

SUNDAY 9 MARCH 2025
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



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

Congregational Forum

There will be the first Congregational Forum today—an opportunity to hear more about the Cathedral's mission and ministry as well as the projects and plans for the future. Alongside presentations from the Dean and the COO there will be an opportunity for questions and discussions. The Forum will take place in the Undercroft after the Sung Eucharist.

Mothering Sunday flower posies

We would like to invite anyone willing to help make posies to give out at the Mothering Sunday services, to gather by the summer house on the Old Palace upper lawn on Saturday 29 March from 2–4 pm. There will be refreshments provided. For further information please speak to Dianna Gant or Liz Hoskins.

Morogoro Partnership Group

We are looking for someone to represent the cathedral on the diocesan Morogoro Partnership Group. The group meets five times a year and has the simple task of building relationships between our two Dioceses where we both support and learn from each other. There are a number of projects and initiatives currently active and if you would be interested in this role or would like to find out more please contact the Dean stephenedwards@worcestercathedral.org.uk

Honorary Treasurer - Friends of Worcester Cathedral

The Friends of Worcester Cathedral (Registered Charity 517009) is currently searching for a new Honorary Treasurer to replace the current Treasurer. The Treasurer works with the other officers and is primarily responsible for all aspects of financial record keeping and reporting, and the financial management of the society. A detailed Role Description for this post is available on request (which may be varied, if necessary, by agreement with other officers).

If you are interested in this opportunity to serve the Friends as Treasurer and want to know a little more about the post, or if you know of someone who may be interested, do please make contact with Mrs Susan Thomas, the Friends Chairman, who will be pleased to set up an informal meeting with herself and

the present Treasurer to explore things further.

FriendsChairman@worcestercathedral.org.uk

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 or Matthew Hall (Steward) on 01905 732907 or at

MatthewHall@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 Patricia Scott, Allan Laidlaw, Graham Lyall, and Anne Meads. 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 the work of the Reverend Dr Robin Parry, our minor canon for Eco Spirituality, and the projects he had been leading, including Worship in the Garden, Sacred Garden, and the Sophia Course.

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:

- Saturday 15 March, 1.30 pm. **Foundations for a Wise Economy (Doughnut Economics vs. Economic Growth?).** The Undercroft.
- Saturday 22 March, 7.30 pm. **Earth Hour with Worcestershire LitFest**, a low impact evening of poetry, spoken word, fun, food and drink. The Old Palace.
- Saturday 17 May, 1.30pm. **Living a low-carbon lifestyle.**
- Saturday 19 July, 1.30 pm. **Living in Harmony with Life: diet and animal Welfare.**
- Saturday 20 September, 1.30 pm. **Responsible Stewardship of Land and Sea: bio-diversity, fertilisers, pollution, habitat use.**
- Saturday 15 November, 1.30 pm. **Eco-justice: responding to the social implications of ecological harm**



The events are free. You can get more details and book a place to attend at www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/eco (or scan the QR code with your phone camera). *Tickets are not compulsory* for attendance but will ensure that you have a place if the event is full.

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

The SOPHIA Course: A Christian Eco-Spirituality Journey

The Sophia Course is a one-year journey of spiritual formation with a focus on creation-attuned spirituality. It is for anyone seeking to explore and grow in Christian discipleship in a world facing unprecedented environmental challenges. The course will be delivered over six day-long sessions at Worcester Cathedral, which is an award-winning centre for Green training and education, covering spirituality, lifestyle, and campaigning ([2024 Church Times Green Church Awards](#)). The training days aim to engage body, soul, and spirit, blending more theoretical and more practical teaching with hands-on activities, social time, and contemplative prayer. (The six Saturdays are: 15 March, 17 May, 19 July, 20 September, 15 November, 17 January.)

In addition to the formal training days, those on the journey will live by a 'rule of life' aimed at instilling patterns of daily prayer and learning to walk gently on the earth. For more information, please contact the Revd Dr Robin Parry at RobinParry@worcestercathedral.org.uk.

Lent Lectures – 'My Word is truth: faith in a fragile world'

This year's Lent Lectures will take place on Tuesday evenings in Lent (11 March onwards) from 7.30 pm to 9 pm. Further details to follow.

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 will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 12 March; subsequent meetings will be on 9 April, 7 May and 4 June.

Worcester Theological Society

Thursday 20 March – Prof. Peter Kevern, Research into Spirituality in Dementia. St Andrew's Methodist, Pump Street. 1.45 pm for a 2 pm start.

The Newman Association

'What are some of the challenges in Catholic Education right now?' Talk by Eamonn and Melanie Elliot at St George's Catholic Parish Hall, Sansome Place. Wednesday 19 March 7 pm to 8.30 pm. Refreshments provided.

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 (*sung by lower voices*)
4.00 pm Evensong (*sung by the Youth Choir*)
6.30 pm Evening Worship (*sung by the Voluntary Choir*)

Forthcoming Services

Saturday 15 March 5.30 pm Chamber Choir Silver Jubilee Evensong
Thursday 13 March 2.00 pm Funeral of Allan Laidlaw

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

Georgian Church Service

There will be a recreated Georgian Church Service at 2.30 pm today (9 March) at St Swithun's Church, Worcester as part of their Jane Austen weekend. For more information see www.tinyurl.com/sass-jausten

Worcester Cathedral Choir in Concert

The Cathedral Choir will give a concert in aid of the Friends of Worcester Cathedral on Saturday (15 March) at 7.30 pm. The programme will include works by Edward Elgar, John Rutter and Pierre Vilette. Tickets: £20, £15, £10 (U16s Free) can be booked via FOWCCConcert.eventbrite.co.uk

Bach Passions

This Lent we are treated to performances of two of J. S. Bach's devotional musical settings of the Gospel accounts of Jesus' final days. The Worcester Festival Choral Society and Meridian Sinfonia will be performing the St Matthew Passion on Saturday 22 March (tickets £27/£22/£15 ticketsource.co.uk/wfcs), and the Cathedral Choir will be performing the St John Passion on Saturday 5 April (tickets £22/£18/£12 WCCStJohnPassion2025.eventbrite.co.uk).

Lunchtime Recitals

Recitals begin at 12.15 pm and last until around 1 pm. Admission is free with donations welcomed at a retiring collection.

Thursday 13 March	Keith Hearnshaw (organ)
Thursday 20 March	Angelina Kopyrina (piano)
Thursday 27 March	Vocal students from RGS Worcester

GENERAL NOTICES

Parking

Those attending regular services 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 now unlocked (though shut) for Sunday Evensongs. Please note that parking on College Yard on the north side of the cathedral is no longer possible.

Safeguarding at Worcester Cathedral

The Cathedral's Safeguarding Lead is Canon Kimberly Bohan, whose contact email is: kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk The phone number is 01905 732906 and 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

Sunday News

Notices for inclusion in the Sunday News should be emailed (usually by the previous Wednesday) to sundaynews@worcestercathedral.org.uk