

Press Release

American Civil Rights Movement remembered on steps of St Paul's

Tuesday, 20th March 2012

The 55th anniversary of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, seen as a major turning point in the American civil rights movement, has been marked on the steps of St Paul's Cathedral as part of a special bus journey across London.

The bus journey, organised by Heartstone, was designed to celebrate London as a city of diversity, shown through the passengers on the bus - young people of all nationalities, races and cultures who were selected from across London by their respective boroughs to take part in the project.

As the bus pulled up to St Paul's, The Bishop of London, The Rt Revd Richard Chartres, welcomed the passengers and gave a blessing on the Cathedral's west steps – the spot on which Dr Martin Luther King Jr gave a speech on his way to Oslo to receive his Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

The passengers were then led into the Cathedral by the Rt Revd Michael Colclough, Canon Pastor of St Paul's, where they lit candles.

Also on the bus, which also visited the Olympic site, New Scotland Yard and the National Theatre, was Georgette Norman, Director of the Rosa Parks Museum in Alabama, where the Bus Boycott took place.

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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