

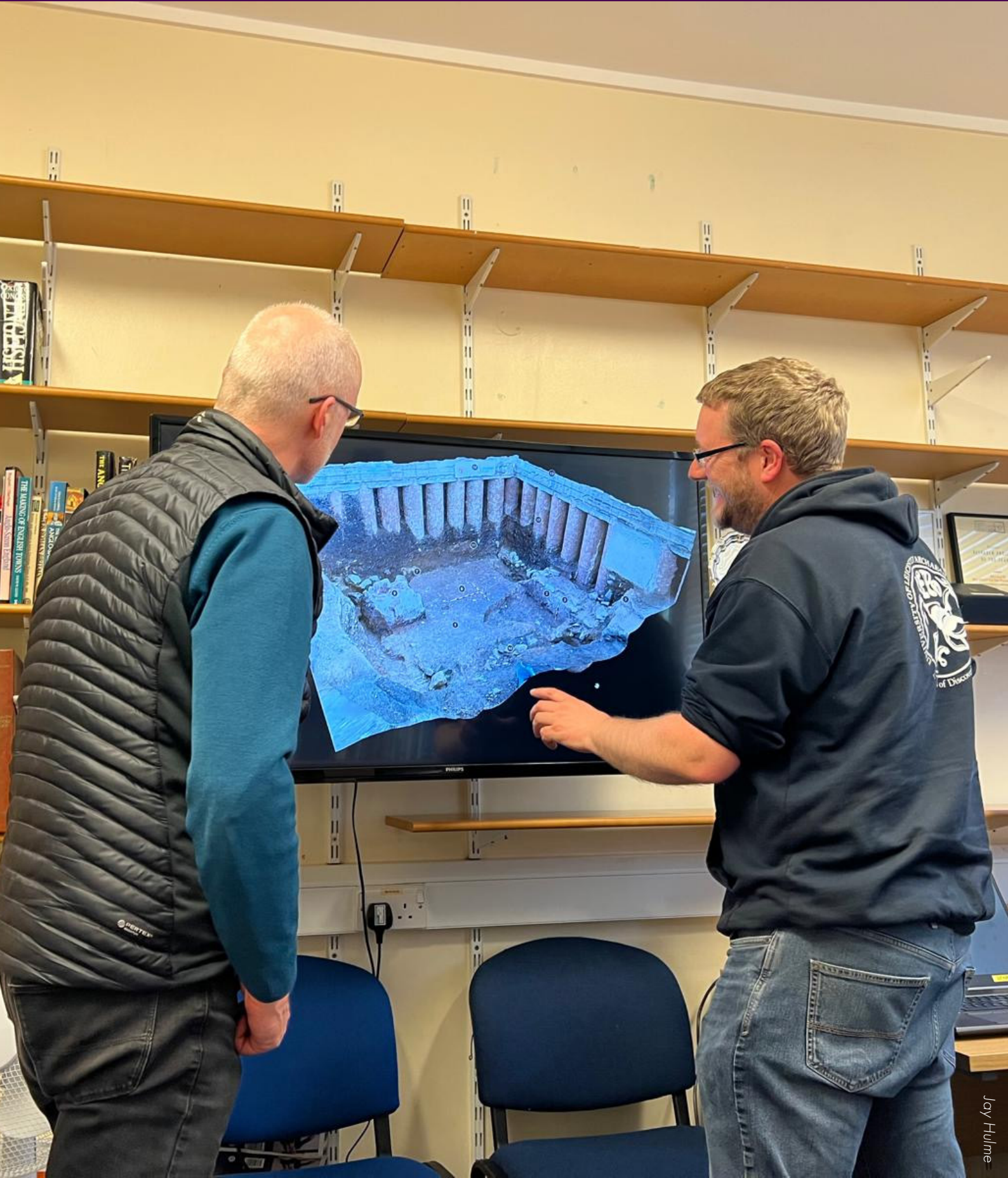
# Cathedral in Touch

A Newsletter for our Community

21 April 2024 | 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



Leicester **Cathedral**  
A beating heart for City and County



## Good Shepherd

*I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.*

John 10.14–15

The idea of the Good Shepherd predates Christianity by a long time. In agrarian societies leaders were identified as shepherds in ancient near-east texts many centuries before Christ. So the idea of God as shepherd and king is firmly established in the Old Testament, as well as in Homer's poetry and Plato uses the metaphor for good leadership. In Greek mythology a figure carrying a ram or sheep on their shoulders depicted the carrying or ferrying of the soul. The Romans added 'solicitous care' and love to this motif.

In the Old Testament, David is the strongest example of a shepherd king who fights bears and wolves to defend his flock, and who adeptly sacrifices himself to the contest against a giant of an enemy. The gospels present Jesus as the one who knows, seeks, protects, provides and sacrifices himself for his sheep – the Good Shepherd.

The Greek word used in John's gospel for 'good', *kalos*, means beautiful. There is both an inward moral goodness in Jesus and an embodied physical goodness. He is 'the most handsome of men: grace is poured upon your lips' (Psalm 45.2)

This painting below, by Emmaus O'Herlihy OSB, presents Jesus to us as the one who gives up his life for the sheep, and carries them on his shoulders. Like Jesus in the resurrection icons, the shepherd grips the sheep tightly. The sheep is valuable, and has been sought after and searched for, and he will not let it go. The sheep is entirely safe on the shoulders of the shepherd and almost becomes part of him. In the security of this relationship, Jesus attention is ahead of him, 'out there', in the world where they are heading together.

As the Church reflects on Jesus as Good Shepherd this week, may this motif inform our prayers for a frightened and fragmented world, and enable space in our hearts for the risen Christ to speak to us.

**Karen Rooms**  
Dean of Leicester



## CANON-IN-RESIDENCE

ONE OF the clergy always holds this phone. Do feel able to contact us if you need but please be aware we cannot receive texts.

**07399 523 330**

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- 4** News and Services

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  - 7** Talk: Stories from Sikh & Punjab History

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  - 10** Be a Chorister for a Day & Events

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# News & Updates

## Cathedral Outing 2024: Scarborough!

Our much-loved Cathedral summer outing is back, and this year's destination is Scarborough!

Join us on Saturday 24 June for sea, sand, socialising (definitely), and sun (possibly!). The cost for

the coach is £25 per adult and £15 per child; we also have a family rate of £50 for up to two adults and three children.

The coach will leave the Cathedral at 7.30am, and Scarborough at 5.30pm.



Sign up using the sheet by the refreshment area after the 10.30am Sunday Eucharist, or email Nathan on [nathanmorley82@hotmail.com](mailto:nathanmorley82@hotmail.com).

## Visit to ULAS

Last week Simon Bentley, Project Director of *Leicester Cathedral Revealed*, visited University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS).

He was shown 3D models of the dig site and of artefacts found during the excavation.

These will soon feature as part of our website and interactive interpretation displays in the Cathedral.



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# Services this week

## SUNDAY 21 APRIL

**EASTER 4**

10.30am Cathedral Eucharist  
3.30pm Choral Evensong  
6.30pm Eucharist at St Nicholas Church

## MONDAY 22 APRIL

8.30am Morning Eucharist  
12.30pm Lunchtime Recital: Lizzy Regan and James Cowen (Organ)  
5.30pm Choral Evensong

## TUESDAY 23 APRIL

**ST GEORGE'S DAY**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist  
5.30pm Choral Evensong

## WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL

8.30am Morning Prayer  
12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

## THURSDAY 25 APRIL

**MARK THE EVANGELIST**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist  
5.30pm Choral Evensong

## FRIDAY 26 APRIL

8.30am Morning Prayer  
12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

## SATURDAY 27 APRIL

9.30am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Quiet Morning:  
Stations of the Resurrection  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

## SUNDAY 28 APRIL

**EASTER 5**

10.30am Cathedral Eucharist  
3.30pm Choral Evensong  
6.30pm Eucharist at St Nicholas Church

# Job Vacancy

## Canon Missioner

A full-time Residentiary Canon and missional priest with specific responsibility for leading outreach and engagement and for developing the Cathedral as an intercultural worshipping community.

Leicester Cathedral is in the heart of one of the UK's most diverse cities and the person we seek will enjoy offering Christian leadership in intercultural and interfaith contexts, and building relationships and partnerships inside and outside the Church.

We are looking for a colleague

- *whose ministry is shaped by the Anglican five marks of mission*
- *who can easily move between cultures and faiths*
- *who delivers projects that brings benefits in local community, especially among the vulnerable*
- *with experience of developing intercultural worshipping community*
- *with a track record in equity, diversity and inclusion work*

We are particularly keen to receive applications from UKME/GMH people who are currently under-represented in the Cathedral team.

**Application forms can be found on our website ([leicestercathedral.org/vacancies](https://leicestercathedral.org/vacancies)).**

**Closing date:** Wednesday 24 April 2024, 11.59pm

Candidates wishing to have an informal conversation about this role with the Dean, The Very Revd Karen Rooms, may email her to arrange a call or Zoom meeting. Please contact: [Karen.Rooms@LeicesterCofE.org](mailto:Karen.Rooms@LeicesterCofE.org)



# Stories from Sikh and Punjab History found in British Churches

Thursday 25 April 2024  
6.30–8.30pm

*Britain's streets are full of stories from Sikh and Punjabi history.*

Rav Singh brings these stories to life through A Little History of the Sikhs – a community initiative he founded that works to translate research in modern-day Sikh history and heritage into walking tours, day trips, and annual study visits to destinations in the UK and across Western Europe.

Rav will be presenting stories from Sikh and Punjab history that are memorialised in Abbeys, Cathedrals, and Churches across the South-East of England in this talk at Leicester Cathedral. The talk will be followed by a question and answer session and refreshments.

*This event is run in partnership with St Philip's Centre.*



## Tickets

Adults £5.50

Concession £3.50

available from [Eventbrite](#).



# ST. GEORGE'S DAY FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY 20 APRIL**  
**12noon - 5pm**

**OLD TOWN, LEICESTER**

Celebrate St George's Day with the  
annual free family festival across  
Leicester's Old Town!



Celebrate the day of history and heritage with family friendly activities and entertainment.

This year, the festival is relocating to Leicester's Old Town around the Cathedral, bringing exciting new additions and themes including traditional activities, storytelling, theatrical fun, living history, tours and trails. Also new is a modern-day

Medieval Market and for the grown-ups an Ale Trail, taking in some of Leicester's most historic pubs.

As the clock strikes 12, Leicester Cathedral's bells will ring to open the celebrations – cross paths with a dragon, hear legends of medieval kings, barter with a merchant from the Middle Ages or find yourself in a folk dance!

**[See Cathedral events & much more, including the brochure online!](#)**



# Saturday 20 April 2024

Join us to bring Old Town alive for St George's Day! As the clock strikes 12, Leicester Cathedral's bells will ring to open the celebrations. The chimes mark a day of history and heritage; cross paths with a dragon, hear legends of medieval kings, barter with a merchant from the Middle Ages or find yourself in a folk dance!

## St George's Day Traditions



### Leicester Morris

12.30pm: KRILL Visitors Centre,  
1.30pm Leicester Cathedral &  
3pm Leicester Guildhall

Recently celebrating their 70th anniversary, see traditional morris dancing since having officially opened their membership to all.

## Story-telling & theatrical fun



### Children's Magic Shows with Allin Kempthorne

12noon – 5pm

St Martin's House Carpark

Meet our fantastic host Allin and adorable baby dragon, Shows at 1.30pm, 3pm & 4pm.

**Inferno! The Dragon**  
12.15pm, 1.15pm, 2.15pm & 4.15pm  
A billow of smoke and a fearsome roar. Beware of the legendary dragon stalking the grounds!

### The BookBus

12noon – 5pm

St Martin's House Carpark

There's a tale or two to be told for young children at the bus plus storytelling for older children and adults in the Cathedral at 3pm & 4pm.

## Tours & Trails



### Richard III: Guided Tours

11.30am & 2.30pm

40 minute tour

Leicester Cathedral

Tickets: £3.50 available on the day from Leicester Cathedral.

Accompanied children under 16 free.

Discover the fascinating story, beautifully crafted tomb, and the magnificent Redemption Windows, before moving on to the Visitor Centre to see the Pall created for the lying-in-repose of Richard III.

### St George and Leicester Cathedral: Guided Tours

1pm & 3.30pm

40 minute tour

Leicester Cathedral

Tickets: £3.50 available on the day from the welcome point inside the Cathedral. Accompanied children under 16 admitted free.

Find out more about St George's connection to Leicester Cathedral through the depictions in the building and the history of past traditions and events that took place on St George's Day.

### The Saints of Leicester Cathedral: St George's Day Trail

Leicester Cathedral

12noon – 5pm

Follow a trail around Leicester Cathedral. Discover the stories of St George and the other saints by finding their pictures in our windows and statues. Follow the clues and complete our trail to get a small prize at the end.



## Modern Day Medieval Market

12noon – 5pm

When medieval markets meet the modern day! This reimagining of what we might expect to see from traders in years gone by, showcases 21st century goods from local independent businesses. Artisan foods and drink, arts and crafts, textiles and more.

Peruse the stalls in two of Leicester's most iconic historical buildings  
**Leicester Guildhall & Leicester Cathedral.**

**See many more events in the brochure online!**



# Be a Chorister for a day!



**Enjoy singing?**

Join us for a day to see what it's  
like to be in Leicester Cathedral Choir  
For children in Key Stage 2

**Saturday 27 April 2024**

St Martins House, LE1 5PZ

Scan the code to book a free place

**0116 261 5369**

**[cathedral.music@leicestercofe.org](mailto:cathedral.music@leicestercofe.org)**



**Scan me!**

[www.leicestercathedral.org](http://www.leicestercathedral.org)



**Leicester  
Cathedral**

# Lunchtime Recitals

## Summer Season 2024



**12.30pm | Free admission,  
donations encouraged**

Monday 13 May  
**Ellis Thomas Piano\***

Monday 27 May  
**Philip Millwood Organ**

Monday 10 June  
**Anna Crawford Cello (+ Duet partner)\***

Monday 24 June  
**Osnabruck Youth Choir**

Monday 8 July  
**Leicestershire Music Strings Ensemble**

Students aged 13–18, the LMSE performs a varied programme of summer chamber music including well-known quartets and octets. Directed by Phil Houghton.

**Philharmonia**

\* with the **Philharmonia Fellowship Scheme**

The Philharmonia is a world-class symphony orchestra – based in London at Southbank Centre’s Royal Festival Hall, resident in cities and at festivals across England, and streaming online, the Philharmonia creates thrilling performances for a global audience.

Here at Leicester Cathedral, we’re thrilled to welcome Philharmonia Orchestra Instrumental Fellows for a series of recitals in a new partnership with this acclaimed orchestra.



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[www.leicestercathedral.org](http://www.leicestercathedral.org)



# Iain McKillop's **Stations of the Resurrection**

Hope beyond tragedy: an exhibition of perspectives on Christ's resurrection

**3 April – 20 May**

Resurrection Stations explore the accounts of witnesses who were convinced of Jesus' return to life. McKillop, the acclaimed British painter and art-historian, hopes to make us consider the evidence of the Gospel accounts, the implications of Jesus' resurrection, and what aspects might convince us to trust in God and Christ's teachings today.

**Free entry**

## Cathedral **Book Club**

Our Cathedral Book Club meets online once a month over Zoom, from 7.00–8.00pm

### **Thursday 9 May**

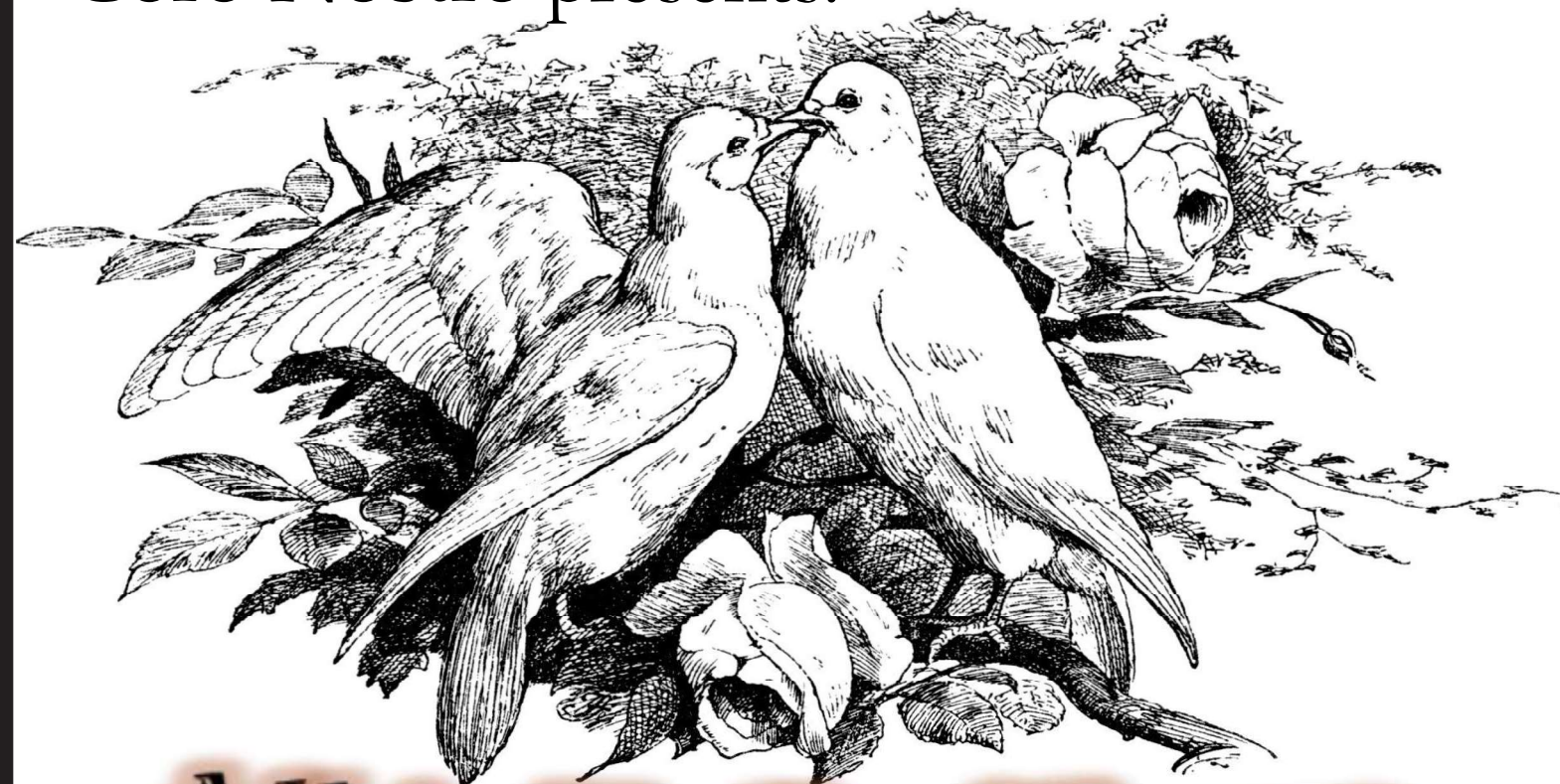
We will be reading ***Stations of the Resurrection: Encounters with Risen Christ***, accompanying the exhibition. Offering reflections on the Stations from the bestselling poet Malcolm Guite and the much-admired writer and bishop, Guli Francis-Dehqani.

The book is available from both the Cathedral shop outlet and Christian Resources Leicester. **Only £11.99 to visitors of the Cathedral (RRP £13.99)**

New members are always welcome – please email Jude ([Jude.Taylor@LeicesterCofE.org](mailto:Jude.Taylor@LeicesterCofE.org)) to be added to the Book Club mailing list.



Coro Nostro presents:



## All is Full of Love

Join Coro as we celebrate the Spring,  
with songs about **love**,  
the **natural world**  
and settings of the **Song of Songs**.

Featuring works by **Holst, Victoria,**  
**Janáček, MacMillan** and many more.



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm

The Great Meeting Chapel  
45 East Bond Street, Leicester LE1 4SX

Tickets available on the door £10 (£8) includes wine / soft drinks





Martin Dyer

*As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart.*

Proverbs 27.19

#### Footnotes

**1** It is Spring – I asked Siri and “he” confirmed that Spring had sprung – his precise words!

**2** I have many hundreds of images of that tree, taken in sun, wind, rain, and snow, with all kinds of people and birds in. One day I will get round of making an exhibition of them. Maybe.

**3** We only had twenty four Alleluias in last Sunday's meeting – I threw in a few more at the end to bring the numbers up.

**4** Tell me you do know what I am on about please!

**5** with thanks to Dr Peter Jones who spotted the resemblance immediately.

**6** Paul Simon's “I Don't Believe” on [YouTube](#).

**7** Loretta Lyn and Albert King – you choose!

# Prayer Thoughts

Hello again!  
How are you? Are you enjoying the first signs of Spring<sup>1</sup> after the perma-rain of this long-wet winter, the pale blue skies and the myriad of vigorous



greens? New life is everywhere and growth is almost visible, if silent to our ears. I photograph the old horse chestnut tree in Museum Square nearly every day and the rate of change over the last week or so, when we have had a little warmth from the Sun, has been remarkable; it is the most gorgeous tree and for now covered in flowers.<sup>2</sup> Our bicycles are on the move once again, another sure sign that better weather has arrived, hence the image above. I am now eagerly awaiting the return of the swallows and swifts and then my joy will be complete. It is still a little early, although the earliest I have seen them was 9 April one year and I know where they live on Aylestone Meadows! I shall be waiting!

In the Cathedral during the Easter period we have the lovely rite where water is blessed/sanctified and then sprinkled over us, while

the choir sings verses from Ezekiel 47, a prophetic vision of the healing waters of God; “all those to whom the waters comes are healed, Alleluia Alleluia.”<sup>3</sup> I have no idea how ancient this rite is or where it came from, but it speaks to of many things, not only baptism, but also the priceless gift of eternal life. (It also reminds me of the Ent draught in the Wellinghall of the Forest of Fangorn in *The Lord of the Rings*, where Merry and Pippin are not only healed but put on a belated growth spurt, so they become the tallest hobbits in the histories of the Shires.<sup>4</sup> I am going to make sure I am really drenched next week!)

Here is a thing though. Leicester Market is currently being destroyed. I happened to be passing when the Diplodocus<sup>5</sup> started munching at the sign above the old entrance. By the looks of the designs, the new market

is going to be a marked improvement on the old, which had really become very “tired” especially following the pandemic (haven’t we all?).

We, as followers of Jesus are all about NEW LIFE for old, life in abundance here and now, pressed down and overflowing; and we are also about eternal resurrection life. NEW LIFE is the very core of my being, of my existence; I believe totally that this current life is not a whim.<sup>6</sup> But we cannot have the new without getting rid of the old; the two cannot co-exist, something like matter and anti-matter. As followers of Jesus we die to ourselves, firstly through baptism and then by taking up our cross daily. In order to live, to truly live, we must first die (John 12.24–26). And as Emma reminded us last Sunday, the Greek word for “witness” can also be read as “martyr”.

Sister Death will come. I don’t want to die (“Everybody want to go to heaven – ain’t nobody wanna die”<sup>7</sup>) but

*When death comes  
like the hungry bear in autumn;  
when death comes and takes all the bright  
coins from his purse  
to buy me, and snaps the purse shut;  
when death comes  
like the measles-pox  
when death comes  
like an iceberg between the shoulder blades,  
I want to step through the door full of  
curiosity, wondering:  
what is it going to be like, that cottage of  
darkness?  
And therefore I look upon everything  
as a brotherhood and a sisterhood,  
and I look upon time as no more than an idea,*



*and I consider eternity as another possibility,*

*and I think of each life as a flower, as common; as a field daisy, and as singular, and each name a comfortable music in the mouth, tending, as all music does, toward silence, and each body a lion of courage, and something precious to the earth.*

*When it’s over, I want to say all my life I was a bride married to amazement. I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.*

*When it’s over, I don’t want to wonder if I have made of my life something particular, and real.*

*I don’t want to find myself sighing and frightened, or full of argument.*

*I don’t want to end up simply having visited this world.*

A haunting prayer by Mary Oliver published in 1991, nearly thirty years before her death.

May the life, joy and peace that the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit bring, be among us and remain with us always.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen Alleluia!  
Amen.

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP LEICESTER CATHEDRAL

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### ONLINE GIVING

Donate online [here](#).

### By TEXT

To donate £5, text PLATE to 70970

To donate £10, text PLATE to 70191

### INTO OUR BANK ACCOUNT

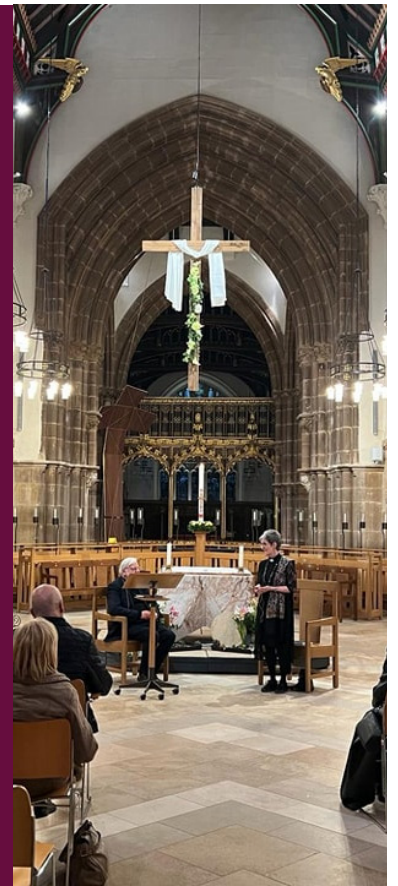
Account Name: Leicester Cathedral Chapter

Account Number: 03807282 | Sort Code: 20-49-11

### BY CHEQUE

Payable to: Leicester Cathedral Chapter

Address: St Martins House, 7 Peacock Lane,  
Leicester, LE1 5PZ



## SAFEGUARDING

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**THE DEAN** Designate and Chapter of the Cathedral are wholly committed to the safety, well-being and protection of everyone having contact with our community.

We all share responsibility for Safeguarding.

If you have concerns about the welfare or behaviour of an adult, young person or child, please speak to one of the Residentiary Canons or to Linda Green or Amanda Fitchett, our Safeguarding Co-ordinators.

The Residentiary Canons can be approached in person or contacted on **07399 523 330**.

The Safeguarding Co-ordinators do not publish their contact details. Please speak to a verger if you wish to contact them. You do not need to explain the reason for your request.

All concerns will be responded to proportionately and with discretion.

