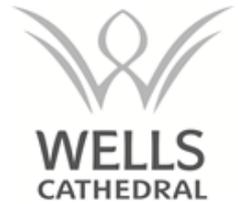


# The Chapter Letter



## The Day of Pentecost 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019

### **Welcome**

A very warm welcome to worship at the Cathedral today.

It is very good to welcome **the Dean of Exeter**, the Very Revd Jonathan Green, as preacher at the Cathedral Eucharist today.

**'Thy Kingdom Come'** is a global initiative of prayer and celebration, designed to grow the church in celebration and energy. Wells will be part of these celebrations this evening, when people from across the area are being invited by our local ecumenical partnership to gather on Cathedral Green at 8pm for a short act of worship. You are asked to bring a phone or torch, 'to light up the world' after the short act of worship. Might you like to come for a refreshing glass in the White Hart or Swan afterwards? All very welcome to celebrate Pentecost ecumenically and gladly...

*John Davies, Dean*

**Book Study Group:** "Religion is no good and should be abolished". This is a constant refrain among some critics of religion. Rupert Shortt, Religion editor of the Times Literary Supplement, examines it in *Does Religion do more Harm than Good?* (SPCK, May 2019), a mere three chapters covering 76 pages. A book such as this calls for discussion, and you are invited to do just this on the following three Tuesdays: 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June. Each meeting will last one hour, from 6:15 to 7:15 pm. **Please sign up on the sheet in the North Transept**, or write to me at [d.r.thomas.1@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.r.thomas.1@bham.ac.uk). The book is available in the Cathedral bookshop, and also online.

*Added to this, on 2 July the Dean and I will examine historical and contemporary versions of Christology (questions about the humanity and divinity of Christ) - same time and place. You are welcome at this, whether you have attended the Book Group or not.*

*Professor David Thomas, Canon Theologian*

**Root Connections:** The stall selling produce from Root Connections will be in operation after the Cathedral Eucharist this morning at the West End of the Nave.

*Chris Day*

**The Friends** have been holding their Annual Festival this weekend; and today after the Cathedral Eucharist they are inviting all at the service for refreshments in the Camery Garden and East Cloister (or in the Education Room if wet). Access is from the South Transept.

**Christine Barrett RIP.** Christine Barrett died peacefully at Bubwith Almshouses on 15<sup>th</sup> May. On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June there will be a Thanksgiving Service at Wells Cathedral at 2pm to which everyone is warmly invited. After the service the Burial of Ashes will take place in the Camery Garden, and you are warmly welcomed to join the family afterwards for tea at the White Hart.

*The Revd David Wilcox, Priest Vicar*

Building work on the ground floor of the **Cathedral offices** will continue for a few more days. The office staff will be working but access will need to be restricted to pre-booked appointments for your and their safety. Therefore, only those with appointments can be given access. Car park tokens will be available from the Cathedral Shop or Donation Desk. We apologise for any inconvenience but are very excited about the prospect of the makeover and the provision of an accessible toilet!

*Jackie Croft, Cathedral Administrator and Chapter Clerk*

**Lunchtime Organ Recital:** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 1:05pm, renowned concert organist Christopher Herrick will give a lunchtime organ recital. Admission is free, with a retiring collection in aid of Wells Cathedral Music.

**Early Music Wells: A fabulous evening of Italian Sonatas:** Join us on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm for an evening of music from one of the most exciting, richly varied, and satisfying eras of music history for listeners and players alike. The Avison Ensemble (violins and theorbo) will be giving their first concert at Wells Cathedral, entitled Italian Sonatas from the Golden Age. The featured works, by Dairo Castello, Giovanni Battista Fontana, Alessandro Piccinini, Biagio Marini, and Archangelo Corelli, are from the 16th and 17th centuries. Tickets, priced at £15, are available from Wells Cathedral Shop and on the door.

As this letter went to press **the pilgrimage party** led by the Precentor was returning to the UK. We look forward to hearing news of their time in Assisi and Rome.

**Garden Party for Wells Cathedral Special Community Project with Christian Aid:** The Canon Pastor kindly welcomes us to her garden at 2 Canons' Close on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 3–6pm to raise money towards our special project to raise £5000 for Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Iraq. The charity Bread for the World will match our funding 6:1 so our gift becomes £35,000. Do come and help support those whose lives have been so traumatised. There is a sign up list for this event in the North Transept.

*The Revd John Sclater, Cathedral representative Wells Christian Aid*

We begin today **an occasional series** on various aspects of Cathedral life and ministry which perhaps need to be highlighted and celebrated a little more. Here is a piece from the Cathedral Archivist...

**The Archives**, which are housed above the west cloister, receive a constant flow of enquiries. Here are a few of the most recent:

The Trustees of Wells Alms Houses, seeking information and images from the early 1900s to help them apply for Listed Buildings consent in order to have the chapel renovated.

Mendip Council Tree Preservation Officer, seeking clarification on ownership of land leased by the Cathedral to enable prevention of the felling of an historic cedar tree.

Wells Natural History & Archaeological Society, looking to trace the route used by carts to bring the limestone used to build the Cathedral from Dulcote quarry.

The curator of medieval armour at the Wallace Collection, London, concerning details of the knights sculptures on the West Front.

The Richard III Society, concerning the pardon issued to Dean Gunthorpe by Richard's successor, Henry VII, in 1485.

These and many other inquiries serve to remind how the Cathedral archives cast light on far distant and not so distant times.

*Veronica Howe, Archivist and Records Manager*

**Thea Oliver**, an ordinand at Sarum College, continues her placement here, exploring Cathedral life and ministry. She introduces herself...

Hello everyone, my name is **Thea Oliver**, and I will be the Ordinand on placement this Summer! I'm really looking forward to worshipping alongside you all, getting to know as many of you as possible and learning all about the life and work of the Cathedral.

So, a little about me: I have been married to Richard for 40 years, we have 3 children, 3 grandchildren, a 'mostly-Labrador' and a Siamese cat.

We live in Draycott, near my mum, and attend St Peter's Church. I am a Lay Worship Assistant and was churchwarden for 19 years. The truth is, our sense of calling never ends; I can vouch for that!

We may be already doing something we love, that we know is part of God's call for our lives, and yet there is always something nudging us further towards God's kingdom; I started my 2-year ministry training at Sarum College at the grand old age of 58! I still love working as a nurse, continuing my vocation that started in my teens, but now I'm back to studying, writing assignments and on Thursdays and Sundays throughout June and July I will be found in and around this beautiful Cathedral, so if you see me please come and say hello.

*Thea Oliver, Ordinand*

**Next Sunday**, confirmations will be part of the Cathedral Eucharist. There will not be a service of Sung Matins, as is the custom on confirmation days.

**Readings** for next Sunday's Cathedral Eucharist, Trinity Sunday:

Romans 1-5 and John 16.12-15

**OF SPECIAL NOTE FOR THIS WEEK**

The Archdeacon is in Residence

<b>Every day at 8am, Morning Liturgy, Lady Chapel</b>			
<b>Mon</b>	<b>10</b>	2pm 5:15pm	<i>Celestial Journey Exhibition South Cloister until 14/6</i> Service of Thanksgiving for the late Christine Barrett RIP Evensong
<b>Tue</b>	<b>11</b>	12:25pm 4:15pm <b>5:15pm</b> 6:15pm	<b><i>Barnabas the Apostle</i></b> Holy Communion – Lady Chapel Wells Cathedral Song Squad <b>Festal Evensong</b> Book Study Group – Chapter Room ( <i>access from Vicars' Close</i> )
<b>Wed</b>	<b>12</b>	9:30am 5:15pm	Holy Communion - Lady Chapel Evensong
<b>Thur</b>	<b>13</b>	1:05pm 5:15pm	Lunchtime Organ Recital: Christopher Herrick Evensong
<b>Fri</b>	<b>14</b>	1:05pm 5:15pm 7:30pm	Lunchtime Concert: Capella Vocale Iffeldorf Evensong Early Music Wells Concert: The Avison Ensemble - Italian Sonatas from the Golden Age
<b>Sat</b>	<b>15</b>	1:30pm 2pm-4:30pm 5:15pm	Service of Holy Matrimony: <i>Cain and Gill</i> Somerset Schools Dance Festival - Cathedral Green Evensong