

# The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER – SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER

## BIBLE READINGS

### Welcomes within the choral foundation

One of the key components of the daily life of the cathedral is the work of the choir, who are a fundamental part of the cathedral's historic foundation. One of the duties of the members of the cathedral foundation is to maintain a pattern of prayer and worship for and on behalf of the Bishop and parishes of the diocese – and this remains one of the distinctive charisms of the ministry of the cathedral, alongside supporting the teaching and sacramental ministry of the Bishop.

Originally this was the work of the body of canons – who each had to ensure that they or a priest acting on their behalf maintained the daily pattern of prayer in the cathedral, as well as ministering in the parish which provided their revenues (prebends). This is the origin of having a number of canons who are 'residentiary' (i.e. a daily presence in the cathedral) supported by a number of 'vicars', who pray on behalf of those canons who are not present on such a frequent basis.

We are lucky to have five long-standing lay vicars who continue this tradition, which has developed into the professional singing of the choir. This term, we have welcomed a sixth Lay Vicar – Marissa, who joins us from Worcester Cathedral where she has been a choral scholar. In recent years the Lay Vicars have been joined by a number of Choral Scholars. This year, as well as welcoming Will back as a tenor choral scholar, we have welcomed four new choral scholars: Poppy, Rahul, Joe and Peter. For the first time in a number of years, we have also appointed an Organ Scholar, and we welcome Adam to this role.

Finally, we are fortunate to have a small number of clergy who regularly assist in our enabling our daily pattern of worship. On Tuesday 19 September we will be recognising the contribution made by them as Priest Vicars as Stephen Agnew, Rachel Heskins, Philip Johnson, Ann Mazur and Alan Moses are formally admitted as members of the cathedral foundation during evensong.

Please join in rejoicing at the contribution that all these people (and so many others) make to fulfilling one of the core duties of the cathedral in worshipping God and praying for the Bishop and diocese that we are called to serve.

NICK BROWN, PRECENTOR

**Sunday 17 September**  
*Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity*

**Eucharist**  
Genesis 50.15-21  
Romans 14.1-12  
Matthew 18.21-35

**Evening Prayer**  
Ezekiel 20.1-8, 33-44  
Acts 20.17-end  
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**Sunday 24 September**  
*Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*

**Eucharist**  
Jonah 3. 10- end of 4  
Philippians 1. 21-end  
Matthew 20. 1-16

**Evening Prayer**  
Ezekiel 33. 23, 30- 34.  
10  
Acts 26. 1, 9-25  
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**Sunday 1 October**  
*Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity*

**Eucharist**  
Ezekiel 18. 1-4, 25-end  
Philippians 2. 1-13  
Matthew 21. 23-32

**Evening Prayer**  
Ezekiel 37. 15-end  
1 John 2. 22-end  
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## Worship & Mission

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### Weekly service schedule

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

### An experiment with morning service times

During the weeks from the beginning of October, there are quite a few occasions when the times of the main morning service fluctuate (for confirmations, the Jazz Mass etc.). As having changing worship times causes quite a bit of confusion, it was discussed at Chapter this week, and we will experiment for a trial period from the beginning of October with standardising on the later start time of 10.30am for the Sung Eucharist. Making this modification will also provide the opportunity to explore reintroducing occasional services of Choral Mattins – as we did on a one-off basis at the beginning of July (as part of the Byrd400 festival). When we do this, we will follow the example of a number of cathedrals in having Mattins earlier in the morning – something that, in those cathedrals that have done it, has led to better attendances at both services (and avoid the problem of thanking God for the new day at nearly noon!).

### 'Tea at 4' Discussion & Reflection Group

Monday 18th Sept. at 4pm

The next meeting takes place at 4pm on Monday 18 September in the Wickham Reading Room (which is located where the old Refectory was located, and is accessed via the Cloisters). This is a time for reflection and discussion on reading the Gospel Reading for the previous day (Matthew 18.21-35). There is no need for preparation – and all welcome!

### 'After hours': Reflective worship

7pm, once a month on a Sunday

This autumn we are expanding the Sacred Space provision into a monthly opportunity for reflective worship on a Sunday evening. The current pattern, of Sacred Space taking place on alternate months will be supplemented with different shapes and styles of worship. This autumn the pattern will be:

**15 October** 'After Hours': Meditative Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

**19 November** 'After Hours': Sacred Space, exploring The darkness of waiting

Each of these occasions seeks to provide a gentle and reflective space with time to wonder, and the chance to experience the unique and serene atmosphere of the Cathedral as the day draws to a close. Each evening begins with simple refreshments from 6.45pm, with worship beginning at 7pm.

### 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 Monday 2 October.

## Community

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### Funeral of Alan Nugent

For those who would like to attend, the funeral of Alan Nugent (former Subdean of Lincoln) is planned for 11am on Tuesday 26 September in St Hugh's Choir at the Cathedral. We will continue to remember Alan and those who mourn his passing in our prayers.

## Community

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### LCCA Harvest Supper

Thursday 12 October

The LCCA invite you to join us for the annual Harvest Supper on Thursday 12 October, 6.30pm for 7pm, in the Chapter House.

You will enjoy a 2-course meal with entertainment and tickets (£15) are available after Sunday morning Eucharist or by emailing Andrea at [lcca@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:lcca@lincolncathedral.com) with details of any dietary requirements. Please bring your own choice of drinks and donations of non-perishable foodstuffs for local charities.

### LCCA Annual General Meeting

Monday 13 November

The LCCA AGM will be held on Monday 13 November at 7pm in the Chapter House with hot drinks available after Evensong. If you require further details, please contact Andrea at [lcca@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:lcca@lincolncathedral.com).

### Open Chapter

1 October 2023

Good governance requires good communication. The Cathedral Chapter, which is our governing body, is keen to engage with the wider Cathedral community through a new series of 'Open Chapter' meetings. The first of these will be after Evensong on Sunday 1 October in the Chapter House. All members of the Cathedral community are warmly invited to attend.

To give us an idea of what you would like to discuss, please submit questions and topics to Katie Grainger, the Dean's EA ([dean@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:dean@lincolncathedral.com)) by Monday 25 September. Anyone without an email account can send a note to Katie via the Vergers. All Chapter meetings begin with prayer, and Open Chapter will be no different. So please join us for Choral Evensong at 3.45pm that afternoon, at which Dr Tracy Buckby will be installed as Chapter Clerk. Refreshments will be served in the Chapter House after the service to give us an opportunity to meet informally before the meeting.

## Events

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### Lincoln Lions – South Wales Male Choir & Military Wives Choir Concert

22 September, 7.30pm

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

The Hallé ranks 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

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

For more details of forthcoming events and to book your tickets, go to our website at [www.lincolncathedral.com/forthcoming-events](http://www.lincolncathedral.com/forthcoming-events)