

The Chapter Letter



SUNDAY 11 MAY – SUNDAY 25 MAY

As we continue to journey through the Easter season toward Ascensiontide and the Feast of Pentecost, my thoughts continue to be drawn to the impact that our Easter faith has on how we live our lives (and, therefore, how we shape the world in which we live). It is all too obvious from our news screens and online feeds that there is much to challenge us in our world, and the challenges do not seem to be getting any lighter.

However, as we continue to see a world burdened by conflict and despair, there is an obvious factor that is often unspoken – the divisions of the Churches (and the wider divisions between faiths). The Easter hope must call us to inhabit our own lives with hope renewed and faith refreshed. There are signs around that there may be murmurings that we can tap into: the increased number of people engaging with the Christian faith at Easter, the conversations in public spaces (such as the Cathedral – but well beyond its walls) where people ask questions that reveal a desire to be nurtured by a love that we can only call God.

As I respond to these challenges of hope, I am often drawn to reflect on the riches of our spiritual past. As we near the mid-point of our Easter journey, I would like to share a poem that I revisit time and again – a well-known one by George Herbert and one which is worth putting on in the background in its musical setting by Vaughan Williams:

LOVE bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack'd anything.

'A guest,' I answer'd, 'worthy to be here:'
Love said, 'You shall be he.'
'I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,
I cannot look on Thee.'
Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
'Who made the eyes but I?'

'Truth, Lord; but I have marr'd them: let my shame
Go where it doth deserve.'
'And know you not,' says Love, 'Who bore the blame?'
'My dear, then I will serve.'
'You must sit down,' says Love, 'and taste my meat.'
So I did sit and eat.

NICK BROWN, PRECENTOR

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday 11 May
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Eucharist
Acts 9.36-end
Revelation 7.9-end John
10.22-30

Evening Prayer
Isaiah 63.7-14
Luke 24.36-49

Sunday 18 May
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Eucharist
Acts 11.1-18
Revelation 21.1-6
John 13.31-35

Evening Prayer
Daniel 6. [1-5] 6-23
Mark 15.46-16.8

Sunday 25 May
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Eucharist
Acts 16.9-15
Revelation 21.10, 22-22.5
John 14.23-29

Evening Prayer
Zephaniah 3.14-end
Matthew 28.1-10, 16-end

Worship and Mission

Weekly service schedule

Details of services and music can be viewed on the Cathedral's website. Visit: <https://lincolncathedral.com/worship-music/services-list/>

Stillpoint

This is a time of guided silent prayer to be still and aware of the presence of God. We meet in the Longland Chantry from 9.15am to 9.45am on the following Mondays: **12 May, 9 June, 7 July, 8 September**

After Hours

Sunday 18 May, 6pm – Taizé Service

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.

Ecumenical Procession in Honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Bishop of Lincoln and the RC Bishop of Nottingham will lead a procession from Our Lady of Lincoln Church, Cabourne Avenue (LN2 2HE) to the Cathedral on Saturday 24 May. The procession will begin at 2pm. All welcome. Clergy and servers are invited to robe. Contact the Dean for further details.

Ascension Day Eucharist & Breakfast

The 7am Eucharist on Ascension Day (Thursday 29 May) will be followed by breakfast in the Cathedral Café. There is no need to book and all are welcome to join.

Community

Dean's Silver Jubilee of Ordination

Simon is celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on Tuesday 1 July. We invite you to join us in this celebration at Sung Eucharist at 5.30pm with The Very Revd Michael Tavinor, Dean Emeritus of Hereford, as the preacher. Michael was Simon's training incumbent when he was a curate in Tewkesbury. The service will be followed by drinks at the Deanery. All welcome!

A request for Lincoln Hygiene Bank

Due to the recent increase in prices on all household bills, food, and basic necessities, there is an increased demand for hygiene support. Lincoln Hygiene Bank is in urgent need of donations to keep up with increased demand. Any donations of the following would be appreciated:

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| • Adult and child toothbrushes | • Shave gel |
| • Adult and children's toothpaste | • Toilet roll |
| • Male roll on and body spray | • Any cleaning items |
| • Female roll on and body spray | • Baby and children's shampoo |
| • Shampoo | • Baby wash |
| • Shower gel | • Baby lotion |
| • Bars of soap | • Cotton buds |
| • Hand wash | • Nappies or pull ups – all sizes |
| • Razors | • Nappy cream |
| | • Nappy bags |

Donations can be dropped at TCfR Interfaith Centre, 123 High Street (Central Methodist Church) which is open Monday to Thursday from 10am to 3pm. It's recommended to message Subash at 07540 250910 first to check if someone will be there before donating.

Community

Service of Thanksgiving for Professor Nick Medland

A Service of Thanksgiving for Nick Medland will take place at 2pm on Monday 19 May in St Hugh's Choir. All are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served in the Chapter House after the service.

1700th Anniversary of the Orthodox Church

An open invitation from Fr. Philip and the parish of All Saints of Lincolnshire to join them on Saturday 31 May, as they celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Orthodox Church. There will be Great Vespers at 4pm, followed by afternoon tea. All are welcome to join at St. Matthias Church Centre, Burton Road, Lincoln. LN1 3TX

Book launch in the Cathedral shop

On Tuesday 13 May, our shop will have four new publications that have been in the making for two years. Enjoy reading about interesting topics like historic graffiti, needlework, the treasury, and tombs and monuments.

These were written by our volunteers who experts in each area. We are very proud to have these additions to our collection of publications to broaden the knowledge and interest of our visitors. Uncover some intriguing information and photographs that you may have never seen.

Lincoln Cathedral Community – Pentecost Cake in the Cloisters

We are pleased to invite you to our annual Pentecost Cakes in the Cloister on Sunday 8 June after Evensong. Tickets cost £5 and are available after Sunday morning Eucharist from a committee member or by emailing as below.

If you would like to contribute a cake for this event, please contact Theresa Moses at theresamoses7@gmail.com

We will also be arranging a Summer Visit to a place of local interest and further information will be available soon. If you wish to know more about the Lincoln Cathedral Community and how you can help, please email Andrea at lnccc@lincolncathedral.com.

Events

Lincoln Choral Society – Mass in Blue

Saturday 10 May, 7.30pm
Lincoln Choral Society, Youth Choir and Jazz ensemble, conducted by Mark Wilde will be performing:

Mass in Blue by Will Todd, Five Days that Changed the World by Bob Chilcott, Everyday Wonders: The Girl from Aleppo by Cecilia McDowall.

VE80 Concert performed by the Band of the Royal Air Force College

Saturday 17 May, 7.30pm
A special concert performed by the band of the Royal Air Force College and Lincoln Cathedral Choir to mark the 80th anniversary of VE day.

Join the band and choir as they perform a programme to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice made by all who served in and were affected by the Second World War.

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