

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light.*

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

THE DISMISSAL

Bishop: The Lord be with you
All: **and also with you.**

The Blessing *The Bishop gives the blessing.*

God, who has prepared for you a city with
eternal foundations, bring you, with all the saints,
to the eternal and triumphant joy of that city;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the ✠Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

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

*Please take this booklet home and remember Bishop Pete
and all the candidates in your prayers.*

*Also, you are warmly invited to join us for some light
refreshments in the Church Hall after this service.*



*For further details about life at St. Thomas' look at our website:
<http://www.thomashanwell.org.uk/>*

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Confirmation Prayer by Fr. Robert Chapman
CCL No: 154364*

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE
BOSTON ROAD, HANWELL, W7 2AD
<http://www.thomashanwell.org.uk/>

The Feast of St Thomas the Apostle



Solemn Confirmation Eucharist with First Communions

Wednesday 3rd July 2013
at 7.30pm

— DIOCESE OF —
LONDON
WILLESDEN AREA

Welcome to this service of Confirmation within the celebration of our Patronal Festival. It is a great joy to welcome our Area Bishop, Bishop Pete as celebrant and preacher.

Before the service **Alex McDonald** (one of the Candidates) will lead us in a prayer for the Confirmation candidates:

Heavenly Father, look in mercy upon those about to be confirmed.

Strengthen them with the gift of the Holy Spirit stirred up through the laying on of hands.

Give them all an earnest desire to serve the mission of the Church with confidence, compassion, and creativity.

May they be fed for this task by the body and blood of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, in Trinity.

All: Amen.

CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION:

Pearl Louise Baxendale
Lucie Helen Carotenuto
Kelly Shereena Gill
Everard Anthony Lendor
Shelley Anne Mcloughlin
Alexander Amir McDonald

Pause for Prayer in preparation, as the Choir enter their stalls and sing the Introit: **O Come, Ye Servants** by Tye. During the singing of this the Bishop and Altar party enter. Please stand as the Bishop enters.

Remain standing as the First Hymn is sung, unannounced, immediately after the Introit.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY!

Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee:
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who were, and are, and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Communion Hymn

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluya, alleluya!
Alleluya, Lord most high!"

After the Communion Hymn the Communion Motet is sung **Come Holy Ghost** by Thiman, and during which the ablutions take place

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

STAND

Bishop: Let us pray.

The Bishop says the Prayer after Communion for today
Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Final Hymn

LORD, THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light.

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 Mary, Virgin Mother of God, St Thomas the Apostle and our patron, and 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 COMMUNION

Bishop: Uniting our prayers with all the saints, 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.**

Bishop: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in the one bread.**

The Bishop invites us to receive Jesus in Communion.

Bishop: I heard the voice of the saints and martyrs crying, Alleluia.
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

All: **Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb. Alleluia.**

All: **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVERYONE is invited to come to the Altar. Those who do not make their communion are asked to bow their heads and they will receive a personal blessing.

The newly confirmed are the first to come forward after the choir.

During Communion the following is sung, whilst the congregation remain either kneeling or sitting.

THE GREETING

Bishop: ✠In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Bishop: Peace be with you

All: **and also with you.**

The Bishop introduces the Service.

Bishop: Let us pray

(All pray in silence for a while)

Bishop: Almighty and eternal God, who, for the firmer foundation of our faith, allowed your holy apostle Thomas to doubt the resurrection of your Son till word and sight convinced him: grant to us, who have not seen, that we also may believe and so confess Christ as our Lord and our God; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

Sit

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Habakkuk 2:1-4 is read by **Pearl Baxendale**

¹I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31.1-6 *In te, Domine, speravi*

¹In thee, O Lord, have I | put my | trust :

let me never be put to confusion, de | liver me | in thy | righteousness.

²Bow down thine | ear to | me :

make | haste to de | liver | me.

³And be thou my strong rock, and | house of de |

fence : that | thou | mayest | save me.

⁴For thou art my strong rock, | and my | castle :

be thou also my guide, and lead me | for thy | Name's | sake.

⁵Draw me out of the net that they have laid | privily

| for me : for | thou | art my | strength.

⁶Into thy hands I com | mend my | spirit : for thou hast redeemed me, O | Lord, thou | God of | truth.

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. | A | men.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2.19-22 read by **Lucie Carotenuto**.

¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

THE HEAVENLY WORD proceeding forth,
yet leaving not the Father's side,
and going to his work on earth
had reached at length life's eventide.

In twofold form of sacrament,
He gave his flesh, he gave his Blood:
That man, of souls and body bent,
Might wholly feed on mystic food.

O saving Victim, opening wide
the gate of heaven to man below:
our foes press hard on every side;
thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.

All praise and thanks to thee ascend
for evermore, blest One in Three;
O grant us life that shall not end
in our true native land with thee. Amen

Tune: Gonfalon Royal

STAND and join in the Gospel Acclamation:

All: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Cantor: I do not call you servants but friends,
because I have made known to you everything
that I have heard from my Father.

All: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

THE GOSPEL:

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: **and also with you.**

A Priest announces the Gospel:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. (20.24-29)

All: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Bishop: The Lord is here

All: **His Spirit is with us.**

Bishop: Lift up your hearts.

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

Bishop: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right and good that we should give you thanks, praise and glory, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For after his resurrection he sent out his apostles and evangelists to preach the gospel to all nations and lead us in the way of truth. Himself the chief cornerstone, he founded his Church upon the apostles firmly to stand for ever as a sign of your holiness upon earth and a living witness to all of the way that leads to heaven.

And so with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we lift our voices and join in their unending hymn of praise:

All: **Holy, holy holy Lord
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
✠ Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Kneel

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Stand

THE PEACE

Bishop: We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near. *Eph 2.19,17*

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

Bishop: Let us offer each other a Sign of Peace

All may exchange a sign of peace.

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Hymn

Gifts of bread and wine are brought to the Altar, and the collection is taken.

When Thomas heard from Jesus, "Now come and follow me,"

He surely went with gladness, for there was much to see.

He witnessed Jesus' teaching and saw his healing touch;
He found a faith to guide him, a friend he loved so much.

When Jesus spoke of heaven, bold Thomas dared to say,
"We don't know where you're going! How can we know the way?"

He wanted understanding of what he could not see.

Then Jesus reassured him, "The way is here — through me."

When crowds began to murmur and leaders raised their cry,

Brave Thomas spoke out firmly, "Let's go with him and die."

He ate at Jesus' table, partaking wine and bread;
Yet later with the others, he saw the cross and fled.

What joy on Easter evening when many saw the Lord!
Yet Thomas was not with them and would not trust their word.

When Christ appeared before him, his doubts were quickly gone;

He gladly knew that evening the joy of Easter dawn.

That man of faith saw Jesus at breakfast by the sea;

At Pentecost he witnessed so others would believe.

O Lord, may we — like Thomas — keep growing day by day;

Increase our faith and guide us, for Lord, you are the Way.

Tune: AURELIA 7676D *The Church's one foundation* Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
http://www.carolynshymns.com/when_thomas_heard_from_jesus.html

The Bishop takes the bread and wine and praises God saying:
God our Father, keep us united in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *cf Acts 2.42*

All **Amen.**

answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

At the end the Priest says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON Sit

After the Sermon **all** the CANDIDATES stand.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION.

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

Candidates: **I have.**

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

Candidates: **I am.**

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

All: **With the help of God we will.**

THE DECISION

Bishop: 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?

Candidates: **I reject them.**

Bishop: Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

Candidates: **I renounce them.**

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

Candidates: **I repent of them.**

Bishop: Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

Candidates: **I turn to Christ.**

Bishop: Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

Candidates: **I submit to Christ.**

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

Candidates: **I come to Christ.**

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

Candidates: **Amen.**

The bishop, altar party, lead the candidates for Confirmation to the font.

All turn and face the font.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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?

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

Bishop: Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All: 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.

Bishop: Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All: 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 come forward to the font and sign themselves with water. Then 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.

All: Amen.

*The Bishop and all the candidates gather at the place of Confirmation. The Confirmation Candidates **only** stand.*

CONFIRMATION

The Bishop stands before the confirmation candidates, saying:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: who has made heaven and earth.

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord

All: now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop prays over the candidates:

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given 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.

All: Amen.

The Bishop addresses each candidate by name:

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

The Bishop then lays his hand on the head of each saying:

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

The Bishop making the Sign of the Cross on the candidate's forehead, with Chrism, says,

N., be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Confirmed: Amen.

After all have been confirmed the Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those confirmed:

All: 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.

COMMISSION

The Bishop uses this commission for those confirmed:

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

Bishop: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

Bishop: Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

Bishop: Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

Bishop: Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

Answer: With the help of God, I will.

Bishop: May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Answer: Amen.

