Cathedral Newsletter

Sunday 22 November 2026 | Christ the King
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 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.

For Your Prayers

In our regular cycle of prayer, today we pray for:
In the Cathedral Community: The Cathedral Shop (staff and volunteers)
In the Diocese: The Athelney Benefice
In the Anglican Communion: The Church of England
Civic: Public Health Somerset

This Sunday: **Sunday 22 November 2026 | Christ the King**

8.30 am HOLY COMMUNION (Book of Common Prayer)
The Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the Twenty Fifth Sunday after Trinity begin on page 197 of the Book of Common Prayer.
10.30 am FESTAL EUCHARIST †
Preacher: The Reverend Canon Tim Stevens, *Canon Precentor*
3.00 pm FESTAL EVENSONG †
Preacher: The Very Reverend Toby Wright, *Dean of Wells*

Week at a Glance: **Monday 23 November – Sunday 29 November 2026**

Monday – Friday (inclusive): The Morning Liturgy is celebrated at 8.00 am in the Lady Chapel.

Monday 23 November
8.50 am WELLS CATHEDRAL SCHOOL SERVICE
5.15 pm CHORAL EVENSONG

Tuesday 24 November
1.05 pm LUNCHTIME CONCERT, *Wells Cathedral School*
2.30 pm FUNERAL SERVICE *for Robert Frost*

Wednesday 25 November
10.00 am MIDWEEK EUCHARIST
5.15 pm EVENING PRAYER
7.30 pm CONCERT: *The Drifters by Candlelight*

Thursday 26 November
5.15 pm EVENING PRAYER, *Vicars' Close Chapel*

Friday 27 November
2.00 pm REQUIEM MASS *in the Lady Chapel*
5.15 pm CHORAL EVENSONG
7.00 pm CONCERT: *Callas Candlelight Christmas*

Saturday 28 November
11.15 am NUPTIAL MASS *for Natalie Manning and The Reverend Edward Day*
5.15 pm EVENING PRAYER

Next Sunday: **Sunday 29 November | Advent Sunday**

8.30 am HOLY COMMUNION
10.30 am CATHEDRAL EUCHARIST †
Preacher: The Very Reverend Toby Wright, *Dean of Wells*
Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9 and Mark 13:24-end
3.00 pm EVENING PRAYER *in Vicars' Close Chapel*
5.00 pm ADVENT PROCESSION WITH CAROLS † ***Please be seated by 4.45 pm.***

For full details of services and music, please see the monthly Services and Music List.

Notices

Wells Cathedral Chapter is seeking to nominate a new Trustee to the Wells Cathedral Chorister Trust: For more than 1,100 years, since 909, choristers have been at the heart of the musical and worshipping life of Wells Cathedral. Choristers attend Wells Cathedral School, combining an exceptional musical education with their academic studies and playing a vital role in the Cathedral's daily worship. We are looking for someone with a passion for the chorister cause who would like to help support the young people who carry this magnificent tradition forward. The Trust, chaired by Arnold Wills, raises funds to support choristerships and to help ensure that talented children can benefit

from this unique experience, whatever their financial circumstances. You do not need to have previous experience as a trustee. We are particularly interested in hearing from someone who cares about music, education, young people and the future of Wells Cathedral's extraordinary chorister tradition.

For more information about the Trust, please visit *www.wcct.co.uk* or email the Chair at *chair@wcct.co.uk* A role description is available from Fiona Clapp, Clerk to the Trustees (*clerk@wcct.co.uk*) and applications (a C.V. and a covering letter) should also be sent to her by **Friday 11 December 2026**. Interviews will be held in January.

Welcome Hamper for the new Archdeacon of Wells: We'd love to extend a warm welcome to the Reverend Jo Stobart, the new Archdeacon of Wells, who will be licensed, collated and installed at **3.00pm** on **Sunday 6 December**, by putting together a thoughtful hamper for her arrival. If you would like to contribute, a collection box will be placed in the Virgers' vestry for any donations. Small treats, toiletries, biscuits, sweets or other thoughtful items would all be appreciated. The final day for contributions will be Sunday 29 November. Thank you for helping us make her arrival feel special!

The Reverend Joanna Stobart writes: By the time you read this, I will just have finished my role as Chaplain to the Bishop of Exeter. After what has seemed a long wait, the countdown to our move to Wells will have begun in earnest. I grew up in West London, but since 2006 Somerset has been my home. So, after a brief sojourn in Devon (which we've loved) there's a sense of coming home – but to a new role and new challenges. I was ordained deacon in Wells Cathedral in 2016 and served my title and first incumbency here in Bath and Wells. I've just been re-elected to General Synod and currently serve as a central member of the Crown Nominations Commission, the body which nominates diocesan bishops. Before ordination, I studied medieval history at university, trained as a primary school teacher and set up Southwark Cathedral's Education Centre. I was also Lay Chaplain at the High School in Cheddar for several years. I'm married to Ian, who is a (semi-retired) vet, a Reader and Spiritual Director. I have three grown-up sons: Tristan (a teacher), Tom (who works for the University of Exeter and will be moving with us to Wells) and Callum (studying for a PhD in marine biology). We own two daft Springer Spaniels, who will definitely enjoy our new garden after our bijou one in central Exeter! We're very much looking forward to joining you and discovering all that God is doing in you and through you. Please do pray for us as we move home, and for me as I step into my role both at the Cathedral and as Archdeacon of Wells.

Wells Bells Project: This project aims to restore and retune the bells of St Cuthbert's Church, renew their frame and add two lighter bells to create a ring of ten, securing their future for generations to come. Support the appeal by bringing antiques, jewellery or collectables to a special valuation day with Lawrences Auctioneers at St Cuthbert's Church on **Thursday 26 November, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm**. There is no fixed charge and no need to book. Instead, visitors are invited to donate to the *Wells Bells Project* in return. For more information, visit *wellsbellsproject.com*

Advent Group: On **Monday 30 November,** Dean Toby and Maggie Hunter will be leading an Advent Group in the Education Room, from **9.00 am until 11.15 am**. Our experience of Advent changes with each passing year while the themes and readings stay the same. What is Advent for you now? The group offers an opportunity to create, share and reflect on personal images of our spiritual journeys as the season of waiting and preparing for Christmas begins. Please bring with you a small object that expresses something about yourself that you would like to share. **Places are limited and advance booking is essential.** To reserve a place, please contact Jonathan Rodd at *jonathan.rodd@wellscathedral.org.uk*. Suggested donation of £5 to cover coffee and pastry.

Imaging the Story is a course about creativity, art and faith. The content explores key biblical themes through art history and art making and presents fresh ways to engage with the salvation story. No particular artistic experience or skill is required - just a willingness to have a go! The 9-session course will begin in the Cathedral on 20 January and continues on alternate Wednesdays until 19 May from 2.00 – 4.00 pm. The cost is £110 and includes the course book, all materials and refreshments. For further information please speak with Revd Gill Sakakini, Priest Missioner, who will be leading the course or email: *gill.sakakini@wellscathedral.org.uk*. To book your place please visit *https://www.imagingthestory.com*

'Write for Rights': Amnesty International Wells Group are holding a 'Write for Rights' stall in the Cathedral Cloisters on **Tuesday 1 December** from **11.00 am – 2.00 pm** and invite people to come and share compassion and love at this season with prisoners of conscience around the world by signing cards and writing hopeful messages. There will also be a stall on **Saturday 5 December** from **10.00 am – 3.00 pm** in Penniless Porch.

Advent Quiet Day: On **Friday 4 December** at **9.30 am for 10.00 am – 4.00 pm**, The Reverend Narinder Tegally will be leading an Advent Quiet Day at The Ammerdown Centre, BA3 5SW. Through prayer, Imaginative Contemplation using 'Lectio Divina', music, art, reflection and silence, participants will journey together to prepare and wait for the time when Jesus Christ will come again. The cost of the day is £65, which includes morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea. To book a place, please visit *www.ammerdown.org*

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