

The Chapter Letter

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 10 May 2026



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for the Fifth Sunday After Easter begin on page 142 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. 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 Archdeacon of Wells departs: As you know Archdeacon Anne is stepping down from her roles in Bath and Wells. Anne will be presiding for the last time as Archdeacon at the Cathedral Eucharist this morning, and also preaching at Choral Evensong this afternoon. There will be a drinks reception for Anne after Evensong to which you are all warmly invited.

Acting Archdeacon of Wells: During the coming months, the Venerable Jonathan Lloyd will be the Acting Archdeacon of Wells. Interviews for the next Archdeacon of Wells will take place in May and it is hoped the new appointment will begin in September. A longstanding commitment means that Jonathan will not be with us during the month of June. During this time, support for the Archdeaconry of Wells will be provided by the Archdeacons of Taunton and Bath.

Recruitment to the Cathedral's Board of Trustees: The Cathedral is seeking to appoint two new non-executive lay members to Chapter (the Board of Trustees) who can bring strategic leadership skills or expertise in property management. Chapter wish to strengthen links with the worshipping community and also seek to improve diversity in the trustee body and encourage anyone with relevant skills to consider joining them. Further information can be found on the website, including contact details of Caroline Boddington (Senior Non-Executive Member of Chapter) and Nerys Watts (Chief Operating Officer), or you can speak to any member of Chapter about the role: <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/your-cathedral/vacancies>

Christian Aid Week: 10–16 May: Residents of Wells will have received a Christian Aid envelope with the May edition of *Wells Voice*. This marks the end of volunteers delivering and collecting envelopes, after many years; a huge thanks to all those volunteers. Envelopes can be returned to the collection points listed in *Wells Voice*, including the Town Hall. The Christian Aid street collection is on Saturday 16 May, and Adrian l'Anson would be grateful for two volunteers between 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. If you can help please contact Adrian: adrianianson@yahoo.co.uk or 07941 187951. The Christian Aid service will be held at 3.00 p.m. on Sunday 17 May at the Cathedral, with the Roman Catholic Bishop of Clifton preaching.

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

Called to Pray: There has been considerable interest in the *Called to Pray* initiative. Following reflection, it has seemed wise to allow this ministry to develop in an organic and sustainable way, enabling both prayer and relationships to deepen over time. Rather than a single stand-alone event, the training is therefore proposed as a series of fortnightly sessions, offering a more spacious and reflective context in which a community of prayer may be formed.

The sessions are planned for **Thursday afternoons from 2.00–4.00 p.m. during May and June**, with the opportunity to attend **Choral Evensong at 5.15 p.m.** together. The dates for the sessions are: 14 May, 28 May, 11 June and 25 June in the Lady Chapel.

Those who would like to explore further how this ministry might sit alongside their existing commitments are warmly invited to find out more from Caroline Bruce and The Reverend Prebendary Narinder Tegally.

Caroline Bruce – caroline.bruce@bathwells.anglican.org 07891 645034

Narinder Tegally – narinder.tegally@nhs.net 07940 580859

Pilgrimage: As part of the year of prayer, we are offering opportunities to experience pilgrimage in different settings. We are looking forward to launching a pilgrim trail around the Cathedral, which can be self-led, but which the Reverend Edward Day will lead on **Friday 15 May at 2.30 p.m.** The Precentor will lead a Forest Pilgrimage on **Thursday 25 June** (or **Wednesday 8 July** if the weather defeats us in June) at **1.00 p.m.** All are welcome to join the Cathedral Pilgrimage, but if you would like to join the Forest Pilgrimage, please email office@wellscathedral.org.uk, so that if we do need to change the date, we can be in touch with you.

May Family Holiday Activities: Bugs, Bats and Butterflies

Investigate some of the winged wonders that visit Wells Cathedral and try fun-filled family activities that can help support biodiversity at home.

23 – 31 May: Bat Trail

Follow our bat trail and construct a bat to hang on a tree! Bat biscuits are available in The Loft Café.

Drop-in Creative Activity Sessions run from 10.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. on: Tuesday 26 May: Beautiful Butterflies

Learn about pollinators and make a butterfly feeder or try paper butterfly crafts.

Wednesday 27 May: Brilliant Bats

Find out about the bats that visit the Cathedral with a fun, interactive talk, and make a flapping bat toy.

Thursday 28 May: Beds for Bugs

Help us give our bug hotel a makeover and make your own mini version to hang at home.

Ascension and Pentecost: Sharing and Reflection: You are warmly invited to join an Ascension and Pentecost Sharing and Reflection on **Monday 18 May from 9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.** in the Education Room. This will be led by the Reverend Mary

Lewis, Priest Vicar, and will offer an opportunity to reflect on the feasts of Ascension and Pentecost. Those who wish are invited to bring a poem or piece of artwork to share, relating to either or both festivals; artists within the congregation are particularly encouraged to share work of their own if they wish. However, there is no obligation to bring anything - all are welcome simply to come and listen. Tea and coffee will be served on arrival. Please email Jonathan Rodd if you wish to reserve a place: jonathan.rodd@wellscathedral.org.uk

'Teach us to pray' – Week of Guided Prayer (Sunday 31 May – Sunday 7 June):

Discover a joyful and refreshing way to deepen your life of prayer in the Cathedral, with daily (Monday to Friday) one-to-one support from trained accompaniers from around the country, at a time agreed during the week. This offers space for simple, personal reflection, exploring new ways of praying and noticing God's presence woven through everyday life. Many pilgrims speak of renewed clarity, peace and companionship. **With only 4 places remaining**, this enriching spiritual journey is open to all, whatever your experience of prayer.

If you would like to find out more, please speak to either the Dean or Caroline Byrne.

Wells Cathedral Gardening Team are looking for volunteers willing to help maintain the Camery, Palm Church Yard and Mary Mitchell Gardens. Commitment is season dependent and your hours can be flexible, as little as two hours a week. Because the role involves active maintenance across the Cathedral grounds, we are looking for individuals who are physically fit and comfortable in roles such as digging, planting, watering, weeding etc. If you would like to know more about the role and commitment required, please contact the Volunteer Services Department. 01749 832217 volunteers@wellscathedral.org.uk

Community of St Mary the Virgin, Wantage - Come and See Weekend – 11 and 12 July 2026:

This weekend is open to anyone wishing to get a taste of Anglican Religious Life as part of their own vocational explorations. There will be time to pray, sing, eat and chat with members of the Community. More details can be found at: www.csmv.co.uk/community-life/vocation-events

'On New Roads' Franciscan Peace Pilgrimage 2026: As part of the 800th anniversary year of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, a Peace Pilgrimage is taking place in September and will be coming through Wells on **5 and 7 September**.

There are two invitations for the Cathedral community to participate:

1) You are warmly invited to join a leg of the pilgrimage walk either on 5 or 7 September or both. To sign up, go to www.spiritoffrancis.com

2) We are seeking seven people in Wells to host one of the core group of seven pilgrims for two nights (5 and 6 September) in their home. These are the pilgrims walking the full route over 70 days from the Franciscan communities at Alnmouth to Hilfield and then on to London.

If you are able to offer hospitality in this way, please contact Jonathan Lloyd of Wells TSSF canonjonathanlloyd@gmail.com by the end of May.

Pastoral Care: The Cathedral Pastoral Care team comprises: Wendy Haslam (Pastoral Care Coordinator), Caroline Byrne, Kate Day, Patricia Hellier, Reverend Rosey Lunn, Lissy Manners, William Newton Newey, 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.
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11 MONDAY: Rogation Day

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

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

6.00 p.m. **Taste and See:** Cathedral Meditation Group, in the Lady Chapel

12 TUESDAY: Rogation Day

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

13 WEDNESDAY: Rogation Day

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

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

14 THURSDAY: ASCENSION DAY

9.15 a.m. **Eucharist** attended by Wells Cathedral School

1.05 p.m. **Lunchtime Organ Recital:** Edward Marshall, *Wells Cathedral Organ Scholar*

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

15 FRIDAY: Matthias the Apostle [transferred]

2.30 p.m. **Guided Pilgrimage** led by The Reverend Edward Day, *Cathedral Curate*

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

16 SATURDAY

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

12.00 noon **Wedding Service**

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

17 SUNDAY: THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist** (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)

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

3.00 p.m. **Choral Evensong** celebrating the work of Christian Aid (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral, with Schola Cantorum of Downside School)

Preacher: The Right Reverend Prebendary Bosco MacDonald, *Roman Catholic Bishop of Clifton*