

**Thanksgiving and De-consecration of
St Peter's Church
in the Mariners' Club
11 Middle Road
Tsim Sha Tsui**



27th February 2018 at 7.00pm

Scripture Sentences

The Lord gives and the Lord takes away;
blessed be the name of the Lord. (*Job 1:21*)

In God's hands are the souls of all that live,
the spirit of all human kind.
Wisdom and might are his,
with him are firmness and understanding.
if he pulls down, there is no rebuilding;
if he imprisons, there is no release. (*Job 12:10-14*)

For everything there is a season, and a time
for every matter under heaven:
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away (*Eccles 3:1-6, selected*)

Jesus said:
"Heaven and earth will pass away; my words will never pass away." (*Matt 24:35*)

PREAMBLE

Beloved in the Lord:
In a former age, our forefathers set apart this site from common use, and consecrated it to the glory of God the Father, who has called us by his grace; to the glory of God the Son, who loves us and gave himself for us; and to the glory of God the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies, guides and comforts us.

With changing circumstances in passing years, this property will be redeveloped into a new Mariners' Club and will once again contain a Church for the people of God to gather and worship. During the period of demolition and redevelopment we ask God's blessing on all who will work on this site, for their safety and peace. We ask God's blessing for this place as it transitions from sacred to secular, and in the years to come, to be restored as a place of worship to the Glory of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Act of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

Bishop: We who are gathered here know that this building which has been consecrated and set apart for the ministry of God's Holy Word and Sacraments, will

no longer be used in this way. Let us offer our thanks for God's work through this building.

Bishop moves to the Font

Bishop: We thank you, loving God, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. May all who have been baptized in this place ever live as people made new by your Spirit. **Amen**

Bishop moves to the Lectern

Bishop: Almighty God, your eternal Word speaks to us through the words of Holy Scripture. Here we have read of your mighty acts and purposes in history, and here we have learned about those whom you have chosen to be agents of your will. May we always seek to hear and follow your Word. **Amen**

Bishop moves to the Chancel Steps

Bishop: Life-giving Spirit, here you have confirmed your people in their Baptismal vows. Here you have blessed those who have come to be united in marriage. May your Spirit be always with your people that they may know your power and your love. **Amen**

Bishop moves to the Altar

Bishop: Loving God, here at this table we have gathered together to be fed with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. May we who have shared his body, live his risen life; we who have shared his cup, bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. May we who have been fed by Christ be filled with his grace and blessing. **Amen**

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

‘Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.’

The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Prayers of the People

For the Church universal, of which this building is a visible symbol

We thank you, Lord

For your presence whenever two or three have gathered in your name

We thank you, Lord

For this place where we may be still and know that you are God.

We thank you, Lord

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us.

We thank you, Lord

For our past and a vision of the future that lies ahead

We thank you, Lord

For the gift of the Holy Spirit and new life in baptism

We thank you, Lord

For the pardon of our sins when we have fallen short of your glory

We thank you, Lord

For the Holy Eucharist in which we have a foretaste of your eternal kingdom

We thank you, Lord

For the blessings of our vows and the crowning of our years with your goodness

We thank you, Lord

For the faith of those who have gone on before us and for our encouragement by
their perseverance

We thank you, Lord

For all benefactors of this place who have died in the peace of Christ and are at rest

We thank you, Lord

For the fellowship of all your saints

We thank you, Lord

O God, from living and chosen stones you prepare an everlasting dwelling place for your majesty. Grant that in the power of the Holy Spirit those who serve you may always be kept within your presence. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

LESSON

Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.'

They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' And he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them.

'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Hymn

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!
O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,

Who walked'st on the foaming deep,
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Act of De-consecration

Bishop: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we now dissolve the sacred status of this property, and declare it free from the worship and service of Almighty God: to whom be glory and majesty, dominion and power, now and forever. **AMEN.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray,

Almighty God,
By whose grace our forefathers set apart this soil from a common to a holy use:
We give thanks for all who first laid out this place,
who cared for it with love
and left their names inscribed forever upon its peace and beauty.

Grant, Lord God,
that as we have declared the end of its special status,
our thoughts do not linger here but reach out to a sinful world
with renewed strength and hope,
till every knee bows down before you
and every tongue confesses Christ as Saviour and Lord;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for evermore. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,
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 forever.
Amen.

The Blessing

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People: **The maker of heaven and earth.**

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

People: **From this time forth for evermore.**

Bishop: May the God of mercy continue to transform you by his grace and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**