

SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2025

CANDLEMAS



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 verger for a welcome booklet.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Congregational Forum

On Sunday 9 March there will be the first Congregational Forum—an opportunity to hear more about the Cathedral's mission and ministry as well as the projects and plans for the future. Alongside presentations from the Dean and the COO there will be an opportunity for questions and discussions. The Forum will take place in the Undercroft and immediately after the Sung Eucharist.

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

Prayer and Intercessions

Please pray for the sick and those in need, and for all the departed among them David Wilmer, Geoffrey Armstrong, and John Stanbury. 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

cathedral's Guild of Bellringers; the feast of St Agatha, patron saint of bellringers, falls this Wednesday.

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

Living Gently on the Earth

Worcester Cathedral's award-winning training programme Living Gently on the Earth continues with its focus on enabling green and generous living in all its aspects:

- Saturday 15 March, 1.30 pm. **Foundations for a Wise Economy (Doughnut Economics).**
- Saturday 17 May, 1.30pm. **Living a low-carbon lifestyle.**
- Saturday 19 July, 1.30 pm. **Living in Harmony with Life: diet and animal Welfare.**
- Saturday 20 September, 1.30 pm. **Responsible Stewardship of Land and Sea: bio-diversity, fertilisers, pollution, habitat use.**
- Saturday 15 November, 1.30 pm. **Eco-justice: responding to the social implications of ecological harm**



The events are free. You can get more details and book a place to attend at www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/eco (or scan the QR code with your phone camera). *Tickets are not compulsory* for attendance but will ensure that you have a place if the event is full and will give us a guide of how many people to expect.

Worcester City Welcomes Refugees – appeal for clothing

Significant numbers of new asylum seekers continue to arrive in Worcester; many have only been in England for a few days/weeks. Worcester City Welcomes Refugees is doing its best, but struggling to keep pace with the demand for basic clothing, despite buying items from local charity shops and seeking donations through their networks. If you can help by collecting men's clothing (small & medium sizes), such as winter coats, trousers, warm jumpers/fleeces, t-shirts, shoes, they can be brought to the Granary in St Martin's Quarter.

The SOPHIA Course: A Christian Eco-Spirituality Journey

The Sophia Course is a one-year journey of spiritual formation with a focus on creation-attuned spirituality. It is for anyone seeking to explore and grow in Christian discipleship in a world facing unprecedented environmental challenges. The course will be delivered over six day-long sessions at Worcester Cathedral, which is an award-winning centre for Green training and education, covering spirituality, lifestyle, and campaigning ([2024 Church Times Green Church Awards](#)). The training days aim to engage body, soul, and spirit, blending more theoretical and more practical teaching with hands-on activities, social time, and contemplative prayer. (The six Saturdays are: 15 March, 17 May, 19 July, 20 September, 15 November, 17 January.)

In addition to the formal training days, those on the journey will live by a 'rule of life' aimed at instilling patterns of daily prayer and learning to walk gently on the earth. For more information, please contact the Revd Dr Robin Parry at RobinParry@worcestercathedral.org.uk. There will be two 30-minute information sessions on Thursday 30 January (7.30 pm–8 pm) and Monday 10 February (7.30 pm–8 pm), for either of which a zoom link may be requested.

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 meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 5 February; subsequent meetings will be on 12 March, 9 April, 7 May and 4 June.

Worcester Theological Society

Thursday 13 February – a visit from Queen's College students. St Andrew's Methodist, Pump Street. 1.45 pm for a 2 pm start.

SERVICES & EVENTS

Today's Services

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| 7.30 am | Morning Prayer |
| 8.00 am | Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer, with livestream</i>) |
| 10.30 am | Sung Eucharist (<i>sung by the Youth Choir; with incense</i>) |
| 3.00 pm | Worship in the Garden |
| 4.00 pm | Evensong (<i>sung by the Chamber Choir</i>) |
| 6.30 pm | Devotional Performance of <i>A Ceremony of Carols</i> by Benjamin Britten (<i>sung by the Cathedral Choristers and Voluntary Choir</i>) |

Next Sunday's Services

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

Forthcoming Services

Friday 28 February 5.30 pm Sung Eucharist for the Feast of St Oswald

A Ceremony of Carols

A Ceremony of Carols, for children's voices and harp, is one of Benjamin Britten's best-loved and most-performed works. It offers a varied selection of carol settings including the forthright *Wolcum Yole!*, the deliciously lyrical *There is no Rose*, the swinging *Balulalow*, and the fiery and dramatic *This little Babe*. It will be performed this evening at 6.30 pm by the choristers of the Cathedral Choir and Voluntary Choir, accompanied by readings and a short address, as a fitting close to the Christmas and Epiphany seasons.

Worship in the Garden and Sacred Garden

You can find out more about these services and events by visiting www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/eco or by contacting the Revd Dr Robin Parry on RobinParry@worcestercathedral.org.uk

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 6 February	Benjamin Nicholas (organ)
Thursday 13 February	Ensembles from King's School, Worcester
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