

**The Licensing of**  
**The Revd Mark Hurley**  
**as Priest in Charge**  
**of the Benefice of**  
**Bishops Lydeard with Lydeard St Lawrence, Bagborough,**  
**Combe Florey and Cothelstone**  
**by**  
**The Right Reverend Peter Hancock**  
**Bishop of Bath and Wells**



**by remote conferencing**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020**  
**3pm**

## **Bishop Peter introduces the service**

The Revd Mark Hurley is presented to the Bishop by Rev'd Canon Dr Rob James, representing the Chapter of Wells Cathedral, Mr William Hancock and Mrs Priscilla Mitford, joint patrons

### **Patron:**

Bishop, I present to you Mark to serve as Priest in Charge in the Benefice of Bishops Lydeard with Lydeard St Lawrence, Bagborough, Combe Florey and Cothelstone

### **The Bishop prays:**

God our Father, Lord of all the world,  
through your Son you have called us into the fellowship  
of your universal Church:  
hear our prayer for all your faithful people  
that in their vocation and ministry  
each may be an instrument of your love,  
and give to your servant, Mark,  
the needful gifts of grace;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Spirit,  
one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Bishop then says:**

**Bishop** Mark, you have been chosen as the Priest in Charge in the Benefice of Bishops Lydeard with Lydeard St Lawrence, Bagborough, Combe Florey and Cothelstone in this Diocese.

Do you believe that God has truly called you to this ministry?

**Mark** I believe that God has called me, and, with his help, I will serve faithfully in this ministry.

**Bishop** Heavenly Father, we gather in your name with thankfulness and praise for all who have been envisioned afresh in times past to serve you in this Diocese and for your servant Mark, now called by you to this present task. Guide and strengthen all your faithful people that we may give ourselves in love and service to one another and to your world with renewed vision and service; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** **Amen**

**The Bishop calls upon Mark to affirm his loyalty to the Anglican inheritance of faith and to swear allegiance to the Queen and Canonical obedience to the Bishop.**

Mark, the Church of England is part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church, worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It professes the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation.

Led by the Holy Spirit, it has borne witness to Christian truth in its historic formularies, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer, and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

In the declaration you are about to make, will you affirm your loyalty to this inheritance of faith as your inspiration and guidance under God in bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making him known to those in your care?

**Mark responds**

I, Mark Tristan Hurley do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorised or allowed by canon.

**Taking the Bible, Mark swears the Oath of Allegiance to the Sovereign:**

I, Mark Tristan Hurley swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her heirs and successors according to law; so help me God.

**Mark swears the Oath of Canonical Obedience to the Bishop:**

I, Mark Tristan Hurley, swear by almighty God that I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, and his successors, in all things lawful and honest, so help me God.

**Reading: Psalm 8**

**The Bishop reads Mark's licence.**

**The Bishop 'virtually' hands the licence to the Priest in Charge, saying:**

Mark, receive this duty and care, which is both yours and mine;  
in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**The Archdeacon of Taunton prays for Mark and his ministry.**

**Mark prays for his new parishes.**

**The Bishop blesses Mark in his ministry**

God the Holy Trinity  
make you strong in faith and love,  
defend you on every side  
and guide you in truth and peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

**The assembled people then say together:**

**All Mark, may the Lord make you a blessing  
among those to whom you minister,  
and may we be a blessing to you,  
as we work together for Christ.**