

Press Release

St Paul's joins 220 London churches to celebrate Fairtrade and receive official status

Thursday, 8th March 2012

Representatives from 220 churches within the Diocese of London are set to gather at St Paul's to celebrate the work of the Fairtrade organisation and be officially granted Fairtrade status.

On Sunday, 11th March at 6pm, the Cathedral will receive its accreditation in a service, at which certificates will be awarded to each church.

The Diocese has achieved its accreditation by signing up to the values of Fairtrade and making a commitment to use Fairtrade products such as tea and coffee for visitors and staff alike. St Paul's has also committed to using Fairtrade communion wine during its services.

The Reverend Canon Michael Hampel, Precentor of St Paul's, said: "Hosting this service at St Paul's gives us the opportunity to share the important messages of Fairtrade and how we use the God-given resources of the earth, fairly and justly.

"For us, this accreditation is just a starting point, and we won't stop striving for justice and social responsibility, whether that is for people in London and the UK or producers around the world."

The Celebrate Fairtrade service begins at 6pm on Sunday, 11th March. All are welcome to attend.

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

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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