

**SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2024**

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Worcester Cathedral  

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**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.

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## **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.

### **Congratulations**

Many congratulations to David Manton on his 100th birthday last week. We have enjoyed having David as a member of the congregation since he moved here to live with his daughter, Elizabeth Fowler. Please join him in the Undercroft after the 10.30 am service to celebrate and enjoy a piece of cake.

### **Christmas Cards**

The Congregational Christmas Cards postal service will be operating as usual this year. Starting today (Sunday 8 December), enveloped cards (please ensure each envelope has a legible full name) may be dropped off at the refreshments following the 10.30 am service. On 15 December, cards may be dropped off and collected; while on 22 December cards may only be collected.

### **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](mailto:robertbeattie@worcestercathedral.org.uk) by Epiphany (6 January).

### **Calling all Angels, Innkeepers, and Holy Families...**

We are currently casting for this year's Crib Services, which take place on Christmas Eve at 1 pm and 3 pm. If you would like to be involved, please contact [kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk) or come to a short meeting after the 10.30 am Eucharist today (Sunday 8 December).

### **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](mailto:kimberlybohan@worcestercathedral.org.uk) or Matthew Hall (Steward) on 01905 732907 or at [MatthewHall@WorcesterCathedral.org.uk](mailto:MatthewHall@WorcesterCathedral.org.uk) Details of how to apply can also be found at [www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/community/st-oswalds-hospital](http://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](http://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 and Christopher Richards. 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](mailto: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 Steward (Chief Operating Officer) Matthew Hall.

### **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](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/support-us/perpetual-flame) or view the display near the Jesus Chapel.

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## **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](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/emergencies/dec-middle-east-humanitarian-appeal)

### **[In]Visible Exhibition**

There is an installation in the Lady Chapel (until Tuesday 10 December) by artist Stephanie Green to mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence 2024, offering a poignant juxtaposition—delicate fabrics moving gently, veiling the harsh and painful words of those who have shared their stories. At a distance, the beauty of the installation captivates. Yet, as you draw closer, the weight of these hidden truths becomes inescapable.

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## **FAITH & SPIRITUALITY**

### **Advent Group: Slowing the Season**

Wednesdays in Advent (11 & 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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## **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
- 4.00 pm Evensong
- 6.30 pm Evening Worship (*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 Sung Eucharist (*sung by the Youth Choir*)
- 3.30 pm Evening Prayer
- 4.00 pm Voluntary Choir Carol Service (*sung by the Voluntary Choir*)

### **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

### Tidings of Joy

Join us for the Cathedral Choir's ever-popular Christmas concert at 7.30 pm on Saturday 14 December. Tickets and further details from

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tidings-of-joy-worcester-cathedrals-christmas-concert-tickets-1046869644287>

### 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](http://www.worcestercathedral.org.uk/community/environment-social-action/eco-cathedral) or by contacting the Revd Dr Robin Parry on [revdrobin@gmail.com](mailto:revdrobin@gmail.com)

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## GENERAL NOTICES

### Parking

Those attending regular services may obtain the bollard code for College Green (email [parking@worcestercathedral.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:sundaynews@worcestercathedral.org.uk)