

# The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY – SUNDAY 2 MARCH

We're one cathedral with one mission. That's one of the main themes that runs through the work that I've been doing since September on the cathedral's vision and strategy over the next five years.

That there is only one Lincoln Cathedral is beyond doubt. That we have only one mission is a more complex statement, and one that needs some unpacking. To my mind, everything that we do, be it worship, education, conservation, events, and a whole lot more, is part of the cathedral's mission. Related to that, everyone involved in the cathedral's mission, including volunteers, worshippers and staff, are valued members of the community of this one cathedral.

An alternative model is one that defines the cathedral's mission more narrowly, and sees our commercial activity as supporting that mission rather than being integral to it. The choice between these two was brought into sharp focus at Chapter this past week during a discussion of vision and strategy. We asked ourselves whether, if money wasn't an issue for us, and we had all the funds we needed to conserve the building and run the cathedral, would we still have such a broad range of events. The answer was a resounding 'yes'. Why? Because they are one of the principal ways in which we're able to engage with a broad cross-section of the community we seek to serve, welcoming large numbers of people into the cathedral, and opening up the possibility of visitors becoming pilgrims.

That we're one cathedral with one mission is just one of the strands that runs through this work on vision and strategy. Over the next couple of months there will be opportunities for the cathedral community to engage and respond to it before it's rolled out. The session for members of the congregation (although staff and volunteers are also welcome!) will be after Evensong on Sunday 9 March in the Chapter House. In the meantime, I'd like to encourage us all to reflect on our attitudes and behaviours in relation to the cathedral and its community, and what aspirations we have for the next five years. What can we do to help this community more effectively live out its vocation to be one cathedral with one mission?

SIMON JONES, DEAN

## BIBLE READINGS

**Sunday 16 February**  
*Third Sunday before Lent*

**Eucharist**  
Jeremiah 17.5-10  
1 Corinthians 15.12-20  
Luke 6.17-26

**Evening Prayer**  
Wisdom 11.21-12.11  
Galatians 4.8-20

**Sunday 23 February**  
*Second Sunday before Lent*

**Eucharist**  
Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end  
Revelation 4  
Luke 8.22-25

**Evening Prayer**  
Genesis 1.1 - 2.3  
Matthew 6.25-end

**Sunday 2 March**  
*Sunday next before Lent*

**Eucharist**  
Exodus 34.29-end  
2 Corinthians 3.12--4.2  
Luke 9.28-36

**Evening Prayer**  
Exodus 3.1-6  
John 12.27-36a

## Worship & Mission

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### Weekly service schedule

Details of services and music can be viewed on the Cathedral's website. Visit: [www.lincolncathedral.com/orders-of-service/](http://www.lincolncathedral.com/orders-of-service/)

### Special Services

#### Choral Mattins

Choral Mattins will take place at 9.30am on Sunday 2 March and Sunday 23 March.

#### Stillpoint

This is a time of guided silent prayer to be still and aware of the presence of God. We meet in the Ss Peter and Paul Chapel (Bishop Grosseteste Tomb) from 9am to 9.30am on the following Mondays: **3 March, 7 April**

#### Prayer for Healing and Wholeness

Prayer for healing with the laying on of hands and anointing will be offered after Evening Prayer (which begins at 5.30pm) on the first Wednesday of each month: **5 March, 2 April**. For further information, speak to Rowena King or Simon Jones.

#### After Hours

Once a month on a Sunday  
**16 March, 6pm** - Completing the Day  
**27 April, 6pm** - Sacred Space

Enjoy a gentle and reflective space with time to wonder, and the chance to experience the unique atmosphere of the Cathedral as the day draws to a close.

## Community

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### Collection for Jim Newton

Time marches on for everyone, and Jim Newton will be retiring from his role as Canons Verger after Easter. Jim has brought valuable wisdom (and humour) to the role of Canons Verger, as he did to his previous roles in the vergers' team and as a Lay vicar. There will be a public opportunity to thank Jim for his work in the Cathedral after the Sunday Sung Eucharist on 4 May. If you wish to contribute to a leaving collection/gift, please drop this into the Vergers Vestry.

### Lincoln Cathedral Community Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

You are invited to the Lincoln Cathedral Community annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday 4 March, 6.30pm for 7pm, in the Chapter House when you can enjoy a two-course meal with entertainment. Tickets cost £20 and are available after Sunday morning Eucharist or by emailing [lccc@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:lccc@lincolncathedral.com). Please bring your own choice of drinks and donations of non-perishable foodstuffs for the local foodbank. Please inform us if you require a vegetarian/vegan option and of any food allergies when you buy your tickets.

### Confirmation Classes

Each Easter the Cathedral hosts a service of Baptism and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. If you have wondered about being Confirmed and/or Baptised and would like to explore this further, do speak to Canon Rowena, as both adult and child confirmation classes will begin in the New Year. These classes are also an opportunity to explore the Christian faith even if you do not wish to be Confirmed at the end of the course. Adult conversations will be based on the "Confirmation Book for Adults" by Sharon Swain.

### Be part of the Cathedral community

Our community is a wonderfully diverse mix of worshippers, choristers, staff, volunteers and supporters who all play a distinct part in the vibrant life of the Cathedral. As you may know we have created a Cathedral Community Roll. This list will help us to improve communication with all who want to know what's happening at the Cathedral and be involved in its life. We encourage you to join the Community Roll by scanning the QR code below or collecting a hard copy from the Cathedral or Chapter Office.



### Thank you from the Music Department

The music department would like to thank everyone who responded to the request for pianos. Our Song School will be the lucky recipient of three lovely instruments for which we are most grateful.

You will have noticed that our Chorister and Youth Choir numbers have risen since September. With our growing membership comes an increased need for iPads and tablets which we use daily. If anyone was gifted some brand new tech at Christmas and has some pre-loved spares, or even wants to re-gift an unwanted present, then please do consider donating them to Song School where they will be put to good use.

### Parish Giving Scheme - a new way to support the Cathedral

Following the decision to dissolve the Lincoln Cathedral Community Association, those who were previously giving to the cathedral via the LCCA are encouraged to support the Cathedral via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS). This can be accessed by visiting <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/lincoln-cathedral-lincoln/>. Forms are also available in the Cathedral from the Vergers Vestry. If you currently have a direct debit in favour of LCCA, please cancel it, and make your contribution either direct to the Cathedral, or through the PGS. A proportion of the money received through the PGS will be given to other charities (as was the case with giving via the LCCA). If you currently use the blue envelopes, please continue to use these until they run out. The Cathedral will be able to supply you with new envelopes if this is your preferred method of giving. If you don't currently make a financial contribution towards the Cathedral's mission and ministry, please consider doing so via the PGS. For further information, contact Matthew Tarling ([matthew.tarling@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:matthew.tarling@lincolncathedral.com)). All gifts are most gratefully received.

### Cathedral Chat

Fancy a coffee and a chat? Bump into friends old and new and join Rowena, our Canon Missioner, in the Cathedral Café every Thursday through January and February from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. There is no need to book, just turn up. These chats will take place from Thursday 30 January.

## Community

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### **Vision and Strategy - 2025-30: an invitation from the Dean**

Members of the congregation are invited to the Chapter House after Evensong (which begins at 3.45pm) on Sunday 9 March to discuss the cathedral's vision and strategy over the next five years. No need to register. All welcome!

### **Appointment of new Chief Operating Officer (Chapter Clerk)**

Mel Tetley has joined the cathedral as our new Chief Operating Officer. Mel comes with a wealth of experience, having been CEO of the Citizens Advice charity in Waltham Forest, and having worked previously in the public sector, including in heritage and museums. Please look out for Mel and welcome her warmly!

### **New Members of Chapter**

Following a recruitment process over the past few months, the following people have been appointed to the Cathedral Chapter: Dr Hilary Hamnett, Mr Martin Hickerton, Prof Amy Livingstone, Mr Andrew Long, and Mr Neil Rhodes. I'm hugely grateful to all five for their willingness to serve the Cathedral in this way. I would also like to express my thanks to Simon Parkes, who is stepping down from Chapter and as chair of the Cathedral's Finance Committee, and to Mark Suthern, Harvey Dowdy, Stuart Welch, and Carolyn Bailey, who will continue to serve alongside Nick, Rowena and myself. - Simon Jones, Dean of Lincoln

### **Every Monday & Wednesday: Lent Courses**

There will be two Lent courses running from the week commencing Monday 10 March, for 5 weeks:

**Practicing Prayer** - Mondays 4pm-5pm - Wickham Room  
Each week we will look at a different type of prayer and have the opportunity to discuss and reflect on it. Each session can stand alone, so you do not have to be able to attend every session.

**Diocesan Lent course** - Wednesday 7.30pm - off-site  
This group will be using the Diocesan Lent Course materials, also on ways to pray. Please contact John and Jeannette Davies, who host the group, if you would like to attend, or email [rowena.king@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:rowena.king@lincolncathedral.com)



## Events

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### **Family fun this February Half term**

Monday 17 to Friday 21 February, 10am to 3.30pm  
Lilly and the Wave is the story of a small drop of water that dreams of becoming a big ocean wave. The story will be voice recorded and mixed with sound and music for an immersive experience.

Join us in the Nave each day to help create giant art 'drops' for the beautiful Lilly and the Wave sculpture. All workshops are included in your Cathedral admission.

### **Tears of Gold Exhibition**

Monday 24 February to Sunday 9 March  
You're invited to the Tears of Gold exhibition - a series of paintings that show hope in the face of persecution. A group of Christian women from northern Nigeria created self portraits to process the trauma they've experienced because of violent attacks. The paintings contain tears of gold: a sign of how tragedy can be transformed into hope through the love of God.

Alongside the self-portraits, you can see portraits of these courageous women created by artist Hannah Rose Thomas. The paintings were created as part of a trauma healing programme run in northern Nigeria by Open Doors, a charity supporting persecuted Christians around the world.

### **Lunchtime recital - Tom Bailey**

Thursday 27 February, 1.10pm  
We welcome you to join Tom Bailey, an organ scholar here at Lincoln Cathedral, as he performs a programme of English and French music - with a little help from the Choral Scholars. There's no need to book as this recital is free with your admission.

### **The Annual Edward King Lecture**

Saturday 8 March, 3pm  
We welcome all to join us for our annual Edward King lecture on spirituality. This year's lecture will focus on the subject 'Transformed by Prayer: using Common Worship and Daily Prayer to renew individuals and communities' given by the Very Rev'd Dr Simon Jones, Dean of Lincoln.

The lecture will begin at 3pm in the Chapter House. Admission to this lecture is free but we ask that you book your place to help us plan.

### **'In Her Words' - Celebrating female composers from the last 1000 years**

Saturday 8 March, 1.10pm  
To celebrate International Women's Day, our choral scholars have put together a recital of music composed entirely by female composers, from Hildegard von Bingen and Madalena Casulana to Clara Schumann and Kate Rusby. This recital will take place in the Chapter House at 1.10pm and is included in your admission so there's no need to book.

### **Bach's St John Passion**

Saturday 5 April, 7pm  
Tickets for Bach's St John Passion on Saturday 5 April are now on sale. Performed in a concert setting by the Lincoln Cathedral Choir and accompanied by Manchester Baroque, this certainly isn't a show you want to miss.

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