**** PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL

**ANNUAL SERVICE of**

**Dedication and**

**thanksgiving**

**for diocesan schools**

Tuesday 7th October 2025  
2.15pm

Members of the congregation are asked to take their seats by 2.00pm.

**Entrance Procession**

*All stand for the clergy procession and all school leaders choosing to join the procession. Please sit when the clergy and school leaders are seated.*

*The Malcolm Arnold Academy Choir, The King’s (The Cathedral) School Choir, The Peterborough School Choir, Oakham School Choir and Oundle School Choir sing*

***Zadok the Priest*** *(George Frideric Handel).*

**Greeting**

*The Venerable Richard Ormston welcomes the congregation and leads the service.*

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ

be with you

***All:* and also with you.**

**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.***

**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…***

**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.**

***Shine, Jesus shine…***

***Shine, Jesus shine…*** *Words and music Graham Kendrick*

**Choir item**

*The Malcolm Arnold Academy Choir, The King’s (The Cathedral) School Choir, The Peterborough School Choir, Oakham School Choir and Oundle School Choir sing*

***Kyrie, Messe Solennelle*** *(Louis Verne)*

**Prayers of Penitence**

***All:* Lord God,**

**we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore to us the joy of your salvation;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies

cleanse you from your sins,

and restore you in his image

to the praise and glory of his name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***All:* Amen.**

**Praise**

Let everything be said and done in the name of theLord Jesus,

***All:* giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.**

Sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs:

***All:* let us sing to God with thankful hearts.**

Open our lips, Lord:

***All:* and we shall praise your name.**

**Hymn**

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,**

**the holy One, is here;**

**come bow before him now**

**with reverence and fear**

**in him no sin is found**

**we stand on holy ground.**

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,**

**the holy One, is here.**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord**

**is shining all around;**

**he burns with holy fire,**

**with splendour he is crowned:**

**how awesome is the sight**

**our radiant king of light!**

**Be still, for the glory of the Lord**

**is shining all around.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord**

**is moving in this place:**

**he comes to cleanse and heal,**

**to minister his grace -**

**no work too hard for him.**

**In faith receive from him.**

**Be still, for the power of the Lord**

**is moving in this place.**

*Words and music David Evans*

**Choir items**

*The school choirs of All Saints Church of England Primary School Northampton, All Saints Church of England Primary School Peterborough, All Saints Church of England Primary School Wellingborough, Brixworth Church of England Primary School, Croughton All Saints Church of England Primary School Church of England Primary School, William Law Church of England Primary School, Hayfield Cross Church of England Primary School and St Mary & St John Church of England Primary School sing* ***I Give My Hands*** *(Estelle White) and* ***Above All*** *(Michael W Smith).*

**Hymn**

**O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:  
*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.  
Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*  
When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And see the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:  
*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee…*  
  
And when I think that God, His Son not sparing;  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin:  
*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee*…**

**When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,  
And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"  
*Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee*…**

**Reading** Psalm 19 v1-4

*Peter Cantley, Director of Education*

The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.  
They have no speech, they use no words;  
no sound is heard from them.  
Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,

their words to the ends of the world.

This is the word of the Lord.

***All:* Thanks be to God.**

**Choir item**

*The Malcolm Arnold Academy Choir, The King’s (The Cathedral) School Choir, The Peterborough School Choir, Oakham School Choir and Oundle School Choir sing*

***The Heavens are Telling*** *(Franz Josef Haydn)*

**Sermon**

*Revd Annabel Copeland, Associate Vicar, St Peter’s Oundle*

**Prayers**

*Revd Maria Coulter, Oundle School Chaplain with Oundle School Students*

The following response will be used at the end of each prayer:

Lord in your Mercy

***All:* Hear our Prayer**

*ending with* **The Lord’s Prayer**

Asour Saviour taught us, so we pray:

***All:* Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours**

**now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

**Choir item**

*The Malcolm Arnold Academy Choir, The King’s (The Cathedral) School Choir, The Peterborough School Choir, Oakham School Choir and Oundle School Choir sing*

***Requiem Sanctus*** *(Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart).*

**Presentation of Bibles & Blessing of Headteachers appointed in 2024-25**

*The Venerable Richard Ormston, Archdeacon of Northampton*

Education is a vital part of the Church’s mission in sharing the Good

News of the Gospel. It recognises that all human experience

presents opportunities for developing and deepening our love and

knowledge of God and others.

As Headteachers, you have a special responsibility to ensure that everyone in your school is valued and recognised as being a child of God, uniquely gifted by him. You are also responsible for ensuring the school is rooted in Christian values and that its Christian vision impacts every aspect of school life, so that all can excel.

Will you commit yourself to this work?

**We will, with the help of God.**

Share with me in the cure of souls, which is both yours and mine

**We will, with the help of God.**

**Presentation of Bibles**

Headteachers, you are appointed to Church school leadership.  
To keep you ever mindful of the Gospel of God  
as the rule for the whole of life and leadership  
we present you each with a Bible,  
the most valuable thing that this world affords.

**Blessing**

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that you will reach out your hand to comfort them and change their pain to joy. And may God bless you with the foolishness to think that you can make a difference in the world, so that you will do the things which others tell you cannot be done. The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

**Hymn**

**Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,**

**Give me oil in my lamp, I pray;**

**Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,**

**Keep me burning till the break of day.**

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,***

***Sing hosanna to the King of kings!***

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,***

***Sing hosanna to the King!***

**Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,**

**Give me love in my heart, I pray;**

**Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,**

**Keep me serving till the break of day.**

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna…***

**Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,**

**Give me joy in my heart, I pray;**

**Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,**

**Keep me praising till the break of day.**

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna…***

**Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,**

**Give me peace in my heart, I pray;**

**Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,**

**Keep me resting till the break of day.**

***Sing hosanna, sing hosanna…***

*Author unknown, arranged by Stuart Townend*

**Blessing**

*The Venerable Richard Ormston, Archdeacon of Northampton*

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love

you surround us with the mysteries of the universe.

In times long past you sent us your prophets to teach your laws

and to bear witness to your undying love.

You sent us your Son to teach us by word and example

that true wisdom comes from you alone.

Send your Spirit upon these pupils and their teachers

and fill them with your wisdom and grace.

And the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you and remain with you always.

***All:* Amen.**

*All stand as the procession leaves.*

**Organ Voluntary**

*Toccata* from Symphony no. 5 in F minor (*Charles-Marie Widor).*

*Many thanks to all those who have taken part in various aspects of the service, including:*

* *The Bishop Stopford School Brass Ensemble, conducted by Brad Turnbull*
* *The Malcolm Arnold Academy Choir, The King’s (The Cathedral) School Choir, The Peterborough School Choir, Oakham School Choir and Oundle School Choir, conducted by* *Simon Toyne, Martin Ratcliffe, John Mountford and Andrew Kennedy*
* *The All Saints CE Primary School Northampton, All Saints CE Primary School Wellingborough, All Saints CE Primary School Peterborough, Croughton All Saints CE Primary School, Brixworth Church of England Primary School, William Law CE Primary School, Hayfield Cross CE Primary School and St Mary & St John CE Primary School Choirs accompanied and conducted by Jim Bonsor*
* *The Music Department of Peterborough Cathedral.*

***With every good wish for the school year ahead***

***from the Chapter of Peterborough Cathedral***

***and the Diocese of Peterborough***

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