

Westminster Abbey



A Service
to celebrate the Centenary of
Lady Margaret School



Tuesday 17th October 2017
Noon



The hands of Lady Margaret Beaufort's effigy on her tomb; the work of Pietro Torrigiano (1472–1528).

‘Every one that knew her loved her, and everything that she said or did became her.’

St John Fisher (1469–1535)

HISTORICAL NOTE

Lady Margaret School has its origins in Whitelands College School, founded in 1842. In 1917, the original school was threatened with closure, but due to the strenuous efforts of Enid Moberly Bell, her friends, and the staff of the school, a substantial number of the pupils were ‘rescued’ and Lady Margaret School came into being in September of that same year. Miss Moberley Bell remained Headteacher for the next thirty years.

The school takes its name from Lady Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond and Derby (1443–1509) the mother of Henry VII, whence the choice of the Tudor Rose as the school’s emblem. Lady Margaret Beaufort was founder of St John’s and Christ’s Colleges, Cambridge. Lady Margaret Hall, the first women’s college at Oxford University, is also named after her. She is buried here in Westminster Abbey.

The first school building was Belfield House, Parsons Green, the oldest of the three houses which form part of the present school. In 1937, a second house was purchased, but before long war broke out and the school was evacuated to Midhurst in Sussex.

The school re-opened in 1943 and in 1947 became a two-form entry grammar school under the leadership of Florence Elsie Marshall (1947–71). Pressure on space was relieved by the purchase of Henniker House in 1951 the same year Lady Margaret became a Voluntary Aided Church of England School.

Plans were made for a new hall and gymnasium. Twelve years elapsed before this became a reality, and Princess Alexandra formally opened the hall in 1965. We are honoured to have Her Royal Highness with us again today.

The school’s third Headteacher Alison Cavendish (1971–80) oversaw the change to comprehensive education with its first comprehensive intake arriving in September 1977—the school’s sixtieth anniversary.

Rosemary Cairns followed as Headteacher for four years and her deputy Joan Olivier became the school’s fifth Headteacher in 1984. The school continued to expand with extensions opened in 1994 and 1997.

Mrs Olivier was succeeded as Headteacher in 2006 by Sally Whyte. A new building, opened in September 2010 to accommodate the expansion of the school Sixth Form, was named after Mrs Olivier, with the significant contribution of her deputy, Colin Busby MBE, being recognised with the naming of the Busby Auditorium.

In September 2012, and with 725 pupils on roll, the school was awarded Academy status and began the process of expanding from three to four forms of entry so that more girls could enjoy the benefits of the distinctive Lady Margaret education. New classrooms and a new entrance, straight onto Parsons Green, provided improved access and enhanced internal space for the newly expanded school in 2014.

Sally Whyte retired in July 2015 after nine years as Headteacher and was succeeded by Elisabeth Stevenson, our current Headteacher, confidently leading the school into its second century.

Over the past one hundred years the school has seen many changes, within and without its walls. Always at the centre, however, lies its strong Christian ethos and much thankfulness for the ‘goodly heritage’ which the school community enjoys.

STREETS AHEAD RWANDA

Our retiring collection today is for our school charity, chosen by the girls for our centenary year: Streets Ahead Rwanda.

Streets Ahead Rwanda is the UK fundraising arm of SACCA Rwanda, working with marginalised and vulnerable young people. The charity’s focus is particularly on children who are or have been living on the street, helping them back into society again by providing long term support.

Our fundraising is particularly focused on the young women Sacca supports and will help provide uniforms, equipment, and books for girls who would otherwise not be able to receive an education. It will also help fund places for girls of secondary-school age who need to attend boarding schools and make it possible for others to receive vocational training. Raising money for Streets Ahead Rwanda enables us to support girls who have not enjoyed the same opportunities that we often take for granted and is one way we can show our gratitude to God for our ‘goodly heritage’.

Members of the congregation are kindly requested to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.

The church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn their hearing aid to the setting marked T.

The service is conducted by The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster.

The service is sung by the Lady Margaret School Chamber Choir, directed by Patrick Allies, and the Lady Margaret School Junior Choir, directed by Ciara McCarthy. The combined choirs of Lady Margaret School are directed by Dr Christopher Parker.

The organ is played by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist.

The trumpet is played by Gwyn Owen.

Before the service, music is played by the Lady Margaret School Orchestra, directed by Lewis Gaston.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra is greeted by the Dean at the West Gate. Presentations are made. All stand.

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Lady Margaret School Chamber Choir sings

THE INTROIT

LEAD me, Lord, in thy righteousness : make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

*from Praise the Lord, O my soul
Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–76)*

from Psalm 5

All sing

THE HYMN

*during which the procession moves to places
in the South Lantern, Quire, and the Sacrarium*



PRAISE, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring.

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?

Praise him! Praise him!

Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him!
glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him! Praise him!
widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him;
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Praise, my soul 436 NEH
John Goss (1800–80)

Henry Lyte (1793–1847)
after Psalm 103

All remain standing. The Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Dean of Westminster,
gives

THE WELCOME

All sit for

THE TESTIMONIES

Miriam Standring, Year 11, from the Nave Pulpit
and
Claire Lovell (1966–72) and Harriet James (1997–2004), alumnae,
from the Great Lectern

The choirs sing

THE ANTHEM

*during which a certificate from the Church of England Education Office,
marking the School's centenary, is presented to the Dean by Year 9 pupils
Emily Kulabya, Mathilde Covello, and Lola Chinn*

LOVE Divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Breath, o breathe thy loving spirit
into every troubled breast,
let us all in thee inherit,
let us find that second rest:
take away our power of sinning,
Alpha and Omega be,
end of faith as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee,
changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Howard Goodall (b 1958)

Charles Wesley (1707–88)

THE FIRST READING

PRESERVE me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge;
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord,
all my good depends on you.'
All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble in heart.
Though the idols are legion that many run after,
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,
neither make mention of their names upon my lips.

The Lord himself is my portion and my cup;
in your hands alone is my fortune.
My share has fallen in a fair land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel,
and in the night watches he instructs my heart.
I have set the Lord always before me;
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.
Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices;
my flesh also shall rest secure.
For you will not abandon my soul to Death,
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
You will show me the path of life;
in your presence is the fullness of joy
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Psalm 16

Louise Alder (1998–2005), alumna, sings

THE ARIA

LET the bright Seraphim, in burning row,
Their loud, uplifted angel-trumpets blow.
Let the cherubic host, in tuneful choirs,
Touch their immortal harps with golden wires.

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)
from Samson HWV 57

after John Milton (1608–74)

THE SECOND READING

LET love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12: 9–21

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



IN Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone—who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied,
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain:
then bursting forth in glorious day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine,
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand:
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

In Christ Alone CMP 1072
Stuart Townend (b 1963)

Keith Getty (b 1974)

THE ADDRESS

by

The Right Reverend and Right Honourable
Richard Chartres KCVO ChSJ FSA,
Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal

The Lady Margaret School Junior Choir sings

THE ANTHEM

during which a procession moves to the south aisle of the Lady Chapel where a tribute of flowers is placed at the tomb of Lady Margaret Beaufort

THE Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures : He leadeth me beside the still waters.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil : for you are with me; you will comfort me.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Howard Goodall

after Psalm 23

All kneel or remain seated. The Reverend Mark Birch, Minor Canon and Sacrist, leads

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray,

From the tomb of Lady Margaret Beaufort, Ella Barnes, Head Girl, Year 13, says:

LET us give thanks to God for the inspiration of Lady Margaret Beaufort, as Foundress of great and abiding centres of learning. Let us give thanks for the founders of our School, and for all our benefactors, living and departed.

The Dean says:

ETERNAL God, the resurrection and the life of all that believe in thee, who art always to be praised, as well in the dead as in the living: We give thee hearty thanks for thy servant Lady Margaret Beaufort and all those by whose inspiration and bounty we are brought up to godliness and the studies of good learning; beseeching thee that we, well using all these thy blessings to the praise and honour of thy holy name, may at length, together with all thy servants departed this life, be brought to the immortal glory of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

From the Sacrarium, Eva Delaney, Year 10, says:

LET us give thanks for the Headteachers, staff and students of former years; for all that they contributed to the School in their time, and for the goodly heritage we have received from them.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Reverend Penny Seabrook, Associate Vicar, All Saints Fulham, and School Governor, says:

LET us give thanks for the School community today; for all staff and parents who give their time and talents, and who make it a place where all may grow and learn and flourish.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Charlotte Walton, Director of 6th Form, says:

LET us pray for the Headteacher, the Governors, and all with responsibility for leadership and good governance; for wisdom, courage, and vision.

Lord, in thy mercy,

hear our prayer.

Melinda Shelbourne, Parent, says:

LET us pray for all who teach and all who study; that a spirit of curiosity and delight in learning may be rekindled each day.

Lord, in thy mercy,

hear our prayer.

The Reverend David Stanton, Canon in Residence, says:

LET us pray for all who guard the ethos of the School; that through prayer, worship, and study, each may learn to honour, value, and care for the other, and grow in faith, hope, and love.

Lord, in thy mercy,

hear our prayer.

The Sacrist concludes:

These and all our prayers let us offer to the Father in the words that Jesus Christ gave us:

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.

From the tomb of Lady Margaret Beaufort, The Reverend Caroline Newbold, Chaplain of Lady Margaret School, says the school prayer:

VOUCHSAFE, O Lord, to prosper with thy blessing the work of this school, dedicated to thy glory and the good of thy children; and grant to those who teach and learn herein that being enlightened by thy truth, preserved by thy fear, and abounding in thy love, they may daily advance in wholesome learning and in the knowledge of him who is the way, the truth and the life, thy Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen.**

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



LORD, for the years your love has kept and guided,
Lured 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.

Lord of the years 81 CP
Michael Baughen (b 1930)

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b 1926)

All remain standing. The Dean gives

THE BLESSING

GO forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All sing

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.

All remain standing as the procession leaves the Abbey Church. The organist plays

Toccatà in G

Théodore Dubois (1837–1924)

Members of the congregation are requested to remain in their places until directed to move by the Stewards.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of Streets Ahead Rwanda.

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung.