

The Loyal Address by Canon Michael Hampel on behalf of the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

The Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral, on behalf of the whole Cathedral community, presents to Your Majesty its loyal greetings and dutiful service on this the occasion of Your Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

We are most mindful at this time of Your Majesty's steadfast faith in God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God for your selfless duty and service shown to the Church, to the nation, and to the peoples of the Commonwealth, all in humility before our God. In your long reign you have inspired us to know, in the words of our patron St Paul, that 'faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love'.

We here renew our own commitment to serve you with loyalty as we serve the King of kings with faithfulness, not only in our mission to proclaim the Gospel in the Diocese of London, but also as a symbol, throughout the world, of the rich diversity of your capital city, and of the strength and freedoms of your United Kingdom.

And finally, we recall with joy and gratitude that Your Majesty, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth, and other members of the Royal Family have worshipped with us on so many great occasions during your reign – in times of joy, and of sadness, and of thanksgiving. We most humbly thank you for celebrating with us last year's three-hundredth anniversary of our great Cathedral building. And we look forward with delight to welcoming Your Majesty, members of the Royal Family, distinguished representatives of your Commonwealth, and all those who watch from across the world, to the National Service of Thanksgiving in June to mark sixty years of your happy and glorious reign.

Humbly begging God's blessing on Your Majesty, we assure you of our continued prayers and service.

