

The Cathedral Eucharist

Sunday 26th October, 2025

19th Sunday after Trinity



The President today is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Deacon is the Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome. Donald Parr, Cathedral Reader, is sub-deacon.

The Reverend Rob Harrison, Diocesan Director of Ministry, is preaching.

We are joined today by the Oakville Singers from Droitwich Spa, Worcestershire, directed by Ivan Oliver. The organist is John Wilderspin. The service setting is Messe Solennelle, Op 16, by Louis Vierne (1870 –1937).

We welcome Tania, who will be baptised today, and her family and friends who have come to support her.

Opening Hymn

**Christ is our corner-stone,
on him alone we build;
with his true saints alone
the courts of heaven are filled:
on his great love
our hopes we place
of present grace
and joys above.**

**O then with hymns of praise
these hallowed courts shall ring;
our voices we will raise
the Three in One to sing;
and thus proclaim
in joyful song,
both loud and long,
that glorious name.**

**Here, gracious God, do thou
for evermore draw nigh;
accept each faithful vow,
and mark each suppliant sigh;
in copious shower on all who pray
each holy day
thy blessings pour.**

**Here may we gain from heaven
the grace which we implore;
and may that grace, once given,
be with us evermore,
until that day
when all the blest
to endless rest
are called away.**

*Words from pre-9th century Latin translated by J. Chandler (1806-1876)
Tune CP 395 Harewood S.S. Wesley (1810-1876)*

The Collect

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
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 Pam Norman, representing the Cathedral Community

A reading from Paul's second Letter to Timothy.

²³ O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the Lord your God;
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.

²⁴ The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁵ I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

²⁸ Then afterwards
I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.

²⁹ Even on the male and female slaves,
in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

30 I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire
and columns of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the
moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of
the Lord comes. ³²Then everyone who calls on the name of
the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall
be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors
shall be those whom the Lord calls.

Joel 2.23–32

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The word of the Lord endures for ever.

The word of the Lord is the good news announced to you.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1 Peter 1.25

The Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you O Lord.

9 Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, “God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.” ¹³But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Luke 18:9-14

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Offertory Hymn

**O for a heart to praise my God,
a heart from sin set free;
a heart that's sprinkled with the blood
so freely shed for me.**

**A heart resigned, submissive, meek,
my great Redeemer's throne;
where only Christ is heard to speak,
where Jesus reigns alone.**

**A humble, lowly, contrite heart,
believing, true, and clean,
which neither life nor death can part
from him that dwells within.**

**A heart in every thought renewed,
and full of love divine;
perfect and right and pure and good –
a copy, Lord, of thine.**

**Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart,
come quickly from above;
write thy new name upon my heart,
thy new best name of love.**

*Words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788) cf. Psalm 52.10
Tune CP 532 Caithness melody from Scottish Psalter (1635)*

Anthem

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsulemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex
corde diligamus nos sincero. Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Amen.

*Where charity and love are, there is God. The love of Christ joins us together as
one. Let us exult and rejoice in him. Let us fear and love the living God. And let us
love sincerely from the heart. Where charity and love are, there is God. Amen.*

*Words from the Litany of Maundy Thursday
Music by Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)*

Communion Hymn

**O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
that all thy Church might be for ever one,
grant us at every Eucharist to say
with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done:'
O may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.**

**For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of peace:
thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.**

**So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
may we be one with all thy Church above,
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,
one with the saints in one unbounded love:
more blessed still, in peace and love to be
one with the Trinity in Unity.**

*W.H. Turton (1856-1938)
Tune CP 318 Song 1 (Only three verses)
Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

Post Communion

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

**All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.**

**Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.**

**God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.**

**Daily doth th'Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.**

**Still from all to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.**

*Words by Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
based on the German of J. Neander (1650-1680)
Tune CP 368 Michael Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*

Blessing of a Cross of Nails

A Cross of Nails is given to new partners of the Community of the Cross of Nails as a symbol of their sharing together with us in the ministry of reconciliation. Today we will be blessing Crosses of Nails before they are presented to our new partners.

The Dean says,

Bless Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Sacramento (USA), 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 bless these Crosses of Nails, to be presented to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Sacramento 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.

Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, played by John Wilderspin.

Te Deum, Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

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: *BCP Evening Prayer (Choral Evensong during term time)*

COMMUNITY NEWS:

Clergy Preaching Away Today:

The Reverend Su McClellan- *St. Chad's, Wood End*
The Reverend Canon Kate Massey- *Frankfurt, Germany*

RIP Pauline Lawrence

The Funeral will take place tomorrow- Monday, 27 October 2025 at 11.15am, followed by a Private Cremation.

Remembrance Sunday Service – TIME CHANGE

Please note that on Remembrance Sunday (9th November) the morning service will begin at **10.00am**, rather than our usual time of 10.30am. This will allow us to conclude the service in the ruins with the Act of Remembrance and the traditional two minutes' silence at 11.00am.

Congregation Contact Forms

Canon Kate would like to check that the contact information that we hold for congregation members is up to date and to seek your permission to contact you in various ways. This is to comply with our GDPR policy. If you choose to allow it (and there is no obligation), you can allow the Cathedral to send you the weekly notices and any other community news by email. If you choose, you can be added to a directory given to our clergy and readers to aid them in their ministry. Consent Forms are available at the back of the Cathedral. Please place completed forms in the marked envelope in the box which is addressed to Canon Kate.

Dean John's Trip to the USA

The Dean is travelling to California on Wednesday, 29 October. As part of his travels, he will be speaking at St. Mark's Church, Glendale, near Los Angeles, and then preaching at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco on Sunday 2nd November. On Sunday 9th November he will be preaching and presenting a Cross of Nails to the Cathedral in Sacramento, CA. Please pray for John as he travels, and for fruitful conversations - and for the lecture he will be delivering on Coventry's arts and reconciliation ministry in Chelmsford Cathedral this coming Tuesday, the night before he travels.

A Season of Reconciliation

Sunday, 2 November to Sunday, 23 November

Theme: “Remembering well to move forward together”

Here at Coventry Cathedral, the month of November is a season of reconciliation; an opportunity to focus on the heart of our calling here at the Cathedral. At each Sunday Eucharist in November we will explore what it means to remember well in a sermon series delivered by local and guest preachers.

Date:	Preacher:	Theme:
Sunday, 2 November <i>(All Saints’ Day)</i>	The Revd Su McClellan	<i>“Remembering the saints to be inspired in our peace-making”</i>
Sunday, 9 November <i>(Remembrance Day)</i>	The Revd Canon Kate Massey	<i>“Remembering the war to seek peace with justice”</i>
Sunday, 16 November	The Very Reverend Jay Ruka, Dean of Taranaki	<i>“Remembering well: Exploring colonial legacy and Māori heritage in the hope of reconciliation”</i>
Sunday, 23 November <i>(Feast of Christ the King)</i>	The Revd Canon Nitano Muller	<i>“Remember well the reign of Christ: a kingdom of peace”</i>

COMING SOON

Visiting Choir at Evensong

Monday, 27 October at 4pm

Join us for an Evensong service, with the Schleswig Cathedral Choir and Ely Cathedral Octagon Singers.

24 Hours of Prayer for Peace

Saturday, 1st November

We are launching our Coventry Cathedral Reconciliation Season with 24 hours of prayer for peace from 9.30am on Saturday 1st November all the way through to 9.30am on Sunday 2nd November.

There will be different acts of prayer and worship throughout the 24 hours, as well as some prayer stations and other prayer resources. We would love members of the cathedral community to volunteer to lead either create or offer a prayer resources, to help steward overnight and most of all, to commit to praying for part of the 24 hours (either in the building or at home). If you are able to help with this, please contact Kate (Kate.massey@coventry.anglican.org)

Requiem Mass – Fauré’s Requiem

Sunday, 2 November, 4pm

Join us for a solemn and beautiful celebration of a Requiem Mass featuring Gabriel Fauré’s *Requiem*, performed under the direction of Rachel Mahon, with Liam Condon and Adam Heron at the organ.

During the service, we will include the traditional reading of the names of those who have died.

If you would like a loved one’s name to be read aloud, please hand it to one of the Churchwardens before the service.

All are warmly welcome as we remember the faithful departed and commend them to God’s eternal care.

City Praise and Prayer at Coventry Cathedral

Sunday, 9 November, 6.30pm

Christians from across Coventry are invited to gather at the Cathedral for an evening of “City Praise and Prayer” - a time of charismatic worship, powerful prayer ministry, and unity in Christ.

Join with followers of Jesus from every tradition as we lift our voices in praise and pray together for our city, the church, and the world.

This event is free to attend - so come in your numbers and be part of what God is doing in Coventry!

Summer Choir Adventures Lunch

Sunday 16th November 2025

Come and hear about the adventures of the Cathedral Girls' Choir in London and the Cathedral Boys Choir in Germany.

This August the Girls Choir spent a weekend singing services in Southwark Cathedral and sightseeing in London - Tower Bridge, St Paul's Cathedral and a trip up the Thames! The Boys Choir travelled to Darmstadt in Germany to sing in two performances of Britten's *War Requiem*. There are some lovely photos to share!

The fundraising lunch is provided in the John Laing Centre. Tickets are available in advance on sale each Sunday morning after service. Prices: £10 single ticket, £25 family ticket.

Gracious Dialogue

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th November 7.30 pm in St Michael's House

New for reconciliation season. Gracious Dialogue: A guide to listening and speaking well about Israel and Palestine

Join us for a four week small group course to help us navigate the choppy waters of differing interpretations of scripture and history. Each week we will look at two interpretations of a passage from Paul's Letter to the Romans and snapshots from the recent history of Israel and Palestine. The course aims to equip us to deepen our understanding and to see through an other's eyes.

To register your interest or for further information talk to or email Revd Su. Email: su.mcclellan@coventry.anglican.org