



Diocese of  
Leicester

City of Leicester Deanery  
Supporting Church of England Parishes across the city

# **Leicester City Deanery Service of Confirmation**

## **St James the Greater**

# **Christ the King**

**24 November 2019**

**6pm**

# Confirmation within a celebration of Holy Communion

## Preparation

*Please stand for the hymn during which the ministers enter*

## **HYMN 589    Angel-voices ever singing**

## **The Greeting**

*The bishop greets the people*

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

There is one body and one spirit.

**There is one hope to which we were called;**

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

**one God and Father of all.**

Peace be with you

**and also with you.**

## **The Collect**

Eternal Father,

whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:

keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit

and in the bond of peace,

and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

Colossians 1. 1-20                      *read by Mike Bull*

*Please sit, at the end of the reading*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Blessing of the hymn books

*Please stand and raise your hymn books*

Lord God of glory,  
your Church on earth joins with the choirs of heaven  
in giving you thanks and praise.

As we gather to worship you in wonder and awe  
may the songs on our lips  
echo the music that swells in our hearts.

Bless us as we use these hymn books,  
and grant that we may glorify and praise you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**HYMN 595      Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart**

## Gospel Reading

Luke 23. 33-43

*When the gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

# The Liturgy of Initiation

## Presentation of the Candidates

*The candidates are presented to the congregation by those who have prepared them. The bishop asks the candidates for confirmation who have been baptized.*

Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

**I have.**

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

**I am.**

*The bishop addresses the whole congregation*

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?

**With the help of God, we will.**

## The Decision

*The bishop addresses all the candidates*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

May God who has given you the desire to follow Christ  
give you strength to continue in the Way.

**Amen.**

## **Profession of Faith**

*Please turn to face the font as the procession passes. The bishop addresses the congregation*

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess  
together with these candidates  
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**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 candidates for confirmation who have previously been come forward to the font and the bishop sprinkles them with water.*

*The bishop says*

Almighty God,  
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith  
with all who have been baptized into your name.  
Keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and so make us ready for that day  
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## **Confirmation**

*As the choir sings, the bishop and candidates gather at the place of confirmation.*

Ubi caritas                      Duruflé  
*Sung by the Choir*

*The bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed, and 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 bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says*  
Almighty and ever-living God,  
you have given these your servants new birth  
in baptism by water and the Spirit,  
and have forgiven them all their sins.  
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:

the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;  
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;  
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;  
and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord.

**Amen.**

*The bishop addresses each candidate by name and anoints them with oil.*

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

*He then lays his hand on the head of each, saying*

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**The bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those on whom hands have been laid**

**Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*The bishop introduces the Peace in these words.*

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 us the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

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

*A minister says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

**HYMN 489 From heaven you came, helpless babe**

*During which the collection is taken.*

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer (B)

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks  
because by water and the Holy Spirit  
you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord,  
you raise us to new life in him  
and renew in us the image of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

Sanctus                      Noble in B minor  
*Sung by the Choir*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,

and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of all the saints,

may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
**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 today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei                      Noble in B minor  
*Sung by the Choir*

## **Giving of Communion**

*The Bishop says the invitation to communion*  
Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*The Bishop and people receive communion.*

## **COMMUNION HYMN 358 Be still, for the presence of the Lord**

Come down O love divine          Stopford  
*Sung by the Choir*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept. The Bishop prays this prayer*

God of mercy,  
by whose grace alone we are accepted  
and equipped for your service:  
stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit  
and make us worthy of our calling;  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## The Sending Out

## The Blessing

*The bishop says*

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,  
that you may reign with him in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## Giving of a Lighted Candle

### **HYMN 612 Christ Triumphant, ever reigning**

*During the hymn, the bishop gives each of the newly confirmed a lighted candle.*

*When all have received a candle, the bishop says*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.  
You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

## The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The bishop leads the newly confirmed out through the doors (weather permitting)*

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