



THE BOROUGH OF RUNNYMEDE

THE MAYOR'S CIVIC SERVICE

Sunday 20th June 2021, 3pm

**St Mary's Church, Thorpe
Church Approach, Thorpe Village, TW20 8TQ**

**Conducted by: Father Damian Harrison-Miles
Vicar of Thorpe.**

Organist: Lindsay Bridgwater



Thorpe, or 'Torp', meaning village in Old English (usually with a chapel) is listed in the Domesday Book of 1086. However, it is impossible to say for sure exactly when St Mary's was built, with many periods of architecture evident and each generation making its mark. However, in 1963 a Roman cinerary urn, dated to 120 -150 A.D. was discovered buried in the churchyard, establishing that this site has been of religious significance for nearly 1900 years. Evidence of a flourishing community, with no doubt a church or chapel to attend to its spiritual needs, can be found prior to 675 when five dwellings were known to have been given by King Frithuwold (King of Surrey ruling under King Wulfhere of Mercia) to endow Chertsey Abbey, which then oversaw worship at St Mary's until the Reformation. The church was connected to the abbey grounds by way of a direct footpath (Monk's Walk) which passes by present day Thorpe Park. The beginnings of the medieval church we see today may have been instigated by Abbot Hugh in 1110. The walls of the church are of mixed heritage and built of flints and rubble with clunch & sandstone dressings; the roof is tiled. The brick tower was a Tudor addition to the church and contains eight bells, four having been added in celebration of Magna Carta 800 (this being the closest surviving church building from that time). In recent years the external walls of the church and tower have undergone a significant program of re-pointing as westerly weather has taken its toll, with more recent improvements to footpaths and outside spaces. The church and local community have worked hard to raise the significant funds required to carry out essential maintenance and repairs, supported by several local charities and grants (including from SCC). The next project is to bring the electrical installation up to present-day standards and install a screen and projection to enhance use of the building. Future projects include roof repairs and significant works to the pipe organ and inside areas of the tower. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mary's Church Thorpe is a registered Charity (No: 1176929). The PCC seek to maintain our beautiful Grade 2* building and grounds for future generations of worship and community use, one of the jewels in the crown of Runnymede Borough.

ORDER OF SERVICE

*Welcome to this Civic Service today.
The themes for today are welcome, inclusion and service.*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

WELCOME

Led by Father Damian Harrison-Miles, Vicar of Thorpe

The Mayor, Councillors, and Officers of Runnymede Borough Council Council, I welcome you to St Mary's Church Thorpe, together with all those from this Borough and beyond who join us to worship almighty God.

We come in person and via zoom to this holy place, rich with more than a thousand years of Christian worship, to thank God for the many blessings of life and for the privilege of public service. We come asking for strength always to strive for the greater good.

We shall pray for all who live and who work in this Borough, in particular with children, young people and all who care for the sick and vulnerable in our hospitals and all settings of care. And we give thanks for the charitable sector, for Runnymede Foodbank and all providing support in any way at this time of challenge.

CANDLE LIGHTING IN THANKSGIVING AND REMEMBRANCE *Please Stand.*

Love never fails. Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope. Love compels us to fight against coronavirus as one inclusive community. Love compels us to stand together in prayer with our neighbours near and far. Love compels us to give and act as one as we support those in need and empower others to reach their full potential.

We light this candle to represent our love for all in Runnymede. We give thanks for the skill of our healthcare professionals and all who have worked tirelessly to keep us safe and our vital community and educational services going, the many unsung heroes of our time. We pray for our families, neighbours, friends and colleagues, our faith communities. In love we are united, as one family.

Let us pray.

Loving God, we seek your presence in the silence beyond words, looking to you for comfort, strength, protection and reassurance, as we look forward to better times to come. We pause for a moment to reflect and remember the lives lost during this pandemic, lifting to God in prayer all upon our hearts. *A time of silence is kept.*

The Mayor of Runnymede lights a candle

Lover of souls, we entrust to your mercy all who have died during this pandemic. We pray, pour your healing presence upon those who are sick or suffering long-term illness, and those bereaved, as we trust that your inclusive love reaches to the ends of the earth.

All **Amen.**

HYMN

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.
Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord, is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord, is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord, is moving in this place,
he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord, is moving in this place.

Please Sit for the Readings & Anthem

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 John 4: 7-16

Read by The Mayor of Runnymede, Councillor Elaine Gill.

A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son, to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So, we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mark 10: 35-45

Read by the Chief Executive of Runnymede Borough Council, Mr Paul Turrell

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

THE ADDRESS

By Father Damian Harrison-Miles

HYMN

Please Stand.

I vow to thee, my country—all earthly things above—
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love;
The love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there’s another country, I’ve heard of long ago—
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Prepared by the Mayor's grandchildren. Please **sit** or **kneel** for the prayers.*

We pray for our Nanny, Councillor Elaine Gill, Mayor of Runnymede.
May God grant her the wisdom to know what is right and to do what is good.
All **Amen.**

We pray for our Councilors and Officers of Runnymede.
May they act with kindness, fairness and compassion
in their service to all the people in the Borough.
All **Amen.**

We pray for the community of Thorpe and all residents in Runnymede and beyond.
Also for all those within our lives, we pray for courage and determination to go
forward as we all play our part in the world around us.
All **Amen.**

We pray for all those who have lost loved ones in the pandemic and try to look
forward to a world, united and all pulling together.
All **Amen.**

*An additional prayer is led by Mother Jo Winn-Smith, Assistant Curate at St Mary's Church
Thorpe, followed by:*

A Prayer for the Mayor

Go before Elaine our Mayor, Lord, in all her doings with your most gracious favour,
and further her with your continual help; that in all her work begun, continued and
ended in you, she may offer useful service to those around her;
an acceptable offering in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Monarch

Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite:
have mercy upon the whole Church, and so rule the
heart of your chosen servant Elizabeth, our Queen and Governor, that
she (knowing whose minister she is) may above all things seek your
honour and glory; and that we and all her subjects may faithfully serve,
honour, and obey her, in you, and for you, according to your blessed Word
and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you
and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, ever one God, world without end.
All **Amen.**

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.**

HYMN

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven - feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more!

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream shall flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through:
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer - Be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises - I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest,
to the Church, the Queen and the Commonwealth and all people,
unity, peace and concord and to us and all God's servants,
life everlasting, and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you
and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

God save our gracious Queen,
long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
happy and glorious
long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store
on her be pleased to pour,
long may she reign.
May she defend our laws,
and ever give us cause,
to sing with heart and voice,
God save the Queen.

RECESSIONAL ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Members of the Congregation are asked to stand and remain in their places until the Mayor and clergy have processed out. You will then be directed out of the church by the Wardens.

Thank you for supporting this service today in person and online via Zoom.

A retiring collection will be taken for St Mary's Church Thorpe and the Mayor's Charities. If you pay income tax, please use a yellow gift-aid envelope, completing your details on the front and signing on the reverse.

Refreshments will be served in TASIS South Campus. Please exit via St Mary's pedestrian gate from St Mary's Church into TASIS grounds and over the lawn to the marquee.

St Mary's Church, Thorpe is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Civic Service
Time: June 20, 2021 15:00 London

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86703201313?pwd=YnpOZ1FCTDBqVW9zU1NpbGd6TWhidz09>

Meeting ID: 867 0320 1313
Passcode: 504953