

## Selden College's Inaugural Matriculation:



Things delivered and things to be received - that is the business of Selden College.” The welcome address at our first Matriculation Ceremony on Friday 3 October from Steve Hayhow (our Board Chair) animated a gathering of well over 60 people - students, families, staff, friends and supporters, celebrating the start of a higher education college dedicated to Christian classical

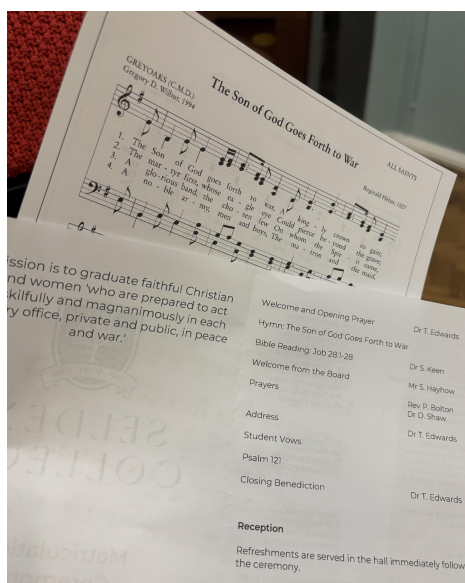
education. He quoted CS Lewis: in this post-Christian world, ‘our assumption is that everything is provisional and soon to be superseded, that the attainment of goods we have never yet had, rather than the defence and conservation of those we have already, is the cardinal business of life’. But classical Christian education is not provisional. Reality is not pure change. We want our students to reconnect to the past without being entombed in it - we are reaching back in order to build the future. The things Selden will deliver and the students will receive are permanent, important, formative.



So after 2 days of orientation, we honoured the start. Job 28 was read, Rev Paul Bolton and Dr David Shaw prayed for students and staff; we sang with enthusiasm, and Dr Edwards addressed the students directly. His address can be listened to [here](#).



Finally the inaugural class (Marta, Pippa, David and Joshua) affirmed their commitment to the academic Christian community that is Selden College, for what we pray will be a joyful, fruitful and hard-working three years.



We are very grateful to God that we have made it thus far and we are very aware that it is the fruit of many, many people's prayers and faithfulness which predates even the idea of Selden occurring to any of us. This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes!

The Ceremony ended with a benediction on the students based on Thomas Aquinas' prayer before studying:

May the Creator of all things, the true Source of light and wisdom, send forth a ray of His brilliance to penetrate into the darkness of these students' understanding and take from them the double darkness in which they were born - the obscurity of both sin and ignorance. Give them a sharp sense of understanding, a retentive memory, give them the ability to grasp things correctly and fundamentally. Grant them the skill of being exact in their explanations, and the ability to express themselves with thoroughness and charm.

Lord, direct them in their beginning, direct them as they progress, and help them to completion; And may all of it be through Christ our Lord. Amen