Endings and Anticipations

I’ve just got back from a trip away with my husband. For this break we travelled from Italy back to the UK by train. It’s a slower way of moving than air travel, and offers a greater sense of connection with the earth and of a true journey from one place to another. What I noticed on our slow journey north was that the trees gradually changed from Summer green to Autumn brown, until arriving in Leicester they were fully in their gold and copper clothing.

This Sunday, British Summer Time ends – a marker that signals that Summer is over. This Sunday is also the Last Sunday after Trinity – a day which brings to a close a long Church season that began in the long days of June. The nights are drawing in and the air is getting colder. The natural world is shutting down and preparing for Winter. The sense of endings is strong.

We may find this hard to face. The urge may be there for many of us to turn inwards and to draw the curtains over the darkening skies, rather than to open our eyes and to face the world. Perhaps it feels rather ironic that the changing of the clocks means we gain an extra hour to spend when our instincts tell us to hibernate!

Yet, endings usher in new beginnings. A new Church season begins next week with the celebration of All Saints’ Day. Over a few short weeks this season will lead us to consider the inspiration of the saints of God, will call us to remember personal saints who have given their lives in the service of others and of God, and will invite us to take our places as saints in today’s age – the ‘living stones’ of the Church and shining lights for Christ in the world.

It’s a glorious time of year with evocative music and stirring words appearing in our Cathedral services. It’s a season not to turn away or hide from, but to enter into, to be inspired by, to encounter and to be encountered. It’s a season for gathering together, for wondering, for remembering, and for rejoicing.

It is also a time of busy activity and of excitement. For at the very end, on the last Sunday of November, we shall gather as community once again in our renewed Cathedral building. It will be a moment that signals the end of our nomadic existence, and it will be the beginning of the next stage of our Cathedral journey. We shall be re-entering a familiar space yet it will be different. We shall be among familiar faces yet we hope there will be new people too. We are still the saints of God held securely in God’s unchanging embrace yet God calls us to open ourselves to new possibilities which will emerge. Will you join us?

We may not have any choice about the turning of the year, the darkening of the evenings and the cooling of the air. But we do have a choice in how we live through this changing season. The trees may be preparing for Winter but the leaves are glorious at the moment – have you noticed? My to-do list is overflowing and huge but I’m holding on to the wonder and excitement of re-entering our Cathedral. The mornings are dark when I travel to Morning Prayer but there
are lights on inside the Cathedral as people work lighting up the stained glass from inside out. How will you spend the extra hour you have on Sunday? What might you see and who might you spend it with?

We are standing on holy ground, on the threshold of the new, and our gospel is one of light in darkness, life from death. May you gain a glimpse of God however you spend your extra hour this week.

Canon Emma Davies
Canon Precentor
‘Faith Conversations For Everyone’ workshop

Saturday 11 November 9.30am–3.00pm, St Wilfrid’s Church, Kibworth

A workshop to discover how we can create opportunities for people to explore their faith together, to listen and learn from one another and to encourage each other in their journey of faith. This workshop will be co-delivered as part of the Diocese of Leicester’s ‘For Everyone’ workshop series.

Our Discipleship Officer Jude will be discussing how we facilitate our monthly Questions Together group, offering tips on how you might use this model to facilitate faith conversations, too. Book your free place on The Hub, or email liz.rawlings@leicestercofe.org for more information.

Friends of Leicester Cathedral Supper at the Chef & Spice

Monday 27 November 2023 | 7.00 for 7.30pm
1 Andrewes Street, Hinckley Road, Leicester, LE3 5PG

You are invited to join us for another fun and food evening at the Chef and Spice! For £20 per person, of which £10 will be given back to The Friends. During the evening there will be a raffle for which Colin will be pleased to receive prizes.

Payment details

By Bank Transfer to: Friends of Leicester Cathedral
Acct No: 87203081, Sort Code: 60-60-06
Reference: CHEF followed by your name.

Please send an email to Colin at candent@btinternet.com advising the number of tickets and names.

By cheque made payable to: The Friends of Leicester Cathedral.
Please send to Colin Entwistle, Chapter House, 2 Quarryman’s Court, Markfield, Leicestershire, LE67 9XQ, including names of those booked. If you have an e-mail address, please also provide this for an acknowledgement. Otherwise, please include an SAE.
All are welcome to join us for a Requiem Service with Holy Communion, with a performance of Fauré’s Requiem sung by the Cathedral Choir.

No booking required.

St Nicholas Church
Thursday 2 November 2023
6.00pm

Fauré Requiem

All are welcome to join us for a Requiem Service with Holy Communion, with a performance of Fauré’s Requiem sung by the Cathedral Choir.

No booking required.

Sunday 5 November 2023 | 6.30pm
Join us at St James the Greater Church for a Together with Requiem Service, with Duruflé’s Requiem sung by the combined choirs.
**Services this week**

While the Cathedral is closed for building works, our services take place in St Martins House (Sunday mornings) and in St Nicholas’ Church, Leicester (Monday to Friday). The Cathedral will also be Together with other churches on some Sunday afternoons.

All are welcome to our services. Services of Morning Prayer are also live-streamed.

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<th>Date</th>
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<td><strong>MONDAY 30 OCTOBER</strong></td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>Morning Eucharist</td>
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<td><strong>TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER</strong></td>
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<td><strong>SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER</strong></td>
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<td>Sunday Eucharist</td>
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<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Duruflé Requiem Service at the</td>
<td>Church of St James the Greater, Leicester</td>
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Together with...

Our forty-first service out with parish churches in the City and County, as part of Together with Leicester Cathedral, will take place on Sunday 5 November 2023.

Join us at 6.30pm for a Duruflé Requiem Service at the Church of St James the Greater (216 London Road, Leicester, LE2 1NE).

After we have reentered the Cathedral building in November 2023, we will still hold Together with services regularly, but on a less frequent basis!

We have so enjoyed our visits to other parishes on Sunday afternoons for Choral Evensong with our Choirs, clergy and Cathedral community. It is wonderful to connect with people across the Diocese and to make new friends as well as continue existing relationships, and we are delighted to be able to continue this programme.

Do continue to join us if you can and spread the word to your friends too!

17 December: Seven Lessons and Carols Service, at Holy Trinity, Barrow-upon-Soar, 6.00pm

For information about future dates please visit the Cathedral website or contact Canon Emma Davies or Head Verger Bev Collett.
LCR Update

Creating a new floor in St Dunstan’s Chapel

Work is underway to lay a new floor in St Dunstan’s Chapel that will be formed using historic ledger stones, discovered in 2014 during re-ordering of the Chancel in readiness for the reinterment of Richard III.

These ledger stones, fashioned from slate and green Purbeck marble and dating from 1698 to 1802, commemorate local people in characterful lettering that ranges from crude to fine. The stones have been selected for their aesthetic appearance and historic significance and carefully restored and cleaned. This is not only an important physical conservation project for the Cathedral but also provides a wonderful visual restoration opportunity – providing a link to the past of Leicester, its people and craftsmanship.

As with the wider flooring works in the Cathedral, there will be level access and underfloor heating.

Simon Bentley
Project Director | simon.bentley@leicestercofe.org
Saturday 25 November 2023 from 10am – 5pm

RECONSTRUCTING THE PAST
IN LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH

A day of talks and displays revealing how archaeologists, artists and artisans collaborate to recreate the ancient past

Crafting with bark: experiments to remake the Enderby Shield
Matthew Beamish, Project Manager at ULAS

Taking stock of the pot: Creating and re-creating the Glenfield Iron Age cauldrons
John Thomas, Deputy Director at ULAS

Re-creating Britain’s Finest Roman Cavalry Helmet from Hallaton, Leicestershire
Helen Sharp, Archaeology Curator for Leicestershire CC Museums

New Visions of Roman Leicester: From holes in the ground to reimagined views of the ancient townscape
Dr Gavin Speed, Project Manager, ULAS

Recreating Grey Friars: Imagining the burial place of King Richard III
Mathew Morris, Project Officer at ULAS

Drawing the Rutland Trojan War Mosaic
Dr David Neal, Britain’s foremost mosaic expert

Tickets £15, students £10
(tea and coffee included, lunch not provided)

To find out more about the event and book a place, please visit https://ulasnews.com/reconstructing-the-past/
Saluting our Sisters

Black History Month is a time for black people to remember who they are and where they come from. It’s a time to ask for God’s peace to all the people who have faced racial attacks and comments in this world.

Black History Month is a time to educate people about cultures different from theirs. It’s a time to research the different black role models that helped shape today’s world.

It’s a time to challenge comments that you hear about black people this month and all year round. It’s a month to mark the independence of black people in the UK.

Black history month is very important to me. It can teach young children of colour to embrace their differences. The theme for this year is appreciating black women in the UK that helped black people reach the place they are in society.

The black women that made history in the UK

All through history black women have made a large contribution to music, science, literature and art. But, in the past, these contributions have often been ignored or looked down upon because of the colour of their skin.

One black woman that has done this is Mary Seacole. Mary had asked to help wounded soldiers in the Crimean War. They refused but she went on anyway to Ukraine to help injured British soldiers. But, even after all she did, she wasn’t very recognised. Unlike Florence Nightingale who helped injured soldiers and got wildly famous.

Another inspirational black woman is Malorie Blackman – one of my favourite female authors. She wrote the bestselling series Noughts & Crosses. She became the eighth Children’s Laureate (the first black person to do so).

One other incredible black woman is Phillis Wheatley. When she was young, she was sold into slavery, where she worked for a family called the Wheatleys. She was named after
the ship she was imported with, the Phillis. Phillis was taught to read and write which was very unusual to teach a slave. She wrote her first poem at the age of 14 and at the age of 20 she moved to Britain and published her first book. This made her the first African-American poet to be published, with her first volume of poetry in 1773. Her writing showed that enslaved women had the intellectual ability to write and publish books, which helped people to see that enslavement wasn’t the right thing to do.

A black woman that I think I should definitely put here is Fanny Eaton. This is because she shows that black women and girls CAN be beautiful. Fanny worked as a model for lots of very known artists. It was very unusual at the time as black women were not usually seen as beautiful in the beauty standard in the Western world. Lots of artists saw beauty in her and enhanced those features, showing that black women can be beautiful.

Most of the time you can see that there are many things that were ‘unusual’ for black women to do and that’s how it was back then.

Let’s ask God to help us as we live through this world with hateful people.

Help us to understand the differences of everyone and welcome them into the house of God. Amen.
Toilet Twinning

Can I thank all of you who have already generously supported this fund-raising project to twin all eleven toilets in the new Chapter House with communities in the developing world. We continue to make good progress towards this goal, but we’re not there yet!

Cake Sale
Sunday 5 November
Another way you can help raise money is to eat cake! Following the Eucharist service on 5 November, treat yourself to at least one slice of homemade cake kindly baked by some members of the congregation. Please make sure you bring cash along to pay 50p a slice. Of course, if you want to take some home, don’t forget to bring something to put them in.

Name the Images Quiz
Don’t forget to hand in your entries by 12 November at the latest.

For further information about these or anything else about our toilet twinning project, please contact David.
Dewdney@LeicesterCofE.org

David Dewdney
Featuring exceptional artists:

- Ustād Dharambir Singh (Sitar)
- Roopa Panesar (Sitar)
- Shahbaz Hussain (Tabla)

**MUSIC & LIGHT**

_A Concert of Indian Classical Music_

Saturday 4th Nov 2023

Leicester Guildhall, Guildhall Lane, Leicester LE1 5FQ

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Tickets: £15 full, £10 concession

Celebrate Diwali the classical way with a special evening exploring divine light through music. Enjoy the moods and melodies of Indian classical music in the stunning settings of Leicester Guildhall.

Featuring exceptional artists:

- Ustād Dharambir Singh (Sitar)
- Roopa Panesar (Sitar)
- Shahbaz Hussain (Tabla)

**BOOK NOW**

via (0116) 2532569

https://leicestermuseums.org
Dear Friends,

Have you ever been asked what drives you, what keeps you moving forward in life? It's a question that often catches us off guard, inviting us to reflect on the very essence of our existence. Recently, I was asked this very question by a colleague who does not share my faith in Jesus Christ. The question was, "What is your driving force, as you never cease to amaze me with your numerous accomplishments?"

In responding to this question, I chose not to offer a preachy or dogmatic response. Instead, I sought to share the source of my inspiration and invite a conversation about faith. I replied, "My driving force comes from a deep sense of purpose and the faith that guides me. I believe in the power of love, compassion, and making a positive impact on the lives of others. It's about helping those in need, spreading kindness, and striving to live a life that reflects my values."

Reflecting on this exchange, I wonder if we all have a driving force that propels us forward in life, whether we recognize it or not. It may be a sense of duty, a passion for a particular cause, or, as in my case, faith in a higher purpose.

As Christians, we find guidance in the Bible, where Jesus often used stories and parables to convey
profound truths. In one such parable, Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10.25–37. It’s a powerful illustration of compassion and selflessness, where a Samaritan, despised by society, shows love and care to a wounded stranger. This parable reminds us that our driving force can be rooted in acts of kindness and love.

I invite you to take a moment to reflect on your own driving force. What keeps you going, day in and day out? Is it the love you have for your family, the desire to make a difference in the world, or perhaps a faith that guides your every step?

In my response to my colleague, I also offered to share more about the faith that inspires me. It’s important to be open and welcoming when discussing matters of faith, especially with those who may not share our beliefs. We can create a space for dialogue, allowing others to explore and ask questions.

As you reflect on your own driving force, consider how it aligns with your faith journey. How does your faith influence your actions and decisions? How can you share your faith in a way that invites conversation and understanding, rather than pushing others away?

**Prayer Pointers**

Pray for the wisdom to recognize and understand your own driving force.

Ask God to guide you in sharing your faith with others in a welcoming and inclusive manner.

Reflect on the parables of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10.25–37 and how they can inspire your own actions and sense of purpose.

May we continue to inspire and amaze each other as we journey through life, driven by our unique sources of purpose and faith.

In faith and fellowship,

Ogemdi
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 ACTING DEAN 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 Kath Rowberry, 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.