

The Chapter Letter

Holy Cross Day

Sunday 14 September 2025



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity begin on page 176 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Very Reverend Toby Wright, *Dean*, is preaching and presiding at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Chewton Mendip today. We pray that both he and the community will be blessed by their time together.

Welcome: A very warm welcome to the Cathedral, particularly if you are a visitor or here for the first time. We would be delighted to meet you, so do please make yourself known to one of the clergy after the service. Everybody is always welcome to stay and enjoy time together over tea and filter coffee after the Cathedral Eucharist, where there are Welcomers available - please do seek them out if you have questions or simply to chat.

Clemmie's Choir Tour Fundraising Cake Sale: Please join us for coffee and cake after the Cathedral Eucharist this morning.

Our Cathedral Choir is excited to be going on Tour to Tuscany after Easter and each of the Choristers is asked to find a way to raise £200 towards the cost of the Tour. Clemmie, one of our Year 9 Choristers, will be making and selling cakes to fundraise on several Sundays before Christmas, starting today. Please do join us in the North Transept for coffee and cake or if you're not able to stay, there will be a table at the exit to purchase a cake as you leave. Thank you for supporting us and we look forward to seeing you all after the service.

The Dean's health: We are delighted to share with you an update on the Dean's health. Toby has had good news that there is no further sign of any cancer at this time and he doesn't need to have any further treatment. He will be closely monitored at regular stages, but we are pleased to share such happy news.

Commissions: Timothy Parsons was very grateful for the kind feedback from members of the congregation following the performance of his new *Missa Brevis* and motet, *The Shekhinah*, written at the Dean's request to mark Sally Wright's 50th birthday and sung by the Cathedral Choir on Sunday 7 September. Should you wish to explore the idea of commissioning a work, for example to mark a special occasion, Timothy is very happy to meet for a conversation and can be contacted on timothy.parsons@wellscathedral.org.uk

Philippa Cutter: We are sorry to inform you that Philippa Cutter passed away peacefully on 23 August. Philippa was a long standing member of the congregation.

Women Change Makers Exhibition: Until **Tuesday 16 September**, the Cloisters at Wells Cathedral will host the Women Change Makers exhibition, which is a vibrant celebration of fierce female empowerment. This remarkable showcase,

created by photo-artist Clare Newton, shines a spotlight on today's incredible women leading the change in traditionally male-dominated industries.

To complement this exhibition, 'Women Change Makers', Wells Cathedral Shop is now showcasing some inspiring books on the topic of women change makers. We have included a remarkable book '*First In Line*', an inspiring memoir of Somerset born Judith Rose, the first woman to become an Archdeacon in the Church of England. Pop in now for your copy!

Sound Healing: On Friday 19 September at 7.00 p.m., join the sound healing collective *In Space Through Sound* for a transformative evening of immersive sound in the Chapter House. Known for their creation of sacred spaces through vibrational resonance, the collective invites you to step into a sonic sanctuary where ancient architecture meets deeply restorative frequencies.

For further information, please visit: <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=89091755>

Wells Relaxed Networking Breakfast: Rogers Drewett are hosting another free Networking Breakfast on **Thursday 25 September** from 8.30 a.m. until 10.00 a.m. in The Loft. Enjoy a relaxed atmosphere, fresh pastries and breakfast butties while making new friendships and professional connections. Tickets can be obtained through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wells-relaxed-networking-breakfast-tickets-1437490305199?aff=oddtcreator>

Cider and Cheese Festival – Saturday 27 September: Plans for the Cider and Cheese Festival are progressing well. We recently met with a company who are supplying "dressing" for the Cathedral, which will give it a country fair feel, in keeping with cider and cheese. One of the suggestions is to have hay bales and apples arranged artistically around the Cathedral. Can you help with donations of either hay bales or sacks/crates of apples? If so, please contact Liz de Pass: events@wellscathedral.org.uk

Flyers publicising the Festival are available at the Welcome Desk. If you are able to take some for your workplace and/or neighbourhood, please do ask for some at the desk as this enable us to publicise the event far and wide!

The Festival will start at 12 noon and run until 9.00 p.m. the same evening. Alongside stands from local cider and cheese producers, there will be a range of soft drink and food stalls. Tickets include access to all events on the day, two half-pint drink tokens, and a commemorative glass to use on the day and take home. To book tickets, please see: <https://WellsCathedral-CiderCheese25.eventbrite.co.uk>

Installation of Prebendaries: Edward Baynton-Coward, Caroline Mason, Tracey Staples and Alison Vercoe will be installed as members of the College of Canons on **Tuesday 30 September** at 5.15 p.m. during Choral Evensong. We pray for God's blessing on each of them in their ministry. Please do come and support them if you are able. Refreshments will be served after the service. Please reply to office@wellscathedral.org.uk if you are able to attend.

Finding inspiration in the Psalms: a Church Times one day festival: On **Thursday 2 October**, from 10.00 a.m. until 4.30 p.m., there will be a one-day event in the De Grey Rooms, York, exploring the gift of the Psalms through poetry, art, liturgy and music. Speakers include The Reverend Dr Malcolm Guite, poet and priest;

The Reverend Dr Victoria Johnson, Dean of the Chapel of St John's College, Cambridge; Roger Wagner, artist and poet, and Honorary Fellow of Lincoln College Oxford; and our Canon Chancellor, The Reverend Canon Dr Megan Daffern. Tickets are available via the website: <https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/finding-inspiration-in-the-psalms-a-church-times-one-day-festival>

Exploring the Nicene Creed – 1700 Years On: This year marks 1700 years since the text of the Nicene Creed was first agreed at the Council of Nicaea in AD 325, where bishops from across the Christian world, convened by the Emperor Constantine, affirmed that Jesus Christ is “of one being with the Father.” The Creed proclaims the Church's faith in the Trinity and has been recited in Christian worship for centuries.

But what does it mean for us today?

- Why do we continue to use a Creed?
- What do we believe about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- How does saying the Creed shape our relationship with God?

These fundamental questions of our faith will be explored through four weeks of group study using the booklet *We Believe – Exploring the Nicene Creed* (available now in the Cathedral bookshop for £3.99).

Two groups, facilitated by The Reverend Mary Lewis and The Reverend Simon Lewis, will be offered:

- Thursday mornings: 11.00 a.m. - 12.15 p.m. in 2c North Road (October 30; November 6, 13, 20)
- Sunday afternoons: 4.15 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. in the Cathedral (October 26; November 2, 9, 16)

If you would like to join one of these groups, please contact the Dean's Executive Assistant: jonathan.rodd@wellscathedral.org.uk stating whether you would prefer to join a Thursday or a Sunday group.

Reverend Mary Lewis, Priest Vicar

Carols by Candlelight: The Carols by Candlelight Concerts are returning for 2025 on **Friday 19, Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 December!** Immerse yourself in a world of choral classics sung by the renowned Wells Cathedral Choir, and witness the Cathedral aglow with over 3,000 twinkling candles.

Tickets for the concerts are now available through the Cathedral website: <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/candlelight>

Charity of the Month: In the South Quire Aisle, you will find a noticeboard where each month different charities are invited to publicise information about their work and where it is possible for individuals to make donations to that charity. In September, the focus is on St Mungo's. This charity works to end rough sleeping by providing outreach, street services, and support to help people find and keep housing. Their services can include mental health support, help with community connections, and assistance with benefits and budgeting.

Pastoral Care: The Cathedral Pastoral Care team comprises: Wendy Haslam (Pastoral Care Coordinator), Caroline Byrne, Reverend Edward Day, Kate Day, Reverend Rosey Lunn, Patricia Hellier, Lissy Manners, Julian Tucker and Fran Wood.

Members of the team visit individuals as needed including the provision of home communion. Visits are co-ordinated by Wendy Haslam.

If you have pastoral matters to raise or would like a visit, please contact Wendy on pastoralcare@wellscathedral.org.uk or 07815 309527. You can also call the Cathedral Office (01749 674483).

Safeguarding at Wells Cathedral: Wells Cathedral is committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details please visit:
<https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/safeguarding>

You can report a concern using the same online link or by contacting either Joanne Austin, Diocesan and Safeguarding case worker:
01749 588905, joanne.austin@bathwells.anglican.org
or Ben Goodhind, Diocesan and Cathedral Safeguarding Manager,
01749 588917, ben.goodhind@bathwells.anglican.org

This week at Wells Cathedral

Monday – Friday (inclusive)

The Morning Liturgy is celebrated at 8.00 a.m. in the Lady Chapel.
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15 MONDAY: Cyprian, bishop, martyr, 258

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Senior Choristers and Vicars Choral)

16 TUESDAY: Ninian, bishop, apostle of the Picts, c.432

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Junior Choristers), attended by new school leaders in the Diocese

17 WEDNESDAY: Hildegard, abbess, visionary, 1179

10.00 a.m. **Eucharist** (Common Worship Order I, Traditional)

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

18 THURSDAY

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer** in Vicars' Close Chapel

19 FRIDAY

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)

7.00 p.m. **Sound Healing Event**

20 SATURDAY: John Coleridge Patteson, bishop, and companions, martyrs, 1871

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

3.30 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Choristers, with children attending Be a Chorister for a Day)

21 SUNDAY: MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

8.30 a.m. **Holy Communion** (BCP), Quire/Presbytery

10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist** (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Dr Megan Daffern, *Chancellor*

3.00 p.m. **Festal Evensong** † (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)

Preacher: The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott, *Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Bath and Wells*