

Westminster Abbey



A Service to Commemorate the Life of Florence Nightingale



Wednesday 17th May 2017
6.30 pm

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE COMMEMORATION SERVICE

The Florence Nightingale Foundation is a living memorial to Florence Nightingale. Its purpose is to:

- advance the study of nursing and promote excellence in nursing practice;
- raise funds to provide scholarships for nurses and midwives to study at home and abroad, to promote innovation in practice, and to extend knowledge and skill to meet changing needs;
- promote the special contribution of nursing to society and to the health of people;
- encourage international understanding and learning between nurses and midwives.

The service is held annually as close as possible to 12th May, to commemorate Florence Nightingale's birthday—now International Nurses' Day.

PROCESSIONS DURING THE SERVICE

The Adjutant and Chelsea Pensioners process. Their participation is in memory of, and in gratitude to, Florence Nightingale for her care of the troops—their predecessors—during the Crimean Campaign.

The Honorary Officers who process represent the Florence Nightingale Foundation. They embody the traditional link between nurses and voluntary lay people who work together in a charitable context to develop and advance the practice of nursing and midwifery for the benefit of all those who need healthcare. Their endeavours pay constant tribute to the inspiration and example of Florence Nightingale and her great achievements.

The Honorary Officers of the Foundation are: Sir Robert Francis QC, Patron; The Baroness Watkins of Tavistock, President; The Right Honourable The Lord Remnant CVO, Bryan Wilson, and Theo Noel Smith,

Vice-Presidents; Mary Spinks CBE, and Geoffrey Walker OBE, Honorary Vice-Presidents; Bryan Sanderson CBE, Chairman; Richard Beazley DL, Vice-Chairman; and Dr Colin Reeves CBE, Honorary Treasurer.

The Master and Wardens of the Guild of Nurses process. Forming a Guild of Nurses is the first stage in becoming a City of London Livery Company. Florence Nightingale was awarded Honorary Freedom of the City of London—the highest honour the City can bestow and the Guild represent this.

The Florence Nightingale Foundation Chairs in Clinical Nursing Research process. Their participation exemplifies Florence Nightingale’s use of research to impact on national and international policy and practice to improve health and wellbeing for both patients and the public.

They are represented by Professor Debbie Carrick-Sen, Chair at University of Birmingham and Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust; Professor Bridget Johnston, Chair at University of Glasgow and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Professor Candy McCabe, Chair at University of the West of England, Bristol and Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust; Professor Fiona Nolan, Chair at University of Essex and North Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust; Professor Christine Norton, Chair at King’s College London and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust.

The Nurses’ Roll of Honour was compiled by the British Commonwealth Nurses’ War Memorial Fund and is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel in the North Ambulatory of Westminster Abbey, which can be visited at any time on request to the Vergers. The Bearer of the Roll, who this year will be Army Nurse Corporal Alex Young, Royal Centre for Defence Medicine, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Army Nursing Corps, is escorted by the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces.

The Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces are: Captain Steven Spencer QHNS, Queen Alexandra’s Royal Naval Nursing Service, Head of Naval Nursing Service, Colonel Karen Irvine RRC QHN L/QARANC, Chief Nursing Officer (Army), and Group Captain Michael Priestley QHN,

Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, Director of Nursing Service (RAF).

Florence Nightingale became known as 'The Lady with the Lamp' during her work in the Crimea, where she conducted her night rounds caring for wounded soldiers while holding a lantern. The Lamp has become an international symbol of nursing. The Lamp used in this service was given by Sir Dan Mason OBE in memory of his mother, Kathleen Dampier-Bennett, and is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel here in Westminster Abbey. This year the Lamp will be carried by Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Sandra Mononga. The Lamp party will be escorted by student nurses and midwives from Edinburgh Napier University.

On arrival before the High Altar, the Lamp will be handed to Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Gerry Bolger. He will pass the Lamp to Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Sarah Noble. This represents the transmission of knowledge from one nurse to another and highlights the diversity of care given by nurses for the benefit of humanity.

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

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

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

The service is sung by the Westminster Abbey Special Service Choir, conducted by Matthew Jorysz, Assistant Organist.

The organ is played by Benjamin Cunningham, Organ Scholar.

Music before the service:

Fuga sopra il Magnificat BWV 733 *Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)*

Prélude, Fugue, et Variation Op18 *César Franck (1822–90)*

Prelude on Rhosymedre *Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)*

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The Adjutant and Chelsea Pensioners move from the west end of the Abbey Church to their places in the Lantern. All remain seated.

The Honorary Officers of The Florence Nightingale Foundation move to their places in Quire. All remain seated.

The Guild of Nurses move to their places in the Lantern. All remain seated.

The Florence Nightingale Foundation Chairs in Clinical Nursing Practice Research move to their places in the Lantern. All remain seated.

All stand.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, the Honourable Lady Ogilvy, is received at the West Gate by the Dean. Presentations are made.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All remain standing. The choir sings at the Great West Door

THE INTROIT

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may bide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth.

Thomas Tallis (c 1505–85)

St John 14: 15–17a

All remain standing to sing

THE HYMN

*during which the Collegiate Procession
moves to places in Quire and the Sacrarium*



PRAISE to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
 come ye who hear,
 brothers and sisters draw near,
 praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
 hast thou not seen
 all that is needful hath been
 granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work, and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
ponder anew
all the Almighty can do,
he who with love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ay we adore him.

Lobe den Herren 440 NEH
Praxis pietatis melica 1668

Lobe den Herren, den mächtigen König der Ehren
Joachim Neander (1650–80)
translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827–78)

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

THE BIDDING

WELCOME to Westminster Abbey, which has seen so many occasions of joy and sorrow and remembrance. We come into the presence of almighty God to offer our worship, praise, and thanksgiving. In particular, we thank God for Florence Nightingale: for her enterprise and heroism, and for the example she has left us.

We pray that her ideals of compassion, quality of care, and training may continue to inspire and sustain nurses everywhere. We praise God for all those nurses who, like her, have carried the lamp of healing into the dark places of our world.

Let us prepare to hear and receive God's holy word and to bring before God the needs of our world. Let us remember with pride the vocation we have each received, and prepare to dedicate ourselves anew to the service of all in need.

*All sit. Professor Jane Cummings, Chief Nursing Officer for England,
reads from the Great Lectern*

THE FIRST READING

THUS says the Lord:
I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.

But be glad and rejoice for ever
in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,
all you who love her;
rejoice with her in joy,
all you who mourn over her—

that you may nurse and be satisfied
from her consoling breast;
that you may drink deeply with delight
from her glorious bosom.

For thus says the Lord:
I will extend prosperity to her like a river,
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,
and dandled on her knees.
As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Isaiah 65: 17–20, 66: 10–13

All remain seated. The choir sings:

THE MOTET

SITIVIT anima mea ad Deum fortem vivum;
quando veniam et apparebo ante faciem Dei?
Fuerunt mihi lachrymae panes die ac nocte,
dum dicitur mihi quotidie, ‘Ubi est Deus tuus?’

*My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God;
when shall I come before the presence of God?
My tears have been my bread day and night,
while all day long they say unto me, ‘Where is now your God?’*

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c 1525–94)

Psalm 42: 2–3

*Michael Macfadyen DL, Trustee, the Sandra Charitable Trust, reads from
the Nave Pulpit*

THE SECOND READING

JUST as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

1 Corinthians 12: 12–18

All stand to sing

THE HYMN



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.

*Slane 339 NEH
traditional Irish melody*

*Irish, c 8th century, translated by Mary Byrne (1880–1931)
and versified by Eleanor Hull (1860–1935)*

All remain standing for

THE PROCESSION OF THE ROLL OF HONOUR

The British Commonwealth Nurses' Roll of Honour is borne in silence from the Grave of the Unknown Warrior through the Nave to the Sacramentum.

The Reverend Mark Birch, Minor Canon and Sacrist, says:

LET us remember those nurses and midwives who answered God's call and gave their lives in the Second World War while caring for the sick and wounded, whose names are recorded in the Nurses' Roll of Honour, and those who have given their lives in subsequent conflicts.

The Bearer of the Roll, Army Nurse Corporal Alex Young, Royal Centre for Defence Medicine, Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, is escorted by the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Armed Forces.

The Roll of Honour is received by the Dean and is placed near the High Altar.

The Dean says:

Let us pray.

GOD our Father, we praise your holy name for all who lived and died in the service of others and are now at rest in Christ. Their example has encouraged us, their witness has inspired us, and the memory of them makes us glad today. For them all we thank you, we honour and we worship you, as they do now by your grace and in your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sing

THE HYMN



I VOW to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love:
the love that asks no question, the love that stands the test,
that lays upon the altar the dearest and the best;
the love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
the love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

Thaxted 295 AMNS
Gustav Holst (1874–1934)

Cecil Spring-Rice (1859–1918)

All sit for

THE ADDRESS

by

The Dean

All remain seated for

THE PROCESSION OF THE LAMP

The Lamp is carried by Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Sandra Mononga. The Lamp Party is escorted by student nurses and midwives from Edinburgh Napier University.

On arrival in the Sacrarium, the Lamp will be handed to Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Gerry Bolger. He will pass the Lamp to Florence Nightingale Foundation Scholar Sarah Noble. This represents the transmission of knowledge from one nurse to another and highlights the diversity of care given by nurses for the benefit of humanity. It is then offered to the Dean, who places it on the High Altar.

All stand. The Sacrist says:

Let us dedicate ourselves afresh to the service of those who need our care today.

All say together:

**MAY this lamp signify
our sacred calling to serve the sick and injured,
which was heard and answered by Florence Nightingale,
passed on from generation to generation,
and received with gladness and humility by us today.**

The Dean says:

JESUS said, ‘Like the lamp, you must shed light among your fellows, so that, when they see the good you do, they may give praise to your Father in heaven.’

St Matthew 5: 16

Let us pray.

O GOD, the Father of lights, from you comes every good and perfect gift: we thank you for Florence Nightingale and for her vision, courage, and compassion, of which this Lamp is the undying symbol. Kindle our hearts, we pray, by the fire of your Holy Spirit, so that we may shine for you in the darkness of human suffering and sorrow; through him who is the light of the world, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

All sit. The choir sings

THE ANTHEM

VERBE égal au Très-Haut, notre unique espérance,
jour éternel de la terre et des cieux,
de la paisible nuit nous rompons le silence,
divin Sauveur, jette sur nous les yeux!

Répands sur nous le feu de ta grâce puissante,
que tout l'enfer fuie au son de ta voix,
dissipe le sommeil d'une âme languissante,
qui la conduit à l'oubli de tes lois!

Ô Christ, sois favorable à ce peuple fidèle
pour te bénir maintenant rassemblé,
reçois les chants qu'il offre à ta gloire immortelle,
et de tes dons qu'il retourne comblé!

O Word from on high, our only hope, heaven and earth's eternal day, we raise our voices in this peaceful night—Divine Saviour, look upon us.

Breathe on us the fire and power of your grace, let all hell flee at the sound of your voice, wake from their torpor these souls of ours which live forgetful of your laws.

O Christ, look favourably on your faithful people now gathered here to praise you. Accept the praise we offer to your eternal glory, and may we bear away with us the gifts of your grace.

Cantique de Jean Racine
Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

*from Hymnes traduites du Bréviaire Romain
Jean Racine (1639–99)*

All kneel or remain seated. The Sacrist leads

THE INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to God our Father, whose Son came that we might have life.

HEAVENLY Father, we give you thanks for the life and work of Florence Nightingale, and for those she has inspired to serve with care and compassion. We pray for the continued work of The Florence Nightingale Foundation, and for its scholars, that they may continue their significant contribution to clinical care.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Ursula Ward, Chief Executive, The Florence Nightingale Foundation, says:

WE give you thanks for all who provide leadership in the provision of healthcare and in the nursing profession, and pray that, in challenging times, support and compassion may be shown to those most in need.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Dorcas Gwata, Florence Nightingale Scholar, says:

WE pray for all who promote health and wellbeing in policy and practice; for nurses offering care, both in hospitals and in homes; for nurses in training and those who teach them; for all engaged in research; and all those who, through their office, work for the flourishing of all people.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Dr Richard Adams, Chief Nursing Officer, Bupa, says:

WE pray for all who promote healthcare within the Armed Forces, remembering especially those currently serving in places of need and conflict; for those responsible for training and formation; and for those who exercise stewardship, make policy, and allocate resources.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Reverend Professor Vernon White, Canon in Residence, says:

WE pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for those who are terminally ill, elderly, or frail; for all refugees and those who bear the scars of war; for all who live with chronic disability and pain, and for the many who care for them.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Sacrist concludes:

REMEMBER in your kingdom, O Lord, all those who have faithfully served you here on earth and are now at rest; grant us, with them, and with all the faithful departed, the joy of your salvation.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray as our Saviour has taught 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, forever and ever. Amen.

All remain standing. The Dean pronounces

THE BLESSING

THE God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen, and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

All remain standing for

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 moves to the west end of the Abbey Church.

Music after the service:

Allegro maestoso e vivace—Allegro moderato
from Sonata in C Op 65 no 2

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809–47)

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

The bells of the Abbey Church are rung.

The Florence Nightingale Foundation wishes to thank
the Chief Nursing Officer for Scotland and Edinburgh Napier University
for their support on this occasion.

