry?

All **We will.**

Bishop Will you continue to pray for them?

All **We will.**

The Bishop invites the clergy of the new Readers' parishes or chaplaincies to stand and asks

Bishop Will you work closely with your new Readers and encourage them to use their gifts and develop their ministry?

Clergy **We will.**

Bishop Will you commend them to the people amongst whom they will minister?

Clergy **We will.**

The clergy sit

The Admission

The candidates stand before the Bishop, who admits them to the office of Reader by the delivery of a copy of the Scriptures, with these words said to each

Bishop I admit you as a Reader in the Church,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

When all have been admitted, the new Readers kneel and the Bishop blesses them with these words

Bishop May the Lord give you wisdom, courage,
strength and love to do his will,
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
rest upon you, and on your work done in his name,
now and always.

All **Amen.**

The new Readers stand and each is vested in a blue scarf

The Licensing

The Bishop hands newly admitted Readers their licences with these words

Bishop Receive authority to exercise the office of Reader in this diocese. May the Lord be with you in all your work and ministry from this day onwards.

All **Amen.**

When all have received their licences the Bishop says to the newly licensed Readers

Bishop We welcome you as ministers of God's word.
All **May the word of Christ dwell in you richly.**

All return to their places.

Please stand

Hymn

O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him in the height;
Rejoice in his word,
Ye angels of light;
Ye heavens adore him
By whom you were made,
And worship before him,
In brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord!
Praise him on the earth,
In tuneful accord,
Ye sons of new birth;
Praise him who has brought you
His grace from above,
Praise him who has taught you
To sing of his love.

O praise ye the Lord!
All things that give sound;
Each jubilant chord,
Re-echo around;
Loud organs, his glory
Forth tell in deep tone,
And sweet harp, the story
Of what he has done.

O praise ye the Lord!
Thanksgiving and song
To him be out-poured
All ages along:
For love in creation,
For heaven restored,
For grace of salvation,
O praise ye the Lord! Amen, Amen.

Laudate Dominum NEH 427
From the anthem 'Hear my words'
by C Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)

H W Baker

The Blessing

Bishop God who has called you is faithful
May the Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word.

All **Amen.**

Bishop May Christ, who has ascended to the heights.
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

All **Amen.**

Bishop May the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.

All **Amen.**

Bishop And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

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

Music after the service

Fantasia über B-A-C-H

Franz Liszt (1811-86)

Remain standing as the procession leaves the Cathedral

With thanks to Avril Scott and Anne Pilkington who led the retreat for Readers

Refreshments are served after the service in the south aisle.

Everyone is invited to stay.

Please take this order of service away with you to reflect upon the readings and prayers, and as a reminder of your visit.

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