



New Beginnings

**A Service of Welcome, Licensing
and Installation for**

The Reverend **Vivian Sockett**

as

Chaplain to

Christ Church, Lille

10th October 2026

By

**The Rev Canon Ben Harding
Acting Archdeacon for
France and Monaco**

PREPARATION: *The Churchwardens welcome people and introduce the service.*

OPENING HYMN: Christ is made the sure foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call You,
come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
with accustomed lovingkindness,
hear Your servants as they pray;
and Your fullest benediction
shed within its walls away.

Lord, here grant to all Your servants
what they ask of You to gain,
what they gain from You, forever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in Your glory
evermore with You to reign.

Praise and honour to the Father,
praise and honour to the Son,
praise and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three, and ever One,
one in might, and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

THE GREETING

The Archdeacon greets the people using these or other suitable words

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

(All) and also with you.

The Archdeacon offers further informal words of welcome.

A prayer for the Kingdom of God - *The Archdeacon leads the prayer*

**(All) God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.
Amen.**

THE COLLECT

The Archdeacon introduces a period of silent prayer and then says the Collect.

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
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 PRESENTATION

To be made by the Church Wardens

Archdeacon Ben, we present to you Vivian to be licensed to the pastoral care of souls for Christ Church, Lille.

We have been glad to join with the Bishop of the Diocese and the people of God of Christ Church, Lille, in the discernment and choice of Vivian to be their pastor and priest. We now ask you to license her.

The Archdeacon addresses the congregation:

Will all of you who are gathered here support and encourage Vivian in this new ministry now and, in the years, to come?

(All) We will.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 3:1-11, 15-18

This is the Word of the Lord

(All) Thanks be to God.

Hymn: At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow

At the name of Jesus
Every knee shall bow,
Every tongue confess Him
King of glory now:
'Tis the Father's pleasure
We should call him Lord,
Who from the beginning
Was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season,
To receive a name.
From the lips of sinners
Unto whom he came,
Faithfully he bore it
Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious,
When from death he passed:

Bore it up triumphant
With its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures, To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead,
To the Father's breast;
Filled it with the glory
Of that perfect rest.

Name him, brothers, name him,
With love strong as death,
But with awe and wonder
And with bated breath:
He is God the Saviour,
He is Christ the Lord,
Ever to be worshipped,
Trusted, and adored.

In your hearts enthrone him;
There let him subdue
All that is not holy,
All that is not true:
Crown him as your captain
In temptation's hour;
Let his will enfold you
In its light and power.

Brothers, this Lord Jesus
Shall return again,
With his Father's glory,
With his angel train;
For all wreaths of empire
Meet upon his brow,
And our hearts confess him
King of glory now.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

This is the Word of the Lord
(All) Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *The Archdeacon*

THE LICENSING

Renewal of Ordination Vows

The Archdeacon addresses the new Priest

(Archdeacon) Vivian, before you receive this share in the pastoral charge will you, before God and this congregation, reaffirm the promises you made when you were ordained and accepted the Priesthood out of love for the Lord Jesus and his Church?

(Priest) I will

(Archdeacon) At your ordination, to the priesthood, you took authority to watch over and care for God's people, to absolve and bless them in his name, to proclaim the gospel of salvation, and to minister the sacraments of his New Covenant. Will you continue as a faithful steward of the mysteries of God, preaching the gospel of Christ and ministering his holy sacraments?

(Priest) By the help of God, I will.

THE GIVING OF THE PASTORAL CHARGE

The Archdeacon invites the congregation to stand whilst the new Priest makes the Declaration of Assent and takes the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Canonical Obedience.

The Oaths and Declaration Document is signed

The Archdeacon invites the congregation to sit and pray in silence for the local Church; for the new Priest; for the churchwardens and all those involved in local leadership; and for those ministers already at work in the benefice. After a time of silent prayer, the Archdeacon says:

Lord in your mercy,

(All) Thank you for hearing our prayer.

(Archdeacon) Almighty Father, give to your servant Vivian grace and power to fulfil this ministry among those now committed to her charge: to watch over them and care for them; to absolve and bless them in your name, and to proclaim the gospel of salvation. Set her among your people to offer with them spiritual sacrifices acceptable in your sight and to minister the sacraments of the New Covenant. As you have called her to your service, make her worthy of your calling. Give her wisdom and discipline to work faithfully with all her fellow servants in Christ, that the world may come to know your glory and your love. Accept our prayers, most merciful Father, through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit belong glory and honour, worship and praise, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Archdeacon invites the new Priest to kneel.

He then reads the legal document and delivers the document with these words:

Vivian, receive this cure of souls,
the care of God's people,
which is both yours and the Bishop's,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Archdeacon blesses the new Priest.

The love of the Father enfold you,
the wisdom of the Son enlighten you,
the fire of the Spirit kindle you;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit
come down upon you and remain with you
always. Amen.

RECEIVING THE SIGNS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

*As the **key** is given and the doors are opened wide.*

Presenter

Vivian, Christ demonstrates the love of God offered to everyone.
Receive this key and work together with the people to make the church a welcoming
space for all to enter in, whoever they may be.

Priest

I invite you to work with me to banish all hatred, suspicion, prejudice and hardness of
heart, so that all people may find love in God's church.

**(All) Come all who are heavy laden, and Christ will give you rest.
You are welcome here.**

*As **water** for Baptism is given*

Presenter

Vivian, to follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life in him. Receive this water
and be among us in this ministry of transformation and rebirth, adding to our number
those whom God is calling.

Priest

I invite you all to join with me in making disciples of all nations, baptising them in the
name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

(All) Amen. In baptism God calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

As a *lighted candle* is given

Presenter

Vivian, we look to you to lead those committed to your care; so that, in word and sacrament, we may be renewed in our life together. Receive this candle and be among us as a person of prayer.

Priest

I invite you all to join with me, and with the whole Church, in the renewal of our common prayer, and in the strengthening of the life of the Spirit among us.

(All) Amen. In quietness and confidence shall be our strength.

As *the Bible* is given

Presenter

Vivian, hold before us the story of God's love and mercy, the Gospel of Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Receive this Bible and be among us as preacher of the Word of God and teacher of the faith.

Priest

I invite you all to join with me in proclaiming the Gospel of hope and new life.

(All) Amen. We have this good news to share!

As a *Chalice and Paten* are given

Presenter

Vivian, it is the Chaplain's privilege and duty to preside regularly at the Holy Communion of Christ's Body and Blood. Receive this Chalice and Paten and be among us to proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

Priest

I invite you to join regularly with me in this sacrament to receive strength for daily living, so that we can go out in the power of the Holy Spirit to live and work to God's praise and glory.

(All) Amen. Jesus is the bread of life!

Archdeacon

Vivian, let all these be signs of the ministry, which is both mine and yours, and shared by all the people of God.

Priest

Amen. May we find joy together in the service of Christ.

When the Signs of Ministry have been received, the Archdeacon leads the new Priest to her stall. The Archdeacon places the Priest in her stall with these words:

Archdeacon

I place you in your designated seat. The Lord sustain you in this office to which you have been called, and daily enable you to grow as a faithful servant of his Church. Amen.

Priest (*The new Chaplain prays the Prayer of St Benedict, Patron of Europe*):

O gracious and holy Father,
give us wisdom to perceive you,
diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you,
eyes to behold you,
a heart to meditate upon you,
and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Archdeacon

Here is your new Priest, duly licensed and installed. Greet her warmly.

The congregation warmly greets the new Priest with applause.

The Archdeacon goes to the sanctuary.

THE WELCOME

Any local representatives present are invited to briefly welcome the new Priest during the singing of the offertory hymn. The collection is taken for the Ordination Candidates Fund, for the support and nurture of ministers in the diocese.

Hymn: Lord for the years

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us -
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

After the Hymn the new Priest responds to the welcomes.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The new Priest leads the Prayers of Intercession finishing with The Lord's Prayer
As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**(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 BLESSING

Archdeacon

May the Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word.

(All) Amen.

The Son, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

(All) Amen.

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.

(All) Amen.

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 closing **hymn** is sung, during which the new Priest leads the Archdeacon and churchwardens, to the door.*

Hymn: All my hope on God is founded

All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore
from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

THE DISMISSAL

The Dismissal Gospel

Priest

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

Jesus said, "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."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(All) Praise to you, O Christ.

The new Priest throws the doors of the church wide open and dismisses the people, saying

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

(All) In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional music should start immediately for the procession out.