

Cathedral in Touch

A Newsletter for our Community

24 March 2024 | Palm Sunday



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



Into Holy Week

This week the second **Anglican Intercultural Mission Conference** took place in St Martins House, hosted by the Diocese of Leicester. Nearly 200 delegates gathered from across the UK to learn and share good practice around intercultural mission and intercultural church. The conference was chaired by The Rt Revd Dr Timothy Wambunya, and our diocesan Director of Intercultural Ministry, Jessie Tang, and bishops Lusa Nsenge-Ngoy (previous holder of Jessie's role), Martyn and Saju, all offered their learning and experience in intercultural ministry.

Four themes were explored: Racial Justice, Global Cultural Awareness, Jesus' Great Commission 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations', and Church as 'Rehearsal for heavenly worship'. During the opening eucharist in the Cathedral I was particularly struck by Bishop Timothy's sermon from Matthew 18.10–14. Jesus says, *'Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones... if a shepherd has a hundred sheep... does he not leave them and go in search of the one..?'*

We know that the *Windrush* generation of Caribbean Anglicans was not welcomed into the Anglican Church in England. We repent of that 'unwelcome'. Bishop Timothy invited us all into a posture and attitude of attentiveness to the ones on the edge, and those who are not in the centre of things. Notice who is not inside the fold, or in the 'in-crowd' in your churches. Go and look for the voices that are not being heard, like children and young people, and those from different backgrounds. Find those

who do not have friends in your church community and introduce them to others. Join in the work of Jesus to go looking for people out on the edges.

One of the ways we can do this is to call out and speak in the language they speak. I have heard a number of stories this week about people who have been deeply moved to hear singing or prayers or readings in services in their mother tongue. Here are some of the reflections and comments. 'I feel I belong', 'I heard the good news in my language and can respond with my own voice', 'I know this place is mine', 'Heavenly worship will be like this'. This is why it was important for the many voices in our Cathedral communities and Diocese to find expression at my installation service, and there has been considerable appreciative feedback from people both inside and outside the Church.

So what does 'intercultural' mean? It describes communities in which members deeply understand and respect all cultures. Communication focuses on mutually exchanging ideas and cultural norms, and developing deep relationships. In intercultural community no-one is left unchanged because everyone learns from one another and grows together. This is very different to the operative mode of mission in the Anglican Church in England which is 'assimilation'. That is, the process where individuals or groups of differing ethnic or cultural heritage are expected to be, and are, absorbed into the dominant culture of a society.

So an Intercultural Worshipping Community refers to a gathering

of believers from diverse cultural, ethnic, geographic, and religious heritages exchanging ideas, learning from one another, developing relationships, and growing together as a family of God. This is something we are being more and more intentional about here at Leicester Cathedral and we are part of the diocesan programme. I am inviting those of global majority heritage to form a reference group to help steer us as we sail onwards on this journey, and there will be conversations after Easter to move this forward.

This coming Holy Week we will, like the women at the cross, watch the events of the last week of Jesus' life from a distance. I invite you to participate in our **Service of Music and Readings** on Palm Sunday afternoon; our special **evening services**, and to join us between 12.00–3.00pm on **Good Friday** at the cross. We will watch the intention of Jesus to deliberately lay down his life for 'the sheep', you and me. We will watch his emptying of himself, his humbling of himself, his becoming obedient to the point of death (Phil 2.6–8). We will see his final act of searching us out, and bringing us home in God.

It is my prayer that I, and we, may grow in that same spirit of humility that lets go of our self-preservation, for the sake of the other.

Karen Rooms Dean of Leicester



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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

News & Updates



Confirmations

Are you interested in being confirmed? A Service of Confirmation (in which a person confirms the promises made when they were baptized) will be held on Sunday 19 May, led by Bishop Saju.

We will be running a short course prior to this service to help prepare those who will be confirmed.

This will take place at St Martins House on Sunday lunchtimes (starting Sunday 14 April), from 12.00–1.00pm, led by Canon Emma, Jude (Discipleship Officer), and other members of our Cathedral community.

It will be a great opportunity to reflect together on our faith

and what we believe as we prepare to take this significant step in our journeys of faith.

If you are interested in being confirmed, please contact Jude (jude.taylor@leicestercofe.org) by Friday 12 April.

Passiontide by Simon Mold at St Denys Church, Evington

Following last year's CD release, the cantata *Passiontide* by Cathedral Songman Simon Mold is to be performed locally again, at St Denys Church, Evington, on Tuesday 26 March at 7.30pm.

The cantata, for soloists,

choir and organ, presents a musical account of scenes from the familiar Passion story, from the Last Supper to the Crucifixion, and includes congregational hymns.

All are welcome; there is no charge and

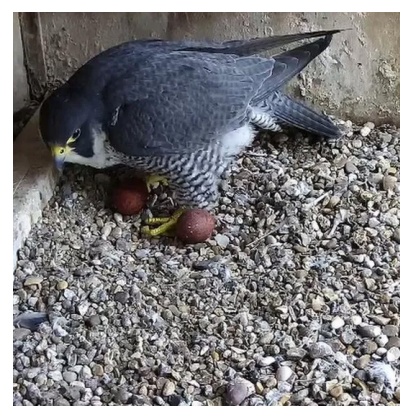
refreshments afterwards!

Conducted by the composer, running time is approx. 75 minutes. Please do consider coming along and bringing family and friends.

First peregrine eggs of 2024 laid

Our resident peregrine falcon living in the spire has laid her first two eggs of the season. The webcam monitoring the birds of prey has captured footage of the eggs in their nest.

The Leicester Peregrines group said they were delighted after the eggs were laid on Sunday and Wednesday, and are hoping for more. Watch the [livestream here](#).



Services this week

SUNDAY 24 MARCH

PALM SUNDAY

- 10.30am Cathedral Eucharist
- 3.30pm Service of Music & Readings for Passiontide
- 6.30pm Eucharist at St Nicholas Church

MONDAY 25 MARCH

- 8.30am Morning Eucharist
- 12.30pm Holy Week Organ Meditation
- 7.00pm Holy Week Reflective Service

TUESDAY 26 MARCH

- 8.30am Morning Prayer
- 12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist
- 7.00pm Holy Week Reflective Service

WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH

- 8.30am Morning Prayer
- 12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist
- 7.00pm Holy Week Reflective Service

THURSDAY 28 MARCH

MAUNDY THURSDAY

- 8.30am Morning Prayer
- 11.00am Chrism Eucharist
- 7.00pm Eucharist of the Last Supper

FRIDAY 29 MARCH

GOOD FRIDAY

- 8.30am Morning Prayer
 - 12.00pm The Three Hours
- Cathedral closed for general visiting from 12.00pm*

SATURDAY 30 MARCH

HOLY SATURDAY

- 9.30am Morning Prayer
- 8.00pm Easter Vigil

SUNDAY 31 MARCH

EASTER DAY

- 10.30am Easter Day Eucharist
- 3.30pm Easter Day Choral Evensong
- 6.30pm Eucharist at St Nicholas Church

MONDAY 1 APRIL

*Cathedral open from 10.00am–4.30pm
Morning and Evening Prayer will be said privately.*

TUESDAY 2 APRIL

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

Holy Week & Easter 2024

What's On

Holy Week

Palm Sunday 24 March

Cathedral Eucharist | 10.30am

Starting in Jubilee Square before travelling to the Cathedral.

Service of Music and Readings for Passiontide | 3.30pm

A reflective service as we enter Holy Week.

Monday 25, Tuesday 26, Wednesday 27 March | 7.00pm

Holy Week Evening Services

Reflective services as we journey through Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday 28 March

Diocesan Chrism Eucharist | 11.00am

With the Renewal of Ordination Vows, the Celebration of Ministries, and the Blessing of Holy Oils.

Eucharist of the Last Supper | 7.00pm

Remembering the Last Supper and re-enacting the washing of the disciples' feet, ending with a time of silent vigil.

Good Friday 29 March

The Three Hours | from 12.00–3.00pm

A three hour devotion with prayers, hymns, music, addresses, and silence. You are welcome to join us for all or part of the Liturgy for Good Friday.

Holy Saturday 30 March

Easter Vigil | 8.00pm

A journey from darkness to light, from the tomb to new life. With fire and incense, and the first Eucharist of Easter.

Easter Day Sunday 31 March

Easter Day Eucharist | 10.30am

Join us as we celebrate the new life of Easter with the Bishop of Loughborough.

Easter Choral Evensong | 3.30pm

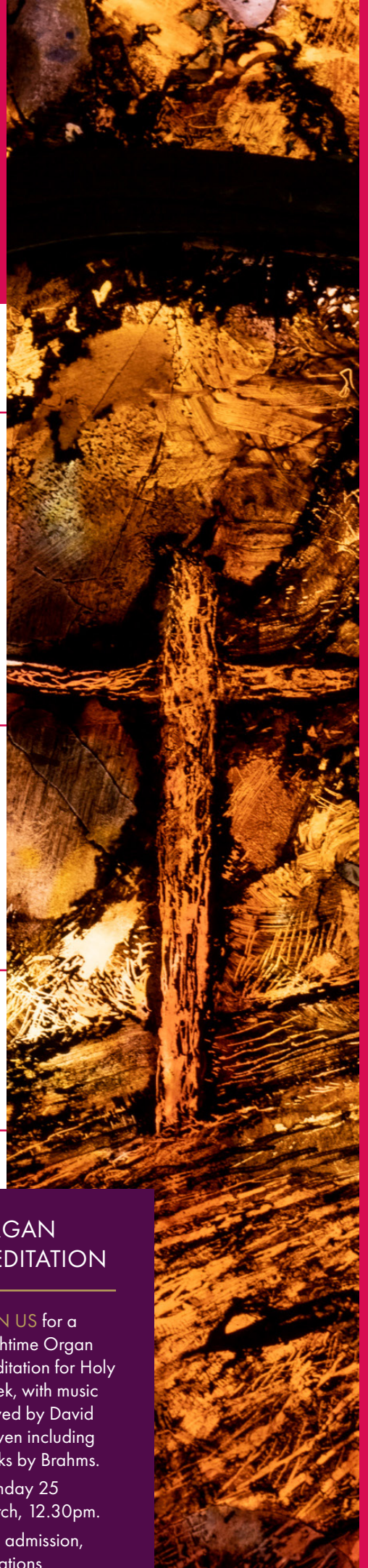
With music sung by the Cathedral Choir.

ORGAN MEDITATION

JOIN US for a lunchtime Organ Meditation for Holy Week, with music played by David Cowen including works by Brahms.

Monday 25 March, 12.30pm.

Free admission, donations encouraged.





LEICESTERSHIRE
CHORALE

Director Leicestershire Chorale Tom Williams
Director Leicester Cathedral Chris Ouvry-Johns
Organ Nicholas Scott-Burt and David Cowen
in partnership with Leicester Cathedral Choir

The Full Final Sacrifice

Epic Choral Anthems

To include:

Stanford For Lo, I Raise Up

Walton The Twelve

Finzi Lo, the Full Final Sacrifice

Tickets available online from
www.ticketsource.co.uk/leicestershirechorale
or from tickets@leicestershirechorale.org.uk

£15 Full /£12 Friends and Guild of St Katherine/£10 U19/£5 U13

*Inspiring music
beautifully sung*

Saturday 23 March 2024, 7.30pm

Leicester Cathedral, Peacock Lane, LE1 5PZ

Charity Number 1007773



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

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

3 April – 20 May

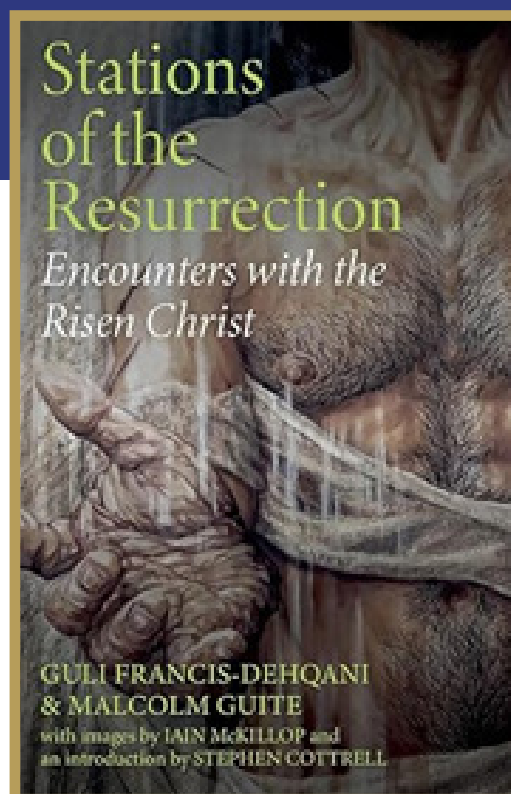
Resurrection Stations explore the accounts of witnesses who were convinced of Jesus' return to life. McKillop, the acclaimed British painter and art-historian, hopes to make us consider the evidence of the Gospel accounts, the implications of Jesus' resurrection, and what aspects might convince us to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

Free entry

The set of over 20 paintings are accompanied by the book ***Stations of the Resurrection: Encounters with the Risen Christ***, offering reflections on each of these episodes from the bestselling poet Malcolm Guite and the much-admired writer and bishop, Guli Francis-Dehqani.

An ideal take away to remember your visit, 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)**



A look at St Dunstan's Chapel

The South Chapel now known as St Dunstan's Chapel was rebuilt in 1865 from the foundations, using revised plans from those of 1846/7. This chapel had previously been blocked from view by tower masonry which blocked the east end of the south aisle.

The architect Raphael Brandon's first design for the roof was in the Geometrical style, but it seems likely that the Building Committee requested the change to Perpendicular. This was probably because Miss Nedham offered to pay for the restoration of the old late Perpendicular roof in this chapel and this influenced their decision. The south chapel used to be more widely known as the Nedham Chapel, because of the generous donations of the family made to St Martin's. In 1865 the Leicestershire Architectural and Archaeological Society pointed out that the Perpendicular style of architecture chosen for the north chapel (now known as St Katharine's Chapel) was correct.

However, Reverend J.H. Hill who wrote on behalf of the society, regretted that the Perpendicular style chosen for the south chapel was incorrect. It seemed that the mistaken idea of uniformity in style with the adjoining chancel was more desirable than the restoration of the ancient features in that area of the chancel.

The image above shows the Perpendicular style roof in both St Dunstan's and St Katharine's chapels as seen today.

The beautiful wooden carved altar frontal is the one we still see today. The first image on the left is the Nativity Scene taken from a Cathedral Christmas card



printed at the time when the Cathedral Offices were still at 21 St Martin's before St Martins House opened.

The centre scene on the right depicts Jesus on high in heaven surrounded by angels and the symbols of the four Evangelists at each corner.

On the right Jesus wearing a halo has been taken down from the cross and taken to the tomb. In the background behind Jesus, His mother Mary is in the centre of the scene and John, the favourite disciple of Jesus, both wearing halos. Mary Magdalene can be seen at the forefront of the scene with her long flowing hair.

In 1927 when St Martin's was hallowed as Leicester Cathedral, by faculty St Dunstan's Chapel was set aside for the use of the parishioners of St Martin's Parish as their Parish Church.

The reredos was given by Ernest Flude and his family in memory of Mrs Flude who died in 1928. It was designed by Sir Charles Nicholson. The first figure on the left-hand side of the reredos is St Dunstan. He was born in 909 or 910 and died in 988. In his early days he made chalices in metal, cast bells, and re-introduced the skill of building organs into the country. Dunstan was also a diplomat, a church reformer, a person of peace and advocate for the poor.

Dunstan chose the life of a monk and became Abbot of Glastonbury, and later

Archbishop of Canterbury. He composed prayers for the Royal Family which are still in use in the Book of Common Prayer. He also wrote music for the Mass, and wrote the Coronation Service which is still in use today.

St Dunstan is buried at Canterbury Cathedral and his Feast Day is celebrated on 19 May.

Reredos behind the altar in St Dunstan's Chapel

St Dunstan is patron saint of craftsmen, silversmiths, bell ringers, and organists. His symbols of the bell, tools of craft, organ are beneath his statue. The first figure on the left-hand side of the reredos depicts St Dunstan. He is Patron Saint of craftsmen, silversmiths, goldsmiths, musicians, bell ringers and organists.

The four centre figures depict the Evangelists with their symbols beneath them:

- St Matthew with his symbol the winged man;
- St Mark with his symbol the winged lion;
- St Luke with his symbol the winged bull;
- St John with his symbol the winged eagle.

The newly refurbished St Dunstan's Chapel can be viewed again in the Cathedral now that the work on the new floor has been completed. The ledger stones discovered in 2014 during the re-ordering of the chancel to make the Cathedral ready to re-inter





King Richard III. When some of the marble flooring was taken up in the chancel area, I remember seeing the rows and rows of ledger stones revealed.

Irene Turlington





Chiamaka
Okafor

Home and Legacies

Prayer Thoughts



They say that home is where the heart is and it's true. A couple of weeks ago, I had the honour of being home at the same time with families and friends from around the world celebrating parents that had just turned into their eighties. What a fantastic experience to see the display of cultural dances, listen to songs, share stories, recap on childhood experiences with cousins and simply be among people that know you so well. It was a blessing. There were a few mosquito bites, but it was nothing compared to the immeasurable love that I felt from friends and family.

I learnt a bit more about the "Ito Ogbo" Age Grade ceremony started hundreds of years ago to honour the older generation. Families use it as an opportunity to honour their loved one and celebrate them whilst they are still alive. In my hometown, if one doesn't get to eighty years of age

to experience at least one *Ito Ogbo*, there is another level of sadness. I also learnt that for the celebrant, it's an opportunity to see whilst they are alive, how they may be honoured and remembered when they are no longer on earth (not for many years to come by God's grace).

Watching the celebrants, some of which I remember when they were a lot younger and some who were prominent members of society, it struck me that they are getting older. That someday, we all will get older. This really forced me to reflect on the legacy that I would like to live behind me. I still don't know, but what I do know is that I have a long way to go. My parents have made and are still making their mark in life, and I am ever grateful to God for that, and I pray that they are blessed with long life and good health to continue to enjoy the fruits of their labour.

I dwelled on the fact that whilst I may have a good job that allows me to make ends meet, I may not be doing enough for the less privileged in society, especially those at home in Nigeria.

So, while I meditated on legacy, I realised that, perhaps instead of that, I should be working instead on myself. Being among so many in a short space of time forced me to look at the kind of relationships that I have with different individuals. I tried to avoid certain interactions whilst I couldn't get enough of some. We all carry a level of baggage, and certain situations can force us to examine ourselves. If I'm a better person, I can do better things.

So, who knows what one's legacy would be but if I could be less selfish and more giving, if I could be more forgiving, more grateful, more loving, more humble, and more prayerful, perhaps legacy will take care of itself. There are many needy people around us and there are many opportunities to help the less fortunate. If I focus less on myself and more on others, if I can forgive myself and others to reach my full potential, if I can laugh more and be happier.

My trip to my motherland was healing in some ways and in other ways opened a chance for me to reflect on what I must do to be more of the person I hope God wants me to be. Please pray for me.

Thank you and God bless.



WAYS YOU CAN HELP LEICESTER CATHEDRAL

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

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.

