

Leave to his sovereign sway
To choose and to command;
So shalt thou, wondering, own his way,
How wise, how strong his hand.

Tune: Carlisle (AMR 374)

All kneel for these prayers, offered by the Archbishop:

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Archbishop will ask the prayers of those present for God's blessing on the ministry of the new Priest and on the life of the parishes. Then he will say:

ALMIGHTY God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Jesus Christ himself as the chief corner-stone. So join us together in unity of spirit by their doctrine that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, giver of all good gifts, by your Holy Spirit you have appointed orders of ministry in the Church. Look with mercy and favour on all your servants called to serve you in this way. Maintain them in truth and renew them in holiness, that by word and good example they may faithfully serve you to the glory of your Name and the benefit of your Church; through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING



Please take this service booklet away with you as a memento of the service, and continue to pray for the parishes of Patrixbourne with Bridge and Bekesbourne and for their Priest in Charge, Raymond Gilbert

PARISHES OF PATRIXBOURNE WITH BRIDGE AND BEKESBOURNE

Order of Service

for the

Licensing

by the

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

and the

Installation

by the

ARCHDEACON OF CANTERBURY

of

The Reverend

Raymond Gilbert

A.K.C.

as Priest in Charge

St. Peter's Church, Bridge
Monday 29th October 1979
7.30pm

As the Choir and Clergy enter the Church all sing this HYMN:

Christ is our corner-stone,
On him alone we build;
With his true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are fill'd:
On his great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.

Oh, then with hymns of praise
These hallow'd courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing;
And thus proclaim
In joyful song
Both loud and long
That glorious name.

Here, gracious God, do thou
For evermore draw nigh;
Accept each faithful vow
And mark each suppliant sigh;
In copious shower
On all who pray
Each holy day
Thy blessings pour.

Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore;
And may that grace, once given,
Be with us evermore,
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are call'd away.

Tune: Harewood (AMR 243)

THE PRESENTATION

All still standing the Rural Dean will say to the Archbishop:

Most Reverend Father in God I present RAYMOND GILBERT to you to be licensed as Priest in Charge of the Parishes of St. Mary, Patixbourne with St. Peter, Bridge and St. Peter, Bekesbourne.

The Archbishop will say:

His name has been publicly made known, his character and conduct commended to me. I have come to commend RAYMOND GILBERT to you, to license him as Priest in Charge and to join with you in prayer for God's blessing on his ministry and yours.

O Thou who camest from above
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return
In humble prayer, and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work, and speak, and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make the sacrifice complete.

Tune: Hereford (AMR 329)

THE SERMON, PRAYERS AND FINAL BLESSING

The Archbishop will preach the Sermon.

During the HYMN following a collection will be made:

Put thou thy trust in God,
In duty's path go on;
Walk in his strength with faith and hope,
So shall thy work be done.

Commit thy ways to him,
Thy works into his hands,
And rest on his unchanging word,
Who heaven and earth commands.

Though years on years roll on,
His covenant shall endure;
Though clouds and darkness hide his path,
The promised grace is sure.

Give to the winds thy fears;
Hope, and be undismayed:
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;
God shall lift up thy head.

Through waves and clouds and storms
His power will clear thy way;
Wait thou his time; the darkest night
Shall end in brightest day.

where, and many marvels and signs were brought about through the apostles. With one mind they kept up their daily attendance at the temple, and breaking bread in private houses, shared their meals with unaffected joy, as they praised God and enjoyed the favour of the whole people.' *Acts 2. 42, 43, 46-47*

The Archbishop says:

It is the duty of the priest to be careful and reverent in the ordering of public worship, to lead the people in thanksgiving and prayer to God and to say Morning and Evening Prayer daily for the parish. Above all, it is his privilege regularly to celebrate the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ. Will you do these things gladly and willingly?

The Priest answers: I will, with the help of God.

The Archbishop continues:

People of God, gather here to offer your thanksgiving for the life, the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who gives himself to you in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of the Spirit binds you into one so that you may bear witness to him in the world. Will you, together, seek this grace?

All reply: We will, with the help of God.

THE INSTALLATION AND THE WELCOME

Then will the Archdeacon take the Reverend Raymond Gilbert by the hand and lead him to the stall. The Churchwardens will follow and stand by the stall. The Archdeacon will then place him in the stall and say:

RAYMOND GILBERT, by virtue of this Licence I install you as Priest in Charge of the Parishes of St. Mary, Patricbourne with St. Peter, Bridge and St. Peter, Bekesbourne. May God's blessing rest on you in all that you do in his name.

The Churchwardens greet their new Parish Priest with these words:

On behalf of these parishes we welcome you as our Parish Priest. Together we will work to build up the life of the Church of Christ in these places.

The Clergy of the Deanery of East Bridge say:

We share with you in a common ministry in this Deanery. We welcome you as a colleague and a friend in the service of the Lord.

Representatives of the Roman Catholic and Methodist Churches come forward and say:

In the name of all the Christians in this place, we welcome you. May we work together in the cause of Christian unity and truth

Representatives of other local groups may then greet the new Priest in like manner.

All sit while the Priest gives out appropriate notices, after which all stand to sing this HYMN:

The Lord be with you.

All: The Lord bless you.

Let us pray. Holy Father, you have sent your Holy Spirit to your people to give them the new life of your Son. Fill us with that life, that your Church may truly be an instrument of your love to transform your world, through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever. *Amen.*

All sit while the Reverend Raymond Gilbert makes the Declaration of Assent, the Archbishop first saying to him:

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?

The Priest declares:

I, RAYMOND GILBERT, 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. In public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by Canon.

He now makes the Oaths of Allegiance and of Canonical Obedience, after which he will subscribe the Declaration and Oaths.

The Archbishop says to the people:

Dearly beloved, because the care of immortal souls, which our blessed Lord and Saviour purchased with his own most precious blood, is so solemn and weighty a thing, we now ask you to join with us in prayer to Almighty God, that he will give to this his servant grace to perform aright the duties which belong to so sacred and grave a trust.

THE LICENSING

All kneel to sing this hymn to the Holy Spirit:

Come, thou holy Paraclete,
And from thy celestial seat
Shed thy light and brilliancy:
Father of the Poor, draw near;
Giver of all gifts, be here;
Come, the soul's true radiancy:

Come, of comforters the best,
Of the soul the sweetest guest,
Come in toil refreshingly:
Thou in labour rest most sweet,
Thou art shadow from the heat,
Comfort in adversity.

O thou Light, most pure and blest,
Shine within the inmost breast
Of thy faithful company.
Where thou art not, man hath nought;
Every holy deed and thought
Comes from thy Divinity.

What is soiled, make thou pure;
What is wounded, work its cure;
What is parchèd, fructify;
What is rigid, gently bend;
What is frozen, warmly tend;
Straighten what goes erringly.

Fill thy faithful, who confide
In thy power to guard and guide,
With thy sevenfold Mystery.
Here thy grace and virtue send:
Grant salvation in the end,
And in heaven felicity.

Tune: Veni, Sancte Spiritus (AMR 156)

All stand while the Archbishop reads the Licence, the Priest kneeling before him.

The Archbishop continues:

Receive the pastoral care of these parishes, which you will now share with me, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, rest upon you, and remain with you always. Amen.

The Archbishop will hand the Licence to the Archdeacon and take his seat on the north side of the Sanctuary.

THE PROMISES OF PRIEST AND PEOPLE

The Churchwardens conduct the Archdeacon, the Rural Dean and the Priest to the Font. The people turn to face the Font.

At the Font the Rural Dean says:

Jesus said: "Full authority in heaven and on earth has been committed to me. Go, then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples. Baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey all that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
St. Matthew 28. 19-20

The Archdeacon says:

It is the duty of the parish priest to care for the members of the parish committed to his charge. He must remind them that baptism is the beginning of new life in Christ and of fellowship in his Church. He must teach parents and Godparents to understand their responsibilities. He must prepare for confirmation those who have been baptised, and must seek to promote the unity of all who share the one baptism. Will you do these things gladly and willingly?

The Priest answers: I will, with the help of God.

The Archdeacon continues:

People of God, remember with joy and thanksgiving God's love which has made you his own in baptism and confirmation. Will you Churchwardens, members of the Parochial Church Councils and people of these parishes, help others to know and receive this love?

All reply: We will, with the help of God.

The procession now goes to the Chancel step, where the Rural Dean says:

"And these were his gifts: some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip God's people for work in his service, to the building up of the body of Christ. So shall we all at last attain to the unity inherent in our faith and our knowledge of the Son of God—to mature manhood, measured by nothing less than the full stature of Christ."
Ephesians 4. 11-13

The Archdeacon says:

It is the duty of the parish priest to proclaim and preach the Good News of God's Kingdom; to help and encourage all those committed to his charge in the practice of the Christian life; to study the Scriptures carefully and to teach the Christian faith to young and old alike. Will you do these things gladly and willingly?

The Priest answers: I will, with the help of God.

The Archdeacon continues:

People of God, hear with joy the word of the Gospel, and seek through prayer and service to grow in the knowledge of your faith, to live in charity with all men, and to make the Gospel known throughout the world. Will you, in fellowship with others, do your best to spread the Good News of the Kingdom?

All reply: We will, with the help of God

The procession now moves to the Altar. The Rural Dean and the Priest enter the Sanctuary, the Archdeacon and the Churchwardens remaining outside.

The Rural Dean says:

Here the words of St. Luke: "They met constantly to hear the apostles teach, to share the common life, to break bread, and to pray. A sense of awe was every-