

St Edmundsbury
Cathedral



Choral Evensong
for
**The Suffolk
Justice Service**



Address by
James Timpson OBE DL
Chair of the Prison Reform Trust

Sunday 17 March 2024
3.30 pm

Welcome to the Suffolk Justice Service

The Office of High Sheriff *A role with a very modern relevance and purpose*



After the Monarchy, the Office of High Sheriff is the oldest secular office in the country, dating back over 1,000 years.

It is an independent non-political appointment, made by the Monarch, with incumbents serving for one year.

Duties and responsibilities include supporting the Crown and the invaluable work of the Judiciary, including Judges, the Police, Magistrates, Tribunals, Prisons and Probation services, Coroners, the Border Force and other key agencies involved in justice, security, crime prevention and victim support.

The High Sheriff also actively recognises and supports the work of the emergency services, those involved within the voluntary and charitable sectors, community-based groups, businesses, local authorities, government agencies and all recognised church and faith groups.

The High Sheriff of Suffolk supports the work of H.M. Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk, Clare, Countess of Euston, who is The King's personal representative in the county.

A Brief History

The first recorded Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk was called Toli who died in 1066 – probably at the Battle of Hastings. Both counties shared their Sheriff until 1576, at which point each county appointed its own “Sheriff”. It remained so until 1974 when the title changed to “High Sheriff.”

Originally called Shire Reeves following the formation of shires 1,000 years ago, office holders were appointed by the Crown which remains the case today. Historically, Sheriffs were responsible for hosting visiting Royalty, judging criminal cases, executing sentences, taking charge of Crown property, pursuing felons and collecting taxes. Any shortfall in revenue collection had to be met personally by the Sheriff before they left office – happily not the case today!

Over the centuries, the powers of Sheriffs have been reduced. Henry I introduced the Exchequer for tax collection, the 13th Century saw the creation of Justices of the Peace and Coroners, and the Tudors introduced Lord-Lieutenants to serve as personal representatives of the Crown.

Historically, the office of Sheriff carried several risky responsibilities and liabilities, many of which could have life-limiting consequences. This is why being appointed was not always welcome, so the Monarch “pricked” with a bodkin each name on a vellum scroll. Using pen and ink could be more easily erased should the appointee be reluctant to serve. The “Pricking” ceremony continues to this day with a silver bodkin first used by Elizabeth I.

Today, being appointed to the Office of High Sheriff is an enormous privilege, providing a unique opportunity to serve and support the people and communities of Suffolk.

Welcome from the High Sheriff of Suffolk

Mark Pendlington DL



I am honoured and delighted to welcome you to the Suffolk Justice Service.

This wonderful and special county occasion is an annual opportunity to celebrate and show our appreciation to all those who work so tirelessly to uphold the law, to administer justice, to keep us safe, and to secure social justice, especially for those most vulnerable in Suffolk.

Our county is full of talent, ideas and potential – but we are also home to many significant challenges that deserve our attention, commitment and energy. It has been my privilege to serve Suffolk as High Sheriff, and I have been humbled and inspired by the people I have met and the vast range of incredible organisations that have welcomed me with open arms. Without exception: remarkable people achieving amazing things, quietly but with huge compassion, focus and determination. They promote health, wellbeing, and security, they help develop vibrant communities and provide hope and opportunity, to ensure that no-one in Suffolk is left behind.

This is a huge and ongoing task against a backdrop of limited resources and reduced numbers of essential volunteers. I hope this service will be a time to reflect on what is best about the spirit and character of Suffolk, and inspire us to work even better together for the benefit and prosperity of all generations.

With my warmest thanks and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Pendlington". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned at the end of the letter.

The Address at today's service is given by

James Timpson OBE DL

James Timpson OBE DL is Chief Executive of Timpson Ltd, a retail business with over 2,000 shops. He's also Chancellor of Keele University, Chair of the Prison Reform Trust and is the National Chair of the Employment Advisory Board, which works closely with New Futures Network and the Ministry of Justice helping those in prison secure a job on release.

Music before the Service

Thank you to all the musicians involved in today's service, in particular:

Timothy Parsons - Director of Music, St Edmundsbury Cathedral
Christopher Borrett - Director of Music, St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich
Richard Cook - Assistant Director of Music, St Edmundsbury Cathedral
The **Cathedral Choir** and **Choir of St Mary-le-Tower**
Edward Allen - Director of Music, Royal Hospital School, Holbrook
The **Brass Fanfare Team**, Royal Hospital School, Holbrook
The **Fanfare Trumpeters**

*For reasons of Safeguarding and Data Protection, members of the public are **not permitted to take photographs or video recordings** during services and events.*

*We wish to inform you that photographs, video or livestream footage in which you may appear **could be used by the Cathedral at any time and appear in the public domain including social media.***

Please note that this service will be livestreamed on Facebook. If you do not want to appear in this please inform a warden or verger.

Instructions about posture in the service are for guidance only and those who prefer not to stand, or who cannot, should do as is most comfortable for them.



The Order of Processions

Please remain seated.

The Civic Procession

A Verger
The Mayor of Bury St Edmunds
The Mayor of Ipswich
The Chairman of Suffolk County Council
The Chairman of District Councils
A Verger
Visiting Mayors

Please stand as the Legal Procession enters.

The Legal Procession

A Verger
Prison Governors
The Chief Constable
The Police and Crime Commissioner
A Verger
The Chair of the Magistrates
The Magistrates
A Verger
The President of the Suffolk and North Essex Law Society
The Barristers
The Tribunal Judges
Area Coroner for Suffolk
HM Senior Coroner for Suffolk
The Circuit Judges
The Clerk to High Court Judges
The High Court Judges
A Verger
James Timpson OBE DL

A fanfare is played by the Brass Fanfare Team from the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook.

The High Sheriffs' Procession

A Verger
The High Sheriff of Essex
The Chaplain to the High Sheriff
The Under Sheriff of Suffolk
The High Sheriff of Suffolk
The High Sheriff's Cadets and St John Ambulance Cadets

HM Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk

*The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk is received by
the Dean and escorted to her place.
The Lord Lieutenant's Cadets*

*As the Ecclesiastical procession enters, **all sing the Processional Hymn.***

The Ecclesiastical Procession

A Crucifer
The Cathedral Choir
The Choir of St Mary-le-Tower
A Verger
The Diocesan Clergy
A Verger
The College of Canons
A Verger
Ecumenical Guests
Interfaith Guests
A Verger
Cathedral Clergy and Readers
The Lay Chapter
The Canons Residentiary
The Dean of St Edmundsbury
The Chancellor of the Diocese
The Wardens
The Bishop of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich

The Order of Service

The Processional Hymn

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation:
 all ye who hear,
 now to his temple draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things
so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm,
or when fainting sustaineth:
 hast thou not seen
 how thy heart's wishes have 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
 what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he 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 all we adore him!**

Words: Joachim Neander, 1650-80

tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78

Music: Lobe den Herren, harmonised by editors of

The Chorale Book for England, 1863

Please sit. After informal words of welcome, the Dean leads

The Bidding Prayer

Much of the life that we lead today is an inheritance from the past. Our language and culture, our homes and the laws which protect us and give us structure in our lives, our towns and villages, the places of learning which provide our education, and the institutions which care for our mental and physical health and encourage the leisure activities we enjoy, have been formed in large measure by our forebears. We in our generation work to build on the best of our inheritance in the particular context and circumstances of our time.

In this service today, as we seek to affirm the value of the freedom and the civil liberties that we enjoy, we pray for His Majesty the King and all set in authority under him. We pray for our High Sheriff and Under Sheriff and all involved in the Criminal Justice System in this our county of Suffolk. We pray all who uphold and administer the law, that they may humbly execute justice with equity and compassion, having in mind that they too must one day stand before the judgement seat of almighty God.

We pray also with thanksgiving for the witness of God's church and people, together with those of other faiths and none, who seek to bring truth, reconciliation and generosity to the world and its peoples.

Finally we pray for ourselves and all who make up the communities of our nation, that we may lead lives of love and joy and peace, and seek ways of living in which all peoples, together with God's creation, may be respected, nurtured and protected.

And so, in communion with all the saints, the living and the departed, and in thanksgiving for all who have influenced us for good, we offer up our prayers and praises in the words which Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who 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 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Canon Precentor and choirs sing the Opening Responses.

Choir O Lord, open thou our lips.
 And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Choir O God, make speed to save us.
 O Lord, make haste to help us.

Please stand

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

 Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's Name be praised.

The Preces by Richard Ayleward, 1626-1669

Please remain standing as the High Sheriff of Suffolk, Mark Pendlington DL reads

The High Sheriff's Bidding

In this service today, and with every aspect of Suffolk life represented, we give thanks to God for our system of law and order. We acknowledge with gratitude the work of all those who uphold the law and administer justice, and those who campaign for fairness and social justice for everyone in our diverse Suffolk communities, and the wider world. We recognise with deep respect and gratitude the work of our judges and magistrates, police, prison, coroner and probation services, together with our armed and emergency services and those who support the victims of crime. We thank and pay tribute to all those who give their time and talent in the service of our communities: voluntary and charitable organisations, local authorities and elected representatives, public services, businesses and education providers and faith communities, all of whom work tirelessly towards a fair, just and peaceful society.

We affirm how much we value and will continue to defend the freedom and civil liberties that we are so fortunate to enjoy, and commit ourselves afresh to the cause of justice for all in a county and world that respects difference and upholds the common good.

We celebrate and give thanks for the commitment of the Christian church, and of all faith communities, to the pursuit of truth and dignity for all humanity and the exercise of justice, mercy and humility.

May this service inspire us to further recognise and celebrate all that is best about Suffolk, and how we might work even better together in the service of all.

The Psalmody

Thou, O God, art praised in Sion:
and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.

Thou that hearest the prayer: unto thee shall all flesh come.

My misdeeds prevail against me:
O be thou merciful unto our sins.

Blessed is the man whom thou choosest,
and receivest unto thee:
he shall dwell in thy court,
and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of thy house,
even of thy holy temple.

Thou shalt shew us wonderful things in thy righteousness,
O God of our salvation:
thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth,
and of them that remain in the broad sea.

Who in his strength setteth fast the mountains:
and is girded about with power.

Who stilleth the raging of the sea:
and the noise of his waves, and the madness of the people.

They also that dwell in the uttermost parts of the earth
shall be afraid at thy tokens:
thou that makest the outgoings
of the morning and evening to praise thee.

Thou visitest the earth, and blessest it:
thou makest it very plenteous.

The river of God is full of water:
thou preparest their corn,
for so thou providest for the earth.

Thou waterest her furrows,
thou sendest rain into the little valleys thereof:
thou makest it soft with the drops of rain,
and blessest the increase of it.

Thou crownest the year with thy goodness:
and thy clouds drop fatness.

They shall drop upon the dwellings of the wilderness:
and the little hills shall rejoice on every side.

The folds shall be full of sheep:
the valleys also shall stand so thick with corn,
that they shall laugh and sing.

Please stand

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.

Psalm 65 BCP Te decet hymnus

Music: James Turle, 1802-1882

and George Elvey, 1816-1893

Please sit.

The character of Suffolk – a reflection

Terry Hunt DL, author and former editor, East Anglian Daily Times, draws upon his life-long family experience of Suffolk and reflects on the character of our wonderful county and how it equips us to face many challenges and opportunities with confidence.

We all have a unique reason for loving Suffolk.

From the stark beauty of the Breckland wilds in the west, to the incomparable estuaries and crumbly coastline of the east. From the proud history of deep-sea fishing in Lowestoft, to Felixstowe the UK's biggest container port. From Newmarket the historic home of international racing, to the University town of Ipswich with its iconic football club and its historic waterfront, and to Martlesham where global broadband was invented, and today many of the world's finest minds are innovating new technology.

We are proud of our glorious towns and villages and of the individual and diverse character of so many of our wonderful communities.

We are the 'South-folk', but who are we?

Suffolk and its people have played an important role in the development of democracy, culture and the arts, sport, science and health, farming, religion and international trade.

We live in the footsteps of Edmund, King and Martyr Patron Saint of England for hundreds of years. Of the visionary authors of the Magna Carta who met in Bury St Edmunds and founded our democracy, and of Bartholomew Gosnold, who set sail from Ipswich to found the first American colony.

And of Cardinal Wolsey, the son of a butcher from Ipswich who 550 years ago became Lord Chancellor of England. Of Constable and Gainsborough, Benjamin Britten and Ed Sheeran. And of Elizabeth Garret Anderson, mayor of Aldeburgh: the first woman mayor and the first woman doctor in England.

Together, we live, work and learn in one of the best country's in the world, and in one of the best and finest counties in Britain.

Life here is full of opportunity, but we are also home to many severe challenges. From the pandemic to the impacts of war, to cost of living challenges, heartache for many families and the consequences felt by too many vulnerable individuals.

As we draw inspiration from our heritage, we find deep reserves of kindness and compassion. We are caring and welcoming. Tough in our own quiet way, modest too. Artistic and creative. Ever reliable and always there when family, friends and community need us. Suffolk people want to help, but don't want to make a song and dance about it and don't expect reward. The very best of loyal friends. Which provides us with the courage and resilience to meet head-on the challenges of today.

This is the Suffolk character at its best, as we bring generations and diverse communities together, and all work hard to make sure no-one is left behind. These wonderful attributes are at the heart of the Suffolk character. Those who have gone before us have shaped a better world. Let us draw on that great strength and inspiration and together, let us be even more determined to do the same.

Please stand as the choirs sing

The Magnificat

The Magnificat is the prayer of praise and hope for the world spoken by the Blessed Virgin Mary when she visited her cousin Elizabeth who was also expecting a child.

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.

Evening Service in D, Herbert Brewer, 1865-1928

Please sit as the Chief Constable, Rachel Kearton, reads

The Scripture Reading

Friends in Christ, 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. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you’, nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’ On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

1 Corinthians 12.12–26, NRSV

Here ends the New Testament reading.

Please stand as the choirs sing

The Nunc Dimittis

*The prayer of thanksgiving recorded in Luke's gospel,
spoken when the infant Christ-child was brought to the temple
and recognised as the Light of the World.*

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.

Evening Service in D, *Herbert Brewer, 1865-1928*

Please remain standing for

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of Heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead,
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy Catholick Church;
the Communion of Saints;
the Forgiveness of sins;
the Resurrection of the body;
and the Life Everlasting.
Amen.**

Precentor The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.
Precentor Let us pray.

Please sit or kneel as the Canon Precentor and choirs sing the

Lesser Litany, Lord's Prayer, Responses and Collects

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Choir 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. Amen.

Choir O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

Choir O Lord, save the King.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Choir Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.

Choir O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.

Choir Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

Choir O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect

Eternal God, in whose kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and no strength known but the strength of love: we pray thee so mightily to shed and spread abroad thy Spirit that all peoples may be gathered under one banner of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, as children of the one God and Father of all; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Second Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Third Collect for aid against all perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Responses by Richard Ayleward, 1626-1669

Please sit or remain seated as the choirs sing

The Anthem

The Lord bless you and keep you:
the Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you:
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you
and give you peace. Amen.

*Words: Numbers 6.24
Music: John Rutter, b. 1945*

Please remain seated for

The Address

given by
James Timpson OBE DL
Chair of the Prison Reform Trust
and Chief Executive of Timpson Group

A time of silence is kept for reflection.

Please stand to sing

The Hymn

During which a collection is taken.

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.**

*Words and music: Richard A. M. Gillard, b.1953
arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928*

Please sit for

Reflections from different Faith Traditions

It is a joy that Suffolk is home to a wide diversity of cultures and faiths, and these are represented in the Justice System. We give thanks for those who are able to be represented today.

Please remain seated or kneel for

The Prayers

Led by the Reverend Tom Mumford, Chaplain to the High Sheriff and Vicar of St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

The prayers conclude with

The High Sheriff's Prayer

Grant your grace and guidance, almighty God,
to all who work for the voluntary and charitable organisations
in this County of Suffolk;
Support and encourage them
that by their skill and compassion
they may bring help to those who are in need;
and bestow on all of us, we pray, O Lord,
a desire to serve our neighbour,
a respect for all creation,
and a sense of duty to one another and to you;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Please stand to sing

The Final Hymn

**God is Love: let heav'n adore him;
God is Love: let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
He who laid the earth's foundation,
he who spread the heav'ns above,
he who breathes through all creation,
he is Love, eternal Love.**

**God is Love and he enfoldeth
all the world in one embrace;
with unfailing grasp he holdeth
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then thy find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.**

**God is Love: and though with blindness
sin afflicts the souls of all,
God's eternal loving-kindness
holds and guides us when we fall.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.**

Words: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939

Music: Abbot's Leigh, Cyril Taylor, 1907-1991

Please remain standing for

The Act of Commitment

Bishop Delighting in the goodness and beauty of our county
and all its people, and filled with the hope of God's future,
let us commit to love and serve the Lord
in this county of Suffolk.

Bishop Rejoicing in the life and service of so many here today,
will you hallow life in all its richness and diversity?

All We will.

Bishop Inspired by the commitment each of us show
to the common good,
will you serve those alongside whom you live,
especially those most in need?

All We will.

Bishop Rejoicing in the joy and happiness of this gathering,
will you foster community among all people,
and especially in the villages and towns of this county?

All We will.

Bishop Inspired by all that unites and strengthens us,
will you work for peace and justice throughout the world?

All We will.

Bishop Rejoicing in the beauty of this earth,
not least in the beauty of the Suffolk countryside,
will you protect and care for our environment?

All We will.

Bishop Inspired by the creativity and endeavour
of each of us gathered here today,
will you seek out and nurture all that is good?

All We will.

Bishop Renewed and invigorated by the life we share,
and by all that we have celebrated today,
may we be faithful to all that we have pledged and promised.

All Amen.

Please remain standing as the Right Reverend Martin Seeley, Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, prays

The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace;
to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all
humankind, peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Please remain standing for

The National Anthem

**God save our gracious King,
long live our noble King,
God save The King.
Send him victorious,
happy and glorious,
long to reign over us:
God save The King.**

**Thy choicest gifts in store
on him be pleased to pour,
long may he reign.
May he defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice,
God save the King.**

*Words: Author unknown, c.1745
Music: Thesaurus Musicus, c.1743*

Please remain standing as the procession leaves the Cathedral and Richard Cook, Assistant Director of Music, St Edmundsbury Cathedral, plays

The Organ Voluntary

Epic March

John Ireland, 1879-1962

Contactless giving points are available at the exits if you wish to make a donation to The High Sheriff of Suffolk's Fund - your generosity is deeply appreciated.

You are warmly invited to join everyone for tea after the service which will take place in the Athenaeum (over the road).



SUFFOLK
Community
Foundation

Thank you to all those who have so generously donated to The High Sheriff of Suffolk's Fund managed by the Suffolk Community Foundation, our local independent grant-making charity.

Through grants and other financial support, the Fund gives direct help and practical support to those on the front line, targeting those most vulnerable and in need.

This includes projects that tackle issues such as anti-social behaviour, homelessness, domestic abuse and bullying, drug and alcohol abuse, internet safety, community cohesion, diversity and inclusion, people seeking asylum and supporting refugees and social justice for young people.

Together, we can increase our support for local communities and voluntary activities across Suffolk.

The collection today will go directly to this vital work. Your donation will make a difference and can make positive change to people's lives in Suffolk.

Thank you.

www.suffolkcf.org.uk

HEARTFELT THANKS

The High Sheriff would like to thank all those who have contributed to this service.

To the Very Reverend Joe Hawes, Dean of St Edmundsbury for hosting today's service, for his constant support, friendship and guidance. To the Canon Precentor for his patience and encouragement, and the Sub Dean for his unfailing support.

To the Rt Reverend Martin Seeley, Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich for his enduring encouragement, wise counsel and friendship.

To the Reverend Tom Mumford, High Sheriff's Chaplain and Vicar of St Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, for his spiritual guidance, friendship and constant good humour.

To the Cathedral Vergers for preparing this wonderful Cathedral for the service, and to the Wardens and Ushers who have welcomed everyone this afternoon.

To those of many faiths, and none, who have come together as one today.

To the Cathedral Director of Music, Timothy Parsons, the Assistant Director of Music, Richard Cook, and the Director of Music at St Mary-le-Tower, Chris Borrett, and to the outstanding combined Choir – how good it is to have east and west singing in unison.

To Edward Allen, Director of Music at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, and to the Fanfare Trumpeters.

To our inspiring speaker James Timpson, OBE DL, Chair of the Prison Reform Trust.

To Terry Hunt DL and Chief Constable Rachel Kearton for their thought-provoking readings.

To the Police, St John, RHS and Lord-Lieutenant's cadets, and to Lily Brett and Billy Purser for serving as High Sheriff's cadets with such distinction this year.

And to the Shrieval team for their unstinting support, especially Under-Sheriff Jonathan Mathers of Greene & Greene Solicitors for his constant wise and calm guidance, and to his colleague Debra Knights who has master-minded many of the complex preparations for the service. Special thanks to Jill Taylor who has kept me and several High Sheriffs before me on the straight and narrow. Her experience and huge knowledge of Suffolk has been indispensable, as has her good humour and endless patience.

To all the Cathedral staff including Naomi Sturges for her expertise in liturgy and to Erin Seligman, PA to the Dean and Paul Hughes and Nikki King and their team in Pilgrims Kitchen.



The badge of the Suffolk High Sheriff

The badge of the Suffolk High Sheriff was designed by Dr John Blatchley, Suffolk's great antiquarian and historian, who lived in Ipswich. It was crafted for Spinks in London by a craftsman from Lowestoft. It shows the county arms '*Gules a Base Barry wavy enarched Argent and Azure issuant therefrom a Sunburst in chief two Ancient Crowns enfiled by a pair of Arrows in saltire points downwards all Or*' or, in other words, it represents the eastern sunrise over the North Sea and the Crown and arrows of St Edmund. It too carries the Shrievalty Association symbol of crossed swords. One pointed to indicate Justice; the other blunted to indicate Mercy.

List of previous High Sheriffs of Suffolk

- 1578 Sir William Spring of Lavenham
- 1581 Sir Robert Barnardiston of Kedington
- 1579 Sir Robert Jermyn of Rushbrooke
- 1582 Sir Nicholas Bacon of Redgrave
- 1585 John Gurdon of Assington
- 1590 Sir William Waldegrave of Bures
- 1591 Thomas Rous of Henham
- 1597 Thomas Eden of Sudbury
- 1602 Sir Edmund Withipol of Ipswich
- 1611 Thomas Tilney of Shelley
- 1614 Sir Robert Brooke of Yoxford
- 1617 Sir Lionel Tollemache of Helmingham
- 1623 Robert Brooke of Nacton
- 1636 Sir John Rous of Henham
- 1637 Sir Philip Parker of Erwarton
- 1642 Sir William Castleton of Bury
- 1667 Geoffrey Howland of Covehithe
- 1691 Sir Joseph Brand of Edwardston
- 1699 Thomas Aldrich of Hessett
- 1726 Thomas Driver of Earl Stonham
- 1738 Sir William Barker of Ipswich
- 1774 Edmund Tyrell of Gipping
- 1804 Sir Robert Pocklington of Chelsworth
- 1810 Joshua Grigby of Drinkstone
- 1837 Sir Hyde Parker of Long Melford
- 1841 Sir Joshua Rowley of Tendring
- 1885 Sir Alfred Gooch of Benacre
- 1896 Sir Savile Crossley of Somerleyton
- 1904 Lt. Col. Alfred Lucas of Lowestoft
- 1908 Sir Henry Bunbury of Mildenhall
- 1917 Glencairn Ogilvie of Leiston
- 1921 Capt. Robert Barclay of Higham
- 1925 Col. William Probert of Bures
- 1934 John Cobbold of Glemham
- 1942 Capt. Frank Fison of Stutton
- 1961 Ronald Vestey of Great Thurlow
- 1966 Capt. Sir Peter Greenwell of Butley
- 1980 Lt. Col. Richard Probert of Bures
- 1984 Nicholas Longe of Hasketon

1987 Hugh Philbrick of Great Bealings
1988 Robin Upton of Herringswell
1991 Merelina Mary Phyllis MacRae of Barrow
First woman to be High Sheriff of Suffolk
1993 Major Carol Gurney of Stratford St Mary
1994 Brig. Adam Gurdon of Grundisburgh
1995 Sir Richard Hyde Parker of Long Melford
1996 John Kerr of Little Glemham
1997 Jonathan Paul of Freston
1998 The Hon Patrick Fisher of Kilverstone
1999 Col. David Gordon Lennox of Great Saxham
2000 John Clement of Tuddenham
2001 David Barclay of Higham.
2002 Robert Rous of Dennington
2003 John Thurlow of Stowmarket
2004 Clare, Countess of Euston
2005 Major Philip Hope Cobbold of Glemham
2006 Sir Michael Bunbury of Naunton
2007 Air Marshal Sir John Kemball of Tostock
2008 Diana Hunt of Little Wenham
2009 James Buckle of Semer
2010 Tessa Innes of Playford
2011 Stephen Miles of Great Ashfield
2012 Andrew Norman-Butler of Stoke by Nayland
2013 Sir Edward Greenwell of Gedgrave
2014 Nicholas Wingfield Digby of Newmarket
2015 Judith Shallow of Felsham
2016 William Kendall of Kelsale
2017 Geoffrey Probert of Bures
2018 George Vestey of Great Thurlow
2019 Rosalind Eminson of Levington
2020 Bridget McIntyre of Eye
2021 Edward Creasy of Burgh
2022 Major Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton of Methersgate
2023 Mark Pendlington of Acton

In Nomination

2024 Yvonne Gilchrist-Mason of Eye
2025 Gulshanbir Kaur Kayembe of Felixstowe
2026 Oliver Paul of Freston

St Edmundsbury Cathedral



The Dean: The Very Reverend Joe Hawes
The Canon Pastor & Sub Dean: The Reverend Canon Matthew Vernon
The Canon Precentor: The Reverend Canon Philip Banks
The Canon Theologian: The Reverend Canon Michael Robinson
The Archdeacon for Rural Mission: The Reverend Canon Sally Gaze
The Cathedral Curate: The Reverend Anita Rooney
Cathedral Chief Operating Officer: Sarah-Jane Allison
Director of Music: Timothy Parsons
Assistant Director of Music: Richard Cook
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