



**High Sheriff of  
Greater London's  
Legal Service**

**March 2021**

**St Stephen Walbrook  
City of London**

## High Sheriff of Greater London

The origin of the title of Sheriff is “Shire Reeve” meaning guardian of the shire. This office has been proven to be in existence well over a thousand years ago and, as such, is the most ancient of all civic roles. It has therefore offered the longest continuous service to the Crown and was, for many hundreds of years in medieval times, responsible for tax collection and law enforcement which is no longer the case.

The first Sheriff for the County of London was created in 1889 to cover that growing part of London outside of the City. Prior to then the Sheriffs for London had always been the City Sheriffs because the City **was** London. Greater London was created at the same time as the County of London was abolished in 1965. In 1972 the role of the High Sheriff of Greater London was enshrined in statute within the Local Government Act of that year. It stated that “the Sheriffs appointed for a County, or Greater London, should be known as High Sheriffs”.

Nowadays, appointed by Royal Warrant each year (April to April) the High Sheriff of Greater London is the Sovereign’s personal representative for Law and Order in that geographic region. This means they are nominally responsible for all matters relating to the Judiciary and the Rule of Law across the 32 Boroughs, i.e. excluding the City. It is an independent, voluntary, non-executive and non-political appointment whose ambit covers the following areas:

- Royal Courts of Justice (the High Courts)
- 9 Crown Courts (and Coroners Courts)
- 8 Prisons (including Young Offenders Institutions)
- Metropolitan Police
- 2 Chief Inspectorates (Prisons and Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services)
- Numerous charities and other voluntary sector organisations involved in supporting the legal system.

As can be seen by the above list, the High Sheriff of Greater London’s primary focus is on the main stakeholders involved in the legal system in Greater London. The main aspects of the role are to encourage, support and recognise those who are engaged in it.

The current High Sheriff of Greater London is John Garbutt, the first City Alderman for 125 years to be appointed High Sheriff of Greater London.

John is Alderman for Walbrook Ward in which the Church of St Stephen Walbrook is located.

## **St Stephen Walbrook**

For over a thousand years a place of worship has stood on this site. Sir Christopher Wren's masterpiece, the present church, is the fourth to have stood here and was completed in 1679, after the previous larger church was destroyed in the Great Fire. At the time of its building the great dome was unique in England and it was from this church that Wren developed his plans for St Paul's Cathedral.

Here Sir John Vanbrugh is buried and many distinguished theologians, men of letters and of the arts have graced the life of this place. John Dunstable the composer and past merchants and Lord Mayors have been a part of its life.

There is a plaque to the Revd Robert Stuart De Courcey Laffan, who with Baron Pierre de Coubertin revived the Olympic Games in 1890. Bombed in the Second World War and restored to its present magnificent state in the 1980s, twentieth century artists and craftsmen have adorned its interior. Henry Moore's travertine marble altar now stands at the centre under Wren's dome surrounded by dazzling kneelers by Patrick Heron.

St Stephen Walbrook stands witness next to the Lord Mayor's residence and at the heart of the City it was built to serve. The church ministers to a varied community of workers in the varied businesses and services of the City and visitors, providing physical and online worship and musical and cultural events throughout the week. The principal service is Choral Eucharist at 12.45pm on Thursdays with mass settings performed by the choir. The church also hosts a long-running series of organ recitals on Friday lunchtimes.

The Samaritans were founded at St Stephen Walbrook in 1953 by Revd Chad Varah, who was rector for fifty years, and the church is also the home of the London Internet Church and its global ministry of prayer and praise.

***Music recorded by The Choral Scholars of St Stephen Walbrook***

***Directed and produced by Dr Andrew Earis***

***Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis are to a setting in G major by Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995)***

***Organist: Ben Giddens***

## **Organ Voluntary**

Adagio in G minor

*Tomaso Albinoni (1671-1751)*

## **Introduction and welcome**

*Alderman John Garbutt, JP, High Sheriff of Greater London*

## **Introit**

If ye love me, keep my commandments

*Thomas Tallis (c.1505-85)*

## **Opening prayers**

*Revd Stephen Baxter, Priest-in-Charge*

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

*Psalms 51:17*

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require.

**Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the devices and desires  
of our own hearts.  
We have offended against thy holy laws.  
We have left undone those things  
which we ought to have done;  
and we have done those things  
which we ought not to have done;  
and there is no health in us.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.**

**Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.  
Restore thou them that are penitent;  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesu our Lord.  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and  
sober life, to the glory of thy holy name.  
Amen.**

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,  
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,  
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,  
and serve thee with a quiet mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that 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.**

## **Psalm 29**

*Afferte Domino*

Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty, bring young rams unto the Lord: ascribe unto the Lord worship and strength.

Give the Lord the honour due unto his Name: worship the Lord with holy worship.

It is the Lord that commandeth the waters: it is the glorious God that maketh the thunder.

It is the Lord that ruleth the sea; the voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedar-trees: yea, the Lord breaketh the cedars of Libanus.

He maketh them also to skip like a calf: Libanus also, and Sirion, like a young unicorn.

The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness: yea, the Lord shaketh the wilderness of Cades.

The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young, and discovereth the thick bushes: in his temple doth every man speak of his honour.

The Lord sitteth above the water-flood: and the Lord remaineth a King for ever.

The Lord shall give strength unto his people: the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be  
World without end. Amen.

## **First Reading**

Isaiah 61: 1-9

*Read by The Rt Hon. Lady Justice Kate Thirlwall, DBE,  
Senior Presiding Judge of England and Wales*

The first lesson is written in the sixty first chapter of the book of the prophet Isaiah beginning at the first verse.

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim freedom for the captives

and release from darkness for the prisoners,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour  
and the day of vengeance of our God,  
to comfort all who mourn,  
and provide for those who grieve in Zion—  
to bestow on them a crown of beauty  
instead of ashes,  
the oil of joy  
instead of mourning,  
and a garment of praise  
instead of a spirit of despair.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
a planting of the Lord  
for the display of his splendour.  
They will rebuild the ancient ruins  
and restore the places long devastated;  
they will renew the ruined cities  
that have been devastated for generations.  
Strangers will shepherd your flocks;  
foreigners will work your fields and vineyards.  
And you will be called priests of the Lord,  
you will be named ministers of our God.  
You will feed on the wealth of nations,  
and in their riches you will boast.  
Instead of your shame  
you will receive a double portion,  
and instead of disgrace  
you will rejoice in your inheritance.  
And so you will inherit a double portion in your land,  
and everlasting joy will be yours.  
"For I, the Lord, love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing.  
In my faithfulness I will reward my people  
and make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their descendants will be known among the nations  
and their offspring among the peoples.  
All who see them will acknowledge  
that they are a people the Lord has blessed."

Here ends the first lesson.

## **Magnificat**

My soul doth magnify the Lord :  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.

For behold, from henceforth :  
all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me :  
and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him :  
throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm :  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat :  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things :  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.



## **Second Reading**

Galatians 3:19-29

*Read by Sir Kenneth Olisa, OBE, Lord Lieutenant of Greater London*

The second lesson is written in the third chapter of Paul's letter to the Galatians beginning at the nineteenth verse.

Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one.

Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Here ends the second lesson.

## **Nunc Dimittis**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

### **Third Reading**

Matthew 12:1-8

*Read by Dame Cressida Dick, DBE, QPM,  
Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service*

The third lesson is written in the twelfth chapter of the gospel according to St Matthew beginning at the first verse.

At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the sabbath; his disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. When the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the sabbath." He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him or his companions to eat, but only for the priests. Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath the priests in the temple break the sabbath and yet are guiltless? I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. For the Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."

Here ends the third lesson.

### **Hymn**

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 him! Praise him!  
Praise the everlasting King!

Praise him for his grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise him still the same forever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise him! Praise him!  
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!  
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 him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!

*HF Lyte (1793-1847)*

*Tune: Praise my soul by John Goss (1800-80)*

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## **Sermon**

*The Rt Revd and Rt Hon. Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, Bishop of London*

## **Prayers**

*Led by: Alderman Professor Michael Mainelli, MStJ,  
A Sheriff of the City of London and  
His Honour Judge Mark Lucraft, QC, Recorder of London*

Let us pray for God's world. We pray for peace and justice for all peoples.  
Heavenly Father whose Son is the Prince of Peace; we hold before you all

countries and areas that are affected by warfare or conflict and all who are deprived of key resources for life. We pray for all who are persecuted for their beliefs and for an end to the darkness of discrimination.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

We pray that all leaders of the nations of the world will work for peace, reconciliation, justice and the alleviation of suffering; and we pray for the United Nations and the International Court of Justice and for all agencies working for peace and justice.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

We pray for the Queen, the Royal Family, for the Government and all who serve the Parliament of this country. May they be inspired by your spirit of wisdom and mercy in all their policies and decisions.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

We pray for those who govern Greater London and the City of London; for the Mayor and the Lord Mayor, the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, the High Sheriff and the Sheriffs, the Aldermen and for all who support and advise them.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for giving us your principles of justice. We pray for the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice, the President of the Supreme Court, the Senior Presiding Judge of England and Wales, together with the Lord and Lady Justices of Appeal, the judges of the High Court, the Recorder of London, the Crown Court and Circuit Judges, Records and District Judges; for all Coroners, Magistrates and for all who serve and support courts. May they know your guidance and inspiration as they impart justice.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

We pray for all who serve in upholding law and order and safeguarding the people of London. We pray for the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, the Commissioner of the City of London Police and all who serve under them. Bless, guide and protect them in all the challenges they face.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

We pray for all who serve in Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service; for all Prison Governors, for all Prison and Probation Officers and for all who support them in rehabilitating offenders to hope-filled, reformed lives. Keep them safe and help them to show compassion and understanding.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

We pray for the work of the Chief Inspectorates of Prisons and Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services and we thank you, Lord, for all who generously devote time and resources to the various charities supporting the legal system of Greater London.

Lord in your mercy.  
Hear our prayer

Merciful Father, we commend ourselves to your service and offer these prayers up to you in the name of your Son who is judge and saviour of all, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

## **Anthem**

Teach me, O Lord  
*Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)*

## **Address**

*The Rt Hon. Lord Robert Reed, President of the Supreme Court  
of the United Kingdom*

## Closing hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Sion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken  
Formed thee for his own abode:  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
What can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply thy sons and daughters,  
And all fear of want remove:  
Who can faint, while such a river  
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?  
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,  
Never fails from age to age.

Saviour, if of Sion's city  
I through grace a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in thy name:  
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,  
All his boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasure  
None but Sion's children know.

*John Newton (1725-1807)*

*Tune: Abbot's Leigh by Cyril Taylor (1907-91)*

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## **Blessing**

*The Bishop of London*

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and  
The Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

## **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.

Thy choicest gifts in store  
On her be pleased to pour,  
Long may she reign:  
May she defend our laws,  
And ever give us cause  
To sing with heart and voice  
God save The Queen!

*Anonymous*

*Tune: Origin obscure. Popularised by setting by Thomas Arne (1710-78).*

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## **Organ Voluntary**

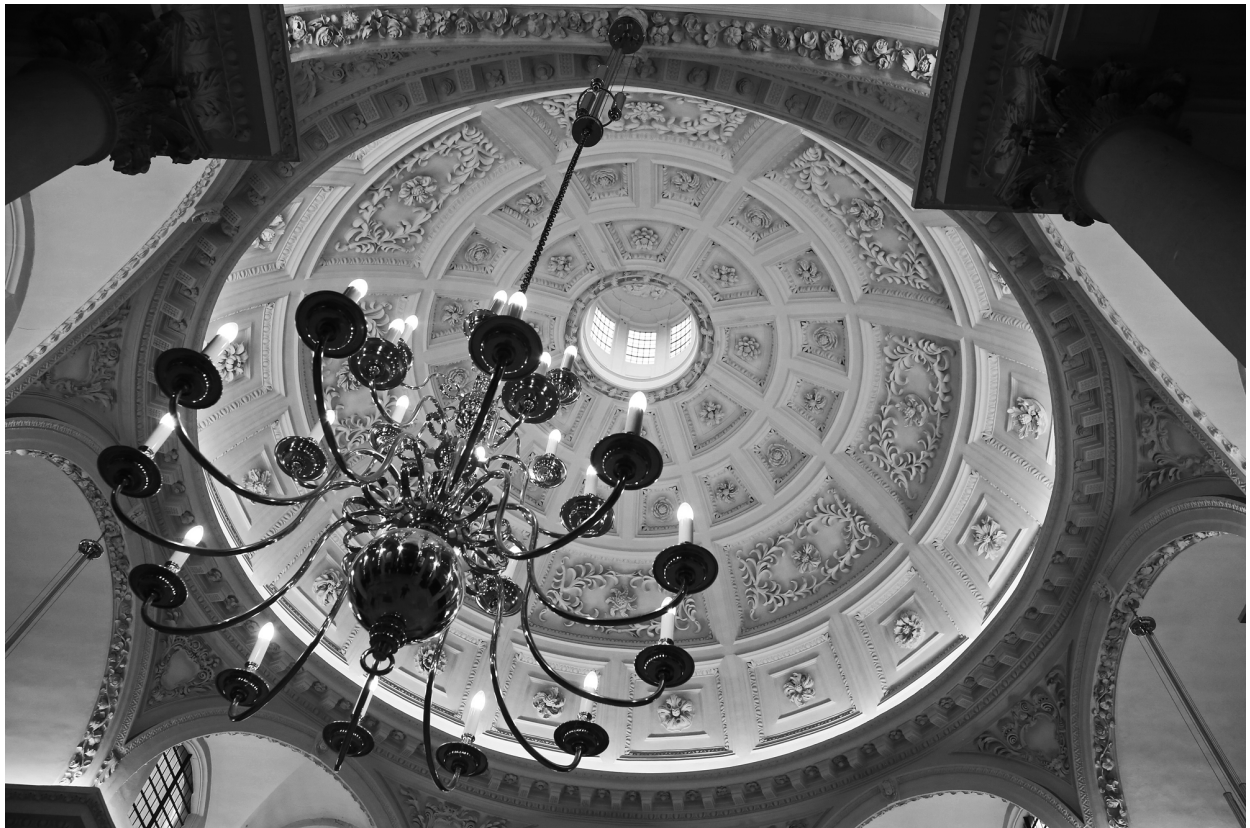
Fantasia in C, BWV579

*JS Bach (1685-1750)*

**Many thanks for participating in this service.**

**If you wish to make a donation to the work of St Stephen Walbrook,  
please visit the church's website: <https://ssw.churchsuite.co.uk/donate/>**

**Any donation will be much appreciated.**



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