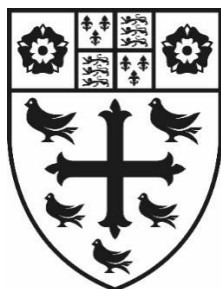


St Margaret's Church

Westminster Abbey



Dedication of a memorial  
to Ignatius Sancho and Ann Osborne

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
6.00 pm

*The whole of the church is served by a hearing loop. Users should turn the hearing aid to the setting marked T.*

*Members of the congregation are requested kindly to refrain from using private cameras, video, or sound recording equipment. Please ensure that mobile telephones and other electronic devices are switched off.*

*The service is conducted by the Very Reverend David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster.*

*The service is sung by the Choristers of St Margaret's Church, directed by Greg Morris, Director of Music, St Margaret's Church.*

*The organ is played by Greg Morris.*

*Music before the service*

*extracts from* *Ignatius Sancho (c 1729–1780)*  
*Minuets etc for the Violin Mandolin German-Flute*  
*and Harpsichord, Compos'd by an African [sic.], Book 2<sup>nd</sup>*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

*The Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle MBE, Dean of Westminster, gives the Welcome, concluding with the prayer*

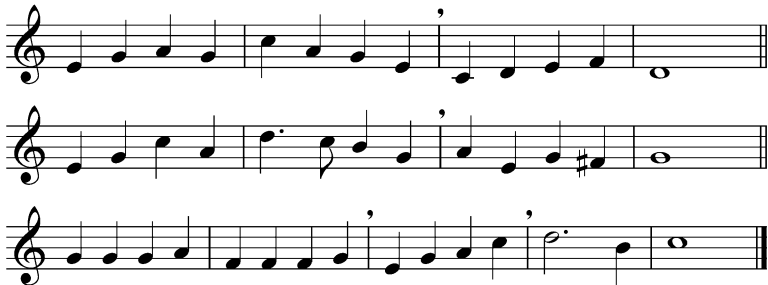
Let us pray.

**M**ERCIFUL God, you are righteous and love justice: stir the hearts of your people that, rejoicing in our diversity, we may repent of the wrongs of the past, and, by your grace, may seek the peaceable kingdom of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*All sit. Arthur Torrington CBE, co-founder of The Equiano Society, makes some opening remarks*

*Paterson Joseph, Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University, reads a letter by Ignatius Sancho*

*All stand to sing the Hymn*



**A**NGEL-VOICES ever singing  
round thy throne of light,  
angel-harps for ever ringing,  
rest not day nor night;  
thousands only live to bless thee  
and confess thee  
Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest  
mortal eye can scan,  
can it be that thou regardest  
songs of sinful man?  
Can we know that thou art near us,  
and wilt hear us?  
Yea, we can.

For we know that thou rejoicest  
o'er each work of thine;  
thou didst ears and hands and voices  
for thy praise design;  
craftsman's art and music's measure  
for thy pleasure  
all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer  
of thine own to thee;  
and for thine acceptance proffer  
all unworthily  
hearts and minds and hands and voices  
in our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit  
thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
blessèd Trinity.  
Of the best which thou hast given  
earth and heaven  
render thee.

*Angel-voices 336 NEH*  
*Edwin Monk (1819–1900)*

*Francis Pott (1832–1909)*

*All sit. Temi Olusola, Head of Human Resources, reads the Lesson*

**I**S such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

*Isaiah 58: 5–10*

Thanks be to God.

*The Right Reverend Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, gives the Address*

*The choir sings*

WHEN love that source of pleasing pains,  
Triumphant in the bosom reigns,  
Our cares increase  
Then farewell peace,  
Yet still, we hug our chain.

Not so is friendship gentle sway,  
Mild and serene as dawning day;  
Parents of smiles,  
Our grief beguiles,  
And drives each care away.

Let friendship then our thoughts employ,  
For charming friendship ne'er can cloy;  
Cupid no more  
Weel the adore  
Friendships the source of Joy

*All stand for the Dedication. Arthur Torrington CBE says*

I ask you, Mr Dean, to receive into the safe custody of the Dean and Chapter, this memorial in honour and memory of Charles Ignatius Sancho and Ann Osborne.

*The Dean replies*

**T**O the greater glory of God and in thankful memory of Charles Ignatius Sancho and Ann Osborne, and of all that they achieved and contributed to the life of the United Kingdom, I dedicate this memorial: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Flowers are laid at the memorial by Mjnari Carty Sai, on behalf of The Equiano Society*

*The Reverend Mark Birch MVO, Precentor, leads the Prayers*

Let us pray

*All remain standing*

Let us give thanks to God for Ignatius Sancho and Ann Osborne; for the witness of their lives and marriage; for Ignatius' contribution as an abolitionist, musician, and writer; that his memory may continue to inspire.

**A**Lmighty God, we offer unto Thee most high praise, and hearty thanks for all Thy wonderful graces and virtues which Thou hast manifested in all Thy saints, and in all other holy persons upon earth, who by their lives and labours have shined forth as lights in the several generations of the world; whom we remember with honour, and commemorate with joy; and for whom we praise and magnify Thy holy Name; most humbly desiring that we may still continue in their holy communion, and enjoy the comfort thereof, following, with a glad will and mind, their holy examples of godly living, and steadfastness in Thy faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Burt Caesar says*

Let us pray for the work of the Equiano Society, and all who promote and celebrate African literary and cultural heritage in this country; that the full diversity of human experience and creativity may be honoured.

**A**LMIGHTY God, Ruler of all the peoples of the earth: Forgive, we beseech thee, the shortcomings of this nation; purify our hearts to see and honour thy likeness in all thy children; give wisdom to our leaders and steadfastness to our people; unite us in a common purpose; cause us to rejoice in all thy manifold gifts; and bring us at last to that fair city of peace whose foundations are mercy, justice and good-will, whose Builder and Maker thou art; through thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Precentor says*

Watching in hope for the fulfilment of Christ's Kingdom, we are bold to pray,

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on 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 Dean pronounces the Blessing*

**G**O forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no-one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Music after the service*

Finale

*Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875–1912)*

*from Petite Suite de Concert Op 77*

**Members of the congregation are requested to remain  
in their places until invited to move by the Honorary Stewards**