

## **Dalai Lama to receive world science and religion award at St Paul's Cathedral**

**Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

St Paul's Cathedral is delighted to host the Dalai Lama, as he collects his prestigious Templeton Prize on Monday, 14 May.

The Tibetan Buddhist spiritual leader was announced as the winner of the £1.1m prize this morning (29 March) for his work in encouraging scientific research and harmony among religions.

The Right Reverend Michael Colclough, Canon Pastor at St Paul's Cathedral, said: "A non-violent voice of peace and reason in a calamitous world, the Dalai Lama represents core values cherished by many different faiths. The award of the Templeton Prize to the Dalai Lama under the dome of St Paul's Cathedral will be a reminder that working towards peace and harmony is a practical and spiritual challenge to all faith communities."

The Templeton Prize has been awarded annually since 1972 to a living person who has made 'an exceptional contribution to affirming life's spiritual dimension, whether through insight, discovery, or practical works'. Previous winners include Mother Teresa, Rev Dr Billy Graham and Lord Martin Rees.

When he accepts his award, it will be the first time the Dalai Lama has visited St Paul's Cathedral.

More information can be found at [www.templetonprize.org](http://www.templetonprize.org)

### **ENDS**

For more information please contact Ed Holmes, Press and Communications Manager, St Paul's Cathedral on 020 7246 8321 or email [ed@stpaulscathedral.org.uk](mailto:ed@stpaulscathedral.org.uk)

### **St Paul's Cathedral**

St Paul's is the cathedral church of the diocese of London, which it has served for over 1,400 years. The current building has become a potent symbol of the life of a nation and is one of the world's most beautiful buildings. Designed by Sir Christopher Wren in the late seventeenth century, its stones have absorbed the hopes, fears, sorrows and joys of generations and stand as an enduring symbol of our communion with those gone before and those still to come. Each year nearly two million people flock to the cathedral for services, concerts, debates, educational events, performing arts and sightseeing. All are most welcome.

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