



The Diocese of
Southwark

DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION SERVICE

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

**THE EVE OF CHRIST THE KING
SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2025
4.00PM**

WELCOME TO SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

A MEMBER OF THE



ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please ensure that all electronic devices are switched to silent.

PHOTOGRAPHY

You are welcome to take photographs in the Cathedral but please do not take any photographs during the service.

HEARING LOOP

Please switch your device to 'T'.

POSTURE

The instructions in this booklet are not prescriptive. Please do sit if that is more appropriate for you.

DONATIONS



There are several donation points in the Cathedral where you can make your donation, or you can simply scan the QR code, or text SOUTHWARK (Amount) to 70085 (one standard rate message is also charged). Thank you very much for your generous support of the Cathedral.

PRESIDENT

The Bishop of Kingston, The Rt Rev'd Martin Gainsborough

DEACON

Canon Kathryn Fleming, Precentor

ORGANIST

Matthew Jorysz
Sub-Organist, Westminster Abbey

WELCOME

Welcome to Southwark Cathedral. It is very good to have you with us. We welcome especially the candidates for Baptism, Confirmation and Reception into the Church of England, along with their families, friends and clergy. Please pray for the candidates and the parishes from which they come.

ALL SAINTS, TOOTING

Daniel Lewis Bracken
Frederick Samuel Howarth
William Robert Knightsbridge
Sajani Nadarajah

HOLY TRINITY, ROEHAMPTON

Sadie Hamilton
Lola Lindsay-Fynn

ST ALFEGE, GREENWICH

Eleanor Jean Roche Holland

ST ANDREW, COULSDON

Olaperi Aghadiuno

ST ANDREW, EARLSFIELD

Freya Elizabeth Lee-Snell

ST ANSELM, NORTH LAMBETH

Elaine Margaret Gadd
Rosemary Love
Helena Medvei
Precious Okyere
Michaela Precious Ohemaa Otakponmwon

ST BARNABAS with CHRIST'S CHAPEL, DULWICH

Emilia Frances Rose 'Arrow' Smith

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ELTHAM

Ssuubi David Marlon Male

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, CATERHAM VALLEY

Abigail Nelleke Griffiths

Joel Lloyd Griffiths

Evan Christopher Griffiths

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, REDHILL

Tristin Brennan (Reception into the Church of England)

Sally Primrose Browne

Elliott Joseph Liddle

Hattie Olivia Liddle

Zoe Alice MacCormick

Georgina Margaret Murray

Theodora Rose Sale (Baptism & Confirmation)

Matthew Soper (Baptism & Confirmation)

Andrew Michael Wilson (Reception into the Church of England)

ST JOHN, WATERLOO

Elpida Kalokairinou

Sihan 'Sean' Ling

Mary Margaret 'Polly' Watt

Zoe Stephenson

ST GEORGE, TOLWORTH

Alfie Lelliot

ST MATTHEW, SURBITON

Matius Aleksander Gaston Boroh

Hoda Arefi

Oliver George Eley

Amir Mohammadnia

Chimeremeze Javon Noble

Chimsomaga Symphorosa Noble

Chinazaekpere Audrey Noble

Oliver Stirling

Iris Elizabeth Young

ST NICHOLAS, SUTTON

Kosi Jeffrey Okafor

Emma Margaret Sydenham

ST PAUL, STREATHAM FURZEDOWN

Lily Jane Baker

ST PETER & ST PAUL, CHALDON

Abbie Evans

Robert John Richards

Rebecca Elizabeth Roffey

ST PHILIP & ALL SAINTS, KEW

Owen Michael John Williams

DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Please stand as the Procession enters.

ENTRANCE HYMN

NEH 352

Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

Crown him the Virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now his brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,
As of that Rose the Stem;
The Root whence mercy ever flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love!
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye
At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end,
And round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
Glassed in a sea of light,
Where everlasting waves
Reflect his throne—the Infinite!
Who lives—and loves—and saves.

TUNE: DIADEMATA

George Elvey (1816-1893)

TEXT:

Matthew Bridges (1800-1894)

THE GATHERING

Blessèd be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All Blessèd be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one body and one spirit,
All there is one hope to which we were called,

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
All one God and Father of all.

Peace be with you
All and also with you.

The Bishop welcomes the candidates and the congregation and then says:

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit
you give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,
that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love,
and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit
now and for ever.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 36.24-28

Read by Polly Watt, Confirmand from St John's, Waterloo

A reading from the Book of Ezekiel.

I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you, and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand.

Alleluia, alleluia!
This is my Son, the Belovèd,
with whom I am well pleased.

All Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

John 15.9-17

All The Lord be with you
 and also with you.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
 Glory to you, O Lord.

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated after the opening prayer.

THE HOMILY

The Bishop of Kingston

THE LITURGY OF INITIATION

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The candidates are presented by their clergy or other parish representative, standing before the Bishop.

When they have been presented, the Bishop asks the candidates for Baptism:

Do you wish to be baptised?

Candidates I do.

The Bishop asks the candidates for Confirmation and Reception into the Church of England:

Have you been baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?

Candidates I have.

The Bishop then asks all the candidates:

Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?

Candidates I am.

Please stand. The Bishop addresses the whole congregation.

Faith is the gift of God to his people.

In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.

People of God, will you welcome these candidates and uphold them in their life in Christ?

All With the help of God, we will.

The congregation sits. The candidates remain standing.

THE DECISION

The Bishop addresses the candidates.

We all wander far from God and lose our way:
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.
In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore I ask:

Candidates Do you turn away from sin?
 I do.

Candidates Do you reject evil?
 I do.

Candidates Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
 I do.

Candidates Do you trust in him as Lord?
 I do.

The Bishop stands at the Font.

THE SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The Bishop makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate for Baptism, anointing them with the Oil of Baptism. The Bishop says:

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

When all the candidates for baptism have received the sign of the cross, the Bishop says:

All Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
 Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ
 against sin, the world and the devil,
 and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All **Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

Please stand.

All Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessèd are you, sovereign God of all,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
You are our light and our salvation.
From the deep waters of death
you have raised your Son to life in triumph.
Grant that all who have been born anew by water and the Spirit,
may daily be renewed in your image,
walk by the light of faith,
and serve you in newness of life;
through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
we lift our voices of praise.
Blessèd be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All **Blessèd be God for ever.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The Bishop addresses the congregation.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess
together with these candidates
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?
All **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Please be seated.

BAPTISM

The candidates for Baptism stand before the Bishop, who baptises them each in turn, saying:

N, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

After the candidates have been baptised, the Bishop says:

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All Amen.

The candidates who have previously been baptised are sprinkled with holy water by the Bishop in remembrance of their baptism.

Then the Bishop invites the congregation to pray:

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

All Almighty God,
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith
with all who have been baptised into your name.
Keep us faithful to our baptism,
and so make us ready for that day
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

CONFIRMATION

The Bishop stands before those who are to be confirmed, and says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord
All who has made heaven and earth.

Blessèd be the name of the Lord
All now and for ever. Amen.

The Bishop extends his hands towards those to be confirmed and says:

Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given these your servants new birth
in baptism by water and the Spirit,
and have forgiven them all their sins.
Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness;
and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord.
All Amen.

Each candidate kneels in turn before the Bishop. The Bishop addresses each candidate by name:

N, God has called you by name and made you his own.

The Bishop then lays hands on the head of each, saying:

Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.
All Amen.

When all have been confirmed, the Bishop anoints each candidate with the Oil of Chrism.

RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Those who are to be received into the communion of the Church of England stand before the Bishop to make this declaration.

You are here to be received into the communion of the Church of England.

Do you acknowledge the Church of England as part of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church?

Candidates I do.

Do you accept the teaching, discipline and authority of the Church of England?

Candidates I do.

Will you take part with us in worship and mission?

Candidates I will.

The Bishop says:

God of mercy and love,
by one Spirit we have all been baptised into one body
and made to drink of the one Spirit;
we thank you for the gifts you have given to these your servants
for the building up of the body of Christ.
Grant that they may continue in the life of the Spirit
and walk with us in the light and obedience of Christ.
By the same Spirit,
fill the whole Church with your overflowing love;
give us knowledge and discernment of your will,
and steadfastness in your service,
until we all come to the unity of the faith,
to the measure of the full stature of Christ,
through whom we make our prayer.

All Amen.

The Bishop takes each candidate for reception by the hand and says:

N, we recognise you as a member
of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church;
and we receive you into the communion of the Church of England
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Then, the Bishop invites the congregation to pray for all those who have been received and confirmed.

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

All **Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more
until they come to your everlasting kingdom.
Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Please stand.

THE PEACE

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us
and, as a pledge of what is to come,
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

All **The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

During the Hymn, bread and wine are presented at the Altar.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN

Alleluya, sing to Jesus,
His the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluya, his the triumph,
His the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation,
Hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluya, not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluya, he is near us,
Faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluya, Bread of Angels,
Thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluya, here the sinful
Flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluya, King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluya, born of Mary,
Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
In the Eucharistic Feast.

TUNE: HYFRYDOL

Richard Huw Pritchard (1811-1887)

TEXT:

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks
because by water and the Holy Spirit
you have made us a holy people in Jesus Christ our Lord.
You raise us to new life in him
and renew in us the image of your glory.

Therefore with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

**All Christ is the bread of life:
When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

Please pray in whichever language you feel most comfortable.

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Baba wa...
Notre Père...
天におられる私たちの父よ...
Nna anyị...
Fader vår...
Pai nosso...
हे हमारे स्वर्गबासी पिता...
Padre nuestro...
我們在天上的父...
Отче наш...
하늘에 계신 우리 아버지...
Πάτερ ἡμῶν...
اے ہمارے باپ

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

All Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessèd are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Please be seated. If you wish to receive Holy Communion or a blessing, please follow the directions of the Stewards. If you wish to receive from the chalice, please go to the point of administration after receiving the host. Receiving Communion in one kind is still receiving Communion in full. Please do not dip the host into the chalice.

If you would like to receive a blessing, please bow your head.

Members of all Christian churches are welcome to receive Communion. Whatever your faith tradition or background, you are most welcome to come forward for a blessing.

After Communion, please remain seated to sing:

THE COMMUNION HYMN

All I once held dear, built my life upon
All this world reveres, and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this

Refrain

*Knowing you, Jesus
Knowing you, there is no greater thing
You're my all, you're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love you, Lord*

Now my heart's desire is to know you more
To be found in you and known as yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All-surpassing gift of righteousness

Refrain

Oh, to know the power of your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like you in your death, my Lord
So with you to live and never die

Refrain

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand.

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

God of mercy,
by whose grace alone we are accepted
and equipped for your service:
stir up in us the gifts of your Holy Spirit
and make us worthy of our calling;
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE SENDING OUT

Please remain standing.

THE BLESSING

All The Lord be with you
 and also with you.

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,
that you may reign with him in glory
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

During the Hymn, the newly-confirmed and -received are given a lighted candle which is lit from the Paschal candle.

THE FINAL HYMN

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.

Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.

TUNE: GUITING POWER

John Barnard
(b. 1948)

TEXT:

Michael Saward
(1932-2015)

THE DISMISSAL

The Bishop addresses the newly-confirmed and -received.

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.
You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

All **Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Deacon dismisses the congregation.

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

THE VOLUNTARY

Toccata • Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

During the Voluntary, the Bishop leads the newly-confirmed through the Cathedral.

Please leave the Cathedral by the North West doors and the Millennium Courtyard. Please consider supporting us by giving using the contactless donation points if you have not set up a regular payment. Thank you for joining us. We look forward to welcoming you back.

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SOUTHWARK

◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

making space for love
with heart, mind, and soul

It is good to welcome you to Southwark Cathedral. Set on the south bank of the River Thames, in one of the most vibrant and diverse communities in London, this building has been a constant witness in a place of change.

The first church was built on this site around the year 606. First a convent, then a monastery, it became in 1106 the Augustinian Priory of St Mary Overie ('over-the-river'). With Westminster Abbey and St Bartholomew the Great in Smithfield, it is one of the three remaining great monastic churches of London. At the Reformation, the Priory became a parish church, and it remains so for the people of Bankside. In 1905, as south London was rapidly expanding, the church was consecrated as the Cathedral for the new Diocese of Southwark.

The Cathedral has a momentous and significant history and has had links with many famous and influential characters including St Thomas Becket, Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare and Charles Dickens. It has also been a Cathedral for those who feel on the edges of faith or society, our welcome reaching out to all people in their beautiful God-given diversity.

Here, our Christian faith is captured in our vision to 'make space for love: with heart, mind, and soul'. Faith requires our hearts to stand up for social justice, upholding integrity and kindness, and supporting the vulnerable and oppressed. It challenges our thinking, inviting our minds to be enquiring, honest, and generous. Faith also seeks to deepen our inner lives, with the arts and creativity, by sharing in the life of our community, and by learning the arts of prayer and attention. In Jesus Christ we see the human face of God, and our faith in him is our joy and our life.

We really hope you enjoy being here with us today and that we will see you again very soon.

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