





**Parishes of Patricbourne with Bridge, Bekesbourne,  
Nackington and Lower Hardres**

**Diocese of Canterbury**



**The Licensing and Installation  
of The Reverend Paul Filmer  
as Priest-in-Charge**

**Tuesday 2 May 2000 at 7.30pm  
St. Peter's Church, Bridge**



## ABOUT THIS SERVICE

In earlier times a priest visited a bishop to be authorised (instituted), and travelled to the parish to be put in (inducted) by the archdeacon. Institution and Induction or, as on this occasion, Licensing and Installation, now come together in a single service in which the congregation has its own important part. We are witnesses as our new parish priest accepts the responsibilities of *his* ministry here, and we also accept and affirm our part in Christ's ministry. Local leaders and neighbouring clergy of other Christian traditions welcome the new arrival into the life of the community. Within the service itself, the new priest begins *his* new ministry by leading the prayers.

The licensing of a priest to a parish, as distinct from an institution and induction as rector or vicar, is increasingly in use where possible changes are coming about in the pastoral situation of the parishes. Where a parish is in an area which might be affected by changes in the ministry through reorganisation, presentation by the patron of the living is suspended and the priest takes up *his* office by licence. This process is as equally effective as institution and induction. It gives the priest-in-charge the same responsibilities under the bishop as regards the affairs of the parish as if *he* were rector or vicar.

The licensing is performed by the bishop or his commissary. He commends the "cure of souls", the spiritual care of the people, to the new parish priest. The installation is performed by the archdeacon, who entrusts to the new parish priest the "temporalities" of the parish. These include responsibility, together with the parochial church council and the churchwardens, for the church buildings and churchyards.

The section in this order of service entitled "*The Promises of Priest and People*" has no historical or legal connection with institution or licensing. But it is appropriate that, at the beginning of a new ministry, the parish priest and the people of the parish(es) should be reminded in a solemn way of their privileges and responsibilities.

In the time before the service, please pray for this parish or benefice, for its future life and work, and for the new parish priest. Remember, too, that we in this place share in the life of our diocese, and that other parishes are praying for us at this time.



## THE PREPARATION

*Please stand for the opening hymn as the procession enters the church.*

### *The Order of Procession*

*Crucifer and Servers*

*Choir*

*Readers*

*Visiting Clergy and Ministers*

*The Patron of St. Mary's Church, Lower Hardres and the Parish Priest  
designate*

*The Area Dean and the Lay Chairman of the Deanery Synod*

*The Archdeacon of Canterbury*

*The Churchwardens*

*The Bishop in Canterbury*

*The Bishop's Chaplain*

### Hymn

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!  
let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,  
who from his altar call;  
praise him whose way of pain ye trod,  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

Ye prophets who our freedom won,  
ye searchers great and small,  
by whom the work of truth is done,  
now crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

*The Parish Priest announces the final hymn, during which the clergy, choir and other ministers leave the church, a procession forming up in the same order as for the start of the service, except that the Bishop and the Parish Priest walk side by side to symbolise their partnership in the responsibility for the parishes.*

### Hymn

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,  
my daily labour to pursue;  
thee, only thee, resolved to know,  
in all I think or speak or do.

The task thy wisdom has assigned  
O let me cheerfully fulfil;  
in all my works thy presence find,  
and prove thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand,  
whose eyes my inmost substance see,  
and labour on at thy command,  
and offer all my works to thee.

Give me to bear thy easy yoke,  
and ev'ry moment watch and pray,  
and still to things eternal look,  
and hasten to thy glorious day.

For thee delightfully employ  
whate'er thy bounteous grace has giv'n,  
and run my course with even joy,  
and closely walk with thee to heav'n.

*Everyone is welcome after the service to meet Paul and his family at the Reception in The John Baker White Memorial Hall at Lower Hardres.*



temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Please sit*

**Anthem** *sung by the choir*  
King of Glory, King of Peace  
*Music: Bach/Harris*      *Words: George Herbert*

### THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*Please kneel*

*Bishop:* We ask for God's blessing upon these parishes.

*All:* **Bless our Parishes; inspire our worship; fill us with your love; send us out, in the power of your Spirit, to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

*Bishop:* God give you a vision of his love, faith to believe it, and grace to fulfil it, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Please stand for the dismissal*

*Priest:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

*All:* **In the name of Christ! Amen.**

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
ye ransomed of the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace,  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry tribe and ev'ry tongue  
to him their hearts enthral;  
lift high the universal song,  
and crown him, crown him, crown him,  
crown him Lord of all.

*At the end of the hymn, please remain standing.*

*Bishop:* Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*All:* **Amen.**

*The Bishop welcomes those who have gathered for the Service, after which he says:*

*Bishop:* We have come together as the family of God to welcome Paul as your parish priest, to entrust to him the care of souls in this place, and to pray for him and his family and for all the people of God in these parishes.

Let us turn to God and seek his grace, that through his Son Jesus Christ we may give ourselves afresh to his service.

*All:* **God our Father, Lord of all the world, we thank you that through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church; hear our prayer for your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love; and**



give to your servant Paul, now to be licensed, the needful gifts of grace; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

## The Presentation

*The Parish Priest designate stands before the Bishop. The Churchwardens also stand before the Bishop, on either side.*

*Bishop:* People of God of these parishes, I present to you Paul whom I have come to admit as your priest and pastor.

Paul's name has been publicly made known, his character and conduct commended to me. I have come to commend Paul to you, to license Paul to these parishes, and to join with you in prayer for God's blessing on his ministry and yours.

Paul, before I license you to the care of souls in these parishes, I ask you, in the presence of this congregation, if you are willing to commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

*Priest:* I am willing to do so, with the help of God.

*Bishop:* People of these parishes, will you support and uphold Paul in this ministry?

*All:* **With God's help, we will.**

*Bishop:* I request Paul to make the Declaration and to take the Oaths which are required by law.

*Priest:* Almighty God, you have made us members of Christ and of his Church in these parishes.

May we as a congregation reach upwards to your throne in worship and adoration; inwards to one another in understanding and fellowship; and outwards to the world in evangelism and social concern.

Make us a like a city set on a hill whose light cannot be hidden, so that others may find Christ as the Light of the world, and his Church as the family of the redeemed, and eternal life as the gift of God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* Lord God, you have taught us that we are members one of another, and that none of us lives to himself alone. We thank you for this community of which we are part; for those who share with us in its activities, and for all who serve its varied interests. Help us, as we have the opportunity, to contribute towards its well-being, and to learn to be good neighbours, that in love we may serve one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* As our Saviour has 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**



*During the hymn a collection will be taken for the Diocesan Ministry Training Fund, which is used to help those training for full-time ministry, both lay and ordained.*

**Sermon**            *The Right Reverend Stephen Venner, Bishop in Canterbury*

**Hymn**  
There is a Redeemer,  
Jesus, God's own Son,  
precious Lamb of God,  
Messiah, Holy One.  
*Thank you, O my Father,  
for giving us your Son,  
and leaving your Spirit  
till the work on earth is done.*

Jesus, my Redeemer,  
name above all names,  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
O for sinners slain.  
*Thank you, O my Father, ....*

When I stand in glory,  
I will see his face,  
and there I'll serve my King for ever,  
in that holy place.  
*Thank you, O my Father, ....*

## THE PRAYERS

*Please kneel.*

*The Priest prays for himself and his people, saying:*

## THE DECLARATION OF ASSENT

*Please sit.*

*The Archdeacon comes from his place to the chancel step to read the Preface.*

*Archdeacon:*        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?

*Priest:*                I, Paul, 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; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by Canon.

## THE OATHS OF ALLEGIANCE AND CANONICAL OBEDIENCE

*Taking the Bible, the Priest makes the Oath of Allegiance, turning to face the people, and saying:*



*Priest:* I, Paul do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her heirs and successors, according to law. So help me God.

*Then, turning to face the Bishop, the Priest makes the Oath of Canonical Obedience:*

I, Paul, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury and to his successors in all things lawful and honest. So help me God.

*The Priest then signs the Declaration and Oaths.*

## THE LICENSING

*Bishop:* 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, I now ask you to join together with me in prayer to Almighty God, that he will give this his servant grace to perform aright the duties which belong to so sacred and grave a trust.

*All kneel with the Bishop and sing:*

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

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

## Hymn

Thou, whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight;  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring  
on thy redeeming wing,  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind,  
O now to all mankind  
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,  
life giving, holy Dove,  
speed forth thy flight;  
move on the water's face,  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might;  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the earth far and wide  
let there be light.



## THE INSTALLATION

*Archdeacon:* Paul, I place you in the stall of the priest of this parish. May God's blessing rest upon you, and upon all your ministry here.

People of these parishes, I commend to you your new Parish Priest. Will you care for Paul and his family, encourage Paul in his faith, and support Paul in his ministry?

*All:* **With God's help, we will.**

## THE WELCOME

*Please sit.*

*The following will welcome the new Parish Priest, who stands to receive their greetings:*

*John Anderson, Churchwarden, Patrixbourne with Bridge.*

*Ian Chandler, Lay Chairman, East Bridge Deanery Synod.*

*Anna Newton, Headteacher, Bridge CEP School.*

*The Revd. David Marshall, Superintendent of the Methodist Church, North East Kent Circuit.*

*John Ash, Chairman, Bekesbourne with Patrixbourne Parish Council.*

*Bill Oakey, Councillor, Canterbury City Council.*

*Maggie Field, Divisional Commissioner, Guides Association.*

*At the end of the greetings, the Parish Priest replies.*

*When all have returned to their places, the Parish Priest announces the services for the following Sunday, and gives any other necessary notices.*

Anoint and cheer our soiled 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

*Please stand.*

*The Priest kneels before the Bishop, and takes hold of one end of the legal document. The Bishop reads aloud from the document and then, clasping the hands of the Priest, says these words:*

*Bishop:* Receive this cure of souls which is both mine and yours; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All:* **Amen.**

*The Bishop blesses the new Parish Priest:*

*Bishop:* The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, give you vision, courage and love to do his will; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

*All:* **Amen.**



## Hymn

O thou who camest from above  
the fire celestial 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 the 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.

*The Bishop goes to his chair in the sanctuary.*

## THE START OF THE NEW MINISTRY

*During the hymn, a procession forms and moves to the main door of the church:*

*The Churchwardens  
The Parish Priest  
The Area Dean and the Lay Chairman  
The Archdeacon*

*Please remain standing, and turn to face the main door.*

*Archdeacon:*

Paul, it is your duty to be conscientious and reverent in the ordering of public worship; to lead the people in thanksgiving and prayer; to say Morning and Evening Prayer daily for the parish; and to celebrate regularly the Holy Communion of Christ's Body and Blood. Will you do these things gladly and willingly?

*Priest:*

With God's help, I will.

*Churchwarden of  
Patricbourne with  
Bridge:*

The Church is called to share the life of Christ through Word, Sacrament and Prayer. It is every member's privilege and joy to be diligent in private prayer and in Bible reading day by day, to attend Christian worship week by week, to receive the Holy Communion faithfully and regularly, and to give generously for the work of the parish and diocese, and for the mission of the Church at home and overseas. People of God in this place, will you each be faithful to this Christian calling?

*All:*

With God's help, we will.

*Bishop:*

Churchwardens, church councillors, and people of these parishes, I charge you to care for each other, to work with your priest, with Christians of other Churches, and with all people of goodwill as disciples of the kingdom of God. Will you dedicate yourselves afresh to this calling?

*All:*

With God's help, we will.

**Remember, O Lord, what you have wrought in us, and not what we deserve; and as you have called us to your service, make us worthy of that calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



committed to his charge and help them to grow strong in grace so that they are able to pass on the Good News to others also. Will you do these things gladly and willingly?

*Priest:* With God's help, I will.

*Churchwarden of Lower Hardres:* People of God, it is our Christian calling to hear and receive the word of the Lord; to seek through prayer and service to grow in faith; and to live in harmony with one another. Will you, through regular prayer and the study of the Scriptures, seek daily to fashion your lives according to the example and will of Christ?

*All:* With God's help, we will.

*The procession moves to the Sanctuary to join the Bishop. All sing these verses:*

Tell of his reign at God's right hand,  
by all creation glorified.  
He sends his Spirit on his Church  
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:  
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
This gospel message we proclaim:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

### **The Call to Worship**

*Lay Chairman:* Jesus said to his disciples, "Dwell in me, as I in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself, but only if it remains united with the vine; no more can you bear fruit, unless you remain united with me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who dwells in me, as I dwell in him, bears much fruit; for apart from me you can do nothing"

*(John 15, 4-5)*

*The Archdeacon, clasping the hand of the Priest, says:*

*Archdeacon:* Paul, you are now the priest of these parishes.

The Lord guard and guide you in his service; the Lord preserve your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

*All:* Amen.

*The procession moves to where the Bells are hung. The Priest tolls a bell announcing the start of his ministry.*

## **THE PROMISES OF PRIEST AND PEOPLE**

*The procession turns to the Font.*

### **The Call to Witness**

*Area Dean:* 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".

*(Matt. 28, 19-20)*

*Archdeacon:* Paul, it is the task of the parish priest to show what it means to live under the authority of Christ; to make disciples and care for them; to baptise them into new life in Christ and to teach and train them for the Kingdom. Will you do these things gladly and willingly?

*Priest:* With God's help, I will.



*Churchwarden of  
Nackington:*

People of God, it is our task to witness joyfully to the love of God who has made us his own in faith and baptism. Will you tell others your story of faith in order to help them know and receive this love?

**All:** With God's help, we will.

*The procession moves to the nave or body of the church, during the singing of these verses:*

We have a gospel to proclaim,  
good news for men in all the earth;  
the gospel of a Saviour's name:  
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem  
not in a royal house or hall  
but in a stable dark and dim,  
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

### **The Call to Service**

*Lay Chairman:* 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.

*(Eph. 4. 11-13)*

*Archdeacon:* Paul, it is the calling of the parish priest to see that all God's people are equipped for the ministries to which God calls them. He should help them to recognise the gifts that the Holy Spirit gives, so that together they fulfil Christ's purpose for the whole of their lives. Will you do these things gladly and willingly?

*Priest:* With God's help, I will.

*Churchwarden of  
Bekesbourne:*

The Church is called in the power of the Spirit to continue Christ's ministry in the world today. It is the calling of every Christian to follow the example of Christ in work and leisure, and in home and family life, seeking his will, and living to his glory. Will you therefore work together with all who seek to serve this community for Christ's sake?

**All:** With God's help, we will.

*The procession moves to the Chancel Step, during the singing of these verses:*

Tell of his death at Calvary,  
hated by those he came to save,  
in lonely suffering on the Cross  
for all he loved his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn  
empty the tomb, for he was free.  
He broke the power of death and hell  
that we might share his victory.

### **The Call to Prayer**

*Area Dean:* The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

*(Philippians, 4, 57)*

*Archdeacon:* Paul, it is the calling of the parish priest to be faithful in prayer and in the study of the Scriptures, and to grow in his relationship with God; to teach the Christian faith to all