



**The United Benefice of
St Faith Great Crosby and
St Mary the Virgin Waterloo Park**

**A service to mark the beginning of
the new ministry of**

Reverend Dr. Simon John Tibbs

**at St. Mary the Virgin, Waterloo Park,
Wednesday, 9 January, 2013 at 7.30 pm**

**Led by The Rt Revd Richard Blackburn,
Bishop of Warrington
and The Venerable Ricky Panter,
Archdeacon of Liverpool**

Introduction

The arrival of a new incumbent in a parish is always an important event. For him it is a new sphere of work; for the members of the Church and the people of the parishes, it is a new chapter in the worship and life of the whole community.

To mark this new beginning, priest and people come together with the bishop to offer themselves afresh to God for the work of the Gospel. This service is both a legal ceremony and an Act of Worship, which reminds priest and people of their shared responsibility for the proclamation of the Gospel and the service of God's People.

The legal preliminaries include an Oath of Allegiance to the Crown, and Oath of Canonical Obedience to the Bishop, and the Declaration of Assent. This declaration assures the congregation that their priest believes, speaks and acts in a way a Christian Minister should, so that they can trust his ministry.

The Institution denotes the admission of the Priest to the spiritual care and leadership of the parish. The Induction gives the Priest the legal charge of the church buildings and property, and the right to receive the income of the benefice. The Installation places the priest in the midst of a worshipping, praying and witnessing community.

This is both a joyful and solemn occasion. Please spend time before the service to think about its meaning and to pray. In your prayers remember Simon and his family. Remember also, our bishops and all who share with them in the work of this diocese and your own commitment to Christ, as a member of his body, the Church.

Everyone present has a part to play in the proceedings. Please answer firmly at every **Amen** and whenever **All** are asked to declare their commitment.

Fr. Simon was born in 1971, and grew up in Sussex and Bedford. After studies in English Literature at Edinburgh and Newcastle, and spells teaching English abroad, he trained for the priesthood at Westcott House. He served his curacy at Old Saint Paul's, Edinburgh, and in 2011, took up a one-year post teaching Biblical Studies at the College of the Transfiguration in Grahamstown South Africa. He comes to Liverpool from a short spell back in Bedford, where he has been assisting during the vacancy at St. Andrew's, Bedford.

The Beginning of a New Ministry

The Gathering

The congregation stand

Processional Hymn (*t. Thornbury*)

**Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page;
our fathers owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade men rise, and hasten
to share the great King's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word.
to all alike proclaiming
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**When shadows thick were falling,
and all seemed sunk in night,
thou, Lord, didst send thy servants,
thy chosen sons of light.
On them and on thy people
thy plenteous grace was poured,
and this was still their message:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Through many a day of darkness,
through many a scene of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely,
to guard the nation's life.
Their Gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, man restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**And we, shall we be faithless?
shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
shall we evade the conflict,
and cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
some better thing is stored;
we will maintain, unflinching,
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Thy mercy will not fail us,
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us,
the victory shall be won;
and then, by men and angels,
thy name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

Please be seated

The churchwardens stand before the bishop and say

Bishop, on behalf of the United Benefice of St Faith,
Great Crosby and St Mary the Virgin, Waterloo Park, we
welcome you as our Father in God.

Bishop Thank you for your welcome. May God in all things be
glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be worship and
praise. I have come to give authority to a priest to
care for the people of these parishes through making
Christ known in word and deed. Let him now be
presented.

The Presentation

One of the Patrons presents the Minister to the Bishop, saying

Patron Bishop, I present to you Simon John Tibbs to be admitted to the care of God's people in these parishes.

Bishop Thank you for your presentation. Simon comes to take his place as your priest in charge. He has been duly nominated and no one has objected to him taking up this office. I therefore invite Archdeacon Ricky to commend Simon to us.

The Archdeacon gives his commendation

Silence is kept

Archdeacon 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, mission and ministry
each may be an instrument of Your love,
and give to Your servant Simon now to be
licensed 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.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Reading

Isaiah Chapter 61

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the

oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion — to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. Because their shame was double, and dishonour was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Sermon by the Bishop of Warrington

Please remain seated whilst the choir sing the Anthem

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me – Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord; to give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord that He might be glorified. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; So the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all nations. (Isaiah 61 vv. 1–3, 11)

A period of silence follows

The congregation stand

Hymn (t. Down Ampney)

**Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

The congregation sit

The Licensing

Bishop Simon, you are to be licensed as priest in charge of the United Benefice of St. Faith Great Crosby and St. Mary the Virgin Waterloo Park. Do you believe that you are truly called to this ministry?

Minister I believe that God has called me.

The Declaration of Assent and Oath of Obedience

Bishop Simon, I invite you to affirm the declaration of assent I now put to you. This declaration, used at the beginning of each new ministry, is a reminder both to you and all assembled of what the Church of England is, and the basis of its faith, life, worship and witness. In it we are reminded that we are inspired to proclaim afresh our historic faith to make Christ known today.

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?

Minister I, Simon John Tibbs, 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.

Taking a Bible, the Minister faces the people and says

I, Simon John Tibbs, 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.

Turning to the Bishop, the Minister says

I, Simon John Tibbs, swear by Almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Liverpool and his successors, in all things lawful and honest. So help me God.

The Giving of the Cure of Souls

The Minister kneels before the Bishop, who reads the Licence and gives it to the Minister.

Bishop 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. Amen.

The Anointing

The new Minister may be anointed with oil.

The Minister kneels before the Bishop, who says

Let us ask God to bless Simon to give him joy in his new home and ministry and to stir up with him the gifts of the Spirit:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, fill the heart of your servant Simon with eager love in caring for your people; joy in affirming all that is good in this community, hope in proclaiming the love of Christ and wisdom in challenging all that is mean and destructive. Give him vision for his preaching; faithfulness for his teaching; diligence for his visiting; sympathy for his counselling; compassion in declaring your pardon for the penitent; courage in his witness; and the peace that passes understanding for his daily walk with Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

The Minister is joined by other licensed ministers of the Ministry Team and the PCC. They all stand before the Bishop.

Bishop Simon, you have now been licensed for a new ministry. In your work, mission and ministry, and in collaboration with your colleagues, care alike for young and old, weak and strong, poor and rich; share their joy and their sadness.

Simon you are to enable the people here to use their own gifts in the service of the Gospel, to help them discover the longing of their own spirit. You are called to ensure that you also grow in grace, learning from the people, making time for study, for quiet reflection and for prayer, for you are called to be available, to be humble and to be human.

Together all of you are called to proclaim the glorious freedom of the children of God, to preach the Gospel of peace and hope, to pray earnestly not only for the people in your care but for the whole community. You are to minister God's healing and reconciliation wherever there is pain or conflict whether within or beyond the Church.

The Bishop blesses the Minister and his colleagues

The Lord give you courage, wisdom, strength and love to work together to do His will; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you all and your work done in His Name, now and for evermore. **Amen.**

The Installation

The Archdeacon leads the Minister to his stall, where he is seated and the Archdeacon says

I install you as Priest in Charge of this United 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 Archdeacon presents the minister to the congregation, saying

I present to you Simon John Tibbs, now duly Installed as Priest in Charge of this United Benefice.

Receive him with affection as your pastor, and pray that he may be faithful and happy in the charge now committed to him.

The congregation sit

The Greetings

Welcome by representatives

The Area Dean (Roger Driver) and the Deanery Synod Lay Chair (Jenny Brady) welcome the new minister with suitable words.

The Area Dean then introduces representatives of the church community who also greet the new Minister.

The Minister may give out the notices.

The Peace

The congregation stand

Bishop In the presence of the God and Father of us all, we meet together with one accord from our various churches. We give thanks for the spiritual unity which is already ours as members of the Body of Christ. We

pray that this unity may, by God's grace, become a visible unity, so that His Church in every place may demonstrate the healing power of the Gospel, and be an instrument of His peace in the life of the world.

In this sense of spiritual and visible unity we reaffirm our commitment to each other and to God's work as we say together:

**All God our Father,
 in the Name of Christ
 and in the power of the Spirit,
 we commit ourselves to You and to one another
 to live, work and pray as one body in Christ;
 to do apart nothing which we can do together,
 and to do together what we cannot do apart;
 give us vision, give us courage, and give us joy,
 that the world may believe that Jesus is Lord
 to Your eternal glory. Amen.**

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Hymn *(t Coe Fen)*

During this hymn, the collection will be taken. This will be given to ordinands and their families in training in the Diocese with 10% given to support the link between the Diocese of Akure in Nigeria and this Diocese.

**How shall I sing that majesty
which angels do admire?
let dust in dust and silence lie;
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around
thy throne, O God most high;
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise; but who am I?**

**Thy brightness unto them appears,
whilst I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face.
They sing because thou art their Sun;
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heav'n is but once begun
there alleluias be.**

**How great a being, Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is everywhere.**

The congregation sit

Dedication of Minister and People

Members of the congregations bring the symbols of water, a Bible, bread and wine and a map of the parishes to the chancel steps where the minister receives them.

A map of the parishes is presented

Be among us as those who proclaim the risen Christ to those we know in the hope of all accepting His grace of salvation and the joy of eternal life with God the Father.

The symbol of water is presented

Be among us as those who rejoice to bring people to baptism, and to share with them the Living Water, given by Jesus Christ Himself, that they may be conformed to the pattern of His life and death.

A Bible is presented

Be among us as those who study the scriptures, preach the Word and explore the faith, that all may find in Christ the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Bread and wine are presented

Be among us as those who break the bread and bless the cup when we celebrate the sacrament of our Lord's death and resurrection, that we may all grow together into the full stature of Christ.

Area Dean Will you be faithful in proclaiming Christ, baptizing, teaching the truth of Holy Scripture, preparing and administering the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ?

Minister With the help of God, I will.

The Lay Chair says to the people

People of God, will you be faithful in living the life of the baptized, in reading and studying of the scriptures and in coming together to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ?.

All With the help of God, we will.

The Prayers are led by our young people

Please sit or kneel

In the power of the Spirit and in union with the Christ, let us pray to the Father.

We pray for the use of God's gifts to His Church, saying:

Jesus, Lord of Your Church,

All in Your mercy hear us.

God our Father, You give us gifts
that we may work together
in the service of Your Son:
Bless those who lead,
that they may be firm in faith,
yet humble before You.

All Jesus, Lord of Your Church,
in Your mercy hear us.

Bless those who teach,
that they may increase our understanding
and be open to Your Word for them.
Jesus, Lord of Your Church,

All **in Your mercy hear us.**

Bless those who minister healing,
that they may bring wholeness to others
and know Your healing themselves.
Jesus, Lord of Your Church,

All **in Your mercy hear us.**

Bless those through whom You speak,
that they may proclaim Your Word in power,
yet open their ears to Your gentle whisper.
Jesus, Lord of Your Church,

All **in Your mercy hear us.**

Bless those who work in Your world today,
that in the complexity of their daily lives
they may live for You,
fulfil Your purposes,
and seek Your kingdom.

Jesus, Lord of Your Church,

All in Your mercy hear us.

Bless those who feel they have no gifts or value
and those who are powerless in this world's eyes,
that they may share their experience
of the work of Your Spirit.

Jesus, Lord of Your Church,

**All hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve You with joy for ever. Amen.**

Source: Michael Perry, *Church Family worship* © 1986 Hodder (altered)

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Minister As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.

Please stand for the Blessing

The Blessing

Bishop May God, who in Christ has shown us his truth and love, make you messengers of the Gospel and witnesses to the divine love before all the world.

All Amen.

Bishop May the Lord Jesus Christ, who promised that he would be with his Church until the end of time, guide your steps and fill your words with power.

All Amen.

Bishop May the Spirit of the Lord be upon you, enabling you as you go through the world to bring the Good News to all and to heal the brokenhearted.

All Amen.

Bishop And may almighty God bless you all,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

All stand to sing the hymn, at the beginning of which choir, readers and other ministers leave in procession. The Bishop and new minister move to the principal door of the church.

Recessional Hymn

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christlight for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

The congregation turns to face the door. At the door the Bishop places the hand of the new minister upon the handle of the door and says:

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

Simon, you are called to help the people who are refreshed here by their worship and fellowship to live out their faith in this community, so that God's love may be known.

Minister By God's grace, I will equip those who gather here to grow as disciples of Christ.

**All By God's grace, we will be Christ's people at work
in the world.**

The new minister opens wide the door.

The Bishop then offers a blessing on the local community:

Lord, look with love upon this parish,
reach out with compassion to those in need,
extend your care for all in this community
and strengthen them by your blessing.

Amen.

The new minister then turns to the congregation and says:

Minister Go in the power of Christ

All We have a gospel to proclaim!

Minister Go in the peace of Christ

All Thanks be to God.