

The Chapter Letter

Christ the King; The Sunday Next Before Advent

Sunday 23 November 2025



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for the Twenty Third Sunday after Trinity begin on page 194 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.

Lecture - Sources of Unity, from Daily Prayer to the Sunday Creed: All are warmly invited to a lecture being organised by the Canon Chancellor at 6.15 p.m. on **Tuesday 25 November** at Wells Cathedral. The World Council of Churches European President, The Reverend Dr Susan Durber, will be speaking about the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, and what it means for us today. No ticket is needed. The lecture will follow immediately after Evensong, which takes place at 5.15 p.m.

Cathedral Advent Carol Service: On **Sunday 30 November**, join us for the Advent Carol Service at 5.00 p.m. (Congregation to be seated by 4.45 p.m. please) This very special service begins with the Cathedral in darkness. The combination of music, readings, and liturgy as the procession moves around the Cathedral all come together to create an atmosphere which so powerfully embodies the Advent message. The service includes readings and traditional congregational Advent Carols, as well as wonderful music from the Cathedral Choir.

Christmas Orchestra Concerts: On **Wednesday 26 November**, discover the magic of the festive season with the Christmas Orchestra's unique concert experience. There are two concerts, an early one from 7.00 p.m. until 8.15 p.m., and a later one from 9.30 p.m. until 10.45 p.m. Tickets can be purchased using this website link: <https://www.thechristmasorchestra.co.uk>

London Concertante Presents - Christmas at the Movies: On **Saturday 29 November** at 7.30 p.m., enjoy a programme of music from timeless films including 'White Christmas', 'Love Actually', 'Home Alone', 'Elf' and 'It's a Wonderful Life'. Tickets are now available from the London Concertante website: <https://londonconcertante.com/2025/05/14/christmas-movies-wells-cathedral-29-november-2025/>

Lunchtime Concert: On **Tuesday 2 December** at 1.05 p.m., join celebrated pianist Warren Mailley-Smith for a lunchtime concert at Wells Cathedral. Admission is included with entry with a retiring collection in aid of the Cathedral.

Piccadilly Sinfonietta presents: Vivaldi Four Seasons at Christmas: On **Tuesday 2 December** at 7.30 p.m., celebrate the season with Vivaldi's iconic masterpiece *The Four Seasons*, brought to life as you've never heard it before. This vivid and revolutionary work captures the natural rhythms of the year, making it the perfect soundtrack for a winter's evening filled with wonder and reflection.

To book tickets, please visit:

<https://www.eventim->

[light.com/uk/a/63c82ca274fb184f4eebf902/e/6849d1e649429218d9a01d45?lang=en](https://www.eventim-light.com/uk/a/63c82ca274fb184f4eebf902/e/6849d1e649429218d9a01d45?lang=en)

Primary Outreach Concert: Please join us at 1.05 p.m. on **Friday 5 December** for this festive outreach concert. The Cathedral's Singing Development Leader, Alex Jenkins, has been working this term with pupils from local primary schools. On 5 December, these children will come to the Cathedral to join together, alongside the Cathedral's Junior Choristers, to give this special concert to herald the Christmas season!

A Christmas Carol: On **Saturday 6 December**, there will be two illuminated costumed readings of Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* in the Undercroft with live music, performed by Wells Theatre Company at Wells Cathedral. The first is at 1.00 p.m., and the second is at 3.00 p.m.

Admission is included with entry with a retiring collection in aid of the Cathedral.

Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society presents Handel's Messiah: On **Saturday 6 December** at 7.00 p.m., join WCOS and Music for Awhile for an unforgettable evening as the resounding power of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah* once again fills Wells Cathedral with its timeless beauty and triumph. Tickets are available via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/wells-cathedral-oratorio-society-handels-messiah-tickets-1814808453939?aff=oddtcreator>

Wells SOUP!: SOUP! returns to Wells Cathedral on **Saturday 13 December** at 1.00 p.m. (arrive by 12.40 p.m to get a good seat), supporting four more local causes:

The four good causes presenting on 13 December are:

Wells Community Day: showcasing 100 local groups through stalls, performances and workshops

Wells and Mendip Museum: to support school and family programmes for the new Romans in Mendip gallery (opening Easter 2026)

Keward House – rethinking mental illness: launching a fortnightly breakfast club to promote healthy eating and social connection. They currently have zero funding.

Wells Storehouse (Foodbank & Furniture Store): maintaining its foodbank and furniture service, including van upkeep, for helping families in need.

Sponsored by Paint Shop Boys (City Decorating Supplies). All projects will gain funds and visibility. Bishop Michael will be in attendance - please join us to support these great initiatives!

Ross Young

Farewell to the Organ: Please come and join in a very special event on **Thursday 11 December** at 7.30 p.m., when we will be saying au revoir to the Organ.

This is such an exciting watershed moment – scaffolding will go up around the Organ in January for a few weeks while it's dismantled and taken off to Durham for cleaning, restoration, renewal, repair and partial replacement. Our Organ *will* accompany the Christmas services (so long as nothing else goes wrong in the meantime!) but the evening concert on 11 December will be a very special farewell moment.

Director of Music, Tim Parsons will be playing Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur*, a beautiful and powerful piece, perfect for the season, and which will be played again in late 2027 when we celebrate the Organ's glorious return.

Dr Anthony Crossland: On **Saturday 14 March 2026**, the Cathedral will be holding a special Evensong in thanksgiving for the life of Dr Anthony Crossland (1931-2025), who was Assistant Organist at Wells between 1961 and 1971 and then Organist and Master of the Choristers from 1971 until his retirement in 1996. The service will be held in the Nave at 5.15 p.m. and sung by the Cathedral Great Choir. All are welcome to join us to celebrate Anthony's life and his immense contribution to the music and ministry of Wells Cathedral over so many years.

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 November, the focus is on the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Founded in 1921, the Appeal raises funds for the Royal British Legion's vital work supporting serving personnel, veterans and their families throughout their lives with whatever the need, whenever it's needed.

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.

24 MONDAY

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

25 TUESDAY

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

6.15 p.m. **Lecture:** *Sources of Unity, from Daily Prayer to the Sunday Creed: The Council of Nicea, there, then, and (still) here today* with The Reverend Dr Susan Durber

26 WEDNESDAY

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

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

7.00 p.m. **Concert:** The Christmas Orchestra

9.30 p.m. **Concert:** The Christmas Orchestra

27 THURSDAY: Edmund, king, martyr, 870

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

7.30 p.m. **Concert,** G4 Christmas

28 FRIDAY

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

29 SATURDAY: Andrew the Apostle, Patron of Wells Cathedral

[transferred]

5.15 p.m. **Festal Eucharist** † (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)

Preacher: The Very Reverend Toby Wright, *Dean of Wells*

7.30 p.m. **Concert:** London Concertante presents *Christmas at the Movies*

30 SUNDAY: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist** (Great Choir)

Preacher: The Reverend Dr Felix Mascarenhas, *Priest Vicar*

5.00 p.m. **Advent Procession with Carols** † (Great Choir)

Please be seated by 4.45 p.m.