

The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER - SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER

BIBLE READINGS

Moving on from Saints to Light

This month started with our celebration of the saints in glory and our remembrance of those departed. Falling in half term, All Saints does not, perhaps, get the attention it deserves. All Saints-tide is a reminder of the way that the seen and unseen, the earthbound and the heavenly, the temporal and the eternal are united in one; something that is witnessed to by our communion with the saints and founded on the time-shattering moment of revelation of a new heaven in the Resurrection.

But as November moves on, our focus moves too. This weekend we find ourselves drawn to those who have suffered through human conflict, and those who have lost their lives as a result of war. This is just as vivid a reminder of the fact that our world has much within it that is in need of transformation. The contrast between the saints in glory and the troubles within our earthly experience point to the fact that we are called to join in the work of transformation. With the vision of heavenly glory set against the present reality we may not have the solutions – but we are given a vision of what creation could be.

And so we begin to encounter the preparations for Christmas. Not the commercial ones of presents and food, but the preparation of becoming aware of the need for God's love in the world and seeing how in the pages of scripture and in the pages of history, the love of God is revealed (and too often misunderstood). It is against this that we may be ready to encounter the love of God in Jesus Christ. This is a love revealed in the vulnerability of human birth; a birth that reveals a light that can break into the darkest of places. So let us nurture this gift of love – a love that breaks down barriers. We may not have the solutions to all the challenges that darken our world – but we can hold the light in our hearts that can provide a vision of creation perfect and the new heaven made real, the light of Christ that shines in the lives of the saints.

Give us the wings of faith to rise
within the veil, and see
the saints above, how great their joys,
how bright their glories be.
Once they were mourning here below,
their couch was wet with tears;
they wrestled hard, as we do now,
with sins and doubts and fears.
We ask them whence their victory came:
they, with united breath,
ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,
their triumph to his death.
They marked the footsteps that he trod,
his zeal inspired their breast,
and, following their incarnate God,
possess the promised rest.
Our glorious Leader claims our praise
for his own pattern given;
while the long cloud of witnesses
show the same path to heaven.

NICK BROWN, PRECENTOR

Sunday 12 November

Third Sunday Before Advent

Eucharist

Wisdom 6.12-16
I Thessalonians 4.13-end
Matthew 25.1-13

Evening Prayer

Judges 7.2-22
John 15.9-17

Sunday 19 November

Second Sunday Before Advent

Eucharist

Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end
I Thessalonians 5.1-11
Matthew 25.14

Evening Prayer

I Kings 1.15-40
Revelation 1.4-18

Sunday 26 November

Sunday Next Before Advent

Eucharist

Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24
Ephesians 1.15-end
Matthew 25.31-end

Evening Prayer

2 Samuel 23.1-7
Matthew 28.16-end

Worship & Mission

Weekly service schedule

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

After hours: Reflective worship

6.45pm, once a month on a Sunday

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

10 December 'After Hours': Walking towards Christmas Reflecting on the Patriarchs, Prophets, John the Baptist, and Mary and ending with Compline.

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.

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:

4 December 2023

8 January 2024

5 February 2024

4 March 2024

8 April 2024

Enthronement of The Bishop of Lincoln

All members of the Cathedral community are invited to attend the enthronement of the Rt Revd Stephen Conway as Bishop of Lincoln at 2.30pm on Saturday 11 November. [To help with the planning, you can register your attendance here.](#)

Remembrance Sunday

12 November

Join us at 10.40am for our annual remembrance service for those who gave their lives or suffered in the course of human conflict.

St Hugh's Day

Friday 17 November

All are welcome to join us in celebrating St Hugh's Day at Lincoln Cathedral. The events for the day are:

- 12noon Sung Eucharist (St Hugh's Choir)
President & Preacher: The Bishop of Lincoln
- 3.15pm Lecture by Marcus Roberts (Chapter House) 'The Jewish Heritage of Lincoln and its Cathedral – lessons from the past for the present'. Marcus Roberts is the founder/director of JTrails, creating Jewish Heritage and Holocaust trails. This lecture will be followed by tea.
- 5.30pm Festal Evensong with Installation of Canons
(St Hugh's Choir)

'Anonymous', a Lunctime Recital by the Lay Vicars and Choral Scholars

Tom Wilson, the Senior Lay Vicar writes: "Join the Lay Vicars and Choral Scholars of the Cathedral Choir for an afternoon of anonymous renaissance polyphony at 1.10pm on Saturday the 18 November. The music has been gathered from several recently rediscovered sources spanning the 16th century, and will be performed for the first time in many centuries. The recital is a celebration of the many forgotten men and women who, though their identities are no longer known, have richly contributed to our shared musical heritage."

'Tea at 4' Discussion & Reflection Group

The next meeting takes place at 4pm on Monday 20 November in the Wickham Reading Room. This is a time for reflection and discussion on reading the Gospel Reading for the previous day. There is no need for special preparation – and all welcome!

Community

"The King sends his warmest good wishes to the Lincoln Cathedral Community Association."

We sent a copy of our Summer 'Royal' issue of InHouse to H.M. King Charles III, in celebration of his long association with the cathedral and we are delighted to have received an appreciative reply. A copy of the card from Their Majesties and the letter from Buckingham Palace is displayed on the LCCA notice board in the north choir aisle.

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. Agenda and papers have been emailed to members on the Lincoln Cathedral Community Roll and will also be available at the beginning of the meeting. For any queries, please contact the LCCA Secretary (Andrea) at lcca@lincolncathedral.com.

A reminder from the 'Friends.'

Our next afternoon talk, by John Campbell, 'Close Encounters of an Ecclesiastical Kind,' will be taking place on 21 November in the Dunlop-Butler room in the visitor centre. It will begin at 2.45pm, with refreshments from 2pm. We're looking forward to an interesting and amusing talk and hope to see many of you (either members or non-members) there.

GoodBox Collection Plates

The Cathedral has four new GoodBox collection plates that will be rolled out to services where collections are taken during a service, or as a retiring collection. These new plates allow for both cash, cheque and Gift Aid envelope giving, but will also enable you to donate quickly and securely by using your contactless card or your smart phone. The donation amount is easily changed if you would like to increase or decrease your donation. As always, thank you for choosing to donate to Lincoln Cathedral. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Lincoln Cathedral's first Canon Missioner.

The Revd Rowena King has been appointed as our first Canon Missioner. The focus of her ministry will be outward-facing, seeking to strengthen existing partnerships within the Diocese, city and county, and to establish new ones. She will also have oversight of the Cathedral's education department and responsibility for pastoral care, and lead on developing and growing the Cathedral's in-person and online congregations.



Events

Lincoln Cathedral Shop – Christmas Preview 2023

22 November, 3pm - 7pm

Be the first to see brand new lines and seasonal gifts.

We'll be joined by our local suppliers:

- The Lincoln Distillery will be supplying samples of their new line of Lincoln Gin
- Sample some of the indulgent cakes from The Original Cake Company

There'll be 15% off on the evening (although please note some exclusions will apply), and free gift wrapping.

Tickets are free, and you are welcome to drop in on the evening, but to help us plan, we request that you do book a place.

Handel's Messiah

25 November, 7pm

This year, Lincoln Cathedral Choir return with their performance of Handel's Messiah, a spectacular piece of music which is to be accompanied by Lincolnshire Chamber Orchestra.

Messiah features one of the most famous pieces of choral music, the Hallelujah Chorus, however this piece has so much more to offer.

Christmas by Candlelight

5 December, 7.30pm

An incredible West End Cast and live band perform classic Christmas Hits as you have never heard them before!

'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas', so join us for this magical evening of best loved festive hits performed live by Candlelight.

Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols

8 December, 7pm

Join us on Friday 8 December for a special performance of Britten's classic, festive favourite in the atmospheric surroundings of St Hugh's Choir.

Tickets include a lantern-light tour of the Cathedral with reception of wine and canapés.

Carols by Candlelight

12-13 December, 7pm

Join us in Lincoln Cathedral for a magical evening of popular carols performed by Lincoln Cathedral Choir in the atmospheric surrounding of the candle-lit nave of the Cathedral. Carols by Candlelight is in aid of the Association of the Friends of Lincoln Cathedral. The choir is conducted by Aric Prentice with Jeffrey Makinson playing the Cathedral's renowned Father Willis organ.

The Snowman with Live Orchestra

16-17 December

Join us on a magical journey with The Snowman, accompanied by live orchestra and cathedral chorister.

The nave will be lit to create a magical atmosphere ensuring an unforgettable experience for adults and children alike.

For more details of forthcoming events and to book your tickets, go to our website at www.lincolncathedral.com/forthcoming-events

