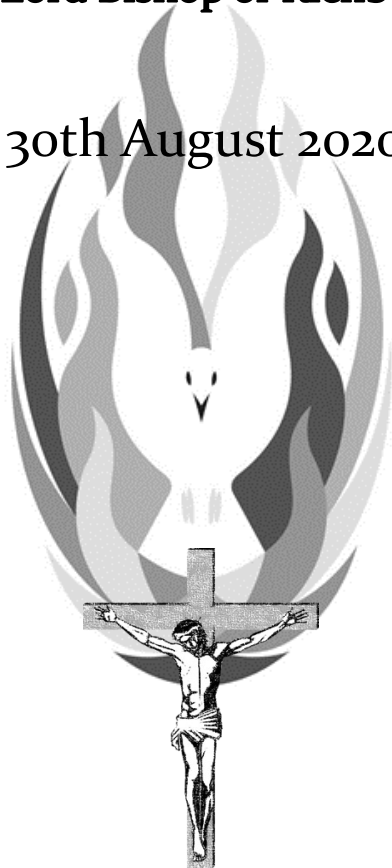


St Mary the Virgin, Mendlesham

Vicar: Fr Philip Gray, BA, SSC

PARISH MASS & CONFIRMATION by the Lord Bishop of Richborough

30th August 2020



RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Graham Baker, Paula Benneworth, Shane Everett

LITURGY OF INITIATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Bishop: Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit? Candidates: **I have.**

Bishop: Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ? Candidates: **I am.**

To the congregation the Bishop says-

Bishop: Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?

All: With the help of God, we will.

THE DECISION

The congregation sits. The Bishop addresses the candidate:

Bishop: In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with Him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

Candidates: I reject them.

Bishop: Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

Candidates: I renounce them.

Bishop: Do you repent of the sin that separate us from God and neighbour?

Candidates: I repent of them.

Bishop: Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

Candidates: I turn to Christ.

Bishop: Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

Candidates: I submit to Christ.

Bishop: Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

Candidates: I come to Christ.

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Bishop addresses the whole congregation:

Bishop: Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with this candidate the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Bishop: Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven; he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Bishop: Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Having proclaimed our baptismal faith before the Bishop, the Candidates are sprinkled with Holy Water from the Font. The baptismal rite concludes with this prayer:

Bishop: Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **All:**

Amen.

THE CONFIRMATION

The congregation kneels. The Bishop stands before the candidate who is to be confirmed and says-

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord, **All: who has made heaven and earth.**

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord, **All: now and forever. Amen.**

The Prayer over the Candidate.

The Bishop extends his hands and prays-

Bishop: Almighty and ever living God, you have given these your servants new birth in baptism by water and the Spirit, and have forgiven them all their sins. Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding; **All: Amen.**

the Spirit of counsel and inward strength; **All: Amen.**

the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness; **All: Amen.**

and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord. **All: Amen.**

SIT *Fr Philip presents the candidates to the Bishop.*

The Bishop addresses The Candidates by name:

Bishop: (Name), God has called you by name and made you his own.

The Bishop then lays his hand on each Candidate's head saying- Confirm, O Lord, your servant (Name) with your Holy Spirit. **Candidates: Amen.**

The Bishop anoints each Candidate with the oil of Chrism saying-

Bishop: (Name), be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. **Candidates: Amen.**

Bishop: Peace be with you **Candidates: And also with you.**

The Bishop invites the congregation to pray for Graham, Paula and Shane, now newly-confirmed

All: Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

The Mass Continues as usual, starting with the Prayer of the Faithful: see Bulletin.

**Please stay after Mass to welcome Graham, Paula & Shane
and to meet Bishop Norman**