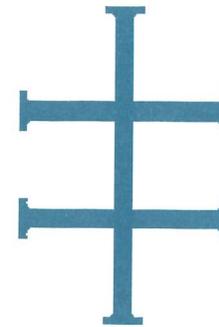


Liverpool Cathedral



THE FOUNDERS' DAY SERVICE  
OF  
LIVERPOOL BLUE COAT SCHOOL



*Founded 1708*

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 1999 at 7.30 p.m.

*This year the procession includes a boy and a girl dressed in the uniform of the Blue Coat Hospital which represents the past traditions and ethos of the School. As the Procession enters, we all stand to sing the following hymn:*

## **HYMN**

**Angel-voices ever singing**

**Round thy throne of light,**

**Angel-harps for ever ringing,**

**Rest not day nor night;**

**Thousands only live to bless thee**

**And confess thee**

**Lord of might.**

**Thou who art beyond the farthest**

**Mortal eye can scan,**

**Can it be that thou regardest**

**Songs of sinful man?**

**Can we know that thou art near us,**

**And wilt hear us?**

**Yea, we can.**

**Yea, we know that thou rejoicest**

**O'er each work of thine;**

**Thou didst ears and hands and voices**

**For thy praise design;**

**Craftsman's art and music's measure**

**For thy pleasure**

**All combine.**

**In thy house, great God, we offer**

**Of thine own to thee;**

**And for thine acceptance proffer**

**All unworthily**

**Hearts and minds and hands and voices**

**In our choicest**

**Psalmody.**

## **THE INTRODUCTION**

*We remain standing.*

*Pupils, parents and Staff are welcomed to the Cathedral by Canon Noel Vincent, Canon Treasurer.*

*The School Chaplain says:*

Members and friends of the Liverpool Blue Coat School, we meet in this Cathedral Church of Christ - the Mother Church of this Diocese - to thank God for our School and for its service to the community; for those who have taught in the School, and for all who have gone forth to serve God and one another.

As we look around this beautiful cathedral, built to the glory of God and to enable all who enter the doors to worship God, let us also give thanks for those who work here, and who welcome us with such warmth.

As we stand in the presence of God, let us keep a moment of silence and reflect on his love for us.

And now let us pray with confidence to the Father, in the words our Saviour taught us:

*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.*

*Now we all sing:*

## HYMN

**O Praise ye the Lord! praise him in the height;  
Rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;  
Ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,  
And worship before him, in brightness arrayed.**

**O praise ye the Lord! praise him upon earth,  
In tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;  
Praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,  
Praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.**

**O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;  
Each jubilant chord re-echo around;  
Loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,  
And sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.**

**O praise ye the Lord! thanksgiving and song  
To him be outpoured all ages along:  
For love in creation, for heavens restored,  
For grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!**

## THE THANKSGIVING

*We sit as symbols of the school are brought to the altar during the Thanksgiving.*

*The Headmaster leads these prayers:*

Let us praise God for the Foundation of the Blue Coat School by BRYAN BLUNDELL and the Reverend ROBERT STYTH; for their vision and compassion; for all Benefactors of the School:  
Let us bless the Lord:

*The following response is sung:*

**All: Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.  
Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God for the blessings we have received during the past year at school:

For the good gifts of education, for every opportunity of learning and of growth, for the continuing life of our School.

Let us bless the Lord:

**All: Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.  
Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.**

*Books are carried to the altar.*

For the talent within the School which produces fine drama and good music

Let us bless the Lord:

**All: Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.  
Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.**

*A musical instrument is carried to the altar*

For health and strength displayed in sporting activities  
Let us bless the Lord:

**All: Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.  
Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.**

*A sports trophy is carried to the altar*

For the comradeship we have enjoyed, and for the friendships we have made:

For those at home and at school who have cared for us; who have borne with us, forgiven us, made sacrifices for us, and loved us.

Let us bless the Lord:

**All: Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.  
Sing praises all you people, sing praises to the Lord.**

*A lighted candle, the symbol of God's love and sacrifice, is carried to the altar*

**All: We offer thanks and praise,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*Please sit as the Brass Ensemble (with choir and organ) plays:*

Entrata Festiva

Flor Peeters

Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat  
(Christ conquers, Christ now reigns, Christ doth command)

*We remain seated for:*

### THE LESSON

Luke 8 verses 4-10

read by the Chairman of the Governors, Mr Peter Healey, J.P.

When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, Jesus said in a parable: 'A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.' As he said this, he called out, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'

Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that

“looking they may not perceive,  
and listening they may not understand.”

Here ends the reading

*All stand to sing:*

### HYMN

**Father, hear the prayer we offer:  
Not for ease that prayer shall be,  
But for strength that we may ever  
Live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures  
Do we ask our way to be;  
But the steep and rugged pathway  
May we tread rejoicingly.**

**Not for ever by still waters  
Would we idly rest and stay;  
But would smite the living fountains  
From the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
In our wanderings be our guide;  
Through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.**

*Please kneel or sit for:*

### THE PRAYERS

led by the Head of School

God our Father, we give thanks for the life of our School.

For all the activities of the past years which have given pleasure and enjoyment to us and to friends of the School.

For all who support the School's life; in particular for the Parent Body and its continuing efforts on the School's behalf:

*The following response is sung:*

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

Lord God, we pray for our nation and the society of which we are a part: Give to the people of our land a new vision of mutual responsibility, that each may take a full part in the service of our country and our world. May there be a united will to aid the sick and the handicapped, to support the underprivileged and unemployed, to house the refugees and bring relief to sufferers of every kind.

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

For those who hold positions of great responsibility among the nations, and especially for our government, that they may use their power and wealth with integrity and justice for the common good of the people they serve.

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

We pray for the former students of the School and for the continuing ministry of the Old Blues. For those studying at University, in courses of further education and professional training. For those recently married, building up homes and families:

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

We ask your blessing on those currently involved in our School: that staff and students may be a united community, enjoying life and learning; that laboratories and science rooms may open horizons of truth, honestly sought and studied; that studies of the arts and humanities may reveal the richness of our heritage, and quicken the search for human understanding:

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

We pray for all those anxious about their future, and facing change; for those taking important examinations, those leaving this year to attend universities, or to take up new employment.

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

We pray that sports and recreational facilities may be enjoyed, both for their own sake and as a means towards learning unselfishness; and that the school societies may foster friendships and give full scope for individuality.

**All: Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone O Lord are holy  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.**

We pray that our worship may be offered with sincerity, and will direct the hearts of us all towards God, who is the heart of our life:

We draw our prayers together saying:

**All: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, let there be pardon;  
where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy;  
for your mercy and for your truth's sake. Amen.**

*We all sit as the Choir sings:*

## THE ANTHEM

From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same  
my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place  
incense shall be offered up unto my name:

For my name shall be great among the heathen, thus saith the Lord!

Music: Frederick Gore Ouseley

*We remain seated for:*

### THE ADDRESS

given by Canon Noel Vincent  
Canon Treasurer of Liverpool Cathedral

*Please stand for the final hymn, during which a collection will be taken for the work and ministry of the Cathedral.*

### HYMN

1  
O worship the King  
All glorious above;  
O gratefully sing  
His power and his love;  
Our Shield and Defender,  
The Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendour,  
And girded with praise.

3  
The earth, with its store  
Of wonders untold,  
Almighty, thy power  
Hath founded of old;  
Hath stablished it fast  
By a changeless decree,  
And round it hath cast,  
Like a mantle, the sea.

5  
Frail children of dust  
And feeble as frail,  
In thee do we trust,  
Nor find thee to fail;  
Thy mercies how tender,  
How firm to the end!  
Our Maker, Defender,  
Redeemer, and Friend.

2  
O tell of his might,  
O sing of his grace,  
Whose robe is the light,  
Whose canopy space;  
His chariots of wrath  
The deep thunder clouds form,  
And dark is his path  
On the wings of the storm.

4  
Thy bountiful care  
What tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air,  
It shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills,  
It descends to the plain,  
And sweetly distils  
In the dew and the rain.

6  
O measureless Might,  
Ineffable Love,  
While angels delight  
To hymn thee above,  
Thy humbler creation,  
Though feeble their lays,  
With true adoration  
Shall sing to thy praise.

*Please kneel or sit for:*

### THE FINAL PRAYER

led by the School Chaplain

*All:* **God of life and freedom,  
we celebrate the revelation of Jesus  
as the Christ who makes all things new:  
renew us in him  
and make him known in our lives,  
our Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### THE BLESSING

*Canon Vincent says:*

May God work miracles in your lives, fill you with his Spirit and change you day to day to reflect his glory. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all evermore. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*All:* **In the name of Christ, Amen. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

*Remain kneeling or seated as the choir sings:*

### THE EPILOGUE

O Christ the same through all our story's pages,  
Our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;  
Eternal Lord, the King of all the ages,  
Unchanging still, amid the passing years:  
O living Word, the source of all creation,  
Who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze,  
O Christ the same, who wrought man's whole salvation,  
We bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping  
Our lives and loves, our days and years remain,  
Our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,  
Our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain.  
O Lord of Love, for all our joys and sorrows,  
For all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,  
O Christ the same, for all our brief tomorrows,  
We bring our thanks for all that is to be.

*The organist plays:*

Toccata

Paul Creston