

The Chapter Letter

Pentecost

Sunday 24 May 2026



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for Whitsunday begin on page 147 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Reverend Edward Day, *Cathedral Curate*, is presiding and preaching at St Mary Magdalene Church, Wookey Hole today. We pray that both he and the congregation will be blessed by their time together.

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.

Appointment of the next Archdeacon of Wells: The Reverend Jo Stobart is to be the next Archdeacon of Wells and Residentiary Canon of Wells Cathedral. Jo is currently Chaplain to the Bishop of Exeter and will be returning to Bath and Wells in the late autumn. Bishop Michael said: *"I am thrilled that Jo is coming home. She is someone with huge ability, who loves our diocese, loves Somerset and rural ministry. I am absolutely delighted to welcome her back with us as the new Archdeacon of Wells."* Toby Wright, the Dean of Wells, said of Jo's appointment, *"With a love of the area, and a wealth of skills, we are richly blessed that Jo will be becoming a part of our praying community and serve on Chapter. From a diverse and gifted field, Jo was clearly the right person to come and work with us at the Cathedral, and across the diocese and it will be wonderful to welcome her, and her family among us."* Jo's husband, Ian, is a reader and the couple have three grown-up sons. The Dean very much looks forward to welcoming Jo as we continue to build, together, on our shared aspiration to be the country's most joyful cathedral. Jo's installation will take place at Choral Evensong on **Sunday 6 December**.

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>

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: 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

Lunchtime Concerts: On **Monday 25 May at 1.05 p.m.**, under the direction of Dr. Brian C. Murray, the University of Wyoming Collegiate Chorale will offer a program of spectacular choral works by composers from the United Kingdom and the United States including Brandon Boyd, Gerald Finzi, Orlando Gibbons, Elaine Hagenberg, Achilles Hennessy, Moses Hogan, Susan LaBarr, Alice Parker, C.V. Stanford, Lucy Walker, and Reginal Wright. On **Friday 29 May at 1.05 p.m.**, the Mendip Consort of Recorders, under the direction of Joyce Rudall present *Ave Maria... a mixed selection.*

The Loft closure: Please note that The Loft will be closed from **30 May to 7 June inclusive** to allow for equipment refurbishment and to prepare for the launch of a new menu. It will reopen on Monday 8 June, and we look forward to welcoming visitors back to enjoy the refreshed offer. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank you for your patience.

SOUP! The next Wells SOUP! will take place in the Cathedral on **Saturday 13 June at 1.00 p.m.** The four good causes who will tell their story are:

- The Wells Cathedral Grand Organ Appeal
- Fundraising for a defibrillator for Wells Town Hall
- Focus Wells, which offers affordable counselling
- Westbury Footlights, fundraising for an outdoor performance of *As You Like It*

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

Saint Decuman Pilgrimage: On **Thursday 27 August**, you are invited to make your own way to St Decuman's Church and Holy Well in Watchet, Somerset. Decuman was a seventh century Welsh saint and hermit who came to the well there. An outline of the pilgrimage is below, with approximate timings:

12.00 – 12.30 p.m. Arrive

12.30 p.m. Welcome and introduction to Saint Decuman, the Holy Well, and Benefice

1.00 p.m. Lunch (please bring your own picnic) The Parish will provide cakes.

1.45 p.m. Worship and Reflection, led by The Dean of Wells

2.30 – 3.00 p.m. Depart in peace

If you would like to join the pilgrimage, please email Jonathan Rodd: Jonathan.Rodd@wellscathedral.org.uk

'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 Cathedral 5-7 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.

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.

Wellsprings: Wellsprings is the Cathedral's Sunday School, for children aged between 0 and 6. It runs during the 10.30 a.m. Cathedral Eucharist (term time only).

We are looking for friendly helpers to join the Wellsprings team.

No formal training is needed, only an enjoyment of working with young and enthusiastic children. However, Safeguarding training and a DBS check will be needed.

You'll find Wellsprings on the colourful mats at the Crossing in the Cathedral on term time Sundays or email the Volunteer Services Department for more information: volunteers@wellscathedral.org.uk Please do get in touch if you'd like to come and see what Wellsprings is all about.

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.

25 MONDAY: The Venerable Bede, monk, scholar, historian, 735

1.05 p.m. **Lunchtime Concert:** University of Wyoming Collegiate Chorale

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

26 TUESDAY: Augustine, archbishop, 605

3.30 p.m. **Praying the Rosary** in the Lady Chapel, led by Fr Tony Pazhayakalam, *Parish Priest at the Roman Catholic Church of SS Joseph and Teresa, Wells*

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

27 WEDNESDAY

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

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

28 THURSDAY

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

29 FRIDAY

1.05 p.m. **Lunchtime Concert:** Mendip Consort of Recordors

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

30 SATURDAY: Josephine Butler, social reformer, 1906

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

5.15 p.m. **Festal Evensong** † (With Cheerful Voice)

31 SUNDAY: TRINITY SUNDAY

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

10.30 a.m. **Festal Matins** † (With Cheerful Voice)

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Dr Megan Daffern, *Chancellor*

3.00 p.m. **Festal Eucharist** † and commissioning of the Week of Guided Prayer pilgrims (With Cheerful Voice)

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Dr Emma Pennington, *Canon Missioner at Canterbury Cathedral*