

**SUNDAY 29 MARCH 2026**

PALM SUNDAY



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

### Consultation on the Cathedral's Future Sustainability

Chapter has begun a consultation about how we secure the Cathedral's long-term financial sustainability in the face of rising running and maintenance costs. As an independent charity responsible for funding our own ministry and the care of this building, we must plan responsibly for the future. This consultation explores whether visitor income might play a stronger role within a wider sustainability plan, including the potential introduction of a charged entry fee for visitors. No decisions have been taken. Our vocation as a place of worship remains unchanged, and access for prayer and services is not under review. Members of the Cathedral community will receive further information by email, including a link to the Dean's video message and the consultation survey.

You can also take part by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/SustainabilityConsultation](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/SustainabilityConsultation)

The survey closes on 10 April 2026. Your perspective matters greatly as we shape the Cathedral's future together, so please do take the time (no more than ten minutes) to participate.



### Mothering Sunday Posies

Many thanks to everyone who provided flowers and greenery and/or who came to help make 230 posies for distribution on Mothering Sunday.

### English Sacred Choral Music – Living Heritage

Cathedral Music Trust is leading a national initiative to recognise English sacred choral music as part of the UK's submission to UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list. Members of the congregation who wish to support this recognition are warmly invited to find out more and sign the petition by scanning the QR code.



### 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](mailto:kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk)

Details of how to apply can also be found at

[www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/community/st-oswalds-hospital](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/community/st-oswalds-hospital)

### **Sponsored Marathon**

Leo Atkinson is running his third London Marathon, raising funds for the NSPCC, and his class have set him some milestones. If he raises: £1000 he will dye his hair a colour of their choice for a week; £1500 he will sing a solo in front of the whole school; £2000 he will wear a costume of their choice for his longest training run. Let's help them make fun of their teacher!

<https://2026tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/leo-atkinson>

### **Prayer and Intercessions**

Please pray for the sick and those in need; and for all the departed, among them David New, Barbara Plant, Chris Guy, Ian Clargo, Lesley Sudwell, Andrew Watson, Olive Thompson, Ernestine Everett, Peter Handley, Elfed Jones, Marietta Lougee, and Rex Delicate. 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](mailto: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 Association of English Cathedrals; a support, resource, and advocate for our cathedrals.

### **Send Green Easter Greetings with Ease!**

Many of us love to send Happy Easter best wishes for Easter Day to celebrate our Lord's resurrection. Rather than buying, writing, and sending cards to your friends at Worcester Cathedral, you can now send greetings to everyone through our virtual and sustainable e-aster Greeting, and at the same time support the Cathedral's work in the community.

Here's how it works:

1. **Don't spend money on cards this year** but instead make a donation to Worcester Cathedral for the **Communal e-aster Greeting**. You can do this via <https://bit.ly/4sL5PU> or by scanning the QR code with your phone camera and click on the link. You will have the opportunity to let us know how you would like your name to appear in the list of senders, or if you would like to remain anonymous.



Please make your Communal e-aster Greeting by midnight on 31 March.

2. **On Easter Day, an e-greeting will be sent to all the Cathedral community** who receive our fortnightly e-news. The names of all who have kindly made a donation to send the e-aster Greeting will be listed in this **e-greeting** as well as in the **Cathedral Sunday News**.  
All funds raised will support the Cathedral's ongoing running costs, wherever those funds can be most effective in furthering our Vision.

### **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/adopthistory](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/adopthistory)

### **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](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/support-us/perpetual-flame) or view the display near the Jesus Chapel.

## **ENVIRONMENT & SOCIAL JUSTICE**

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### **The Sophia Course**

We are excited to announce that Worcester Cathedral will be running **The Sophia Course** (or Wisdom Course) again monthly through April to October, with one Learning Day per month (usually the third Saturday). It is a seven-month spiritual formation programme with a focus on creation-attuned spirituality, designed to engage body, soul, and spirit, and blending theological and practical teaching with hands-on activities, social time, and contemplative prayer. It is for anyone seeking to



THE SOPHIA COURSE  
A foundation in eco-spirituality

explore and grow in Christian discipleship in a world facing unprecedented environmental challenges.

To learn more, see [www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/sophia-course](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/sophia-course) or scan the QR code with your phone.



If you are interested in participating in the 2026 Sophia Course, get in touch with us:

The Revd Dr Robin Parry:

[robinparry@worcestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:robinparry@worcestercathedral.org.uk)

Canon Staffan Engström:

[ecogroup.staffan@worcestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:ecogroup.staffan@worcestercathedral.org.uk)

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## FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

### Lent Poetry Group

Some will already be familiar with Janet Morley's book, *The Heart's Time: A poem a day for Lent and Easter* published by SPCK (2011). The book offers a poem and a short reflection for each day (except Sunday) between Ash Wednesday and the Saturday after Easter. Worcester Arts Collective Lent Poetry Group will meet informally on Wednesday lunchtimes, 12.30 pm–1.30 pm from now until 15 April, in 8 College Yard to chat about the poems for the previous week. All welcome.

### 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](mailto:prayer@worcestercathedral.org.uk) and request the link. The next meeting is at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 8 April; subsequent meetings will be on 8 April, 6 May, 3 June, 5 August, 2 September, 7 October, and 4 November.

### 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.

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## SERVICES & EVENTS

### Today's Services

- 7.30 am Morning Prayer
- 8.00 pm Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer, with livestream*)
- 10.30 am The Liturgy of Palm Sunday
- 6.30 pm Devotional Performance of The Crucifixion *John Stainer*  
(*sung by the Voluntary Choir and Youth Choir*)

## Monday 30 March

- 11.00 am Chrism Eucharist
- 5.30 pm Evensong
- 8.00 pm Compline (*sung by the Chamber Choir*)

## Tuesday 31 March

- 8.00 pm Compline (*sung by the Youth Choir*)

## Wednesday 1 April

- 5.30 pm Evensong
- 8.00 pm Compline (*sung by lower voices*)

## Maundy Thursday 2 April

- 8.00 pm The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday (*with incense*)

## Good Friday 3 April

- 1.30 pm The Liturgy of Good Friday

## Easter Eve 4 April

- 8.00 pm The Easter Liturgy (*with incense*)

## Next Sunday's Services

- 7.30 am Morning Prayer
- 8.00 pm Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer, with livestream*)
- 10.30 am Sung Eucharist for Easter Day
- 3.00 pm Worship in the Garden
- 4.00 pm Evensong
- 6.30 pm Music and Readings for Easter (*sung by the Voluntary Choir*)

## Funerals

- Monday 13 April                      2.00 pm      Funeral of Ian Clargo

## Worship in the Garden and Sacred Garden

Sacred Garden—our monthly outdoor spirituality event involving gardening, art, wildcraft, and contemplative prayer—is moving to a new location and a new time. From April 2026 Sacred Garden will take place from **10.30 am** to **12.30 pm** in the gardens of **The Old Palace**, next to the Cathedral.

You can find out more about these services and events by visiting [www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/eco](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/eco) or by contacting the Revd Dr Robin Parry on [RobinParry@worcestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:RobinParry@worcestercathedral.org.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 23 April                      Mark Brafield (organ)
- Thursday 30 April                      Stephen Power (organ)

Thursday 7 May	Allan Walker (organ)
Thursday 14 May	Brandon Roku Ali (piano)
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)

## Youth Choral Course

Our first ever Youth Choral Course (for singers aged 14-21) will take place on 1 & 2 April, concluding with a free concert at 12.15 pm on Thursday 2 April.

[www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/youth-choral-course](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/youth-choral-course)

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## GENERAL NOTICES

### Parking

Regular worshippers at Evensong or on Sundays may obtain the bollard code for College Green (email [parking@worcestercathedral.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/newsletter)



### Sunday News

Notices for inclusion in the next Sunday News should be emailed by Wednesday 1 April to [sundaynews@worcestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:sundaynews@worcestercathedral.org.uk)