

SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 2024

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Worcester Cathedral

Sunday News

Welcome

Welcome to the Cathedral today. If you are here with young children or babies, please ask a steward for a children's activity bag. New Worshippers are especially welcome, please ask a steward or a vergers for a welcome booklet.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Refreshments

Refreshments after the 10.30 am Sunday service will be served in the **Undercroft Learning Centre** (entrance through the cloisters) during the Christmas Tree Festival. These will, as usual, be provided by the Friends of Worcester Cathedral. All are very welcome.

Christmas Cards

The Congregational Christmas Cards postal service will be operating as usual this year. Enveloped cards (please ensure each envelope has a legible full name) may be dropped off and collected at the refreshments following the 10.30 am service today. Next weekend (Sunday 22 December) cards may only be collected.

TRIO Carol Service Reception

If you are a member of TRIO, the cathedral worshippers' planned giving scheme, you should have received an invitation to the carol service on Monday 23 December (where seating will have been reserved for you), preceded by a reception in the Chapter House at 5.15 pm. If you have received an invitation but not yet replied, could you please do so straightaway. If you have not received an invitation but should have done, please contact either Gerald Harris or Cathy Sloan (cathysloan@worcestercathedral.org.uk or 01905 732912).

Library Thank You

From the Librarian: Thank you very much indeed to everyone who donated books or helped in some way with the library bookstall for the Victorian Fayre. Your support was really appreciated and made it worthwhile.

Charity Nominations

Each year the Cathedral donates a portion of its income from congregational giving to external charities. The Congregational Committee would welcome suggestions for charities we might support this way in 2025. We are especially seeking charities (or causes) that (1) might have the potential for further practical involvement beyond financial giving; (2) advance the cathedral's vision to catalyse campaigning and awareness on the environment and social justice; (3) already have a personal connection to one or more members of the cathedral community; (4) address a particularly timely or topical concern; and/or (5) where our support might be able to make a significant difference. Please send nominations, together with links to the charity's website (if applicable) and a brief indication how it might meet some of the above criteria, to robertbeattie@worcestercathedral.org.uk by Epiphany (6 January).

Worcestershire Hoard

The Worcester City Museum has launched a fundraising campaign to enable it to purchase an unusually large hoard of 1,368 gold and silver coins recently unearthed in the county from the era of the Roman conquest. For more information see <https://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk/support-us/worcestershire-heritage-art-museums-charity/worcestershire-heritage-art-museums-charity-worcestershire-conquest-hoard>

St Oswald's Hospital, Worcester – Almshouses available

St Oswald's Hospital is an ancient foundation of almshouses, located in central Worcester at The Tything, Worcester, Worcestershire WR1 1HR. It is comprised of 21 Grade II listed almshouses, a chapel and gardens and the aim of St Oswald's Hospital is to provide high quality homes in a safe, secure and friendly environment, with a strong sense of community. Each of the almshouses is self-contained and consists of a living room, a bedroom, a kitchen and a bathroom and there are currently spaces available for new residents.

For more information, please contact Revd Canon Kimberly Bohan (Chaplain) on 01905 732906 or kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk or Matthew Hall (Steward) on 01905 732907 or at MatthewHall@WorcesterCathedral.org.uk Details of how to apply can also be found at www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/community/st-oswalds-hospital

Ministry of Reconciliation

Anyone wishing to make an appointment for the ministry of reconciliation (confession and absolution) in the days before Christmas please contact one of the Canons. Details here www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/about-us/whos-who

Prayer and Intercessions

Please pray for the sick and those in need, and for all the departed among them Anthony Ellis, Christopher Richards, Mark Richardson, and Vanessa Godfrey. The clergy maintain an intercessions list which is placed on the altar at the daily eucharist. If you would like a name to be added to this list, for whatever reason, please send an email to prayer@worcestercathedral.org.uk

Praying for the Cathedral Community

Over the course of the year a weekly prayer focus for the Cathedral Community will be printed in the Sunday News. This week we pray for the Surveyor of the Fabric, Camilla Finlay.

Something unique...

Celebrate and remember your loved one with a beautiful hand-crafted Perpetual Flame. Created exclusively for Worcester Cathedral—find out more here www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/support-us/perpetual-flame or view the display near the Jesus Chapel.

ENVIRONMENT & SOCIAL JUSTICE

DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal

The Disasters Emergency Committee, which brings together 15 UK charities, including Christian Aid, have launched an emergency appeal to raise funds for the humanitarian response to the escalating crisis in the Middle East. As the conflict in Gaza continues, a new disaster is unfolding in Lebanon. This conflict is taking a devastating toll on the lives of innocent people, more than a million of whom have fled their homes in search of safety. To donate visit www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/dec-middle-east-humanitarian-appeal

FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

Advent Group: Slowing the Season

Wednesday 18 December, 7 pm–8.30 pm in the Undercroft (enter from College Green). Advent is a season of hope and expectation—but often we are too

busy to notice. This year's Advent Group offers a space to slow down. Each week, we will consider a story from scripture, share 30 mins of silence, then have a short conversation. The evening ends with Compline. The silence is for you to use as you wish, but there will be quiet crafts and things to do for those who wish. These evenings are for anyone who wants to explore what it means to keep Advent. No prior knowledge necessary. Email kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk for parking access.

Meditative Prayer Group

The Meditative Prayer Group meets monthly by Zoom. The meeting includes both short reflections and periods of quiet for meditation and the opportunity for prayer. If you would like to join the meeting and do not have the Zoom link, please email prayer@worcestercathedral.org.uk and request the link. The next meetings will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesdays 8 January, 5 February, 12 March, 9 April, 7 May and 4 June.

Worcester Theological Society

Thursday 16 January 'A Good Read'. St Andrew's Methodist, Pump Street.
1.45 pm for a 2 pm start.

SERVICES & EVENTS

Today's Services

- 7.30 am Morning Prayer
- 8.00 am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer, with livestream*)
- 10.30 am Sung Eucharist (*sung by the Youth Choir*)
- 3.30 pm Evening Prayer
- 4.00 pm Voluntary Choir Carol Service (*sung by the Voluntary Choir*)

Next Sunday's Services

- 7.30 am Morning Prayer
- 8.00 am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer, with livestream*)
- 10.30 am Eucharist with Hymns (*no choir*)
- 4.00 pm Evening Prayer
- 6.30 pm Cathedral Carol Service

Christmas Services

- Sunday 15 December 4.00 pm Voluntary Choir Carol Service
- Tuesday 17 December 7.30 pm Worcester News Carol Service
(*sung by the Chamber Choir*)

Friday 20 December	7.30 pm	Come and Sing Christmas Carols
Saturday 21 December	2.00 pm	'Shoppers' Carol Service
Sunday 22 December	6.30 pm	Cathedral Carol Service
Monday 23 December	2.00 pm	'Shoppers' Carol Service
	6.30 pm	Cathedral Carol Service
Tuesday 24 December	1 & 3 pm	Crib Services
	5.30 pm	Evening Service with Carols
	11.00 pm	The Midnight Eucharist
Wednesday 25 December	8.00 am	Holy Communion (<i>BCP</i>)
	10.30 am	Sung Eucharist
	4.00 pm	Evensong with Carols

Worship in the Garden and Sacred Garden

You can find out more about these services and events by visiting www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/community/environment-social-action/eco-cathedral or by contacting the Revd Dr Robin Parry on revdrobin@gmail.com

Lunchtime Recitals

Recitals begin at 12.15 pm and last until around 1 pm. Admission is free with donations welcomed at a retiring collection.

Thursday 9 January	Rebecca Hardwick (soprano)
Thursday 16 January	Francois Cloete (organ)
Thursday 23 January	Roger Judd (organ)
Thursday 30 January	Anna Holmes (violin)
Thursday 6 February	Benjamin Nicholas (organ)
Thursday 13 February	Ensembles from King's School, Worcester
Thursday 20 February	Quattuor Artium (piano quartet)
Thursday 27 February	Jonathan Hope (organ)
Thursday 6 March	Ahmed Dickinson (guitar)
Thursday 13 March	Keith Hearnshaw (organ)
Thursday 20 March	Angelina Kopyrina (piano)
Thursday 27 March	Vocal students from RGS Worcester

GENERAL NOTICES

Parking

Those attending regular services may obtain the bollard code for College Green (email parking@worcestercathedral.org.uk)—the entrance from College Green to the cloisters is open on Sunday mornings and now unlocked (though

shut) for Sunday Evensongs. Please note that parking on College Yard on the north side of the cathedral is no longer possible.

Safeguarding at Worcester Cathedral

The Cathedral's Safeguarding Lead is Canon Kimberly Bohan, whose contact email is: kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk The phone number is 01905 732906 and the website (link below) contains all contact details. The Cathedral website provides details of our Safeguarding policy and procedures as well as information about Safe Spaces, an independent service supporting survivors of church-related abuse.

www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/safeguarding

Sunday News

Notices for inclusion in the Sunday News should be emailed (usually by the previous Wednesday) to sundaynews@worcestercathedral.org.uk