

SUNDAY 17 MAY 2026
THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY



Worcester Cathedral

Sunday News

Welcome

Welcome to the Cathedral today. If you are here with young children or babies, please ask a steward for a children's activity bag. New Worshippers are especially welcome, please ask a steward or a verger for a welcome booklet.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Summer Picnic

All are welcome to this Cathedral Community event to be held on College Green (indoors if wet) from 12.30 pm on Sunday 7 June, after coffee. Please bring your own picnic and a picnic chair or rug. A cash-only bar will be available for the purchase of a glass of wine and bottled beer. Soft drinks also provided. This will be a relaxing afternoon meeting with friends and an opportunity to enjoy some fun games too!

To help us with the organisation of the event it would be helpful if you add your name to one of the sign-up lists which will be located at the rear of the Nave and in the Chapter House each Sunday until 31 May. Not sure if you can come along as yet?—you can still turn up on the day. We look forward to seeing you.

The John Paul Hoskins Choral Scholar Appeal

As a tribute to our former Precentor John Paul Hoskins and his life-long love and support of cathedral music, we hope to raise £45,000 to support the launch of a new funding programme for choral scholars here at the cathedral.

This fund will guarantee the appointment of one choral scholar per academic year for the next six years, creating life-chances for talented emerging young musicians at a crucial time in their early career. Many of you generously supported us at this time last year, and your contributions have created a strong foundation for launching this new phase of our fundraising efforts. For more information on the Appeal scan the QR code or visit: www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/HoskinsAppeal



St Oswald's Hospital, Worcester – Almshouses available

St Oswald's Hospital is an ancient foundation of almshouses, located in central Worcester at The Tything, Worcester, Worcestershire WR1 1HR. It is comprised of 21 Grade II listed almshouses, a chapel and gardens and the aim of St Oswald's Hospital is to provide high quality homes in a safe, secure and friendly environment, with a strong sense of community. Each of the almshouses is self-contained and consists of a living room, a bedroom, a kitchen and a bathroom and there are currently spaces available for new residents.

For more information, please contact Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan (Chaplain) on 01905 732906 or kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk
Details of how to apply can also be found at www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/community/st-oswalds-hospital

Prayer and Intercessions

Please pray for the sick and those in need; and for all the departed, among them Tim Hayward. The clergy maintain an intercessions list which is placed on the altar at the daily eucharist. If you would like a name to be added to this list, for whatever reason, please send an email to prayer@worcestercathedral.org.uk

Praying for the Cathedral Community

Over the course of the year a weekly prayer focus for the Cathedral Community will be printed in the Sunday News. This week we pray for our Bellringers (St Dunstan, whose feast we celebrate on Tuesday, is one of the patron saints of bellringers).

Adopt a Piece of History

Supporting the conservation and ongoing care of Worcester Cathedral can be done in a thoughtful and creative way, with adoptions starting from £25 for items such as stained-glass windows, misericords, and carvings. Adopters receive a personalised certificate and a high-resolution photograph in a presentation folder, with all funds contributing to the Cathedral's upkeep and running costs—creating a meaningful gift for someone you love, from somewhere you love. Choose your piece from the catalogue here: www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/adophistory

Something unique...

Celebrate and remember your loved one with a beautiful hand-crafted Perpetual Flame. Created exclusively for Worcester Cathedral—find out more here www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/support-us/perpetual-flame or view the display near the Jesus Chapel.

ENVIRONMENT & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Living Gently on the Earth

Worcester Cathedral's award-winning training programme Living Gently on the Earth continues on Saturday 13 June, 2 pm, with "**Living in harmony with life: diet and animal welfare**". The Old Palace.

We are also excited to be showing at 2 pm on Thursday 21 May, the film from the **National Emergency Briefing**, given last November to MPs and leaders at Westminster. The film is 50 minutes long and will involve discussion and feedback. It will be shown at The Old Palace.

The events are free. You can get more details and book a place to attend on www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/living-gently (or scan the QR code with your phone camera). *Tickets are not compulsory* but will ensure a place if full.



Friends of the Holy Land

The CEO of Friends of the Holy Land, Brendan Metcalf, will be coming to speak at St Andrew's church in Ombersley on Monday 8 June at 7pm.

Friends of the Holy Land are an ecumenical charity which enables around £1.5m of support to be given directly and mainly to the Christians in the Holy Land each year. We have a Friends of the Holy Land group in the Diocese, supported by some Catholic, Anglican and Methodist churches.

Brendan will talk about the parishes in the Holy Land and how we are able to give hope to vulnerable Christians there. If you have ever been on pilgrimage to the Holy Land or have a heart for the land where Jesus lived and walked, this is an opportunity to hear how the tiny and often beleaguered Christian communities in Palestine and Israel are coping.

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Meditative Prayer Group

The Meditative Prayer Group meets monthly by Zoom. The meeting includes both short reflections and periods of quiet for meditation and the opportunity for prayer. If you would like to join the meeting and do not have the Zoom link, please email prayer@worcestercathedral.org.uk and request the link. The next meeting is at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 3 June; subsequent meetings will be on 5 August, 2 September, 7 October, 4 November, and 2 December.

Worcester Theological Society

Thursday 21 May – 'Abelard and Heloise Revisited'. The Revd Canon Glynn Richerby. St Andrew's Methodist, Pump Street. 1.45 pm for a 2 pm start.

SERVICES & EVENTS

Today's Services

- 7.30 am Morning Prayer
- 8.00 am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer, with livestream*)
- 10.30 am Sung Eucharist
- 4.00 pm Evensong
- 6.30 pm Evening Worship (*sung by the Voluntary Choir*)

Next Sunday's Services

- 7.30 am Morning Prayer

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer, with livestream*)
10.30 am Sung Eucharist for Pentecost
(*sung by the Choir of All Saints' Church, West Ham; with incense*)
4.00 pm Evensong

Worcester Saints

St Dunstan (Tuesday 19 May). The extract below is from [Exciting Holiness: Dunstan](#). Dunstan was born near Glastonbury around 910 into a noble family. He received a good education and spent time at the court of the King of Wessex. A saintly uncle urged him to enter the monastic life; he delayed, but followed the advice in time, on recovering from an illness. Returning to Glastonbury, Dunstan lived as a monk, devoting his work time to creative pursuits: illuminating, music, and metalwork. In 943 the new king made him abbot, and this launched a great revival of monastic life in England. Starting with Glastonbury, Dunstan restored discipline to several monasteries and promoted study and teaching—he was Bishop of Worcester from 957 to 959. Under two later kings, he rose to political and ecclesiastical eminence, being chief minister and Archbishop of Canterbury under King Edgar. This enabled him and his followers to extend his reforms to the whole English Church. In 970 he fell from political favour but continued as archbishop, preaching and teaching. He died in 988.

Worship in the Garden and Sacred Garden

You can find out more about these services and events by visiting www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/eco or by contacting the Revd Dr Robin Parry on RobinParry@worcestercathedral.org.uk

An Evening with the Choral Scholars

Spend a memorable evening with Worcester Cathedral's choral scholars as they perform a selection of choral and solo pieces in the beautiful Old Palace setting. Along the way, discover the journeys behind the voices and hear from musicians who represent the future of choral music. Complimentary drinks will be available on arrival, with an opportunity to pledge your support to the John Paul Hoskins Choral Scholar Appeal. Thursday 21 May, at 7 pm. Tickets £15. wcscholars.eventbrite.co.uk

WCCA Race Night

Following the success of this event three years ago, the WCCA (Worcester Cathedral Choristers Association) is pleased to be presenting another Race Night in The Old Palace at 7.30pm on Saturday 6 June. Tickets (£7.50 for adults, £5 for under 18s) are available from members of the music department at coffee after the Eucharist, or from Eventbrite: racenight2026.eventbrite.co.uk. Drinks will be available for purchase on the night, which will feature 9 races shown on a big screen, with an opportunity to place your bets beforehand!

All funds raised at this fun and family-friendly event will go directly to WCCA, whose main objective is to support the cathedral's music.

There are also two other ways to support this event:

- Sponsor a horse: For just £5 you can choose the name of your horse, and you will win a prize if it wins its race! To sponsor a horse, please contact Nicholas Freestone by email (nicholasfreestone@worcestercathedral.org.uk) or sign up on the list at post-Eucharist coffee
- Donate a raffle-style prize: We are looking for 9 prizes such as might be won in a raffle. If you can help, please contact Nicholas Freestone (as above)

Lunchtime Recitals

Recitals begin at 12.15 pm and last until around 1 pm. Donations welcomed at a retiring collection.

Thursday 21 May	Jake Scicinski (organ)
Thursday 4 June	Jonathan Heron (bass)
Thursday 11 June	Benedict Braddock (organ)
Thursday 18 June	Stelios Sycallides (alto) and David Marlow (tenor)
Thursday 25 June	Philip Crozier (organ)
Thursday 2 July	Eric Choate (organ)

Library Booksale

There will be a sale of second-hand books in the Chapter House on Saturday 23 May from 10 am to 3 pm. All proceeds in aid of the Cathedral Library.

GENERAL NOTICES

Parking

Regular worshippers at Evensong or on Sundays may obtain the bollard code for College Green (email parking@worcestercathedral.org.uk)—the entrance from College Green to the cloisters is open on Sunday mornings and unlocked (though shut) for all Evensongs. Accessible parking spaces on College Yard can be booked for blue badge holders www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/parking

Safeguarding at Worcester Cathedral

The Cathedral's Safeguarding Officer is Juliet Faulkner, whose contact email is julietfaulkner@worcestercathedral.org.uk and phone numbers 07385662791 or 01905 732948. The website (link below) contains all contact details. The Cathedral website provides details of our Safeguarding policy and procedures as well as information about Safe Spaces, an independent service supporting survivors of church-related abuse. www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/safeguarding

Cathedral Newsletter

Sign up to receive the fortnightly Worcester Cathedral News for the latest news, worship, music, events, exhibitions, blogs & more. www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/newsletter



Sunday News

Notices for inclusion in the 31 May issue of the Sunday News should be emailed by Wednesday 27 May to sundaynews@worcestercathedral.org.uk