

# The Chapter Letter

## Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

### Sunday 21 September 2025



**8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP):** The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity begin on page 179 of the Book of Common Prayer.

**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.

**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.

## The Dedication Festival

**Wednesday 15 October**

Each year we give thanks for the founding, the history and the present ministry of the Cathedral.

This year, The Reverend Professor David Fergusson OBE Regius Professor of Divinity at the University of Cambridge, Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland, and Dean of the Order of the Thistle will give a lecture at 4.30 p.m. in the Education Room on the subject of *The Contemporary Relevance of the Council of Nicaea*.

If you would like to come along to the lecture, please email [office@wellscathedral.org.uk](mailto:office@wellscathedral.org.uk) so that you can be included in the numbers.

He will also be preaching at the Dedication Festival Eucharist at 6.00 p.m. in the Quire. All are warmly invited to attend the service.

**From the Dean:** We are delighted to mark that we now have 400 volunteers at the Cathedral. Thank you to each of them and to Ruth and Michelle in the Volunteer Services Department for their work in supporting all who volunteer

at Wells Cathedral. We remain committed, as part of our strategy, to raising the number of volunteers to over 450.

If you'd like to volunteer, or find out more about all the volunteering opportunities, then please email [volunteers@wellscathedral.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@wellscathedral.org.uk) or call 01749 832217.

**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 50<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:timothy.parsons@wellscathedral.org.uk)

**Wells Relaxed Networking Breakfast:** Mogers 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:** 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](mailto:office@wellscathedral.org.uk) if you are able to attend.

**Lunchtime Concerts:** Join the LLH Trio, for a lunchtime concert at 1.05 p.m. on **Thursday 2 October**. Entry included with admission with a retiring collection in aid of Wells Cathedral.

**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>

**Wells Art Contemporary:** From **Wednesday 8 October to Saturday 1 November**, you can enjoy an international exhibition of innovative contemporary art in the stunning setting of Wells Cathedral. The exhibition features works across painting, sculpture, photography, digital media, textiles, and more, divided between an extensive white-wall exhibition in the Cloisters and many installations around the building itself.

**An invitation to join the Schools and Community Remembrance Exhibition:** Schools and community groups are invited to contribute to a Remembrance Exhibition which will be on display in the Chapter House from **Monday 3 – Sunday 30 November**.

Please contact [education@wellscathedral.org.uk](mailto:education@wellscathedral.org.uk) as soon as possible to reserve a free exhibition space and to receive more detailed information.

**Save the Date:** On **Tuesday 11 November**, there will be a special Evensong and reception to mark the start of COP30, the UN's annual climate change conference. More details coming soon!

**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](mailto: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](mailto:joanne.austin@bathwells.anglican.org)

or Ben Goodhind, Diocesan and Cathedral Safeguarding Manager,

01749 588917, [ben.goodhind@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:ben.goodhind@bathwells.anglican.org)

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## **This week at Wells Cathedral**

<b>Monday – Friday (inclusive)</b>
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The Morning Liturgy is celebrated at 8.00 a.m. in the Lady Chapel.
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### **22 MONDAY**

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Vicars Choral)

### **23 TUESDAY**

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

### **24 WEDNESDAY:** Ember Day

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

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

### **25 THURSDAY:** Lancelot Andrewes, bishop, spiritual writer, 1626

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

### **26 FRIDAY:** Ember Day

2.30 p.m. **Wells Cathedral School Service**

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Vicars Choral)

### **27 SATURDAY:** Vincent de Paul, founder of the Lazarists, 1660; Ember Day

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

12 noon **Cider and Cheese Festival**

to 9.00 p.m.

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

### **28 SUNDAY: THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

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

10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist** (Vicars Choral)

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

3.00 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Schola Cantorum and Vicars Choral)

Preacher: The Reverend Mary Lewis, *Priest Vicar*