

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday 14th April

The Third Sunday of Easter



The president today is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry, who will also be preaching. The Reverend Mary Gregory, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation, is the deacon. The sub-deacon is the Reverend Gillian Roberts.

We are joined today by The Choir of St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford, directed by Nathan Collins. The organist is Ian Runnells. The Setting today is the Communion Service in F by Harold Darke (1888-1976).

Opening Hymn

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.**

**Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.**

**Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
to the Triune Majesty.**

*Words by Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)
Tune CP 137 Lux Eoi Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)*

The Collect

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The First Reading

Read by Daisy Nwaozuzu, representing the Cathedral community.

¹²When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷‘And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

Acts 3:12 – 19

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,

and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’

John 6:35

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel Reading

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?’

³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’

⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

Luke 24:36 – 48

Welcoming the Reverend Gillian Roberts to the Cathedral’s Ministry Team

Gillian Roberts retired last Easter from her post as priest-in-charge of the Bridges Group of Churches in the diocese. In retirement, Gillian has been granted ‘permission to officiate’ by Bishop Ruth and we’re so delighted that she has offered her ministry here at the Cathedral. Gillian will serve on some Sundays and on some Thursdays. She has a particular calling to our ministry of reconciliation and to work with children. We are looking forward to receiving all that she will offer God here.

The Dean says,

Gillian has come amongst us as one who serves.

You are welcome here.

We will be open to all that you will bring us.

Gillian says,

Pray for me as I follow God's call to minister in this place;
ask that God would give me wisdom, imagination,
and love for all God's people.

We will pray for you,

walk beside you,

work with you,

offer our support to you as you serve.

The Dean says,

Loving God,
you call each of us in your service
that, together, we may be the body of Christ in this place.
Bless Gillian as she takes up her ministry here.
Help us to make space for her,
to delight in all that she is,
and in all that she will bring to our life together.

Amen.

Offertory Hymn

***Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord.***

***Alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.***

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth:
he is the King of creation:**

Alleluia, alleluia...

**Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen:
*Alleluia, alleluia...***

**We have been crucified with Christ:
now we shall live for ever:
*Alleluia, alleluia...***

**God has proclaimed the just reward:
Life for all men, alleluia:
*Alleluia, alleluia...***

**Come, let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour:
*Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to his name.***

*Words by Donald Fishel (b. 1950)
CP 136 Alleluia No. 1 (87 and refrain)
Melody by Donald Fishel
Harmonised by Eric Welch*

Anthem

Ave verum corpus,
natum de Maria Virgine,
Vere passum, immolatum
In cruce pro homine,
Cuius latus perforatum
Unda fluxit et sanguine,
Esto nobis praegustatum,
In mortis examine.

*Hail true body,
born of the Virgin Mary,
which suffered and was offered truly
on the cross for all men,
whose side, pierced,
flowed with true blood;
may it be food for us, now
and in the testing time of death.*

Music by W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Communion Hymn

**Bread of heaven, on thee we feed,
for thy flesh is meat indeed;
ever may our souls be fed
with this true and living bread;
day by day with strength supplied
through the life of him who died.**

**Vine of heaven, thy blood supplies
this blest cup of sacrifice;
Lord, thy wounds our healing give,
to thy Cross we look and live:
Jesus, may we ever be
grafted, rooted, built in thee.**

Words by J. Conder (1789-1855)

Tune CP 284ii Nicht so traurig J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Closing Hymn

**Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.**

**Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.**

**Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.**

**Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.**

*Words by Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)
Tune CP 81 Lord of the Years Michael Baughen (b. 1930)*

Blessing of a Cross of Nails

A Cross of Nails is given to new partners and friends of the Community of the Cross of Nails as a symbol of their sharing together with us in the ministry of reconciliation, and to new ICONS schools. Today we will be blessing a Cross of Nails before it is presented to the Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, in the United States of America. The Dean will present the Cross of Nails to the school personally on 15th May. The Duke Divinity School will become a close partner of our existing, hugely supportive partner, Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, which is also located in North Carolina.

The Dean says,

Eternal God, you have come among us in Christ to reconcile the world to yourself, and have entrusted us with the ministry of reconciliation.

Strengthen all who work for the healing of conflict and pain amongst your human family.

Bless all those at the Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, who, inspired by the Cross of Nails, bear witness to the grace and truth of your crucified and risen Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In the name of God,
who has created all people for friendship with himself;

In the name of Jesus Christ,
who commanded us to love our enemies;

In the name of our Lord the Spirit,
who rescues and restores us in peace;

We present this Cross of Nails to the Duke Divinity School as a symbol of our partnership in the work of reconciliation;

For the Glory of God
and the coming of His kingdom of justice and peace;
Amen.

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the Cathedral via your phone, or set up a recurring donation, please use the QR code below. There are also contactless donation points and collection boxes near the entrance.

Thank you for your support.



If you would like to revisit this morning's sermon, please visit this page:
<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/services/sermons>

We serve refreshments at the back of the Nave after this service, so please feel free to stay for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee!

Daily Services at the Cathedral:

Regular services at the Cathedral follow this pattern. For special services and up-to-date information about one-off cancellations of the services below, please check the calendar on the Cathedral website:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/full-calendar>

Monday - Friday

8:30 – 9:00am: *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

(followed on Thursdays by BCP Holy Communion)

4 – 4:30pm: *Evening Prayer*

(or Wednesday and Thursday during school terms: Choral Evensong, 5:15 - 6pm)

Saturday

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

Sunday

10:30 – 11:45am: *The Cathedral Eucharist*

4 – 5pm: *Choral Evensong*

JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 11 are welcome to audition for our Cathedral Choir. Do you know a child who loves to sing? There are many benefits to joining the choir – new friends, a free, world-class music education, choir pay, singing services and at special events in amazing places, choir tours, broadcasts, recordings and social events too. If you or someone you know might be interested in joining the choir, please be in touch with the Director of Music to arrange a meeting.

rachel.mahon@coventrycathedral.org.uk

COMMUNITY NEWS

Road Closure for the Coventry Half Marathon

Sunday 28th April

Please note that your journey to the Cathedral and ability to park nearby may be affected by the Coventry Half Marathon. Road closures around the start on Gosford Street will be implemented from 4am to 11am whilst the closures around the finish on Priory Street will be implemented from 4am to 3pm. Road closures around the route will be implemented from 8am on the morning of the event with the final road closure re-opened for 1pm. All closures will be re-opened on a rolling basis. For more information on the road closures and re-opening times as well as diversion routes to plan ahead please see our interactive road closure map here:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1MjQmzVAcTHWe33ERDmGNgaA5cTjt_uTM&usp=sharing

Mary Wickens' Funeral

Mary Wickens' funeral will take place in the Cathedral on Monday 29th April at 12:30pm, followed by a committal at the crematorium. Please pray for Mary's sister, Vicki, and for all those who love Mary and miss her.

Cathedral Annual General Meeting **Please note new date**

Sunday 5th May, 12:00 – 1:30pm

Our Annual General Meeting will now be held on Sunday 5th May in the John Laing Centre. That Sunday, refreshments will be served in the John Laing Centre to enable us to have a prompt midday start. The agenda and Annual Report will be available soon to read in advance. Please do prioritise this meeting if you can. The meeting will be preceded by coffee and a simple sandwich lunch, served in the John Laing Centre.

Election of Cathedral Wardens

Each year at the Annual General Meeting we can elect up to five Cathedral wardens including at least one Warden for St Clare's. Please think about who you would like to nominate for this role or, indeed, consider standing yourself. Please email Canon Mary with the name of the person nominated, their proposer and seconder at Mary.Gregory@coventrycathedral.org.uk

St. Michael's Committee - AGM Elections

This is a sub-committee of Chapter which discusses matters concerning the congregation's role in the life of the cathedral.

*If you are interested in joining this committee, please email graham.warren@btinternet.com giving your name and those of a proposer and seconder. **Please note:** Nominee, proposer and seconder must all be members of the Electoral Roll.*

Sponsoring Reverend Su in the Milton Keynes Half Marathon

Our very own Reverend Su McClellan is running in the Milton Keynes half marathon on Monday 6th May to raise funds for our choir. Our choirs not only play an essential role in our worshipping life, but they also offer a first-class musical education for children and young people. Keeping this open and accessible is in the DNA of our community, which is why Su is running on Bank Holiday Monday. If you would like to sponsor Su, you can fill in a sponsor form with your pledge by talking to Su or Graham Warren after the service.



Introducing our new Canon for Worship and Welcome

We are absolutely delighted to be able to announce that the Revd Nitano Muller has been appointed as our new Canon for Worship and Welcome. We look forward to Nitano's arrival in June when he will be installed to take up his new role.

As we wait to welcome him, you will enjoy this biography as a way of beginning to get to know him and of anticipating all that he will bring to our life together:

Nitano hails from the small fishing-community of Ocean View, located at the southern-most tip of the Cape Peninsula in South Africa. He completed a degree in Education and worked as a language and history teacher.

While working as a teacher, Nitano was discerned for ordination to the priesthood in the Diocese of False Bay within the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and entered residential theological training at the College of the Transfiguration, Makhanda (formerly Grahamstown).

He served his curacies in two vastly different contexts in Mitchells Plain on the Cape Flats and Hermanus along the south-eastern coastline of False Bay (where he ministered to the Late Archbishop Desmond Tutu as a parishioner). He currently serves as Rector of St. Peter's Church, Kleinvlei, False Bay Diocese.

Nitano is one of the youngest serving Rectors in his Diocese. His passions include liturgy, youth development and the work of justice and reconciliation. These are evident in some of the portfolios he holds which include Diocesan Chaplain for Young People, a consultant for the Provincial Liturgical Committee, and a representative of his diocese on the South African Council of Churches (Western Cape). In 2022, Nitano was selected as a Trinity Leadership Fellow, a program run by Trinity Wall Street, New York, for emerging faith leaders from across the world who seek to enhance their skills in order to contribute to meaningful change and transformation in their respective fields and contexts.

Nitano is a self-proclaimed ambivert, who equally enjoys working with people, travelling and exploration as well as quiet time reading, writing reflections or listening to good music.

Nitano's first encounter with Coventry Cathedral was its welcome sign posted at the west-screen entrance, which he says made him feel at home because he identified with many of the traits described on it and is excited to form part of the cathedral team that extends the radical welcome and all embracing-love of God to all who enter the Cathedral's doors.

Welcoming Nitano: making a house a home

Nitano won't arrive from South Africa with any furniture or household goods (bedding, crockery, etc). It would be wonderful if we could begin making his house a home by offering items of furniture, or other goods, which he could use. If you have anything you could offer, please could you email Canon Mary – Mary.Gregory@coventry.anglican.org Mary will then collate all the offers and then get back to you – either thanking you for your offer and accepting it, or thanking you but explaining that we have had four other offers of chaise longues (for example!) and so won't need to accept yours. Thank you so much in advance for your generosity!

Coffee Rota

We would be glad for a few more volunteers to help with serving coffee to the congregation after the Sunday morning service. If you would like to get involved with this important community activity, please either e-mail graham.warren@btinternet.com or speak to Graham at the "contactless offertory" table at the back of the nave chairs.

COMING SOON

Spring Festival

Saturday 20th April, 12 – 5pm in the Cathedral Ruins
Food Union are back at Coventry Cathedral for another all-day, family-friendly festival celebrating Coventry's local growers and producers.
Join us in the Cathedral Ruins for a full day of food & live music, children's entertainment, interactive nature-based workshops, seed saving lessons, a city-wide crop swap, basket weaving, stalls selling local produce & wares, plus tons more and it's all free to attend!

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/events/spring-festival-2>

**A Service to Celebrate the 30th Anniversary
of the Ordination of Women as Priests**

Sunday 21st April at 4pm

*Join us as we gather as a Diocese for this service of Holy Communion,
where we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women as priests.
All are warmly invited to this service and to the refreshments which follow.*

Psalm

Wednesday 24th April, 7:30 – 9pm

*Join singer-songwriter Rob Halligan every fourth Wednesday of the month for
'Psalm': a place to explore worship through music, quiet, spoken word and song,
using the honesty of the Psalms.*

Lunchtime Organ Recitals

12:30 – 1pm every Monday from 6th May – 30th September 2024

*Our free lunchtime organ recitals are back! Come along and listen to beautiful
organ pieces, performed by a variety of musicians. For the full programme, please
visit: <https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/the-organ/organ-recitals>*