

# Stunning glass artwork at centre of St Thomas' Church re-development

**On Sunday 27 September, Bishop Christopher formally re-opened St Thomas' Church, Telford Park, Streatham following a £2 million refurbishment.**

The centrepiece of the re-development is an incredible piece of contemporary glass artwork, created by Sarah Galloway, one of the UK's leading contemporary glass artists.

At seven metres tall it fills the chancel arch and separates the worship space from the new meeting spaces.

The Revd Martin Gordon, Vicar of St Thomas with St Stephen said; "Sarah has captured a real sense of who we are as a church and created a vibrant piece of contemporary art that will add to the heritage of the local area.

"At the same time she has made something beautiful that will help many to connect with God."

The final phase of the re-development, which started in 2009, has seen the chancel area at the east end of the church transformed into a chapel, a catering kitchen and a café. This has created a new upper hall, which retains the original vaulted wooden ceiling dating back to 1927.

The church grounds now include a community garden and a memorial garden. Inside the church a new baptistery has been sunk for full-immersion baptisms.

As the congregation reflected on the many miracles along the way, the children led the worship with 'Our God is a Great Big God!' And as the congregation renewed their baptismal promises, Bishop Christopher encouraged all to remain Christ-centred and outward-focused.



Photo: jim.grover@mac.com

## Norwegian Bishop installed as Ecumenical Canon

**The Bishop of Bergen, the Rt Revd Halvor Nordhaug, was installed as an Ecumenical Canon of Southwark Cathedral during Choral Evensong on Friday 25 September.**

Southwark Cathedral and Bergen Cathedral have been linked for a number of years and now Bishop Halvor

and Bishop Christopher are working to extend the link to include the two Dioceses.

Informal links between the Dioceses are already strong as there are a number of priests from Norway working in Southwark Diocese, in the Norwegian Church and Seamen's Mission in Rotherhithe.

They hold licenses as priests in Southwark because of the the Porvoo Agreement between the Nordic churches and the Church of England.



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