

DIOCESE OF MONMOUTH



**SERVICE TO CELEBRATE
THE 20th ANNIVERSARY
OF WOMEN TO THE PRIESTHOOD**



**ST. WOOLOS' CATHEDRAL,
NEWPORT**

**Saturday 7th January 2017
at 11 a.m.**

Processional Hymn

**Jesus calls us here to meet him
As through word and song and prayer.
We affirm God's promised presence
Where his people live and care.
Praise the God who keeps his promise;
Praise the Son who calls us friends;
Praise the Spirit, who, among us,
To our hopes and fears attends.**

**Jesus calls us to confess him
Word of Life and Lord of all,
Sharer of our flesh and frailness
Saving all who fail or fall.
Tell his holy human story;
Tell his tales that all may hear;
Tell the world that Christ in glory
Came to earth to meet us here.**

**Jesus calls us to each other;
Found in him are no divides.
Race and class and sex and language –
Such are barriers he derides.
Join the hand of friend and stranger;
Join the hands of age and youth;
Join the faithful and the doubter
In their common search for truth.**

**Jesus calls us to his table
Rooted firm in time and space,
Where the Church in earth and heaven
Finds a common meeting place.
Share the bread and wine, his body;
Share the love of which we sing;
Share the feast for saints and sinners
Hosted by our Lord and King.**

*Words © The Iona Community
Tune: Blaenwern*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace be with you
and keep you in the love of Christ.

Bishop Richard offers words of welcome

A brief history of the Journey to Womens' Ordination as Priests.

A message from Dr. Rowan Williams who, as Bishop of Monmouth, Ordained the first women priests in the Diocese on 11th January 1997.

Introduction to the Eucharist

God calls his people to follow Christ, and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

To serve this royal priesthood, God has given particular ministries.

Priests are ordained to lead God's people in the offering of praise and the proclamation of the gospel. They share with the Bishop in the oversight of the Church, delighting in its beauty and rejoicing in its well-being. They are to set the example of the Good Shepherd always before them as the pattern of their calling.

With the Bishop and their fellow presbyters, they are to sustain the community of the faithful by the ministry of word and sacrament, that we all may grow into the fullness of Christ and be a living sacrifice acceptable to God.

Invitation to Confession

Jesus says, 'How often have I longed to gather you children, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you would not come to me.' Let us, as wayward children, return to God and confess our sins:

Silence is kept

**Heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and have failed to do what we ought to have done.
We are sorry and truly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and lead us in his way
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you and set you free from sin,
strengthen you in goodness and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God (Peruvian Gloria)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.
To him be glory for ever.
To him be glory for ever.
Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.
Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.
To him be glory for ever.
To him be glory for ever.
Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.
To him be glory for ever.
To him be glory for ever.
Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen.

The Collect

Please remain STANDING

O God, the same yesterday, today and for ever,
whose people are a royal priesthood, a chosen
generation:

let your priests be clothed with righteousness
and your faithful ones sing for joy
as we celebrate our common humanity,
our shared ministry, and our joint service,
in proclaiming the mighty acts of the one
who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light:
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please SIT

A reading from the Book of Ruth.

Ruth 1. 16-18

Ruth said, 'Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die – there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!' When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

**As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**

**You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**

**I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.**

**You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**

**You're my friend and you are my brother,
even though you are a King.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.**

**You alone are my strength, my shield,
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2. 1-11

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Please STAND

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord shall preserve them from all evil:

It is he that shall keep you safe.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?'

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."'

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

(John 20. v.11-18)

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: *The Right Rev'd Dominc Walker OGS,
retired Bishop of Monmouth.*

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in God

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth
is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Intercessions

Please KNEEL / SIT

Please respond to each petition by saying together the words in **bold type**.

Let us pray

We remember Eve, created in God's image and likeness.
Source of all Life, help us to affirm your image in ourselves.

We remember Miriam, prophet and musician, who led the women dancing in celebration of the passage through the Red Sea.

Celebrating God, fire us with the joy at all you have done for us.

We remember Deborah, who if she had to use violence, used it to free her people.

Liberating God, help us to find peaceful means of freeing ourselves and others.

We remember Naomi and Ruth who loved each other.

Loving God, help us all as women and men to pattern our relationships on the love of Creator, Redeemer and Spirit have for one another.

We remember Mary whose 'Yes' to the Incarnation made our redemption possible.

Help us to be ready to respond when you call.

We remember Mary of Bethany who, breaking with all conventions, poured precious oil over our Lord's feet, wiping it away with her hair.

O God who is love, help us to respond lovingly with the whole of our being.

We remember Phoebe, the deacon, who led the Church at Conchreae and who was co-worker with Paul in ministry.

Help us not to bury our talents but to develop our God given gifts.

We remember Phoebe who, with her husband, Aquilla, was a leader in a community centred on her house.

God of compassion and caring, help us to take your love from our homes and churches and into our communities.

We remember the daughters of Philip, who were prophets.

Almighty God, strengthen us to fulfil our prophetic role and challenge what we see to be wrong.

We remember Dorcas, full of good works and alms deeds.
**God who sustains us, make us generous with our
commitment to work for the good of all.**

Inspired by these women from the Bible, **may we work
together to build good relationships and spread the
Gospel message. Amen.**

The Peace

Please STAND

Christ has broken down the dividing wall that made us
strangers to one another; he has made us one humanity
that God might be all in all; he is our life, our hope, our
peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of the Lord's peace.

Offertory Hymn

*During which a collection will be taken and the money
given to ??????? Li Tim Oi Foundation?????*

**There is a line of women,
extending back to Eve,
whose role in shaping history
God only could conceive.
And though, through endless ages,
their witness was repressed,
God valued and encouraged them
through whom the world was blessed.**

**So sing a song of Sarah,
to laughter she gave birth;
and sing a song of Tamar,
who stood for women's worth;
and sing a song for Hannah,
who bargained with her Lord;
and sing a song of Mary,
who bore and bred God's Word.**

**There is a line of women
who took on powerful men,
Defying laws and scruples
to let life live again.
And though, despite their triumph,
their stories stayed untold,
God kept their number growing,
creative, strong and bold.**

**So sing a song of Shiprah,
with Puah at her hand,
Engaged to kill male children,
they foiled the king's command;
and sing a song of Rahab,
who sheltered spies and lied;
and sing a song of Esther,
preventing genocide.**

**There is a line of women
who stood by Jesus' side,
Who housed him while he ministered
and held him when he died;
and though they claimed he'd risen,**

their news was deemed suspect,
till Jesus stood among them,
his womanly elect.

So sing a song of Anna,
who saw Christ's infant face;
and sing a song of Martha,
who gave him food and space;
and sing of all the Mary's,
who heeded his requests,
and now, at heaven's banquet,
are Jesus' fondest guests.

Text: John L. Bell Tune: Hatherop Castle

The Thanksgiving

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

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.

Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

Faithful God,
receive all we offer you this day.
May we so live the life of Christ
that your Church may be a sign of salvation
to all the nations of the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Living God, giver of light, hope of nations,
friend of sinners, builder of the city that is to come:
your love is made visible in Jesus Christ,
you bring home the lost,
restore the sinner
and give dignity to the despised.
In the face of Jesus Christ your light shines out,
flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one a divided and broken humanity.
With women and men from every race and nation,
with the Church of all the ages,
with apostles, evangelists and martyrs,
we join the angels of heaven in their unending song:

**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.**

Hear us, heavenly Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Through him accept our sacrifice of praise,
and grant that, by the power of your Spirit,
these gifts of bread and wine may be for us
his body and his blood;

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 from this, all of you;
for 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come in glory.**

Therefore, Father, remembering the saving death and resurrection of your Son we offer to you in thanksgiving this bread and this cup, your gifts to us, and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send your Holy Spirit upon all of us who share this bread and this cup. Strengthen our faith, make us one and welcome us and all your people into the glorious kingdom of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honour and glory are yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Silence.

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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**

The Breaking of the Bread

**We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body
for we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei

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

During Communion Taize chants will be played.

After Communion a short Silence is kept

Post Communion Hymn

**Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's Son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring you 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 to 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.**

Text and music: Patrick Appleford (b. 1925)

Please SIT

**Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.**

Spirit of Life,
we thank you for disordering our boundaries
and releasing our desires in this feast of delight:
Draw us out of hidden places and centres of conformity
to feel your laughter and live your pleasure,
and give thanks in the name of Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of Commitment

The Ordained women stand to say this prayer but
everyone is invited to say the words with them.

**Heavenly Father,
grant me grace to fulfil my calling
by following Your way of incarnate love,
that I might make You known to those I seek to serve
in Your name.**

**Take me, break me, give me,
that I might tell others of the journey
and share with them Your food for the way
so that they will come to You
and we will live for ever.**

**So grant me peace, perseverance,
protection from evil
and the enduring love of Christ for ever.**

**Time for repentance and
the patience and comfort of the Holy Spirit.**

**And may joyful obedience
in Your service be mine for ever.
Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

May the outrageous welcome of the Father accept us for
who we are;
May the incarnation of the Word touch and hold us close;
May the wandering of the Spirit help us risk ourselves for
love;

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and
the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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

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

**Give me courage when the way is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough.
Leap and sing in all I do,
keep me travelling along with you.
And it's from the old I travel to the new,
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.
And it's from the old I travel to the new,
keep me travelling along with you.**

Text and music: Sydney Carter (b.1915)

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