

The Chapter Letter

The Baptism of Christ

Sunday 11 January 2026



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for The First Sunday after the Epiphany begin on page 67 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.

Following on from the Bishop's visit to Zambia last year, The Reverend Edward Day, *Cathedral Curate*, in agreement with the Dean, is currently on a six-week placement at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Lusaka as part of his curacy training. He will be back at the end of February. During his time in Zambia, he is serving and getting to know the Cathedral community, travelling to visit more remote rural communities, and experiencing the Bath & Wells-Zambia link firsthand. Edward is posting regular reflections and updates, if you wish to follow them you can find them on his website: <https://redwardday.substack.com/>

Suggestion Box: To help us continue improving every aspect of life at Wells Cathedral - for our visitors and our worshipping community - we have introduced a Suggestion Box, placed on the table near the Virgers' Vestry. If you have a constructive idea to share, please jot it down on one of the cards provided and place it in the box. Thank you for helping us care for and strengthen this special place.

Refreshment Rota Thanks: We would like to express our enormous gratitude to Cathedral Reader, Caroline Byrne, for faithfully organising the Sunday morning refreshments rota over the past years. We are now looking for two people who might be interested in sharing the leadership of this role going forward. If this is something you would be willing to help with, please contact Ruth Clacee-Rowe, Volunteer Services Manager: ruth.clacee-rowe@wellscathedral.org.uk

Bekynton Evensong - Sunday 11 January 3.00 p.m.: This afternoon, we come together to give thanks for Bishop Thomas Bekynton and his benefactions to our Cathedral and the City of Wells. The address this year will be given by the Dean of Wells, the Very Reverend Toby Wright. We very much hope that you will be able to join us.

Taste and See: The Cathedral Meditation Group is an opportunity to share in thirty minutes of silent prayer which follows a brief introduction. Such prayer is a chance to deepen our personal relationship with God and to contribute to the prayer-life of the Cathedral. All are most welcome. The next session will be on **Monday 12 January**,

at 6.00 p.m. in the Lady Chapel. If you are just coming for the meditation, please enter via the North Door.

Tallis Voices: Psalms of Penitence and Praise: On **Friday 16 January** at 7.00 p.m., we are delighted to welcome back Tallis Voices who will be performing once again in aid of the Wells Cathedral Chorister Trust. Their programme will feature some gems of the sacred choral repertoire, focussing on Renaissance music on the theme of *Psalms of Penitence and Praise*. As one of the Cathedral's Promenade Concerts, the audience will be free to walk the glorious open space of the building during the performance, the usual chairs all having been removed.

To book tickets, please visit: www.wcct.co.uk/tallisvoices

Wells Community Day: Wells Community Day returns on **Saturday 17 January**. Come along to the Cathedral between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. to see all that Wells has to offer.

Wells Lantern Festival: The Wells Lantern Festival returns to Wells Cathedral with a sci-fi theme on **Saturday 17 January**, gathering in the Cloister at 6.15 p.m. before the procession sets off at 6.30 p.m. Bring any lantern, classic, brand-new or delightfully alien! There are three light-hearted prizes and live music from the Bristol Ambling Band and Samba Do Bispo. Wrap up warm and expect plenty of noise and colour!

Exploring the Nicene Creed: On **Sunday 18 January**, join Professor Morwenna Ludlow, Canon Theologian at Exeter Cathedral, and Reverend Dr Mark Smith, Dean and Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge as they explore the Nicene Creed. *Worshipping with the Creed: A conversation exploring the ongoing meaning, use and relevance of the Nicene Creed* will take place in the Education Room between 12.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m., and has been organised by the Canon Chancellor. Attendees are invited to bring their own packed lunch. If you would like to attend, please email Jonathan Rodd: Jonathan.Rodd@wellscathedral.org.uk

Wells Cathedral School: Brass & Percussion Promenade Concert: On **Tuesday 20 January** at 7.30 p.m., join Wells Cathedral School for a Promenade Concert in the Cathedral. With the Nave cleared of chairs, the Cathedral is opened up in all its medieval splendour, allowing audiences to move freely through the Nave, Quire, Transepts and Chapels. The programme offers a richly varied musical journey, from Gabrieli's glorious antiphonal brass and Brahms' evocative *Four Songs*, through medieval drums and jazz vibraphone, to the impassioned procession from Wagner's *Lohengrin*. To book tickets, please visit: <https://WCS-Brass-Percussion-2026.eventbrite.co.uk>

Opus Anglicanum Candlemas Promenade Concert: On **Thursday 22 January** at 7.00 p.m., join Opus Anglicanum as they present an immersive evening of ethereal plainchant for the feast of Candlemas. Hear antiphons, psalms and hymns and follow the singers as they process around the Cathedral, which will be stripped of chairs. Tickets are available by visiting the Ticket Source website: www.ticketsource.com/whats-on/somerset/wells-cathedral/candlemas-wells-cathedral/2026-01-22/d-kqrmaxsvmqyaz

Soul Soundings Event: On Friday 23 January at 7.30 p.m., there will be a special participatory singing event led by Jane Harris, Director of Songways. Set in the glorious open space of the Chapter House, the evening offers an opportunity to sing, harmonise and improvise together, exploring the resonance of this ancient, sacred building. Through heart-lifting songs and rich harmonies, the gathering invites a shared sense of stillness, joy and peace. To book tickets, please visit: www.songways.co.uk/product/fri-23-jan-soul-soundings-wells-cathedral-chapter-house

Why the Sacred Feminine? The Reverend Sally Wright will be hosting a session entitled, 'Why the Sacred Feminine?' on **Wednesday 28 January** at 7.00 p.m. in the Education Room, for women only. We will be exploring ideas and images of God in the feminine and why it might be important to do so. If you are interested in attending, or for more information, please contact Sally at sally.wright@wellscathedral.org.uk

Festal Eucharist for Candlemas: On Monday 2 February at 5.15 p.m., there will be a Festal Eucharist for Candlemas at which the work of Anna Chaplains will be celebrated. Candlemas and Anna Chaplaincy are deeply connected through the biblical figure of Anna, whose story is central to the Candlemas narrative. This feast offers a meaningful moment to celebrate the ministry of Anna Chaplains. Light refreshments will be served after the service.

Anna Chaplains accompany older individuals as they spiritually reflect on life, face challenges of aging, and prepare for the end of life. They are an advocate in the community for older people.

You are also invited to learn more about Anna Chaplains on **Thursday 5 February** in Wells Town Hall at 2.30 p.m. and meet some of the team. If you would like to know more or if you have any other questions about Anna Chaplaincy, please contact: Wendy Haslam, Bath and Wells Diocesan Lead for Anna Chaplaincy. Or email pastoralcare@wellscathedral.org.uk

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 January, the focus is on *Marie Curie* which provides free specialist hospice and end-of-life care, practical and emotional support for people with terminal illnesses and their families, and campaigns for better end-of-life provision across the UK.

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 Jill Edmonds, Cathedral Safeguarding Advisor 01749 674483, jill.edmonds@wellscathedral.org.uk or 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.

12 MONDAY

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Vicars Choral)
6.00 p.m. **Taste and See**, Cathedral Meditation Group, Lady Chapel

13 TUESDAY

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

14 WEDNESDAY

10.00 a.m. **Eucharist** (Common Worship Order I, Traditional)
5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

15 THURSDAY

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

16 FRIDAY

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)
7.00 p.m. **Concert**: Tallis Voices: Psalms of Penitence and Praise

17 SATURDAY

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**
10.00 a.m. - **Wells Community Day**
4.00 p.m.
5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)
6.15 p.m. **Lantern Parade**

18 SUNDAY: THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

8.30 a.m. **Holy Communion** (BCP), Quire/Presbytery
10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist** (Vicars Choral)
Preacher: The Reverend Rosey Lunn, Priest Vicar
12.30 p.m. **Worshipping with the Creed**: Professor Morwenna Ludlow, Canon Theologian at Exeter Cathedral, and Reverend Dr Mark Smith, Dean and Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge explore the Nicene Creed, Education Room
3.00 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)
Preacher: The Reverend Catherine Llewellyn-Evans