

The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 23 JULY – SUNDAY 6 AUGUST

Rites and ceremonies: Election and Confirmation – a new Bishop!

On Thursday (20th July) I travelled to London to witness the confirmation of the election of Stephen Conway as our new Bishop. This ceremony, which is a slightly strange mixture of the legal and spiritual, takes place in the Church of St Mary-le-Bow in the City of London – the traditional home of the senior ecclesiastical court in the Province of Canterbury, the Court of Arches. It is one of a chain of rites or ceremonies that are not found in the Book of Common Prayer (or Common Worship!) and that mark the transition from one bishop to the next. After Bishop Christopher laid up the diocesan crozier at his final service in the cathedral a process of consultation led to the recommendation of Bishop Stephen to the King who then nominated him for election by the Chapter of the cathedral. This ceremony took place in the Chapter House before evensong on 29th June, and it is the result of this election that was confirmed in front of the Archbishop of Canterbury in London this week.

The process that is followed is one that has continued across the centuries, and has its origins in a Council of the (undivided) Church that took place in Nicaea (now Iznik, in Turkey) in 325AD, and therefore shares characteristics with the rituals of both the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Churches (though with a number of variations that occurred during the mediaeval period – and now held in English rather than Latin!). The whole process therefore depends on the old technology of people on horseback carrying letters. After the opening prayers and reading the Registrar of the Diocese, who had supervised the election, presented letters giving him authority to speak on behalf of the College of Canons. This was followed by the identification of Bishop Stephen as the actual person who had been elected, a declaration that the notices of election had been displayed in the cathedral and a request that his election be confirmed. The confirmation of election was then declared with an instruction issued that Bishop Stephen should be installed as Bishop in the cathedral according to the laudable customs of the cathedral church – something that will occupy the time and energy of quite a few of us in the coming months.

With this ‘sentence’ declared by the Court Bishop Stephen became the Bishop of Lincoln and was given his ‘charge’ by the Archbishop of Canterbury before blessing all of those present. Bishop Stephen is therefore now legally and spiritually our Bishop, although as he cannot take up his public ministry until he has paid homage to the King and been installed as Bishop in the cathedral much of the day-to-day episcopal ministry remains delegated to David, Bishop of Grimsby. However, although he cannot take up his public ministry until he has paid homage to the King, please keep Bishop Stephen in your prayers as he prepares to move permanently to live, minister and serve among us.

...we pray for Stephen our Bishop; David, Bishop of Grimsby; Nicholas, Bishop of Grantham; and our Diocese of Lincoln...

NICK BROWN, PRECENTOR

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday 23 July
*Seventh Sunday
After Trinity*

Eucharist
Genesis 28.10-19a
Romans 8.12-25
Matthew 13.24-30,
36-43

Evening Prayer
1 Kings 2.10-12, 3.16-
end
Acts 4.1-22

Sunday 30 July
*Eighth Sunday after
Trinity*

Eucharist
Genesis 29.15-28
Romans 8.26-end
Matthew 13.31-33,
44-52

Evening Prayer
1 Kings 6.11-14, 23-
end
Acts 12.1-17

Sunday 6 August
*Ninth Sunday
After Trinity*

Eucharist
Genesis 32.22-31
Romans 9.1-5
Matthew 14.13-21

Evening Prayer
1 Kings 10.1-13
Acts 31.1-13

Worship & Mission

Weekly service schedule

The service sheet for the coming fortnight can be [viewed on the cathedral website](#) (click link to visit)

Sacred Space

Sacred Space will be taking place at 7pm on the following Sundays in 2023:

10 September - New beginnings

19 November - The darkness of waiting

Sacred Space is a gentle, reflective service with time to wonder, the opportunity to use all your senses to explore faith and the chance to experience the unique and serene atmosphere of the Cathedral as the day draws to a close.

Stillpoint

This is a time of guided silent prayer to be still and aware of the presence of God. All are welcome to join us. Please note the new time for Stillpoint. We meet in the Ringers Chapel from 8.45am - 9.15am on the following Mondays:

7 August

4 September

2 October

Community

LCCA Summer visit - Saturday 29 July

Everyone is cordially invited to join us on the LCCA Summer outing on Saturday 29 July 2023 to Tealby where Keith Rolands-Bolton, a local Tealby author, will talk about the Tennysons and we can tour the church followed by a bring-your-own picnic with a short guided walk to the site of the Tennyson mansion to round off the day.

The outing is free to attend (donations to the church would be appreciated), you just need to register your interest in advance either at coffee after Sunday morning Eucharists or by emailing lcca@lincolncathedral.com.

Events

It's a wonderful world – Summer holiday crafts 1-25 August

Join us this summer for a whole month of crafts, trails, and creativity. Bring your little ones on weekdays from 1 August to 25 August, between 10am to 3.30pm all summer long so they can choose from one of our Cathedral trails, try out new crafts each week, and grow their imagination!

Activities are free with cathedral admission and children visit FREE with a paying adult. If you add Gift Aid to your admission you can return to the Cathedral for free for 12 months, making it a great value option for family days out. What will you discover on your next visit?



Summer Organ Recital Series

12 August, 7pm

Our summer series begins with our very own Jeffrey Makinson. As always, there will be a big screen show you can enjoy watching the recitalist in action in the organ loft. There will also be an opportunity to meet the recitalist at the end of the performance. See below for the further dates if the Summer Organ Series:

- Christopher Stokes - 2 September
- Colin Walsh - 9 September
- Francesca Massey - 16 September
- John Scott Whiteley - 23 September
- Stephen Farr - 30 September



Nature and architecture tour of Lincoln Cathedral

19 August, 1pm - Tickets are £30

Join photographer Bruce Hargrave for a unique photography tour! All are welcome for an afternoon of the natural and man made world, that co-exists at the Cathedral. With luck, we may see and hear the Cathedral's resident peregrine falcons.

RAF Air cadets and Royal College of Organists -Festival of Music

19 August, 7pm - Free for concessions, £5 for general Admission

From pop and film music through to classical and military marches, the concert is also a collaboration with the Royal College of Organists featuring performances by Sir Andrew Parmley and organ scholar Will Bishop – all for only £5 for an adult ticket, under 18s are free!

Queen by Candlelight

25-26 August, 7.30pm - Tickets from £22.50

Join us for an incredible night of Queen Anthems, performed at beautiful venues across the UK, UAE, Australia and the USA, by candlelight. Featuring a live cast of West End singers, accompanied by an incredible live rock band, experience Queen as you have never heard them before.

Lincoln Lions – South Wales Male Choir & Military Wives Choir Concert 22 September, 7.30pm - Tickets from £22.38

Lincoln Lions invite you to come along and enjoy an evening with the South Wales Male Choir alongside Waddington's Military Wives Choir in the stunning setting of Lincoln Cathedral

The Hallé

13 October, 7pm - Tickets from £15

The Hallé has a reputation for artistic excellence, ranking it amongst the world's top symphonic ensembles. Euan Shields the latest winner of the prestigious Siemens Hallé International Conductors Competition and the Hallé's new Assistant Conductor, takes to the podium to lead the orchestra in a programme that starts and finishes with the music of Beethoven.

Half-term fun: Meet the Teach Rex Dragons

25 October, 10.15am – 11.45am, 1.15pm – 2.45pm, 3.00pm – 4.30pm

Meet the dragons as Teach Rex introduce children to a unique and innovative approach to storytelling in which the team will bring a mythical story to life in front of the children's eyes

For more details of forthcoming events and to book your tickets, go to our website at

www.lincolncathedral.com/forthcoming-events