



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

**Confirmation
and
LMDG Commissioning
with
Holy Communion**

at

St John the Baptist Church,
Whitbourne
in the Parish of Greater Whitbourne

7th June 2015

To be confirmed:

Nicholas James Evans-Fisher
Thomas Arthur Littleton Garness
Russell Bryan Read
George Robert Read
Maisie Ellen Read
Thomas Rupert Lane

To be commissioned:

Rev'd David Howell
Brenda Allan
Susan Wyatt
Chris Evans
Sylvia Bland
William North
John Bland

Please stand for the entrance of the Ministers and Bishop

The Welcome

The Rector welcomes everyone and then we sing the hymn :

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art ;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord ;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son ;
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight ;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might ;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower :
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise :
be thou mine inheritance, now and always ;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart ;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won ;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

THE GREETING

Bishop: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All: **Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**
Bishop: There is one body and one spirit.
All: **There is one hope to which we were called;**
Bishop: one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
All: **one God and Father of all.**
Bishop: Peace be with you
All: **and also with you.**

We remain standing.

Silence is kept and then the Bishop leads us in the Collect:

Bishop: Lord you have taught us that all we do without love is worth nothing; send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you.
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

We sit

The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST READING

At the end the reader says
This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

We stand to sing the hymn :

Colours of day dawn into the mind,
the sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
and let's give the message to the people we meet.

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
open the door, let Jesus return,
take seeds of his Spirit, let the fruit grow,
tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.*

Go through the park, on into the town ;
the sun still shines on ; it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again ;
the people of darkness are needing our friend.

Open your eyes, look into the sky,
the darkness has come, the sun came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
but Jesus is living, and his Spirit is near.

We remain standing for

THE GOSPEL READING

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*.

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

At the end the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON *Please sit*

The Presentation of the Candidates

The candidates may be presented to the congregation. Where appropriate they are presented by their godparents or sponsors.

The Bishop asks the candidates for confirmation:

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.**

The bishop addresses the whole congregation

Bishop: 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?

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

THE DECISION

*The ministers and candidates gather at the baptismal font.
The Bishop addresses all the candidates*

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:

Candidates: Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I turn to Christ.

Bishop: Do you repent of your sins?
Candidates: **I repent of my sins.**

Bishop: Do you renounce evil?
Candidates: **I renounce evil.**

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

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Bishop addresses the congregation:

Bishop: 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,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
All: **I believe and trust in him.**

Bishop: Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?
All: **I believe and trust in him.**

Bishop: Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
All: **I believe and trust in him.**

Bishop: This is the faith of the Church.
All: **This is our faith.**
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The candidates may come forward to the font and sign themselves with water.

The Bishop says:

Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all
who have been baptised 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.**

*We stand to sing the next hymn during which the Bishop and the candidates
return to their places.*

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,
and lighten with celestial fire;
thou the anointing Spirit art,
who dost thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Thy blessèd unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soilèd face
with the abundance of thy grace:
keep far our foes, give peace at home;
where thou art guide no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and thee, of both, to be but one;
that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song,
'Praise to thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.'
Amen.

The Confirmation

Bishop: 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 congregation kneel or sit whilst those who are to be confirmed remain standing. 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.

All: **Amen.**

*The candidates sit and then they kneel in turn before the Bishop, each being presented by their sponsor who says, "**Bishop I present (N) to be confirmed**"*

The Bishop anoints each candidate with oil and says:

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

Then laying his hand on the head of each he says:

Bishop: Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.
All: **Amen.**

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

The choir sings the anthem “We will rise again”.

Like a shepherd I will feed you; I will gather you with care. I will lead you and hold you close to my heart. We will run and not grow weary, our God will be our strength, and we will fly like the eagle: we will rise again. I am strength to the weary; to the weak I am new life. Though the young may grow weary, I will be their hope. Lift up your eyes and see who made the stars. I lead you, and know you, I call you each by name.

The Commissioning of the Local Ministry Development Group

The Bishop addresses the congregation

Bishop: After the resurrection, Jesus commissioned his disciples with these words, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit”.

At Baptism we pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit to grow within us and amongst us. St Paul talks about these gifts being linked to our different ministries. These gifts and ministries belong to God and are part of our relationship with God and with each other.

Are you willing to develop the gifts and ministries God has lovingly prepared for you?

All: **Within the love of God we are willing.**

Bishop: The privilege and responsibility of bringing God’s healing love to his wounded world Christ shares with all whom he calls to follow him. As members of the Body of Christ here and now, you are beginning a new stage of working together in this ministry.

Are you willing to share in healing and being healed, and to share the light of Christ with the people of these communities?

All: **Within the love of Christ we are willing**

Bishop: I commission you as a Local Ministry parish. May the Holy Spirit come upon you without reserve or distinction: May the call of Christ give you courage to take up the cross and follow him: May the love of God unite you to travel together. **Amen.**

The Local Ministry Development Group comes forward to the chancel step and is presented by the Local Ministry Officer or Local Ministry Development Adviser and one Churchwarden representative for the Parish.

LMO/
LMDA &
Warden: Bishop, we present to you this Local Ministry Development Group, called by God and nominated by the people of these parishes, to work with the Churchwardens and PCC members in leading the mission and ministry of these communities.

The Bishop addresses the congregation

Bishop: Like the branches of a vine we have many ministries. A Local Ministry Development Group can be seen as a part of the root system of the vine. Their rôle is to encourage the growth of the mission and ministry of the whole. These members of the Local Ministry Development Group are called to this ministry. They will be a sign to you of your commitment to work together, united in Christ, and serving your communities in God's name. Is it your wish that I should commission them as a Local Ministry Development Group?

All: **It is.**

Bishop: Will you support them and pray for them as they seek to draw you together in love and worship, to encourage you in witness and service in the name of Christ?

All: **We will.**

The Bishop addresses the Group to be commissioned

Bishop: You have been called by these churches to be an expression of the ministry to which God calls all his people. This call is recognised and affirmed by the Diocese. Is it your wish to serve these churches as members of the Local Ministry Development Group?

Group: **It is.**

Bishop: Will you, as ordained and lay members of the Group, actively support and loyally encourage each other as you minister together?

Group: **With God's help we will.**

Bishop: Do you commit yourselves to use your God-given gifts for the building up of the ministry and mission of all God's people in these

communities?
Group: **With God's help we do.**

Bishop: Will you endeavour as a Group to root your ministry and life in the study of the Holy Scriptures, in prayer and corporate worship?

Group: **With God's help we will.**

All: **May the will of the Father direct us,
the love of the Son strengthen us,
the gifts of the Spirit equip us,
and the fullness of the Trinity unite us to worship and serve
the one true God, now and always. Amen.**

Bishop: I commission you to work together as members of the Local Ministry Development Group in this parish, serving God with all your heart, showing forth the love of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*The Bishop may informally present certificates of Local Ministry
to be displayed in each Church*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Minister: Father we thank you that by baptism you have raised these your children with Christ to new life in the Spirit. Guide and protect them with your grace, that they may follow you all their days and grow in knowledge and love of you.

Father, by the victory of your Son:
All: **Give Light to the world**

Minister: May Christ who conquered sin and death keep his whole Church faithful to him. Help us always to hold fast to truth and to walk in the way of life.

Father, by the victory of your Son:
All: **Give Light to the world**

Minister: May the Holy Spirit fill the hearts and minds of all the nations to unite the world in peace and love. By your healing power restore all that is broken and unite us with you, our God and Father.

Father by the victory of your Son
All: **Give Light to the world**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

THE PEACE

We all stand and the Bishop introduces the Peace

Bishop: 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 the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

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

Bishop: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The peace is exchanged by turning to our neighbours and friends taking them by the hand and saying, "Peace be with you"

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

We remain standing to sing the next hymn during which the collection is taken; the table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it. The collection goes to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand ;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ or 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,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord most high.

We remain standing

TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Bishop: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which
earth has given and human hands have made It will become for us
the bread of life.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

Bishop: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

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 thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,

through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.
This day we give you thanks
because in fulfilment of your promise
you pour out your Spirit upon us,
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,
and uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith.

Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,
to proclaim your gospel to all nations
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.
Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,
to proclaim the glory of your name,
for ever praising you and *singing*:

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.**

The people sit or kneel

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bishop: As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Bishop breaks the consecrated bread

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 one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The Bishop says the invitation to Communion

Bishop: 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.

We welcome anyone who is a communicating member of the Christian church to come to the altar rail to receive communion. We also welcome those who do not wish to receive communion, but would like to receive a special blessing. To indicate this, please bring this order of service with you.

During Communion the choir sings the anthem "Ave Verum".

Ave verum corpus, natum ex Maria Virgine, vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine. Cujus latus perforatum vero fluxit sanguine; esto nobis prægustatum, mortis in examine. O Clemens, O dulcis Jesu, fili Mariæ.

We then all sing these hymns while kneeling or seated:

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 awesone 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 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.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son.
Cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in,
Jesus, our love for you we sing,
Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
now and ev'ry day
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you.
Into our lives your pow'r breaks through,
Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
born as one of us,
Mary's Son.

Led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death you set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see
you are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ,
I would come to you,
live my life for you,
Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your pow'r breaks through,
Living Lord.

Prayer After Communion

Bishop: 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 fruits of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

All: **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

Bishop: The God of all grace,

who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

We stand to sing our final hymn:

One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go.
From the old things to the new
keep me travelling along with you.

*And it's from the old
I travel to the new,
keep me travelling along with you.*

Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn.
All the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me.

As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go,
you'll be telling me the way, I know.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough.
Leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me.
Ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you.

THE DISMISSAL

Bishop: Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

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Here are some useful links to help you keep in touch:



Parish of Greater Whitbourne
www.whitbourne.org.uk



Local Ministry Development Group
www.whitbourne.org.uk/files/LMDGhome.shtml



Whitbourne
www.whitbourne.org.uk/home.shtml



Upper Sapey
www.whitbourne.org.uk/UShome.shtml



Edvin Loach
www.whitbourne.org.uk/ELhome.shtml



Tedstone Delamere
www.whitbourne.org.uk/files/churches.shtml