

The Chapter Letter

Conversion of Paul

Sunday 25 January 2026



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for The Conversion of Saint Paul begin on page 202 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.

Archdeacon of Wells: Our wonderful friend and colleague, The Venerable Anne Gell, Archdeacon of Wells, has decided to step down from her roles in Bath and Wells, in May this year. Anne has been Archdeacon of Wells and Residentiary Canon of Wells Cathedral since 2017. Between February 2023 and June 2024, Anne also played a critical role in leading the Cathedral through a time of transition as Acting Dean of Wells.

Reflecting on the news, The Very Revd Toby Wright, Dean of Wells, said: "Through her ministry as Residentiary Canon, as well as her time as Acting Dean of Wells, Anne has brought support, wisdom and healing in times of change for many at Wells Cathedral and throughout the wider community. Anne will be much missed in Wells. We will always remember with gratitude the strong foundations she has established here, on which we can now build confidently for the future. Our prayers are with Anne and her family as she discerns God's call to her next chapter."

Sunday 1 February: A labyrinth will be set up at the rear of the Nave after the Cathedral Eucharist next Sunday, and anyone who would like to learn about walking and praying through the labyrinth is welcome to come at any time between the Cathedral Eucharist and the Epiphany Procession.

Epiphany Procession, Sunday 1 February at 3.00 p.m. This special service will mark the end of the Christmas/Epiphany Season. We will celebrate the three themes of Epiphany: the Coming of the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the Wedding at Cana, through hymns, choir carols and a procession out to St Andrew's Holy Spring in the Bishop's Palace Garden. The service will begin in the South Transept before the Magi and Christ child; we will then process through the cloister and garden to celebrate the Baptism of Christ at the Holy Spring and finally return to the Quire for the celebration of the Wedding at Cana. All are invited to stay for refreshments and a glass of wine at the end of the service.

Welcome and Installation of The Right Reverend Dr Fiona Gibson as The Bishop of Taunton: You are warmly invited to attend this service at 3.00 p.m. on **Sunday 8 February**. There will be a block of unreserved seats for congregation members and visitors from parishes across the Diocese. Although you do not need

to obtain a ticket, it would be helpful to know if you are planning to attend, so please email: office@wellscathedral.org.uk

The congregation are asked to be seated by 2.40 p.m..

Wells Cathedral School: Woodwind and Strings Promenade Concert: On **Tuesday 27 January at 7.30 p.m.**, join Wells Cathedral School for a Promenade Concert. 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. There will be performances from both departments alongside some special collaborations with repertoire ranging from Schubert's Octet to the funky rhythms of contemporary American composer Jessie Montgomery.

To book tickets, please visit

<https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=103654803>

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

'A Celebration of Demonstration' exhibition: On **Monday 2 February at 7.00 p.m.**, you are invited to preview the *A Celebration of Demonstration* exhibition and join us for talks in the Education Room exploring racial injustice, resistance and finding ways to repair – featuring Wayne Campbell, visual activist and creator of the photographic exhibition, and Richard Reddie, Director of Justice and Inclusion for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. Admission is free and tickets are available through Eventbrite: <https://Celebration-of-Demonstration.eventbrite.co.uk>

The exhibition will run from Tuesday 3 February until Sunday 1 March and is part of Resistance, Racial Justice and Reconciliation.

Cathedral Curate Out of Africa: Last week was the first normal Sunday at the Cathedral here in Lusaka, so my presence was officially announced to the congregation at last. This week, I have done some exploring on foot; attended a sudden funeral; visited an adolescent HIV clinic; and I have been introduced to a lot

of traditional Zambian food. The Dean was worried that I might be homesick and missing a Sunday roast, he therefore decided to take me for what he thought would be the closest alternative... tandoori. I am continuing to provide updates, including in audio form, on <https://redwardday.substack.com/>

A Ceremony of Carols: The annual performance of Benjamin Britten's much-loved Ceremony of Carols will take place in the Cathedral on **Saturday 7 February at 1.05 p.m.** A *Ceremony of Carols* is beautifully written for upper voices and the harp, and Britten chooses poems which tell a story about the birth of Christ. We are delighted that the Wells Cathedral Choristers will be joined, once again, by Mared Pugh-Evans, HM The King's Harpist. The performance, in support of Wells Cathedral Chorister Trust, will be directed by Timothy Parsons, Director of Music.

A donation of £10 per adult and £5 per child on booking is encouraged. Please visit <https://www.wcct.co.uk/tickets>

Kinda Dusty will be presenting two concerts in the Cathedral at the beginning of February. On **Wednesday 4 February at 7.30 p.m.** there will be a concert of music by U2 (for tickets visit <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=101675825>): get ready to hear all your favourites, from One, Bad and Beautiful Day to Pride, Vertigo and many more, all performed live by candlelight.

On **Thursday 5 February at 7.30 p.m.** there will be a concert of music by Bruce Springsteen (<https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=101675826>). From the anthemic highs of Born in the U.S.A. to the storytelling soul of The River, and everything in between, this unforgettable evening will transport you straight back to the Glory Days!

Save the Date: The next Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday 1 March, at 4.00 p.m.**

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.

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.

26 MONDAY: Timothy and Titus, companions of Paul

8.50 a.m. **Wells Cathedral School Service**

11.30 a.m. **Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer** in St Stephen's Chapel

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

27 TUESDAY: *Holocaust Memorial Day*

11.30 a.m. **Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer** in St Stephen's Chapel

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

7.30 p.m. **Promenade Concert:** Wells Cathedral School Woodwind and Strings

28 WEDNESDAY: Thomas Aquinas, priest, philosopher, teacher of the faith, 1274

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

11.30 a.m. **Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer** in St Stephen's Chapel

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

7.00 p.m. **Lecture and Discussion:** 'The Sacred Feminine' with The Reverend Sally Wright, *Priest Vicar*, in the Education Room

29 THURSDAY

2.45 p.m. **Funeral Service** for Kirsty Ebenezer

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

30 FRIDAY: Charles, king and martyr, 1649

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

31 SATURDAY

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

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

1 SUNDAY: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

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

10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist** (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral) attended by Wells Cathedral School

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Tim Stevens, *Precentor*

3.00 p.m. **Epiphany Procession** † (Surpliced Choristers and Vicars Choral)