

The Chapter Letter

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 27 September 2026



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity begin on page 182 of the Book of Common Prayer.

The Reverend Canon Tim Stevens, *Canon Precentor*, is presiding and preaching at both St Mary Magdalene, Wookey Hole and St Cuthbert's Church, Wells today. We pray that both he and the two congregations 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.

The Dean's Sabbatical Leave: The Dean is to take Sabbatical Leave next year, from 10 May until 24 August, and we are delighted to be able to confirm that The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott has agreed to step in as Acting Dean during this period.

Sabbatical Leave is usual for clergy who work six days a week. Every seven to ten years, they are invited to take an extended period of Sabbatical, providing an important space for rest, learning and retreat. Toby plans to spend his Sabbatical at a centre for peace and meditation, as well as taking time to deepening learning from his Systems training in Constellations.

The Reverend Prebendary Russell Bowman-Eadie: We were very saddened to learn of the death of Russell Bowman-Eadie, a former *Canon Treasurer* of Wells Cathedral, who passed away suddenly but peacefully whilst on holiday in Turkey. We give thanks for Russell's faithful service to the Cathedral and hold his family and friends in our prayers at this difficult time. Details of the funeral service will be shared in due course.

An invitation from Natalie and Edward: Natalie Manning, *Vicar Choral*, and Edward Day, *Cathedral Curate*, are delighted to invite members of the Cathedral congregation to join them for their wedding at Wells Cathedral on **Saturday 28 November** at **11.15 a.m.**, followed by a drinks reception in the Chapter House. The Cathedral community means a great deal to them, and it would be a great joy to have you there as they make their vows and begin this new chapter of their lives together. If you would like to come, please let them know by completing the form using the link

below by 1 October. They very much hope that you will be able to celebrate with them!tinyurl.com/natalieandedward

Harvest Festival Celebration: This year, the Cathedral's Harvest Festival celebration will be held in conjunction with Wells Cathedral School and the Somerset Young Farmers' Club at **7.00 p.m. on Sunday 4 October**. This will be a joyful thanksgiving for the harvest, held alongside those who have worked hard to make it happen. Everybody is welcome to this service, and as ever, please do come bringing items of non-perishable food, which can be passed on to the local foodbank. If you are not able to be at the service, you will still be able to drop non-perishable Harvest gifts in St Martin's Chapel, near the font in the South Transept, from Sunday 27 September until the morning of the 4 October, and we will give thanks for all that has been brought at the service on the 4 October at 7.00 p.m.

Wells Cathedral Chorister Trust Evensong: On **Saturday 3 October**, Choral Evensong will celebrate the wonderful support for the Choristers from the Friends of WCCT. All are welcome.

The music includes:

Introit: *Oculi omnium* - Lucy Walker

Responses - Andrew Millington

Canticles: *Stanford in G* (with strings and harp)

Anthem: *Cantique de Jean Racine* - Faure (with strings and harp)

If you are not a Friend of WCCT, please consider joining and supporting them in their valued work for Wells Cathedral Choristers www.wcct.co.uk/friends

Be a Chorister for a Day: On **Sunday 4 October**, from **12.45 p.m – 4.30 p.m**, we will be holding a fabulous free event called *Be a Chorister for a Day*, where children who love to sing can experience what it's like to be a Cathedral Chorister. The event is open to children aged between 6 and 9, there are fun singing workshops, and the afternoon ends with them taking part in the Evensong service alongside the Choristers of the Cathedral Choir. For parents, there is the chance to speak with Wells Cathedral School staff and parents of current Choristers whilst enjoying tea and cake in the Cathedral Café ahead of the Evensong rehearsal and service.

Here's a link to further information on the Wells Cathedral website, including a wonderful short video of the Choristers explaining how they feel about Chorister life in their own words - <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/worship-and-music/choristerships>.

Pre-registration is essential for this event and it's always very popular. If you would like further information or to register for a place, please contact Melanie Lawlor via musicoffice@wellscathedral.org.uk.

Breakfast for the 8.30 a.m. Congregation: On **Sunday 4 October**, the 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion congregation are invited to stay for coffee, tea and croissants after the service. We hope that you will enjoy a time of fellowship together.

Gather and Chat: On the first Monday of each month, we plan to hold a coffee morning in The Loft. The first meeting will be on **Monday 5 October** at **10.00 a.m.** Members of the Pastoral Care team will be there with coffee. Come and meet others you may or may not know. For more information, please ask Wendy Haslam. pastoralcare@wellscathedral.org.uk or 07815 309527

Divine Light: You are invited to join the Friends for a very special event. On **Tuesday 6 October** at **10.30 a.m.** Janet Gough OBE will take us on a richly illustrated journey through 900 years of exceptional stained glass in England's cathedrals based on her book *Divine Light: The Stained Glass of England's Cathedrals*. The talk will be preceded by a tour of some of the Cathedral glass and followed by a finger buffet lunch in the Undercroft.

For more information, please see the News section of the Friends website (www.wellsfriends.org) or Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/divine-light-tickets-1997496937110?aff=oddttdtcreator>). We hope that you will be able to join us for this very special event.

Opening the Word: Tyndale, Translation & Transformation: On **Friday 9 October** from **9.00 a.m** until **6.30 p.m**, there will be a major symposium at Wells Cathedral to celebrate the 500th anniversary of William Tyndale's New Testament (1526), featuring seven internationally respected scholars of Bible translation, textual criticism, Reformation history and theology. Tickets can be purchased via our website using the link: <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/whats-on?event=135149727>

Carols by Candlelight: A much-loved highlight of the festive calendar, the highly anticipated Carols by Candlelight concerts return to Wells Cathedral this Christmas with three performances on **Saturday 19, Sunday 20 and Monday 21 December**. With performances from the Cathedral Choir and guest readers from the local community, these concerts offer an unforgettable evening in the spectacular glow of more than 3000 candles. To purchase tickets, please visit: <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/book-carols-by-candlelight-tickets>

Can you help? Could you spare a few hours a month to help someone reach an important medical appointment? Wells Community Network is looking for friendly volunteer drivers in Wells and the surrounding villages. Choose only the journeys that suit you, mileage expenses will be reimbursed. Email volunteers@wellscommunity.network to find out more.

Pastoral Care: Members of the Cathedral Pastoral Care 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, 07716431804, 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.

28 MONDAY

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

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

29 TUESDAY: Michael and All Angels

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

30 WEDNESDAY

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

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

1 THURSDAY

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

2 FRIDAY

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

3 SATURDAY

8.00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

2.00 p.m. **Readers' Service**

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** celebrating the work of The Wells Cathedral Chorister Trust (Great Choir with Instrumentalists from Wells Cathedral School)

4 SUNDAY: THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

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

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

Preacher: The Reverend Gill Sakakini, *Priest Missioner*

Readings: *Exodus 20. 1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Matthew 21. 33-46*

***3.30 p.m. Choral Evensong** (Choristers and children participating in *Be a Chorister for a Day*)

*** Please note change of time.**

Supper invitation: The Dean is hosting an informal supper at the Deanery on **Wednesday 18 November** at **6.30 p.m.** for those in their 20s, 30s, 40s and early 50s. Whether you are new to the Cathedral community or have been around for a while, this will be a relaxed opportunity to enjoy good food, meet other people and make new connections. If you would like to come, please email Jonathan Rodd to reserve a place (jonathan.rodd@wellscathedral.org.uk) and please let us know of any food allergies or dietary requirements. We hope it will be an enjoyable evening and a chance to bring together people from across our Cathedral community.