



THE ECCLESIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

President: Donald Buttress, LVO, D.LITT, MA, FSA, ARIBA
Surveyor Emeritus of Westminster Abbey

www.ecclsoc.org

125 years: 1879 – 2004

ESSAY COMPETITION RESULTS

TO CELEBRATE the Society's 125th anniversary in 2004, it organised an open essay competition, with a prize of £500, and a possible additional prize of £250 for those under the age of 25. No precise title for the essay was specified, but essays were to reflect the particular interests of the Ecclesiological Society – that is, ecclesiology as the study of the nature and use of church buildings and their furnishings. The assessors gave particular consideration to essays which look forward to the future, whilst relating it to the past.

The results are as follows.

General

Winner: Timothy Engelman, *Between deconsecration and desecration*

Timothy Engelman is based in Saxonburg, Pennsylvania. His essay is a challenging examination of the cultural and theological implications of the conversion and secular reuse of a redundant Romanesque Revival Catholic church in the United States.

In addition the assessors **specially commended** Christopher Akehurst's essay, *Redundant churches: an Antipodean perspective on the present and the future.*

Under 25s

Winner: Philip Corbett, *We will go into the house of the Lord*

Philip Corbett's essay deals with the way in which church buildings can express their purpose, especially through the way they are ordered. He is currently a post-graduate student at Keble College Oxford.

The assessors **specially commended two essays:** Megan Daffern's *Sidney Sussex College Chapel, Cambridge: Pastoral challenge and solution in design and liturgy* and Katherine Emma *Do the environment and symbolism of the Eucharist in Durham Cathedral successfully promote a sense of community? By what criteria should such ecclesiological dimensions be analysed?*

The two winning essays will be published by the Society in *Ecclesiology Today*, and all other essays are being passed to the editor for consideration.

The Society is grateful to the assessors, who were: Dr Thomas Cocke, FSA, Chief Executive, NADFAS, formerly Secretary, Council for the Care of Churches; the Venerable Dr William Jacob, Archdeacon of Charing Cross; Professor Kenneth Murta, Dip.Arch. (Dunelm.), BArch., FRIBA, Professor Emeritus, School of Architecture, Sheffield University. The chair was Paul Velluet, BA, BArch, MLitt, RIBA, IHBC, past Chairman of the Council of the Society.