

## THE MILLENNIUM VIRGE

The Millennium Virge was commissioned by the Central Council of the Church of England Guild of Vergers at their meeting in March 1998, under the National Chairmanship of James Armstrong, Head Verger of Carlisle Cathedral.

It was the Guild's first significant commission of a new piece of Church silver, and was planned to mark the Millennium in the year AD 2000.

The final form was chosen from designs submitted by Michael Lloyd, who worked closely with the National Chairman.

Mr Lloyd was born in Salisbury in 1950. He studied at the Birmingham School of Silversmithing and then at the Royal College of Art and he is a Fellow of the Goldsmiths Company.

The Virge was made in his workshops at Castle Douglas, South West Scotland during 1998.

The Virge is made of silver, with an enamel Guild badge set into the top, and 4 moonstones set around the knob where the head joins the shaft.

The Virge bears 4 hallmarks:

- \* a castle - for the Edinburgh Assay Office
- \* MKL - for Michael Lloyd
- \* a lion for Sterling silver and
- \* **y** - for the year 1998

The Virge was dedicated by the Reverend Bill McLaren, the National Chaplain, at the Eucharist in Saint Margaret's Church, Westminster, as part of the Guild's Millennium Festival at Westminster Abbey on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2000.

The Virge was funded by the generosity of individual members, companies and Branches listed in this document.

The oak case is the gift of Doreen Cook of Kirkleatham, Redcar and Robert Charlton of Newcastle-upon-Tyne Branch.

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## The Church of England Guild of Vergers



# The Millennium Virge



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*Presidents: The Archbishops of Canterbury and York*

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