



The Church of England
in Essex and East London

Diocese of Chelmsford

All Saints Church Fordham & Eight Ash Green

Institution by the
Bishop of Colchester
Rt Revd Roger Morris

and the Induction & Installation
by the Archdeacon of Colchester
The Venerable Ruth Patten

of

The Reverend Francis Charles Blight
as Rector of the Benefice of Fordham

Preacher:
The Rt Revd Rod Thomas
Bishop of Maidstone

Thursday 3rd September 2020, 7.30pm
at All Saints Fordham Church

This service is both a legal act and an act of worship. It marks the beginning of the Francis' ministry as Rector and a new stage in the life of All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green. As the mission and ministry of the Church is the responsibility of all baptised people, so they come together with their new rector and the bishop to celebrate their ministry and offer themselves afresh to God.

The service has a number of distinct elements:

- **The Gathering** of the people, including the Presentation of the New Minister
- **The Liturgy of the Word**, in which we read the bible together and discern what it has to say to our lives
- **The Liturgy of Institution**, in which the tasks of ministry are spelled out, and its collaborative nature is emphasised as the context for the ministry of Francis, which is then formally inaugurated.
The **Institution** is the admission by the bishop of a rector into the bishop's spiritual oversight and care of a parish / parishes.
The **Induction** is the admission by the archdeacon of a rector into the possession of the church building, churchyard and rectory.
The **Installation** is the formal placing by the archdeacon of a minister in his seat in the church.
Francis is then duly welcomed and leads the congregation in prayer.
- **The Dismissal**, in which the people are sent out with God's blessing to proclaim the gospel to the world

No physical collection will be taken tonight, but you are invited to make an electronic donation to the charity for **Licensed Ministers in the Diocese of Chelmsford (LMDC)** which provides grants to help clergy and their families in our diocese. These include emergency grants to help with unforeseen financial difficulties.

Gifts can be made to Barclays Bank Sort Code: 20-97-40 Account Number: 80380407 tagged 'Francis Blight's Institution'. If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider gift-aiding any donation.

The toilet is accessed through the kitchen at the back of the church.

A hearing loop is fitted in this building.

Please speak to a Steward if you need any assistance.

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Please spend some moments of quiet before the service begins:

- giving thanks to God for all who have worshipped and ministered here in this parish in the past
- praying for the present church family
- praying for Francis, Georgina, Tom, Sam and Zoë
- praying for the local community served by this church in the two villages
- praying for the parish schools, All Saints Fordham and Holy Trinity EAG
- praying for your own involvement in the life and witness of God's Church.

The Gathering

The Area Dean welcomes the people and invites them to stand while the ministers enter.

Hymn HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (GOD WITH US)

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to thee
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Holy, holy, holy,
All the saints adore thee
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim
Falling down before thee
Which, wert, and art and
Evermore shalt be

*From the cradle to the cross
God with us, God with us
For this broken world you love
God with us, God with us
You gave up your only son
God with us, God with us
So that all the world would know
Our God with us*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty
All thy works shall praise thy name
In earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Words and music by Reginald Heber, Matt Maher & John Bacchus Dykes,
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The Greeting

Bishop Grace, mercy and peace,
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ,
be with you

All **and also with you.**

Bishop Roger introduces the service with these or other suitable words

Bishop We have come together in the presence of God, to institute Francis to the ministry he will share, to pray for him, his family and for those who minister with him, and to dedicate ourselves afresh to the service of God in this community and to the call which God makes of each one of us.

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 Rod Lord Jesus, you said to your disciples:
‘You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.’
Lord have mercy.

All **Lord have mercy**

Lord Jesus, we know that the harvest is plentiful
but the labourers are few.
Christ have mercy

All **Christ have mercy**

Lord Jesus you appointed us to go out
and bear fruit that will last.

Lord have mercy

All

Lord have mercy

Bishop Roger

May the God of love
bring *you* back to himself,
forgive *you your* sins
and assure *you* of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Presentation of the New Minister

The patron leads the new minister to stand before the bishop and says

Right Reverend Father in God, after due consultation and prayerful
consideration, Francis has been nominated and has accepted to be
Rector of this benefice.

I now present him to you to be instituted and inducted.

Bishop

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

The patron returns to his seat.

Francis, do you believe, so far as you know your own heart,
that God has called you to serve here?

Minister

I believe that God has called me.

Bishop

Will you commit yourself to the mission and ministry of the people in
this place, to further the kingdom of God?

Minister

With the help of God, I will.

The minister turns to face the congregation, whom the bishop addresses as a whole

People of God, will you support and uphold Francis in his ministry,
now and in the years to come?

All

With the help of God, we will.

Will you stir up the gift of God which is in you,
to work with *Francis* for the building of God's kingdom here?

All

With the help of God, we will.

The Collect

Bishop God our Father, Lord of all the world,
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 Francis
now to be instituted
the needful gifts of grace;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

**Old Testament Bible Reading
Read by Alistair Grote (Church Warden)**

2 Samuel chapter 7 verses 1 - 17

¹After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²he said to Nathan the prophet, 'Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.'³ Nathan replied to the king, 'Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.'

⁴But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:

⁵'Go and tell my servant David, "This is what the Lord says: are you the one to build me a house to dwell in?' ⁶I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'"

⁸'Now then, tell my servant David, "This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people shall not oppress them any more, as they did at the beginning ¹¹and have done

ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you:

¹² when your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom.

¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he shall be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. ¹⁵ But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom shall endure for ever before me; your throne shall be established for ever.”

¹⁷ Nathan reported to David all the words of this entire revelation.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Bible Reading Read by Rev'd Paul Southern

Luke's Gospel chapter 1 verses 26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, 'Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.'

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.'

³⁴ 'How will this be,' Mary asked the angel, 'since I am a virgin?'

³⁵ The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called^[a] the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail.'

³⁸ 'I am the Lord's servant,' Mary answered. 'May your word to me be fulfilled.' Then the angel left her.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon
Preached by the Rt Revd Rod Thomas, Bishop of Maidstone

Song:

YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy,
my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love,
my deep and boundless peace

*To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing: all is mine!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me*

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

*To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won,
and I shall overcome!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me*

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised
to overthrow the grave

*To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing: I am free!
Yet not I, but through Christ in me*

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

*To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat:
Yet not I, but through Christ in me!*

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The Liturgy of Institution

The Dedication of the Minister and People

Representatives of the church community bring symbols and place them on the organ.

The archdeacon says

Gracious God, we praise and glorify you,
because in your infinite love
you have formed throughout the world
a holy people for your own possession,
a royal priesthood, a universal Church, that,
sharing in the ministry of our Saviour Christ,
we might be witnesses of what he has done for us.

All Gracious God, we praise and glorify you.

Lifting or presenting water for baptism, one says

*Francis, be among us as a man who rejoices to bring new Christians to
baptism and to share with them the Living Water, Jesus Christ himself.*

**All Together, by God's grace,
we will grow in our faith and discipleship.**

Lifting or presenting the oil of healing, one says

Be among us as a person of reconciliation,
showing God's forgiveness and healing.

**All Together, by God's grace,
we will be a Christ-like community of love.**

Lifting or presenting a large bible, one says

Be among us as one who studies the Scriptures,
proclaims the Word and explores the faith.

All **Together, by God's grace,
we will tell the good news of Christ to the world.**

Lifting or presenting a copies of the Book of Common Prayer and of Common Worship, one says

Be among us as a person of prayer, offering the Church's liturgy and
interceding for God's people.

All **Together, by God's grace,
we will worship God in spirit and in truth.**

Lifting or presenting bread and wine, one says

Be among us as a person of the eucharist,
presiding among us when we celebrate
the Lord's death and resurrection.

All **Together, by God's grace,
we will seek to be the living body of Christ.**

Lifting or presenting a Chelmsford holding cross, the archdeacon says

Jesus said, If anyone wants to be my disciple, let them deny themselves,
take up their cross and follow me. Francis be among us as one who
holds onto the cross of Christ and shares it with others.

All **Together, by God's grace,
we will walk in the way of the cross.**

When all the symbols have been presented, the new minister responds.

I pledge myself to lead the community of faith
committed to my charge, to share with them the Word of God and the
work of ministry, to celebrate with them the sacraments of the new
covenant, and to encourage them in their discipleship and ministry.
Together may we make this a place where Christian people are
equipped for their life and witness in God's world.

The congregation responds

All

Together, by God's grace, we give ourselves to the ministry of the gospel in these communities, to work for God's kingdom of justice and peace and to share the message of Christ.

The Declaration and Oaths

The people sit and the new minister stands before the bishop.

Bishop

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 minister makes the declaration of assent

I, Francis Charles Blight, 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 minister turns and faces the people and, taking a bible in his right hand, swears the oath of allegiance

I, Francis Charles Blight, 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.

Facing the bishop, and still holding the bible, the minister swears the oath of canonical obedience

I, Francis Charles Blight, do swear by almighty God, that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, the Area Bishop of Colchester and their successors, in all things lawful and honest: so help me God.

The minister signs the declaration and oaths beside the Lord's Table. The bishop signs the Deed.

The Institution

The people stand. The bishop reads the Deed of Institution and gives it to the minister, saying

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

All **Amen.**

The bishop commends the new minister to the prayers of the people.

They pray in silence.

Francis, remember your baptism into Christ.
Remember your ordination in the Church of God.
May God who anointed Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit
anoint and empower you for the blessing of God's people.

All **Amen.**

The Induction

The people remain standing while the bishop delivers the Mandate of Induction to the archdeacon, saying

Archdeacon, I have instituted Francis to ministry in this benefice. I ask
you to induct him, in the presence of this congregation, and to support
him in his ministry here.

*The churchwardens lead the archdeacon and the minister to the door of the church,
and the people turn to face the door.*

The archdeacon lays the hand of the minister on the key or handle of the door, saying

By virtue of the authority given me, I induct you into the real, actual
and corporeal possession of the parish churches of All Saints Fordham
and Eight Ash Green with all the rights and responsibilities belonging to
them.

The churchwardens present the keys of the churches to the minister saying

Francis, receive the keys of Fordham and Eight Ash Green churches
in token of the responsibility which we share;
and may the Lord preserve your going out
and your coming in, now and always.

All **Amen.**

The Installation

The archdeacon leads the minister to his stall in the church, and places him in it, saying

Francis, I install you as Rector of this benefice.
Pray for your people, lead them in worship and service,
and encourage them in their witness
to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Welcome

The bishop presents the new minister to the people, saying

People of this benefice, I present to you your new Rector, now duly instituted, inducted and installed, and I invite you to greet him and his family in the name of Christ.

I commend them 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 greets the new minister with a warm round of applause.

The area dean welcomes the new minister on behalf of the deanery.

The Peace

Bishop

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

All

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

Minister

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

No physical collection will be taken, but you are invited to make an electronic donation to the LMDC. Details are at the front of this booklet.

Prayers of Intercession

The people sit or kneel for prayers of intercession, led by the new minister.

These conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

All

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen**

The new minister gives out any notices.

The Dismissal

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.

The people stand.

The ministers move to the principal door of the church.

The congregation turn to face the door.

The new minister rings the church bell to make known to the community that his new ministry has begun.

The Archdeacon lays the hand of the new minister upon the handle of the door and says

The cure of souls is a ministry alongside all those who live or work in these communities. This church must be open to God's world and to all who seek him.

Francis you are called to help the people who are refreshed here by their

worship and fellowship to live out their faith in these communities, so that God's love may be known.

All **Together, by God's grace,
We will be Christ's people at work in the world.**

All The Lord preserve your going out and your coming in
from this time forward and for evermore.

*The new minister opens wide the door and, turning to the congregation,
leads them in this declaration of faith and then reads the dismissal gospel.*

All There is one body, one Spirit, one hope in God's call.
One Lord, one faith, one baptism.

All And through his Spirit he gives us gifts.
Some are apostles, some are his prophets.

All Evangelists, pastors, and teachers he gives us
so we can minister together

All to build up his Body,
to be mature in the fullness of Christ.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Matthew 28.18-20

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

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

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

Francis Blight grew up in Windsor and responded to the saving message of Jesus as a teenager through the ministry of a Christian meeting at his school. After university in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne he worked in music royalties and copyright for PRS/MCPS in London. A year's study in Bible teaching and preaching on the Cornhill Training Course led him to join the staff team of Church of the Corner, a new Anglican congregation in Islington. It was here that he met Georgina and was recommended for ordination training. They were married in 2003 and moved to Oak Hill College in 2005. Tom and Sam were born during this time and Zoë three years later during his curacy at Christ Church Virginia Water. In 2012 the family moved to North Holland in the Netherlands where Francis led Christ Church Heiloo for six years as part of the Amsterdam Chaplaincy. In the summer of 2019, they returned to England to join the All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green church family with Francis taking the post of Associate Minister. His desire for the coming years is to grow and strengthen this precious church community, through teaching God's Word, working pastorally, and building up the different ministries in the church and parish. His prayer is that together we may be full of life, truth and godly hope so that we can reach out with the life saving gospel of Jesus Christ.

*“A church full of love, is a church well built up.
I had rather see a church filled with love a thousand times, than filled with the best, the
highest, and most glorious gifts and parts that any men in this world
may be made partakers of...
I know the end of all Christ's institutions is to increase love.”*

John Owen (Rector of Fordham 1643-1646)

At All Saints Fordham and Eight Ash Green we aspire to know Jesus Christ and to make him known. We seek to do this through studying the Bible, through praying, and by encouraging each other in fellowship.

Please pray that we can prevail in God's mission and purpose during the current social restrictions. Pray for innovative ways to minister within the church community, parish and schools. Pray that our love for one another may grow and that we will be able to develop and use our gifts to the glory of God.