

The Chapter Letter

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 1 February 2026



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for Septuagesima begin on page 78 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.

Today in the Cathedral: A labyrinth will be set up at the rear of the Nave after the Cathedral Eucharist today, 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.

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. 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.

Light refreshments will be served after the service.

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

Evensong on Saturday 7 February will be sung by the Great Malvern Priory Singers, one of two choirs who sing in Malvern Priory in the Diocese of Worcester. They are comprised of purely adult singers, though the second choir has a treble top

line. The Priory Singers sing three times a month and regularly sing in cathedrals and greater churches. In recent years they have sung in Llandaff, Brecon, and Lichfield, and this summer will be singing in Bristol.

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..

Racial Justice Sunday: At the Cathedral Eucharist at **10.30 a.m. on Sunday 8 February** we will be welcoming the Reverend Canon Sonia Barron as our preacher. Canon Sonia is former Co-chair of the Church of England's Anti-Racism Taskforce and member of the Archbishops' Commission for Racial Justice.

'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: I have definitely got used to the heat and the rain now. I have attended some more special diocesan services, including a farewell for Bishop Emmanuel Chikoya. In bad news: my beard growth is going terribly. In good news: I have made a new Zambian best friend, a taxi driver called Geoffrey. I am still meeting lots of new and friendly people from Lusaka and even further afield. I have met people from some very strange and exotic places: the Netherlands, Wales, and even Cumbria! Some people are enjoying my diaries: if you have not already found them, you can find them here: <https://redwardday.substack.com/>

Wells Cathedral School: Early Music Promenade Concert: On **Tuesday 3 January at 7.30 p.m.**, join Wells Cathedral School's Early Music Ensemble for a concert of varied music from the Renaissance and Baroque periods.

To book tickets, please visit

<https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=103844701>

A Ceremony of Carols: The annual performance of Benjamin Britten's much-loved *A 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. Get ready to hear all your favourites, from *One, Bad and Beautiful Day* to *Pride, Vertigo* and many more, all performed live by candlelight.

For tickets visit <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=101675825>

On **Thursday 5 February at 7.30 p.m.** there will be a concert of music by Bruce Springsteen. 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!

For tickets visit <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=101675826>).

Collabro - The Harmonies Tour: At 7.30 p.m. on Saturday 14 February

Collabro will be in the Cathedral to celebrate their famous harmonies; the boys are touring the UK's most beautiful cathedrals for stunning, intimate, piano-led concerts. Featuring songs from their past albums, from your favourite musicals, and from their never-performed-before choral album, *Be Still My Soul*, this promises to be a special evening with one of the most decorated vocal groups in the world – fans will not want to miss it! For tickets visit <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=101546851>

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

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 February, the focus is on the *Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance* which provides life-saving, pre-hospital critical care to those in urgent need across Dorset and Somerset. They are a vital part of the community that relies on charitable support to be there for critically ill and injured people when every second counts.

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

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.

This week at Wells Cathedral

Monday – Friday (inclusive)

The Morning Liturgy is celebrated at 8.00 a.m. in the Lady Chapel.

2 MONDAY: Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

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

5.15 p.m. **Festal Eucharist with Procession including a Celebration of Anna Chaplaincy** (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)

6.30 p.m. **'A Celebration of Demonstration' Preview Event** in the Cloisters and Education Room

3 TUESDAY: Anskar, archbishop, missionary, 865

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral, with Wells Cathedral Song Squad)

7.30 p.m. **Promenade Concert:** Wells Cathedral School Early Music Ensemble

4 WEDNESDAY

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

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

7.30 p.m. **Concert:** Kinda Dusty presents U2 by Candlelight

5 THURSDAY

1.05 p.m. **Eucharist** attended by members of Chapter

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

7.30 p.m. **Concert:** Kinda Dusty presents Bruce Springsteen by Candlelight

6 FRIDAY

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

7 SATURDAY

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

1.05 p.m. **Concert:** Wells Cathedral Choristers present Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols* in aid of the Wells Cathedral Chorister Trust

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Great Malvern Priory Singers)

8 SUNDAY: THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

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

10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist marking Racial Justice Sunday** (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)

Preacher: The Reverend Sonia Barron

3.00 p.m. **Choral Evensong with the Installation of the Bishop of Taunton** (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)

Preacher: The Right Reverend Dr Fiona Gibson, *Bishop of Taunton*