

**The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich**



# **A Celebration of Ministry**

**with the  
Licensing  
of  
The Revd Thomas James Mumford  
as  
Priest-in-Charge  
of  
St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich  
By  
The Right Revd Martin Seeley  
Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich  
and  
The Ven Rhiannon King  
Archdeacon of Ipswich**

**on  
4 October 2021  
7.30pm**

# *Welcome to St Mary-le-Tower and to this Licensing Service*

A very warm welcome to our service this evening as we welcome our new Priest-in-Charge, Tom, who will be known locally as 'Vicar'. Please pray for Tom in his ministry both here at St Mary-le-Tower and in Ipswich. We also pray for Laura, Tom's fiancée.

As we are expecting a large number of attendees at this service, we kindly ask that the congregation wear a face mask out of respect for others, unless exempt on medical grounds.

Large print copies of this Order of Service are available from the stewards at the back of church.

An Induction Loop is in operation. If you are wearing a hearing aid, please switch to position 'T'.

The retiring collection at this service will be given to the Bishops' Training Fund. Donations can be made using the donations cabinet or contactless device at the back of church. Alternatively, payment can be made electronically to the following account:

Bishops' Training Fund  
Sort code: 16-14-98  
Account number: 10039721

Everybody is warmly invited to stay for refreshments, served at the West end of church, after the service. Please feel free to eat, drink and chat in the pews to enable others to reach the serving area.

This service is being livestreamed. The broadcast can be found by visiting [www.stmaryletower.org.uk/services](http://www.stmaryletower.org.uk/services). Broadcasts are usually available for up to two weeks after the service.

# The Gathering

## Music before the Service

Prelude on 'Rhosymedre' – *Ralph Vaughan Williams*

## Opening Hymn

*The Area Dean announces the hymn*

A&M 532

**All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
thou silver moon with softer gleam:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;  
ye lights of evening, find a voice:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou fire, so masterful and bright,  
thou givest us both warmth and light:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
The flow'rs and fruits that in thee grow,  
let them his glory also show:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness;  
    O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
    O praise him, O praise him,  
    Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*The Bishop standing before the congregation says:*

**All:** The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

**Bishop:** We have come together to give thanks for the life of the community in this place, and for all who have done God's work in it; to pray for Tom, now to begin his ministry here, that he may have joy, courage and hope; and for ourselves, that we may be renewed in the work of God's kingdom.

Let us therefore wait humbly upon God, giving thanks for all that God has done, and asking forgiveness for those ways in which we have failed each other, our communities, and God.

## **Prayers of Penitence**

**Bishop:** Let us pray that the people of God in all the world may worship in spirit and in truth.

Lord, hear us,

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

**Bishop:** That the Church may discover again that unity which is your gift.  
Lord, hear us,

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

**Bishop:** That the nations of the earth may seek after the ways that make for peace.

Lord, hear us,

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bishop: That the whole creation groaning in travail may be set free to enjoy the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Lord, hear us,

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bishop: That all who with Christ have entered the shadows of death may find fulfilment of life and peace.

Lord, hear us,

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bishop: With all the saints in light let us offer eternal praise to the Lord made manifest.

Lord, hear us,

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bishop: God our Father, hear our prayer for your faithful people, that all in their vocation and ministry may be instruments of your love;

Forgive us our sins

And assure us of your eternal love

In Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **Presentation of the New Minister**

*Tom stands before the Bishop, accompanied by the Area Dean*

Area Dean: Right Reverend Father in God, I present to you  
The Revd Tom Mumford to be licensed to the  
benefice of St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich

Bishop: I thank you and all those who with prayer have been involved in  
the appointment of Tom to this benefice.

*The Area Dean returns to his seat*

Bishop: Tom, do you believe that you are called by God and his church  
to accept this work?

Priest: I do.

*The Churchwardens stand with the new Priest*

# The People's Commitment

Bishop: The ministry of the Church is shared by all of God's people, exercising their particular gifts. Scripture calls each of us to use our gifts to build up the body of Christ in love.

Tom has accepted the call to serve and minister with you, so I now ask you, the people of God in this benefice, to commit to supporting him.

## *The Bishop addresses the Ministry Team*

Bishop: You have been called to minister together here with Tom. Will you care for him and for each other and minister with faith and joy, so that the Kingdom of God may be made known?

Ministers: With the help of God, we will.

## *The Bishop addresses the Churchwardens*

Bishop: Churchwardens, will you, as officers of the Bishop, and on behalf of the people of God in this benefice, care for Tom and support him in all those duties which he undertakes as your Priest?

Churchwardens: With the help of God, we will.

## *The Bishop addresses all present*

Bishop: People of God, will you uphold and encourage Tom in his work and ministry?

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

Bishop: Will you continually pray for Tom?

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

# The Liturgy of the Word

## **Philippians 4. 4-9**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry 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 surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader: For the gift of his living Word,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **The Sermon**

*The Right Revd Martin Seeley,  
Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich*

## **The Anthem**

Choir: We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.  
To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers  
therein.  
To thee cherubim and seraphim continually do cry,  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.  
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.  
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.  
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge  
thee;  
the Father of an infinite majesty;  
thine honourable, true and only Son;  
also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.  
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.  
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,  
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,  
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.  
O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.  
Govern them and lift them up for ever.

Day by day we magnify thee;  
and we worship thy name, ever world without end.  
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.  
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.  
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

*The hymn 'Te Deum Laudamus', originally in Latin, is based around the words of the Apostle's Creed. The words are often credited to St Ambrose and St Augustine. This setting of the hymn, 'Festival Te Deum Op. 32', was composed by Benjamin Britten in 1944.*

# The Liturgy of Licensing

## The Symbols of Ministry

*Water in the jug is brought forward*

**Bishop:** Christ calls his Church to share his Good News, to make disciples in his name, and to build up his followers in unity and in the power of the Spirit.

**All:** **God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him  
may not perish, but have everlasting life.**

*based on Ephesians 4. 5; John 3. 16*

**Bishop:** Tom, take the water and baptise as our Lord has commanded.

**All:** **Amen.**

*The jug is taken by the Priest to the font*

*A Bible is brought forward*



Bishop: God has given us the gift of Scripture. Let us commit ourselves together to read and study it, and to live out the Christian faith through word and deed.

**All: We proclaim Christ crucified,  
the power of God and the wisdom of God.**

*based on Psalm 119. 33; 1 Corinthians 1. 23, 24*

Bishop: Tom, take this Bible and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

*The Bible is then placed on the lectern*

*The bread and wine are brought forward*

Bishop: On the night before he died, Christ commanded his apostles to remember him. Every time we eat the bread and drink the cup at the table of the Lord, we proclaim his death until he comes.

**All: Jesus is the bread of life.  
Whoever comes to him will never be hungry;  
whoever believes in him will never be thirsty.**

*based on John 6. 33, 35*

Bishop: Tom, take this bread and wine and celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ for all.

**All: Amen.**

*The bread and wine are placed on the altar*

*Oil is brought forward*

Bishop: Remember that as an ambassador for Christ, God has called you together with all God's people to make Christ visible, and to care for all in this benefice in his name.

**All: The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,  
and to give his life as a ransom for many.**

*based on John 13. 5; Mark 10. 45*

Bishop: Tom, take these oils and tend the people of God in this benefice.

**All: Amen.**

## Declaration and Oaths

**Bishop:** Tom, both you and the people of this benefice have declared your willingness to work together in building up the body of Christ. Therefore, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Head of the Church, I, Martin, your Bishop, am here to license you as Priest-in-Charge of the benefice of St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich. Before I do so, it is necessary for the Declaration of Assent to be made and the Oaths of Allegiance and Canonical Obedience to be taken.

*Tom stands before the Bishop and the Declaration and Oaths are made and taken.*

**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. Tom 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 Declaration of Assent**

*(Facing the Bishop)*

I, Thomas James Mumford, 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 Oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty The Queen**

*(Facing the People)*

I, Thomas James Mumford, 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.

## **The Oath of Canonical Obedience**

*(Facing the Bishop)*

I, Thomas James Mumford, do swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich and his successors in all things lawful and honest, so help me God.

## **The Licensing**

**Bishop:** Having made these declarations, Tom may now receive the Cure of Souls in this benefice. Let us pray in silence that God will bless his ministry here.

*Tom kneels before the Bishop, as the people now stand.*

*The Bishop reads the Licence and places it on the table, saying:*

Tom, 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.  
Amen.

*The Bishop then blesses the Minister:*

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you always. Amen.

## The Welcome

*The Bishop presents the new Minister to the people, saying:*

People of this benefice, I present to you your new Priest-in-Charge now duly licensed and I invite you to greet him in the name of Christ. I commend him to your love and to your prayers.

**All: We welcome you!  
May the Lord richly bless you  
and make you a blessing among us.**

*The congregation greet the new Minister with a warm round of applause.*

*The Area Dean or Lay Chair welcome the new Minister into the Deanery with suitable words. They then introduce representatives from the local churches and communities.*

## The Intercessions

*Prayers of Intercession are led by Richard Hanley, Elder, concluding with The Lord's Prayer:*

**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.**

# The Sending Out

## The Notices

*The new Minister reads the notices.*

## The Blessing

*The Bishop pronounces God's blessing with these or other suitable words:*

Almighty God,  
who for the salvation of the world  
gives to his people many gifts and ministries  
to the advancement of his glory,  
stir up in you the gifts of his grace,  
and sustain each one of you in your own ministry;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All: Amen.**

## Recessional Hymn

*A&M 576*

**And did those feet in ancient time  
walk upon England's mountains green?  
And was the holy Lamb of God  
on England's pleasant pastures seen?  
And did the countenance divine  
shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
And was Jerusalem builded here  
among those dark satanic mills?**

**Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!  
Bring me my chariot of fire!  
I will not cease from mental fight,  
nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,  
till we have built Jerusalem  
in England's green and pleasant land.**

## **The Dismissal**

*After the hymn, the new Minister may say by the open door of the church:*

Go in the power of Christ.  
**All: We have a gospel to proclaim!**

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

## **Organ Voluntary**

Marche Pontificale (Symphonie Nr 1)  
Charles-Marie Widor

## **Retiring Collection**

*A collection is taken in aid of the Bishops' Training Fund.  
Details of how to donate can be found on page 2 of this Order of Service.*

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**Everybody is warmly invited to stay for refreshments served at the  
West end of church.**

**Please feel free to eat, drink and chat in the pews to enable others to  
reach the serving area.**

**Thank you for taking part in this service.**

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St Mary-le-Tower Church, Tower Street, Ipswich, IPI 3BE  
Vicar: Revd Tom Mumford

The Choir of St Mary-le-Tower  
Director of Music: Christopher Borrett  
Organist and Assistant Director of Music: William Baldry

[www.stmaryletower.org.uk](http://www.stmaryletower.org.uk)