

THY KINGDOM COME

The Kingdom Come is a fantastic initiative which simply invites people to pray “thy kingdom come” for themselves, for one another and for the life of the world between Ascension Day (13th May) and Pentecost (23rd May). Ten days of prayer which reflects one the very earliest Christian community did between Ascension and Pentecost, waiting for the gift of the Holy Spirit.



Here at Chelmsford Cathedral you will find resources – booklets in the cathedral and on further resources on-line – which you may find helpful. But the heart of this is really that simple: to find a space each day to pray, to open up to God, to invite God’s blessing for ourself, others, and the communities that shape our lives.

Each of us is encouraged to respond to that invitation.

As part of our ministry in the Diocese, there will be a series of prayer stations in the Cathedral itself, forming a kind of “map” of the Diocese of

Chelmsford and each day one of the clergy team will lead a simple time of prayer at 12 noon each day, live in the Cathedral and streamed on our Facebook page. Through the 10 days we will seek to pray for every part of the Diocese and each community we serve.

Thy Kingdom Come will also be a special time for our new Bishop. +Guli will be among us not to lead or teach or preach through that time but on a pilgrimage of prayer.

On Ascension Day +Guli will come to pray at the Cathedral, and on the Day of Pentecost she will start with prayer at Pleshey Retreat House and then walk with a small group of others to the Cathedral in time for Evensong – where again she will be present not to teach or preach or bless, but simply to be present in prayer.

Cathedral Life Weekly

Fifth Sunday of Easter, 2nd May 2021



Services this Sunday:

Sunday 2nd May		
7.45am	Morning Prayer Revd Kate Moore	Livestreamed from the Church at Home group on Facebook
10.30am	Cathedral Eucharist Presiding: Revd Jackie-Dee Thornton Preaching: Canon Imogen Nay	You are welcome to attend in person. Livestreamed on our Facebook page @chelmsfordcathedral
10.30am	Junior Church in Guy Harlings Garden	Please book a free place using the link here. https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/junior-church-in-the-garden-tickets-151789708103
3.30pm	Choral Evensong Preaching: Gary Fleming	You are welcome to attend in person. It is also Livestreamed on YouTube.

Please pray for followers of other faiths, that there may be discussion and understanding between all of God's people.

Pray with Us:

Please pray and give thanks for the work of our Diocesan Representatives on General Synod.

Please pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle east.

Please pray for Christian Aid.

Please pray for Mary Bradford, Rita James, Pam Sharpe and all those in need of our prayers at this time.

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Daily Gospel Readings for this week and for use in your prayers:

Monday:	John 14.21-26	Thursday:	John 15.9-11
Tuesday:	John 14.27-end	Friday:	John 15.12-17
Wednesday:	John 15.1-8	Saturday:	John 15.18-21

Study with Us: 2nd May, Fifth Sunday of Easter

I John 4.7-21
Psalm 22.25-31
John 15.1-8

God is love.

Today's readings remind us that we are called into an intimate relationship God – to become branches of the true vine, Jesus Christ, and to bear fruit.

The Gospel shows the amazing intimacy that Jesus offers through the wonderful image of the vine and branches. Having Jesus, the true vine, live within our hearts, we as his disciples, the branches, will bear fruit; cut off from Jesus, we can do nothing at all. Jesus reveals his Father as the vinedresser, tending to us with love, and sometimes pruning us so that we can produce more plentiful fruit.

In the first Reading, John reminds us that by believing in Jesus Christ, and loving one another, we are doing what God wants, and that God lives in us through the gift of the Holy Spirit. He also reassures us that we have nothing to fear in God's loving presence. We get an indication of the fruit that Jesus speaks of when John tells us that our love needs 'not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active.'

The Psalm, part of which we heard on Palm Sunday, and which Jesus prayed on the cross, closes today with words of the Lord's love, generosity and faithfulness. We are all invited to worship and serve him.

During the week, I may like to ponder the relationship God longs to have with me, and the fruit he enables me to bear.

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDAL

The Cathedral is now open once again for public worship, and congregations are welcome to come and join in both “live” in the building and through our live streaming on-line. There is no need to book ahead and we seek to accommodate everyone who comes along to the Cathedral Eucharist at 10.30 am every Sunday and the simple celebration at 10.30 am on Thursdays. From this week you are also welcome to come along to Evensong on Sundays at 3.30 pm and on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 5.15 pm.

We continue to stream the Daily Prayer at 7.45 am and Choral Evensong is streamed live at 5.15 pm on Thursdays and Fridays, and at 3.30 pm on Sundays. You can find these on the Cathedral’s Facebook page and YouTube, and via the website.

As we move forward and restrictions lift, we will be establishing a full round of Sunday worship and daily prayer – please visit the Cathedral’s new website regularly in order to keep up with developments, and you can also sign up to receive the Dean’s weekly letter.

Singing: we are now allowed to sing together outside! From this Sunday onwards we will go outside at the end of the service and sing a hymn. A little step along the way as we begin to journey through a new landscape.

We have a new Safeguarding Officer, Lisa Blaco. Lisa joined us last week and will be creating a short video to introduce herself over the coming weeks. If you have any concerns over safeguarding, please use the email address safeguarding@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk and look out for new information that will be coming out over the next few weeks.

Fellowship Groups: It was great to see so many people take up the offer of the Lent Groups. Fellowship Groups meet all year round, so if you enjoyed a Lent Group, do consider remaining in, or choosing another fellowship group to join. Paul Beasley Murray and Peter Dilley are both running groups looking at Isaiah 40-55 'Comfortable Words' based on a recent book by the Bishop of Oxford, <https://www.brfonline.org.uk/collections/new-titles/products/comfortable-words-a-call-to-restoration-reflections-on-isaiah-40-55>

- You can join Paul every other Wednesday evening, starting on 14 April at 7.15 for 7.30 pm.
- You can join Peter Dilley on Tuesday evenings starting on 20th April at 7.30pm, on zoom.
- Susan Hawking's group is continuing to explore the theme of Caring for Creation on Thursday evenings. Get in touch for more information.
- Imogen and Jean have formed a new group that will continue to meet looking at the basics of Christianity, every other Thursday, you would be very welcome to join them.

Paul Beasley-Murray paulbeasleymurray@gmail.com

Peter Dilley peterdilley@tiscali.co.uk

Susan Hawkings wsrjhawkings@btinternet.com

Breakfast with the Bible: A Focus on Justice

We have some excellent guest speakers to start off our Easter programme. Following on from our series on Mercy we are looking at the criminal justice system. This week, we will be hearing about The Welcome Project, welcoming ex-prisoners to your congregation (2nd May). All on zoom Sundays, 8.30am for 8.45am, please contact Imogen for the code.

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An exciting opportunity exists to join a vibrant office team as a general administrative and finance assistant at Chelmsford Cathedral. This is a one-year fixed full time (35 hours) term post covering maternity leave but there may be an opportunity to extend past this date. The starting salary £21,000. Closing date is Friday 7th May 2021 with interviews the week after. For further information please contact Laura Brayford/Caroline Robinson. A job description and application form are available on the Cathedral website.

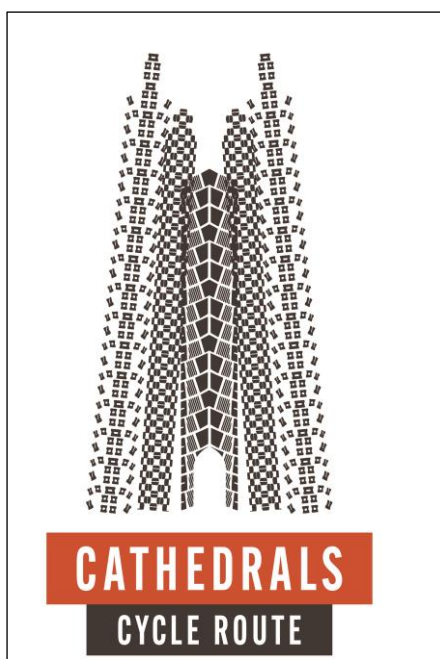
<https://www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk/about/vacancies>

May 23rd – **Meet Imogen at ARU** to look at their wildlife areas and labyrinth (outside Marconi building) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/muddy-church-tickets-150891004055>

Book Group: This month we are reading Featherhood by Charlie Gilmour. We meet to discuss this by Zoom on Monday 24th May at 7.30pm. All welcome – email sallydilley@tiscali.co.uk to be added to the circulation list.

Hard Lament and Good Hope – a community art project exploring our feelings during the pandemic and our hopes for the future. Even if you have never considered sewing anything before, do have a think about joining in with this project. You can glue fabric together as well as sew and children can use pens and draw or write onto fabric. Do look at the Material Girls website for lots of tips and ideas. <http://www.thematerialgirls.co.uk/community-project.html> You can download a how-to make a fabric postcard help sheet [here](#), On **Saturday 26th June** all postcards from this project will be displayed in the Cathedral for two months.

Sunday Coffee & Chat on Zoom: A reminder of the chance to meet with others from the Cathedral family happens on Sundays after the 10.30 Service. We are using Zoom breakout rooms so you get the chance to talk with others in small groups. This starts at 11.30am. Please click on the link. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89491095348?pwd=Sy9VbTZlVWxFxcHVmQmxaOUlBbzNOQT09> Meeting ID: 894 9109 5348 Passcode: 631194



Can you help to take the baton in the Chelmsford to St Albans leg of the Cathedral Cycle Relay on Sunday 13th June? We are looking for cyclists to ride all or part of the route in a relay within the relay. The route follows existing cycle trails or minor roads for much of the way. We are limited to riding in groups of no more than 6 because of Covid-19 regulations. So, for instance a young family could ride the first few miles through Central Park perhaps to Writtle, where another group would take over. Someone else might want to drive to a meeting point and take over for the last stretch. The really keen can cycle the full 48 miles! Sponsorship would be an option. To control numbers, participants need to register. To find out how, contact Caroline, treasurer@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk If you cannot ride on the 13th but are free on the 12th, she can put you in touch with Bury St Edmunds whose team will be coming to us. The Cathedrals Cycle Route is a new initiative to promote greener travel and mental and physical wellbeing.

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The Annual Meeting: Saturday, 22 May at 9.30 am live on Zoom It still seems sensible to hold the Annual Meeting on line – though we will be leading the meeting via Zoom from the Cathedral, so if anyone wishes to be present in the building they are of course welcome. The meeting will start at 9.30 am and will finish by 11 am at the latest.

Churchwardens: most cathedrals do not have Churchwardens and for those – like us – who do, they have none of the statutory roles that Churchwardens have in parishes. As a result the core role of Churchwardens at cathedrals is to be the voice of the congregations and counsellors to the Dean and Canons on behalf of the congregations. This is not hugely time consuming but it is important – representing the congregations as their only elected representatives. **Every year we elect two Churchwardens** at the Annual Meeting. Typically we invite them to serve for up to two terms of three years.

This year, with the pandemic still very much with us, we continue to live in a new landscape, but one which wardens can really help to shape. It would be great to see people standing who really have the gift of listening to the congregations and will be able to bring what they hear to the Dean and Canons. It would also be really helpful if those nominated to stand as Churchwardens could fully represent the range of our worshipping community – which at the moment is both those meeting in the Cathedral at 10.30 am on Sundays, and those meeting in Guy Harlings Garden at 10.30 am on Sundays. Please encourage people from both these areas of our worshipping life to think about standing. If anyone wants to know more, speak to the Dean or one of the Canons.

The Cathedral Flower guild committee would like to express our sincere thanks to all those who got teams together for our recent online Quiz, raising funds for cathedral flowers. It was a great success. Many Thanks, The Guild committee.

We are looking for Volunteers for the 6th Chelmsford (Cathedral) Scout Group. For over 75 years 6th Chelmsford (Cathedral) Scout Group has actively engaged and supported young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. **Scouts are do-ers and give-it-a-go-ers.** Yes, we go camping, hiking, swimming, abseiling, cycling and canoeing. But we also get to hang out with our friends every week – having fun, playing games, working in a team and taking on new challenges. Every week we give 8-14 year olds the skills they need for school, college, university, the job interview, the important speech, the tricky challenge and the big dreams: the skills they need for life. We urgently need volunteers for our Scout Section working with our young people aged 10-14 years. No experience is necessary we provide our volunteers with the tools and tips to feel trained, supported and happy in your role. We will build on your existing skills and knowledge, helping you to develop new competencies and confidence. If you would like further information please contact Rob Huddleston the Group Scout Leader on robhmast@gmail.com

On-line Giving: if you would like to donate to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral through these challenging times, please visit the Cathedral website. Towards the bottom of the home page you will see a heading “Supporting your Cathedral”. Simply click the link in the paragraph below to make your donation. If you would like to make a regular donation, go to www.parishgiving.co.uk, enter Chelmsford Cathedral in the search box, click the donate button, and follow the online instructions to set up a direct debit.

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