

Cathedral in Touch

A Newsletter for our Community

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity | 9 August 2020



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

Welcome

Dear Friends,

Well this last week saw the re-opening of our Cathedral building. It looks lovely! With an air not only of cleanliness but also of expectation, as if the building itself is glad to be going about its daily business again. A small but steady trickle of visitors are warmly welcomed by volunteers, including a Chaplain. Sadly, masks obscure the beaming smiles, but they're there! And both Chaplains and volunteers drift around the Gardens, talking to people, which is lovely.

I'm conscious that not everyone is able or can come into Leicester yet. How uncertain everything still feels! Personally I've been delighted to see some city centre members of our community in person again: and I'm sure they're even more delighted to be able to move around more again. May I reassure you, though, that we remain committed to both online activities and the physical use of our building. Some readers, I am sure, will be gathered for worship there this Sunday but let's remember, whether online or in person in the building, we are a praying worshipping community together.

COVID continues to dominate the news and how we order our lives. Daily analysis, claims and counter claims, questions and anxieties – how to remain still, recognising the presence of God in all? And so I leave you with some words from St. Augustine. Do have a good and blessed week, wherever you are and whatever you may be doing. And stay safe!

Trust the past to the mercy of God,
the present to his love
and the future to his providence.

Augustine of Hippo

The Revd Canon Alison Adams
Canon Pastor and Sub-Dean



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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Reflection

Living with death

Quite a lot of me is a bit nervous about writing about death in August. Many long for a change of scene and to experience a bit of lockdown freedom, to smell the sea and fish and chips (with plenty of salt vinegar!). The Cathedral is now open for private prayer and the first services are beginning. However, I can't ignore we have had over 46,000 COVID-19 deaths in the UK with over 400 of this in Leicestershire. There have been over 690,000 deaths worldwide (and most probably under-reported). Think of how many now grieve.

Local spikes of contagion are emerging and the NHS is now making significant plans for November – February when we may experience very significant challenges again. There is talk of having to choose between opening schools versus pubs just to bring to the fore the strange new equations that we all now have to consider. Sadly, more deaths are likely.

People here have generally not had to address contagious disease questions head-on since the onset of inoculations. Unwelcome death has not affected every community like this really since the end of the Second World War. Our underlying stories since then have been related to development, progress and being ever more able to control our destinies. Teenagers and young adults

are increasingly scratching their heads and asking us why did we believe all that with such confidence, not least as they help us see that Climate Change is with us.

For the lion share of human history we have lived with the possibility of death close at hand. Hardly ever a welcome guest, it has never the less been integrated into the way life is understood. Having been signed off work for the first months of the pandemic, I noticed how little death was being discussed and how silent the faith communities were being about the subject.

Christian faith has much to say about death and we have many ways to allow a conversation about it to take place. I never forget the story about Cardinal Basil Hume when he was Headteacher at Ampleforth School. Prospective parents who would have to write very large cheques to send their children there frequently asked him what was the vision of education at Ampleforth. Invariably he would say 'we are here to prepare your children for their deaths'. We can imagine the reactions. We've turned death into a taboo. His statement which would have been perfectly understood for centuries is now viewed as a shocking statement that any priest who values their credibility would find

hard to say.

The image of the butterfly has been used down the centuries in Christian art as a way of capturing much of the Bible's reflection on death. The caterpillar disappears into an apparently inert cocoon. It is then transformed into a new body emerging in colour and light as a butterfly. This mirrors the story of Jesus; his death and resurrection. So St Paul then writes for his followers that "The trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed."

(1 Corinthians 15.52b).

None of this diminishes the pain of separation or grief. None of this answers all our questions in the face of such profound change and mystery. However, it does give us a way to talk of death and to explore that hope does not necessarily disappear when death comes.

Unlike the pagans of Greek and Roman culture, the early Christians built their churches and gathering places around the graves of brothers and sisters who had died. Every part of our cathedral has bodies buried under the floor. This has built a story which helped the community to live more easily with death as a normal part of life. This mattered much when living with pestilence. Living with a new virus and experiencing a global pandemic sets me back to these ancient insights. We have said in our creeds 'I believe in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting'. This is the hope we are now called to live and the hope we are called to proclaim.

The Very Revd David Monteith
Dean of Leicester



Adonis Blue (male/
upperwing)
Andrew Cooper





News from Leicester Cathedral

Keep up to date with news from your Cathedral. If you have anything you would like included in this newsletter, or any comments on it's layout or content, please get in contact with us.

SMH Reopening

St Martins House Conference Centre will be re-opening and taking bookings for meetings for up to 30 people from Monday 24 August.

St Martins Lodge is also accepting guest bookings from 10 August.

For more information or to make a booking please contact the front desk team on 0116 261 5200 or e-mail Leicester.Reception@StMartinsHouse.com

Cathedral Opening Times

We've had a wonderful first week welcoming people to the Cathedral again. The opening times remain the same, open

for private prayer to the public from Wednesdays to Sundays: 11.00am-3.00pm on Wed-Sat; and 12.00noon-3.00pm on Sunday.

We will, of course, keep you in the loop should anything change or update!

Coffee Morning

Join our virtual coffee and chat catchup on Zoom, following the Sunday online service at 11.30am.

To join in send us a direct message via Facebook or email Lucy (lucy.wiles@leccofe.org) and we'll send you an invite. You can also "dial in" via phone call only, if you'd prefer not to have a visual presence. If you have

joined us previously, the link is the same.

We look forward to seeing you!

Prayer Requests

We are now able to accept virtual prayer requests via this Google Form: <https://tinyurl.com/y9fo35fp>

or email

leicestercathedralprayer@leccofe.org

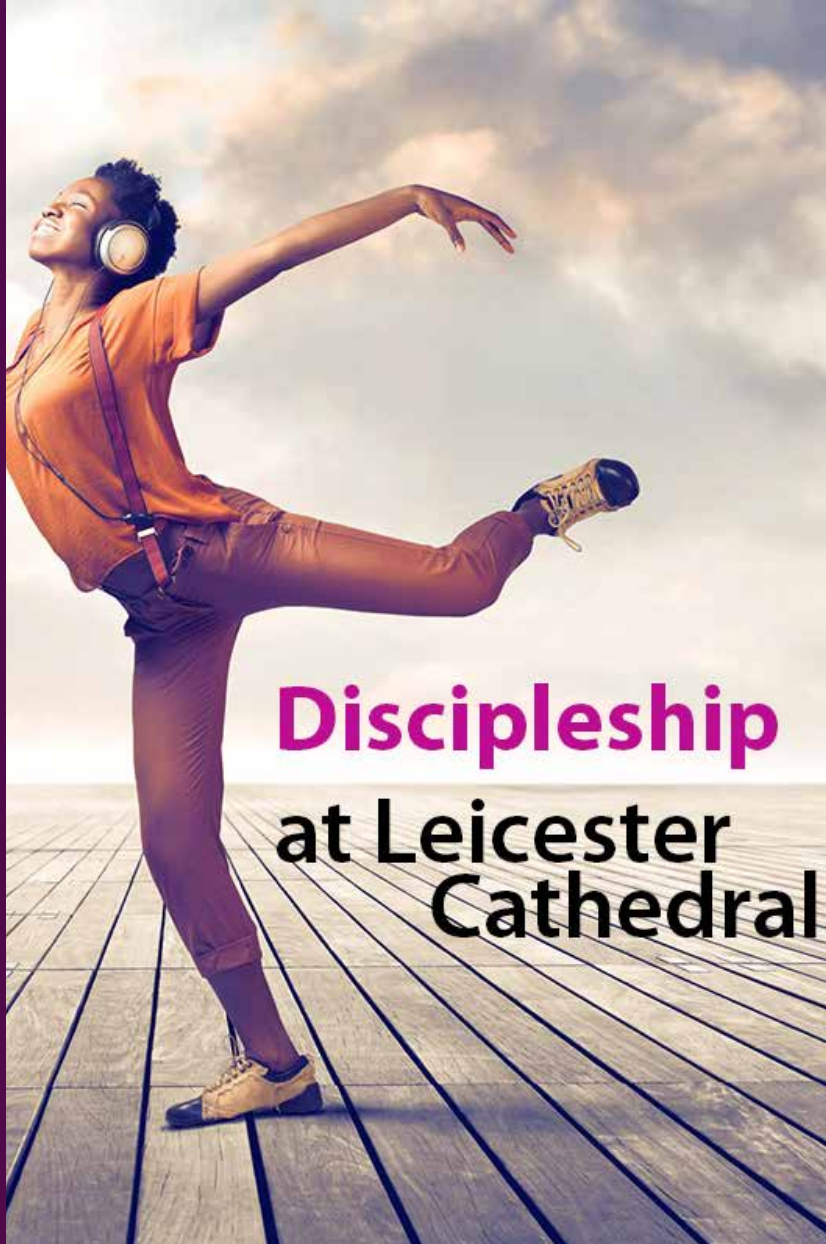
DISCIPLESHIP SESSIONS

Leicester Cathedral will be offering online discipleship sessions on Zoom from September, creating a space to reflect together on the past few months through the eyes of our faith and to encourage and support each other.

This includes a discussion of Tom Wright's book *God and the Pandemic* and the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby's new course on reconciliation.

To register your interest and have an input in timings and topics, please follow the link below:

<https://us19.list-manage.com/survey?u=cbd6384064124b-364f971d785&id=4211174d2c>



Discipleship at Leicester Cathedral



Mick McQuade's Quiz Corner

1. 3 B M S H T R
2. 18 H on a GC
3. H 57 V
4. 50 S In the US
5. 12 S of the Z
6. S over the R
7. 24 H in a D
8. 100 C in a D
9. 672 H in a M
10. 4.54 L in a G

Mick has put together a series of head-scratching puzzle clues.

This week, work out the common phrase from these teasers.

Answers revealed in the next edition.

Last Week's Answers: 1. 2 Peas in a Pod, 2. 7 Days of the week, 3. 7 Wonders of the World, 4. 8 legs on an Octopus, 5. On Top of the World, 6. 29 Days in February in a Leap Year, 7. 6 sides on a cube, 8. 76 Trombones, 9. 101 Dalmatians, 10. 4 suits in a Deck of Cards



Leicester Cathedral needs your help

Dear Friends and Supporters

The last four months have been challenging for us all. With little warning we have all had to change all that we do as we find our way through a pandemic safely. I have been moved by the way our community has responded with such grace, rallying together to help those in need. I know you care very much about Leicester Cathedral and I hope you have found solace and strength in our transformed response to what we do and how we engage with our supporters. Online services with growing audiences and a weekly newsletter of prayer and reflection have given rhythm to our weeks and focus to our days as we wait, and watch and prepare.

Transforming what we do in the last four months has not come without cost, and has been achieved without the resources we usually rely on such as visitor donations and collections at services – by 30 June income from collections, events, tours and donations in the boxes were down by over 30k. The Cathedral's regular finances are under immense pressure. By the end of this calendar year we are facing a significant shortfall. In addition, with no events, tours, sales or major special services presently likely, a realistic forecast deficit from these aspects alone is at least 100k. We are reaching a point where costs cannot be further reduced and I now need to concentrate on income generation.

My colleagues and I are having to make some difficult decisions, over and above the difficult cost saving measures already undertaken, that include:

- one redundancy
- three further posts at risk of redundancy
- loss of hours for three other posts
- availing of the furlough scheme and returning staff from furlough later than we would have liked
- not reappointing a post after a postholder left
- a salary freeze in 2021
- forensic examination of each cost however great or small

I have also been working hard to secure COVID-19 related funding such as grants from the Church Commissioners, CFCE and other grant-giving bodies, and I am looking at how we might increase capacity through volunteer support. Meanwhile, there will come a time early next year when we turn our focus to *Leicester Cathedral Revealed*, but at this moment the most important priority is to get the Cathedral back on its feet.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us through these last few months of uncertainty; this has given us courage and faith to plan for 2021. However, I still need your help if we are to continue to do all that we do.

Will you consider making a donation? If you are not already giving regularly, you can do this with a regular gift through the Parish Giving Scheme (see below). A one-off gift can either be paid directly into our bank or via our online giving channels or by cheque (see below). Please do what you can to help us through this time of crisis. When our community and nation seeks solace, prayers and strength, we are ready to respond – with worship, witness and welcome.

Thank you.

Dean David

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

MAKE A REGULAR GIFT VIA THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Set up a regular Direct Debit by calling the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1271 (press 1 for a new mandate) – please have Leicester Cathedral's PGS code to hand which is 190619001.

ONLINE GIVING

<https://platform.nationalfundingscheme.org/LEIC001?charity=LEIC001#.Xyk9G6-SIPY>

INTO OUR BANK ACCOUNT

Reference: 'C19 gift'
Account Name: Leicester Cathedral Chapter
Account Number: 03807282
Sort Code: 20-49-11

BY CHEQUE

Reference: 'C19 gift'
Payable to: Leicester Cathedral Chapter
Address: Cathedral Finance, St Martins House, 7 Peacock Lane,
Leicester, LE1 5PZ



Remnants from the Past

Part Three (of Three)

Ancient Canon Stalls in the Chapel of Christ the King

There are three surviving medieval Canons Stalls in the Chapel of Christ the King but the date is unknown.

There is a name plaque on each stall to commemorate the following people:

**Revd Bernard Moore and
Revd Vivian Redlich**

They were both missionaries from Leicestershire in Papua New Guinea during WWII years. Among the many cruelties of WWII they were executed, as well as over 300 people including Anglicans, Roman Catholics and Lutherans who were priests and lay people from Papua New Guinea, England and Australia.

Bernard William Farren Moore was educated at Coalville Grammar School and Alderman Newton School in Leicester. He studied theology at St. Augustine's College in Canterbury. In 1936 he went as a missionary to the Solomon Islands and then to New Britain, which became occupied by the Japanese in 1942. Bernard took some escaping Australian soldiers in his boat to New Guinea, but insisted on returning to New Britain. He refused to leave his people and lived in the bush, visiting his church and dispensary when he could. After the liberation of the island, the local people reported that Bernard had died from wounds sustained by machine gun fire in an air raid. His grave is at Kumbun and is marked by a cross placed there in 1946 by the Bishop of Melanesia who conducted a service after celebrating the Holy Communion on the site of the altar of the Mission Church.

Vivian Frederick Barnes Redlich

The well-known and respected Canon Vivian Redlich attended Oakham School in 1920 and subsequently attended St. John's School in Leatherhead. He was educated at Chichester Theological College and then served as a Curate at Dewsbury Moor in West Yorkshire for three years from 1932 to 1935. Vivian went to Australia in 1935 as a missionary with the Bush



Brotherhood in Queensland. In 1940 he moved to New Guinea and was Priest in Charge at Sangara, Papua, which became occupied by the Japanese in 1942. Vivian refused to leave his flock. His last message home was written hastily in pencil and sent to his father. The original is preserved in a glass case in the 'Memorial to a Modern Martyr' in St. Paul's Cathedral in London. Until recent years, it was always believed that the Japanese had been responsible for the death of Vivian Redlich.

In 1999 twelve Martyrs of Papua New Guinea were added as Patron Saints, including Bernard Moore and Vivian Redlich. The Anglican Diocese of Ballarat is under the patronage of Our Lady of Walsingham.

Before the alterations that took place in Leicester Cathedral to accommodate the Tomb of King Richard III, there used to be the Vivian Redlich Corner in the south transept. A display case contained copies of the letters Vivian wrote to his father, who was Vicar of St. Nicholas Church Little Bowden between 1924-1955, and Canon Theologian of Leicester Cathedral from 1932-1955.

In 1992, on the 50th Anniversary of the death of Vivian Redlich and Bernard Moore, the Japanese Bishop of Yokohama expressed his sorrow for the brutality of the Japanese soldiers and asked forgiveness. He presented a picture to Leicester Cathedral called the 'Amida Buddha' recalling the persecution of Japanese Christians and their countrymen. The picture showed a Buddha. The statue opens at the front and behind this opening there is a crucifix. The opening was closed whenever there was a danger that someone might betray them to the authorities. The Bishop of Yokohama judged the Amida Buddha as a fitting sign of solidarity. Before the Cathedral alterations started in 2014, this picture used to be on display near to the entrance of St. Dunstan's Chapel. It was a sign of reconciliation between the Japanese and Western Christians after the martyrdom during the Second World

War by Japanese troops (under the orders of their leaders) of western missionaries in Papua New Guinea.

In 2006 the truth was revealed over the death of Vivian Redlich, changing the history of Little Bowden, near Market Harborough. Revd Brand, who was vicar at St. Nicholas Church, discovered evidence to prove that the victims had been killed by local tribesmen and not the Japanese. It is interesting to know that although the Japanese were originally blamed, they were happy to have things left as they are, because although they were not directly involved they acknowledged they had helped to create the environment in which such atrocities had been committed.

William Watts: a Priest and Physician (1725 – 1786)

Revd William Watts founded the Leicester Infirmary in 1771 with 40 beds. Patients were forced to pay a deposit when they went in, and the money was repaid if they went home. If they died in the infirmary, their deposit would be spent on burying them. When the Infirmary first opened, there was no running water, but it did have its own brewery which was used to treat the patients.



*Revd Vivian
Redlich
(1905–1942)*



Diana Belton
Pastoral
Assistant

Prayer Thoughts

from our Pastoral Assistant

*Will you use the faith you've found / To reshape the world around
Through my site and touch and sound / In you, and you in me?*

John Bell

Hello everyone. I hope this finds you safe and well.

I hope you have managed to get out and about this week. Last week we pondered upon how things in this 'new world' would be the same but also different. Shopping in the supermarket is the same shop but a very different experience. Walking through town is the same place but a very different experience. Many of the shops in Leicester that you are used to popping into will not be open and may never open again. Some of you may have had cause to speak to a doctor or visit the doctor's surgery. Again, the same place and person but a very different experience. I know that a lot of you have celebrated our newfound freedom by going out for a meal in a restaurant or pub. The same building as you used to frequent but a very different experience. These different experiences are not necessarily bad experiences; in fact some of them may be an improvement. I found my need to consult a doctor much more satisfactory under the new system than it was before the pandemic started. I am hoping that the doctor takes on board the many advantages of their new systems.

Some of you when reading this will be considering whether to return to

the Cathedral for Sunday worship. You will soon realise that it is the same place, the same building, but a very different experience. But: we worship the same loving God who holds all things in his hands and His love never changes.

This tension between the same and different is something that we all carry around with us all our lives. We are born as tiny helpless babies soon to grow and gain our independence. Anyone who has bought a passport for their baby and realises that this passport lasts until your child is five years old cannot help but notice how much in five years this tiny baby can change. As we grow older these changes become less obvious. But everything around us is in constant motion, constantly changing at a speed we cannot notice from minute to minute but looking back over a period of time can observe.

I was given some very fragile tomato plants. To begin with I protected and nurtured these tiny seedlings in my kitchen. As they grew stronger I repotted them and placed them outside in the sunshine albeit shaded from the full midday sun. I watered and fed them and pruned their tiny shoots as I had been taught. They have grown strong and healthy,

Please note that the reflections I have shared with you today are my own personal thoughts on the message I believe God wants to share with you.

The Lord bless you and keep you, keep you safe.

*The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and all you hold dear.
The Lord give you His peace, today and in the days ahead.
Amen.*

produced yellow flowers and I can now observe tiny tomatoes forming. I am optimistic that these plants will produce an abundance of juicy tomatoes. The same plants I was given several months ago but very different now. Observing these plants day by day one can see no difference but observing them week by week one can see quite clearly how they are changing . Most change in nature and our lives is a gradual process. One that day by day goes unnoticed but on looking back is very obvious. My garden and it's planting is very different now to what it was in May. What makes the situation we are in at the moment so difficult is the changes are happening at alarming speed and out of our experience zone. A lot of us are having a job to keep up. A lot of us, probably more than are prepared to admit, are finding this process frightening.

There is something about this week's article that, for me, is massively different but I doubt, I hope, you will not have noticed. I have used a voice recognition program instead of typing most of it. This is a VERY different experience but the result hopefully is the same. This has been difficult for me to navigate. The process of producing this document, saving it, emailing it, editing it etc. has been a learning curve but recognising and accepting why this new way of working is necessary and good for me, has also been challenging and emotionally difficult. I suspect some of you recognise my emotions in your efforts to take on new ways of being in this ever changing life. These changes and challenges are part of life, part of

growing. John Bell wrote a beautiful poem about God's challenge in these times, extracts of which are included below. We WILL never be quite the same after this pandemic experience. Lots of things are out of our control. How we accept, react to, these changes, IS much more in our control.

I urge you to spend time this week pondering:

*Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know,
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown,
In you, and you in me?*

*Will you love 'you ' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside,
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around
Through my site and touch and sound
In you, and you in me?*

*To me if we don't use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around
Through our site and touch and sound*

What has been the point of all this?

Go gently, stay safe and dare to use what we have gained to make a change.

A big hug if that is what you need.

Diana
diana.belton@leccofe.org

*The weekly Prayer
Requests can be found
on the next page.*



PRAYER FOCUS

PLEASE HOLD before God:

- All the people of Beirut, Lebanon.
- The people of Leicester. Continue to remember all the shops and businesses in Leicester. Especially this week pray for the staff of Christian Resources based within St Martins House. Pray for Janette the manager and her staff. Please pray for all who work in St Martins House as they seek to navigate an uncertain future.
- Bishop Martyn, Bishop Guli, for our own clergy as they navigate uncharted water. Pray that God will gift them with clarity of thought and opportunities will emerge to share the love, compassion and peace of God in these uncertain times.
- Those who are emerging from 'shielding'
- Please take time to pray for yourself. That when you are challenged you will be open to new ways. Pray that you will increasingly recognise God in your everyday experiences.

Thank you.

WORSHIP

OUR SOCIALLY-DISTANCED Eucharist service takes place on Sundays at 10.30am. This is a simple Eucharist with organ music but no singing. Places are limited and worshippers will need to **book** a place for this service.

The Verger Duty phone will take bookings from 3.00–5.00pm on the Friday before the service. The number to ring is **07947 896 464**.

You will need to wear a face mask/covering for the duration of your visit to the Cathedral. Please arrive in good time.

We are working towards the live-streaming of our Eucharist services as well, so that those who cannot physically visit the building may still join with us. Watch this space!

THE YOUTUBE SERVICE (non-Eucharistic) will continue to be posted on **www.leicestercathedral.org/online-services** for the usual time of 10.30am on Sunday.



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for Leicester Cathedral with easyfundraising?

There are over 4,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

All you need to do is:

1. Go to this link **here** and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Leicester Cathedral at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

Thank you for your support.

