



SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL



Service of Thanksgiving
Celebrating the 120th anniversary of Welcare

welcare
strengthening families since 1894

Saturday 15 November 2014
at 11.00am

Welcare

Welcome to the 120th Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving for the work of *Welcare* with children and families. We hope that after this service you will have a deeper appreciation of the vision of the charity and feel inspired and rededicated in your support for our mission.

Welcare was started by the Bishop of Rochester, Randall Davidson and his wife in 1894 in response to the desperate need of those we would now call single, homeless young girls and women. We have moved away from providing mother and baby homes to focus on preventative work, doing everything we can to keep families together. Throughout the decades our role has progressed and developed to ensure that we are reflecting the needs of the communities we serve in South London, Bromley and East Surrey. As the needs of vulnerable children and their families have transformed so too has the way we respond to those needs, and today *Welcare* works with more than 1,000 parents and children every year, enabling them to change their lives for the better. We offer parenting groups, child development and play sessions, counselling, social work services, volunteer mentors and other much needed family support, in order to prevent potential crisis and breakdown, from which some families may never fully recover.

We plan to develop our effective, social worker-managed child and family support service, operating throughout the geographical area we serve, delivered by a highly skilled team and supported closely by fully trained volunteers. We will also extend these services to help an older age group where we know there is an un-met need. The transition between primary and secondary school is a key developmental period where little help is available from other services. Children are too old for children's services and too young for many of the youth support activities available to teenagers. This time can be a turning point in the lives of young people and their families.

At the root of all we do are our Christian values - the fundamental reason for our efforts to prevent the children of today from becoming the troubled families of tomorrow. We will continue to build on our strong links with local church communities, working more closely in partnership with them and involving them in our work, so that we can integrate our activities with their own Mission Action Plans.

Thank you for your continuing support of our work and helping us make a difference in the lives of children and families. Without you much of our work would not be possible.

www.welcare.org

The Southwark Children's Brass Band plays before the service.

Before the service the Canon Chancellor welcomes the congregation.

Stand

Processional Hymn NEH 372

He who would valiant be
 'Gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy
 Follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
 Shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent
 To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
 With dismal stories,
Do but themselves confound
 His strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might,
 Though he with giants fight:
He will make good his right
 To be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend
 Us with thy Spirit,
We know we at the end
 Shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away!
 I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labour night and day
 To be a pilgrim.

John Bunyan and Percy Dearmer

Greeting

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

All and also with you.

The Bishop introduces the service

Opening Prayer

Bishop Let us pray

Father in heaven,
who by the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ,
has made us sons and daughters in the family of God;
grant your blessing upon our families and loved ones,
and bind us together in those sacred bonds
that neither life nor death shall ever break;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

Sit **Drama** *A dramatic interpretation of Welcare's history and a glimpse of the future,
introduced by Anna Khan, Chief Executive Southwark Diocesan Welcare.*

Choir Panis Angelicus • Franck

Stand **Hymn** NEH 420

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
Be thou for ever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If thou wilt be my guide.

O let me hear thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised
To all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory
There shall thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

O let me see thy footmarks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in thy strength alone;
O guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then in heaven receive me,
My Saviour and my Friend.

John Bode

Sit

Reading Deuteronomy 15. 7-8, 10-11

read by David Atterbury Thomas, Chair of Trustees,
Southwark Diocesan Welcare

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbour. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbour in your land.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Reading Mark 10. 13-16

read by read by Lorna White, Director of Services,
Southwark Diocesan Welcare

A reading from the Gospel of Saint Mark.

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Right Reverend Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark

Choir Ave Verum • Faure

Sit or kneel Prayers of Intercession led by The Venerable Dr Paul Wright,
Archdeacon of Bromley and Bexley
and Trustee of Southwark Diocesan Welcare

Loving God

we give you thanks for all those in previous generations
who responded to your call to reach out to individuals
for whom life was a struggle because of poverty or abuse.

We thank you that you have called us to follow in their footsteps,
to meet the challenges and needs of children, their families and carers,
whose lives are still blighted by the same struggles in our society.

Above all, we thank you for the lives that have been touched and changed by
the support of Welcare, past and present, and have known your blessing.

All Amen.

Loving God,

for the child who is alone,

let us bring friendship;

for the child who is scarred,

let us heal their wounds;

for the child who goes unnoticed,

let us listen and understand;

for the ever frightened and vulnerable child,

let us bring them love.

All Amen.

Living God,

you have made us in your own image

and we live and grow best in companionship with others;

bless the work of Welcare with parents, carers and children.

May Welcare staff, volunteers and supporters

continue to provide places and spaces

where trust is grown, understanding enabled, relationships developed,

confidence found and potential released.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,
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.**

Stand

Hymn NEH 339

During the hymn a collection is taken for Welcare. If you are a UK taxpayer please give through the Gift Aid scheme. Simply put your offering in the green envelope provided, completing the necessary details on the front, especially your name and postcode.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art,
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord,
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might,
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Be thou my inheritance now and always,
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won,
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Irish c 8th century
Translated by Mary Byrne

**Remain
standing**

Rededication

Bishop
All

Are you committed to the future of Welcare?
Yes, we are committed.

Bishop
All

Will you take responsibility for helping family life through the work of Welcare?
Yes, we will take responsibility.

Bishop
All

Will you go out in Christ's name to work for the Kingdom of God?
Yes, we will go out in the name of Christ. Amen.

Blessing The Bishop Southwark

All

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Bishop

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.
The blessing of God almighty;
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you now and always.

All

Amen.

Dismissal

Bishop Go in the peace of Christ.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn NEH 120

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
 Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
 Kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
 Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
 Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
 For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:
 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
 Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
 Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife,
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
 Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:
 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
 Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;

French, Edmond Budry
Translated by Richard Hoyle

Welcare would especially like to thank Jo Josh for preparing, narrating and directing the drama presentation. Welcare would like to thank Catharine Adjei, Angela Fiori and Sarah Merrick for taking part in the drama presentation. We are also very grateful to all the young people, and leaders of the Southwark Children's Brass Band and The Children's Choirs of St John the Divine Kennington for participating in our service today.

We would like to thank all the Cathedral staff for their help and support in preparing for this service.

Welcare would like to thank haysmacintyre, Bates Wells Braithwaite and JS2 for their support for the 120th Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving.

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Southwark Children's Brass Band provides weekly music tuition and training in brass instruments for around 50 children, ages 7 to 14, from the London Borough of Southwark, and the wider area, from all backgrounds. We encourage children to enjoy the challenges of making music, by learning on their own as well as learning and playing as a group, giving them self esteem, self discipline and confidence that will be with them for the rest of their lives.

The children's choirs of St. John the Divine were founded in April 2013. They now sing High Mass and evensong once a month, and rehearse every week. The members are drawn from local primary schools. The choirs have been on two summer residential courses in the school of St. John's College, Cambridge and have sung choral evensong in Peterborough Cathedral and Mass and evensong in the chapel of St. John's College. In November, members of the choir will perform Britten's *War Requiem* in the Cadogan Hall, alongside distinguished soloists and the Royal Orchestral Society.

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# The Cathedral and Collegiate Church of St Saviour and St Mary Overy, Southwark

LIVING GOD



In 606 a Convent was established on the south bank of the River Thames at the place from which the ferry used to cross over to the City of London. In 1106 an Augustinian Priory was established. From here they ministered to pilgrims and travellers, and to the sick and the needy of the area and the Word of God was faithfully preached and the sacraments celebrated. As part of their ministry, the Hospital of St Thomas was established (now located opposite the Houses of Parliament).

Following the Reformation, the Priory Church became a Parish Church. In many ways the building was sadly neglected but the gospel continued to be faithfully preached and the people of the parish cared for and taught. A parish school – now Cathedral School – was opened in 1704 following in the work already established in schools founded from the parish under a charter from Queen Elizabeth I.

The life, diversity and character of the area are revealed in the tombs and monuments within the church. Among them is that of John Gower (c. 1330-1408), poet and friend of Chaucer, whose *Canterbury Tales* begin in Southwark. Across the nave is a memorial to William Shakespeare, who spent much of his life in Southwark, and above it, a stained glass window depicting scenes from his plays. Edmund Shakespeare, John Fletcher and Philip Massinger are all buried in the Cathedral. Lancelot Andrewes, who translated the first five books of the Bible into English, is buried by the High Altar. He is a founding father of the Church of England. In the grounds is buried Mahomet, Chief of the Mohegan Tribe from New England and a memorial to him can be found in the churchyard.

Today in old and new buildings, this Cathedral continues to serve the people of its parish and the people of the diocese, to be a centre of teaching, of worship, prayer and pilgrimage; a place of inclusive welcome for all people. This continues to be a place of major regeneration and change as Bankside has once again become a residential area, a playground for London and a place where the arts are celebrated, as well as a growing centre for political, financial and legal decision making. Southwark Cathedral is the constant factor in an ever changing and exciting community in which we continue to proclaim a gospel of radical engagement with God and the world.

We therefore welcome you to this holy place which is both ancient and modern. Together we continue to serve the people of this area - those who are passing through, crossing the river, making a new home, coming to work or simply here to enjoy themselves – and the people who live here, in much the same way as our forebears did and with all those who have gone before us we do it all from a place of praise and worship of Almighty God.

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