

**The Cathedral Church of  
Saint Michael and  
All Angels**  
*The Diocese of Barbados*

***The Commissioning of the***

*Verger*

**Mrs. Chloe Grant**

**and**

Assistant Verger

**Ms. Harriet Lowe**

**by the Dean,  
The Very Rev'd Dr. Jeffrey D. Gibson,**

**on**

**Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
9:00 A.M.**

## A FORM OF SERVICE

*Hymn 741 (verse 1) ~ “We love this place, O God” is sung; the Verger and Assistant Verger designate [in their cassocks] may be led in by a Church officer [their sponsor] behind the usual procession, and they stand before the officiant.*

*OFFICIANT:* In the name of Christ  
who calls us to offer ourselves in the service of  
his people, we welcome you; Grace to you and  
Peace.

There are varieties of gifts:

**ALL: But the same spirit.**

*OFFICIANT:* There are varieties of service:

**ALL: But the same Lord.**

*OFFICIANT:* There are different kinds of working:

**ALL: But the same God is at work in all.**

*OFFICIANT:* To Him be glory and dominion;

**ALL: Now and for ever, Amen.**

*OFFICIANT:* Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are gathered here to commission the Verger and Assistant Verger of this Cathedral Church to their respective ministry, to pray for their ministry here and to present them with tokens of their ministry in this congregation.

*SPONSOR:* Very Reverend Dean I present to you Mrs. *Chloe Grant* and Ms. *Harriet Lowe*, who have been duly chosen and appointed as *VERGER* and *ASSISTANT VERGER*, of this Cathedral Church of Saint Michael and All Angels, and I ask you now to admit them to their respective offices.

*OFFICIANT:* ***Chloe and Harriet***, we welcome you in the Lord's name to serve here as *VERGER* and *ASSISTANT VERGER*, respectively. Before you are admitted to

this office, you must publicly declare your intention to undertake the duties of this ministry.

***Chloe and Harriet***, are you willing to become *the* Verger and Assistant Verger of this *Cathedral* Church, and in that ministry endeavour to fulfil the work committed to you with diligence, faithfulness, reverence and courtesy?

**ANSWER: I am willing.**

*OFFICIANT:* Will you strive to further our mission and ministry to those who worship in this place and those who visit here, and strengthen our common life by taking your part in the ordering of our public life and common prayer?

**ANSWER: I will, with God's help.**

*OFFICIANT:* Will you be diligent in your care for this building; in the preparation and performance of the liturgy, in your care for the sacred vessels, vestments and treasures of this Cathedral Church, that the worship offered in this place may always be at the centre of its life?

**ANSWER: I will with God's help.**

*OFFICIANT:* Will you endeavour to promote peace and goodwill among your colleagues and, with them, exercise care and guidance to all those, who by their voluntary help, assist in the care and mission of this place; and by your example maintain the dignity and honour of this Church?

**ANSWER: I will, with God's help.**

*In Cathedral Churches, the following oath may be administered:*

*OFFICIANT:* Will you swear to be faithful in upholding the laws, statutes, ordinances, privileges and laudable

customs of this *Cathedral* Church of Saint Michael and All Angels so far as in any way they concern you, and pay due respect and obedience to those in authority in all commands lawful and honest; and that you will not reveal to others matters confidential to the Church authorities?

**ANSWER: I so swear, with the help of God.**

*OFFICIANT:* Members of this congregation, will you uphold *them*, in their new ministry in your work and by your prayers?

**ALL: We will.**

*OFFICIANT:* **Chloe/Harriet**, I admit you to the office of *VERGER/ASSISTANT VERGER*, of this Cathedral Church of Saint Michael and All Angels in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord prosper your work done in his name and guide and govern you ever more.

**ALL: Amen.**

***The Verger and Assistant Verger may be vested in a robe of office with these words:***

Remember the trust of those who have appointed you to this ministry and strive faithfully to uphold the responsibilities of this office to the very utmost of your ability.

Keep in mind always that this is the house of God wherein his honour dwells, and that this is none other than the Gate of Heaven.

Show hospitality in Christ's name; strive to maintain the reverence and dignity of this place, and may the Lord guide you in all your work done here in his name. **Amen.**

***The Verger and Assistant may be presented with a Virge with these words:***

From the earliest days of the Church it has been the customary practice to present ministers of the Church with symbols of their office.

Therefore, receive this **Virge** as an outward sign of the dignity of your office and a symbol of the authority committed to you.

***The Verger and Assistant may be presented with the keys to the church with these words:***

Receive these keys as a symbol of your guardianship of this holy place and the responsibility committed to you herein.

May the Lord give you wisdom and courage, strength and love to do his will; and may the Lord protect your going out and your coming in, now and for evermore. **Amen.**

***Hymn 741 Cont'd ~ (Verse 2-4) "It is the house of prayer,"***

***The Verger is led to her seat where she is blessed with these words:***

Blessed are those whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there; they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your Holy Temple. **Amen.**

***Hymn 741 Cont'd ~ (Verse 5) "We love the word of Life,"***

***The Assistant Verger is led to her seat where she is blessed with these words:***

**Blessed are those etc.**

**Hymn 741 Cont'd ~ (Verses 6 -7) "We love to sing below"**

***The procession returns to the nave altar and the following prayer for the whole assembly may be said:***

Almighty and everlasting God,

by whose Spirit the whole body of  
the Church is governed and  
sanctified;  
hear our prayer which we offer for all your  
faithful people; that each in their vocation and  
ministry  
may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of  
your Name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus  
Christ. **Amen.**