

# Southwell Leaves

*February / March 2019*

**£2.00**

**News & Information  
from Southwell Minster**

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## CONTENTS...

<i>At a Glance</i>	2
<i>Welcome</i>	3
<i>Growth: Counting or Belonging ?</i>	
<i>From Dean Nicola Sullivan</i>	4
<i>Listening to the Leaves</i>	5
<i>Minster Performance of Major Work by</i>	
<i>JS Bach</i>	6
<i>Celebrate the music of John Rutter</i>	7
<i>Pause for Thought</i>	7
<i>Sacrista Prebend</i>	8
<i>A Mothering on Sunday</i>	9
<i>A Conversation with Bishop Ronald Milner</i>	10/11
<i>Bible Verses for Reflection</i>	11
<i>Ladies Choir</i>	12
<i>Mothers' Union</i>	12
<i>Notes from Chapter</i>	13
<i>Archbishop Welby's Call for Economic</i>	
<i>And Social Justice</i>	14
<i>What's On</i>	15-17
<i>In Search of Mansfield Stone</i>	18
<i>Education Department</i>	19
<i>Treasuring God's Creation</i>	20/21
<i>Children's Prayers</i>	21
<i>Lent Books to choose from</i>	22
<i>Minster Justice Action Group's</i>	
<i>Focus on Poverty</i>	23
<i>A Conversation with Alison Salter,</i>	
<i>Friends' Secretary</i>	24
<i>From the Mission Partnership Group</i>	25
<i>A mini Minster in Derbyshire</i>	26
<i>"Succeeding Together"; a new Era</i>	
<i>For Southwell Minster School</i>	27
<i>Letters to the Editor</i>	28
<i>From our Registers</i>	28
<i>Contacts</i>	30/31

## At a Glance ...

*The full list of services is on the What's On pages at the centre of the magazine.*

### February

Friday 1	12.15pm	Concert: Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Saturday 2	4.30pm	Sung Eucharist and Procession
Sunday 3	10.30am	Patronal Festival Eucharist
	3.30pm	Festal Evensong and Procession
Wednesday 6	3.30pm	Messy Minster
Friday 8	11.15am	Time Travelling Commissioning Service
Saturday 9	from 9.45	Quiet Day, Sacrista Prebend
	10.30am	'Come and Sing', Haydn's <i>Creation</i>
Thursday 14	7.30pm	Farewell to Ven. Sarah Clark
Friday 15	12.15pm	Concert: Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Sunday 17	5.00pm	Messy Minster Worship
Tuesday 19	12.30pm	Prayers for Justice

### March

Friday 1	12.15pm	Concert: Lunchtime at the Cathedral
	2.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer service
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	1.10pm	Eucharist with Hymns
March 6	3.30pm	Messy Minster
	5.30pm	Evensong
	7.00pm	Sung Eucharist
Saturday 9	7.30pm	Concert: Nottingham Trent University
Tuesday 12	9.45am	Quiet Day, Sacrista Prebend
	7.30pm	Lenten Address and Compline
Tuesday 19	5.30pm	Festal Evensong, St Joseph of Nazareth
	7.30pm	Lenten Address and Compline
Friday 22	12.15pm	Concert: Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Saturday 23	10.00am	Churches Together Day of Reflection
	10.30am	Service for Framework Housing
	7.30pm	Concert: Rotary Club & Mansfield Male Voices
Monday 25	11.00am	Diocesan MU Lady Day Service
	5.30pm	Festal Evensong for the Annunciation
	7.30pm	Concert: Seth Lakeman
Tuesday 26	7.30pm	Lenten Address and Compline
Friday 29	12.15pm	Concert: Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Saturday 30	3.45pm	Nottingham Bach Choir: <i>St Matthew Passion</i> , Parts I and II
	& 7.30pm	Jazz Eucharist for Mothering Sunday
Sunday 31	9.30am	Messy Minster Worship
	5.00pm	

### April

Tuesday 2	7.30pm	Lenten Address and Compline
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# Welcome to the February/March edition of Southwell Leaves

**B**rrr! At last it is cold, but it is also possible to detect the days lengthening. February is often experienced as the depth of winter, but by the time it ends there is no doubt that Spring is beginning and life is being renewed. Dean Nicola makes reference to this. She introduces us to this year's series of Lent lectures which will consider growth and human flourishing as we enhance awareness of ourselves through discipline, and prepare for Easter. Vincent Ashwin has provided a very helpful review of this year's Lent reading to accompany them.

There are two articles that make reference to how we might continue to grow as a community. Canon Nigel has provided a more detailed version of what he presented at the Autumn Community Forum. He sets the continuing work towards protecting the Minster's renowned stone carvings and improving access to them in a theological context, and it is inspiring to read how they have much still to say ... some seven hundred years on. That is something our house groups have also been considering and there is news about how those reflections are to be drawn together on March 2 in the shape of a learning day, and in the development of prayers celebrating God's Creation.

There is musical news; advance notice and an erudite background to Johann Sebastian Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* due to be performed in Southwell Minster by the Nottingham Bach Choir and conducted by our *Rector Chori Emeritus*, Paul Hale at the end of March, and information about the return of Nottingham Trent University's Chamber Choir and Orchestra in Residence to the Minster. They will present a programme of John Rutter's work on March 9. Friday Lunchtimes At the Cathedral continue to grow in popularity and there is now a

full programme through to Spring. On behalf of the Justice Action Group Patrick Sills provides news of their developing bi-monthly series of issue-focussed themes for members of the congregation to engage with, and he also unwraps the Archbishop of Canterbury's call for economic and social justice. Our roving reporters have been out and about, and there are more pieces about some of those who make such a significant

contribution to Minster life. Where its stone came from is also investigated, as well as an even less well-known example of Romanesque church architecture not far away ... and of course there are the regular items.

## Apology

The editorial team of *Southwell Leaves* magazine is very sorry that some of what appeared in an article 'My Reflections on a recent time in Palestine' that was published in the December 2018/2019 edition has been construed as antisemitism. This was not our intention and we apologise for any distress it has caused. Southwell Minster is committed to accommodating all forms of Anglican expression in a rounded and fair manner, and seeks to be a place of listening, respect and reconciliation in all issues that concern us as Christians.

Hugh Middleton

SING LIVE IN ASSOCIATION WITH DMP MUSIC PRESENT

**SETH LAKEMAN**

THE WELL WORN PATH  
TOUR

**25 MAR 2019**

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If you are interested in submitting an article for consideration for the next issue, please email your offering to [hugh.middleton@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:hugh.middleton@nottingham.ac.uk) by 8th March 2019.

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## Growth: Counting or Belonging?

**E**arly spring is the season of growth and maturation, as every gardener and farmer knows. Jesus' stories often centred on agricultural images of seed sowing, the quality of soil, unpredictable harvests and the recruitment of labourers. They are a world away from big supermarkets, agricultural subsidy and robotic farm machinery. Yet, we get the point of these timeless illustrations of the Kingdom of God and spiritual growth. We will be looking at growing and human flourishing in the gospel of Luke in a sermon series in Lent; inviting guest preachers from across the diocese to share their insights and wisdom as we seek to grow and flourish within the Minster's congregational and missional life.

In his recent book <sup>1</sup>*God's Belongers: How people engage with God today and how the church can help*, Bishop David Walker offers a fourfold model of belonging: through relationship, through place, through events and through activities. If this is so, it means the Minster has extraordinary and unique resources as we have an abundance of all four! Although we have a statutory duty to renew the Electoral Roll every six years, which we will do in February and March, the exercise is meaningless unless each person on the Roll has a sense of belonging and being known in the Cathedral Community, and that collectively we are engaged in deepening our love of God and neighbour, to reach outwards to those who are being drawn to life of Jesus Christ celebrated among us.

Looking ahead, please note in your diaries the visit of the Archbishop of York, together with 13 bishops from the Northern Province, to engage in a

'One Life Mission' across the diocese during 12–15 September. Archbishop Sentamu will come to the Minster to preach and preside on Sunday 15th September at 10.30am. This will be a wonderful occasion to invite friends to hear the Archbishop, at what will be his last visit before retirement in June 2020. More details will follow but please earmark the date.

In March, Terry and I are planning to use our holiday to visit Jerusalem to explore the Cathedral's partnership with St George's Cathedral, and we hope to plan a pilgrimage for 2020 or 2021.

Dean Nicola Sullivan

<sup>1</sup>*Bible Reading Fellowship, ISBN 978 0 85746 467 5, published 2017*



## Congratulations!

To Archdeacon Sarah Clarke, who has been appointed Bishop of Jarrow in the Diocese of Durham.

Sarah will be consecrated in York Minster on 27 February. She has been Archdeacon of Nottingham since 2014, having served all her ministry in this diocese. We give thanks for Sarah and hold her in our prayers as she moves to her new ministry.

## A Successful Education Team

Diana Ives (Education Officer) and Matt Hustwayte (Education Administrator) after receiving the prestigious Sandford Award from the Heritage Education Trust at the Tower of London in November. The Sandford Award is an independently judged, quality assured assessment of education programmes at heritage sites, museums, archives and collections across the British Isles. The award reflects our Education Team's excellent work in providing curriculum-based learning for many hundreds of visiting children in the contexts of our faith and historic buildings.





# Listening to The Leaves

As the seventy or so members of our community who have been taking part in house groups over the past few months will know, we have been attempting to understand how a remarkable collection of naturalistic medieval stone carvings might inspire the Christian message in the 21st century. March 2 has been put aside as a day of reflection about what has been learned, and what that might mean for our lives together and more widely.

Elsewhere in this edition of *Southwell Leaves* Canon Nigel argues that 'The very stones cry out and speak to the major spiritual crisis of our time, encouraging us to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth'. Unsurprisingly, this resonates with much of what people report of their experiences in house groups. There is much in the Christian message that speaks to growing concerns for the environment, for our care of Creation.

A prayer (see below) has been written to help us prepare for March 2 and this will be available in the Minster on prayer cards. We hope it will be used by members of the congregations in their daily prayers, but especially at 12.00 noon on Fridays leading up to March 2. Additionally, there will be a short preparatory Act of Worship in the Chapter House at 10.45am on Sunday February 24.

You may well have received an early notice outlining plans for March 2 in very broad terms. More details will follow before long, but what we are seeking to do is bring together these theological reflections and more secular expressions of environmental concern. Ours is far from the only Christian community moving in this direction, and we hope to hear from A Rocha, a international Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world. A visit to their website is recommended! We have also invited a number of local groups and individuals such as the farming community, the Forestry Commission, the National Trust and



## A Prayer commending to God our exploration of the meaning and challenge of the Chapter House 'Leaves of Southwell'

Gracious God, source of life,  
we praise you for the wonder and diversity of the natural world,  
and we thank you for the genius of the craftsmen  
who carved the Chapter House leaves that speak to us still.  
Open our hearts and minds to your guiding Spirit,  
that we may discern together  
how best to cherish this good earth  
and safeguard its resources.  
As we listen to the leaves,  
show us how to share in creation's song  
and rediscover our harmony in you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, with a view to hearing about their interests, concerns and activities.

Bishop Ronald Milner, and canons Nigel Coates and Angela Ashwin are preparing suitable Acts of Worship and further prayers. We look forward to addressing a key question together; '*Are The Leaves just a miracle of the mason's art in stone, or do they call the Minster Community to a unique sharing in God's ministry in our world, and if so how,*'

The opening service will be at 10.00am, and closing prayers at 3.15pm. With a fair wind sandwiches and cakes will be available at lunchtime.

# Minster Performance of Major Work by JS Bach

The Nottingham Bach Choir will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's *St Matthew Passion* in the Minster on Saturday March 30. It will be conducted by Paul Hale, the former Rector Chori, who chose this great oratorio for the final Minster concert of his last season with the Bach Choir. It will be sung in German, but the English translation will be displayed on a giant screen above the choir.

As the work is long, it will be divided between afternoon and evening sessions: Part 1 from 3.45 to 5.00pm, and Part 2 from 7.30 to 9.45pm. Some of the town's restaurants and coffee shops have agreed to stay open late that day.

Bach composed this massive work for the congregation in Leipzig for Good Friday, 1729. It was the custom for Lutherans to spend much of Good Friday in church, and a sermon would be preached between parts one and two. A similar practice was followed every week, and visitors to St Thomas' Church in Leipzig can still go to a weekly 'Cantata Service' where the 25-minute cantata sung by the choir and orchestra is complemented by Bible readings, organ solo, 10-minute homily and prayers. Different composers had produced settings of Christ's Passion for Holy Week, with space for a sermon, since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Bach was following an old tradition, but expanding it into a three-hour exercise of drama, song, hymns (chorales) and reflection.

*St Matthew Passion* was a collaboration between Bach and a local poet called Christian Henrici, who went by the nickname Picander and earned his living in the post office. Bach has interspersed his poems with texts from Matthew's Gospel about Jesus' last days, from the plotting of the high priests to the disciples laying him to rest. The poems serve as a commentary on what is going on. For example, after the account of the Last Supper, the soprano soloist sings, 'Although my eyes with tears must flow ... His gracious promise doth the Spirit lift, His flesh and blood, O precious gift.'

The work is operatic, intellectual and devotional, and can be listened to at many levels. Religious people may find that, though they had gone to a concert, they come out having learned more about their faith, than if they had been to a

particularly good service. Those who are 'spiritual but not religious' will inevitably be moved by the drama and by emotions which range from utter gloom to triumph. Musicians will enjoy the intricately constructed music, with its reflective choruses, hymns with enriched harmonies, and long arias sung by nationally-recognized soloists.



The story is told by the Evangelist, sung this year by the veteran tenor, Rogers Covey-Crump. The 90-strong choir will be divided in two when they are in dialogue with each other. At other times they sing the part of the crowd, ('Crucify him!') or the soldiers, ('Now tell us, if you are the Christ, who hit you?')



A flavour of the work can be picked up in the Nottingham Post review of the Bach Choir's 2012 performance:

'This was a performance in which singers realised the importance of singing with their eyes, bringing an almost operatic intensity to their roles. The choir's deep knowledge of this music expressed itself in crisp articulation and never-flagging commitment. Conducted with probing musical insight by Paul Hale, they were always dramatically convincing – whether as the voices of different communities of believers or as the clamorous, derisive crowds at the Crucifixion.'

Much has been written about Bach's Christian faith. Archivists kept plenty of letters in which he complains to the church and city authorities about lack of money, lack of support, etc. - nothing new there then! The library in Leipzig also has his Bible commentary where he has underlined certain sections and written tiny notes in the margin. He may also have been influenced by the 'Pietist' movement' which wanted to make faith more personal and less formal. Certainly, the way he sets prayerful texts to music and chooses the right instruments to accompany them suggests a deep religious understanding. In the original score, in among the crossings-out and alterations, he uses red ink where he quotes the Bible and black ink for the rest.

Fashions changed, and Bach's music was considered out-of-date. For decades *St Matthew Passion* was hidden in obscurity, and there is no record of any performance. In 1829, Felix Mendelssohn revived it in a theatre in Berlin. It is ironic that a work with choruses that verge on the Anti-Semitic was being conducted by a Jewish composer - albeit one whose family had converted to Christianity to avoid the prevalent anti-Semitism.

I suggest that people of all faiths and none will be moved by this masterpiece, sung in a cathedral whose spaciousness embraces all humanity.

Tickets can be bought at the Cathedral Shop or from me.

Vincent Ashwin



# Celebrate the music of John Rutter in Southwell Minster



Spring sees the return of Nottingham Trent University's (NTU) award-winning Chamber Choir and Orchestra in Residence, English Pro Musica, to the Minster. Following a large and appreciative audience for their *Sunrise Mass and The Lark Ascending* concert in the autumn, this year they present a programme of music by eminent composer John Rutter.

*Magnificat: experience the music of John Rutter*, taking place on Saturday 9 March, features not only Rutter's famed *Magnificat* but also *Suite Antique*, with guest flautist Clare Preston, and choral classics including *For the Beauty of the Earth*.

Hailed as one of the world's most successful living composers, John Rutter is renowned for his hymns, Christmas carols and epic choral masterpieces. His music has featured in a number of British royal occasions, including the weddings of Prince William and The Duchess of Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

The NTU Chamber Choir are an auditioned ensemble of students, alumni and staff members from the University. As the only choir to represent Great Britain in the 2018 South African World Choir Games, they won an impressive silver medal in the Mixed Chamber Choirs category of The Champions Competition. International tours have seen them perform to audiences in India, Spain, Hungary, Czech Republic and The Netherlands, with a trip to China planned for April 2019.

Joining them for this concert is Nottinghamshire's only professional orchestra, English Pro Musica, who are currently in residence at NTU. Led by renowned trombonist Peter Lacey, they comprise professional musicians from across the country, many of whom play in some of the UK's finest ensembles such as the Hallé, BBC Philharmonic and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra.

The programme will be conducted by NTU's Director of Music, Matthew Hopkins. He commented: "We are delighted to be returning to Southwell Minster to present a wonderful programme of music by one of the nations most renowned composers. It will be a most enjoyable evening, not to be missed."

*Magnificat: experience the music of John Rutter* takes place at Southwell Minster on Saturday 9 March 2019 at 7.30pm. Tickets start at £14 and are available to purchase from the Cathedral Shop or online at [www.gigantic.com](http://www.gigantic.com). Visit [www.ntu.ac.uk/magnificat](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/magnificat) for full information.

Sammi Kauss

## Pause for Thought

For the last few years there has been a *Thought for the Week* in the Minster's Pew News, usually taken from books in Sacrista Prebend library. Here are two quotes from February and March 2015:

### Our attitude towards others

[St Benedict challenges me] to let go of my ambition and self-esteem, my wish to be just a little different from everyone else. If through all this I learn to deal with my own limitations then I shall be able to deal with those of other people. This humility which I hope to learn may prevent me from laughing quite so easily at other people, or being so ready to scorn and criticise.

*'Seeking God: The Way of St Benedict', Esther de Waal, p.47. In Sacrista Prebend Library*

### No limits to Jesus' transforming love

And he [Jesus] is never disgusted. He never says that anything - anyone - is too dirty to be touched. That anyone is too lost to be found. Even in situations where there seems to be no grounds for human hope, he will not agree that hope is gone beyond recall. Wreckage may be written into the logic of the world, but he will not agree that it is all there is. He says: more can be mended than you fear. Far more can be mended than you know.

*Francis Spufford, 'Unapologetic: Why, Despite Everything, Christianity Can Still Make Surprising Emotional Sense', p. 129. In Sacrista Prebend library.*



# Sacrista Prebend Retreat House

*A Quiet Space in the Heart of Southwell*

There is a lot of green this year. I am not writing about the green movement or political party or the way the grass still appears to be growing. I am writing about how late Easter is, this year falling on 21 April. This means the first green season (the colour of hangings and vestments in church) runs from after Candlemass (3 February) until Ash Wednesday (6 March).

Some years, when Easter is very early, we bounce from Christmas/ Epiphany/ Candlemass straight into Ash Wednesday/Lent with hardly any 'green' time early in the year. But what a gift it is to us this year. In prayer and lives of faith we can hold to God all that needs enlivening in the world, be it the situations which prompt youngsters into knife crime and gangs and drugs or the Brexit and political scenario, or locally the attack on the Post Office. These are deadly painful things which this 'green' time gives us space to hold to God, remembering those words of Lancelot Andrewes, Prebendary of Southwell and after whom one of our bedrooms at Sacrista is named...

'Christ may with one word make all green again.'

Sacrista Prebend is one of those places where people come to find space to pray, to seek 'Christ's word.' Of course, Christians may pray anywhere but sometimes the act of going somewhere special helps and is prayer in itself. So, do pop in and see us and arrange your quiet time; or join those who come for communion (Mondays at 9am and Wednesdays at 12.15pm) or one of the other prayer or contemplation groups. Our programme of quiet days (available in the Minster or from Sacrista) can also help in 'greening up' your life with Jesus' life. Here are the next few but please book early as they do fill up...

## **Saturday 9th February**

**The Revd Canon Valerie Rampton**

**Loving God has four elements: 'Rest, Reverence, Obedience, Delight'**

The quotation comes from John Owen, a 17th Century Puritan. I'm sure we'll have heard plenty about obedience, and perhaps a bit about reverence, but probably very little about rest and delight. In this day we'll learn a bit about John Owen, explore rest, reverence and delight as ways of loving God, and have a nod at obedience.

*Valerie Rampton served for 22 years in Southwell Diocese before retirement, in inner city, suburban and rural parishes, and as Dean of Women's Ministry. An active retirement includes being a Spiritual Companion, going to concerts, travelling abroad, and walking in the countryside.*

**Tuesday 12th March**  
**Canon Angela Ashwin**  
**Roots and Fruits:**  
**Trust, Vulnerability**  
**and Gift in the**  
**Christian Life**

Jesus often uses the imagery of plants, seeds and fruitfulness when speaking about discipleship. On this Quiet Day

we will explore what it means to be 'rooted and grounded in love' (Ephesians 3), abiding in Jesus and being pruned in order to bear his fruit (John 15). Reflecting on other Biblical analogies of trees, streams and leaves for healing, parts of this day will take further some of the themes explored by the Minster congregation in 2018-19 House Groups around our medieval carved stone leaves, although you do not have to be part of the Minster congregation to attend.

*Angela Ashwin is a writer and speaker who lives in Southwell. Her latest book is Faith in the Fool: Risk and Delight in the Christian Adventure.*

**Sat 11th May The Revd Canon Dr. Alison Milbank**  
**All the world's a stage: A study day in faith and Shakespeare.**

Shakespeare wrote in the aftermath of the seismic shock of the Reformation and in this study day we shall examine how he reconstitutes key Christian ideas through dramatic presentation, and consider how far we are all characters in a divine drama. We shall look at the abundant life of some of Shakespeare's characters such as Falstaff, the questioning of all meaning in his tragedies, and the strong emphasis on forgiveness, reconciliation and pure grace in his late comedies. At the heart of the day will be Paul Edmundson's Shakespeare Eucharist, which uses passages from his works.

*Alison Milbank is Associate Professor of Literature and Theology in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at Nottingham University, and Canon Theologian at Southwell Minster.*

*With every blessing, Tony Evans,  
Warden of Sacrista Prebend Retreat House*





## A-Mothering, on Sunday

Each year on the 4th Saturday morning in Lent, a band of volunteers gather in Trebeck Hall. They arrive carrying armfuls of greenery and secateurs. If the winter has lingered and there are still heavy frosts or snow, then there is always a worry there will be sufficient foliage to compliment the flowers and complete our task. Over the next two hours Mothering Sunday posies are created.

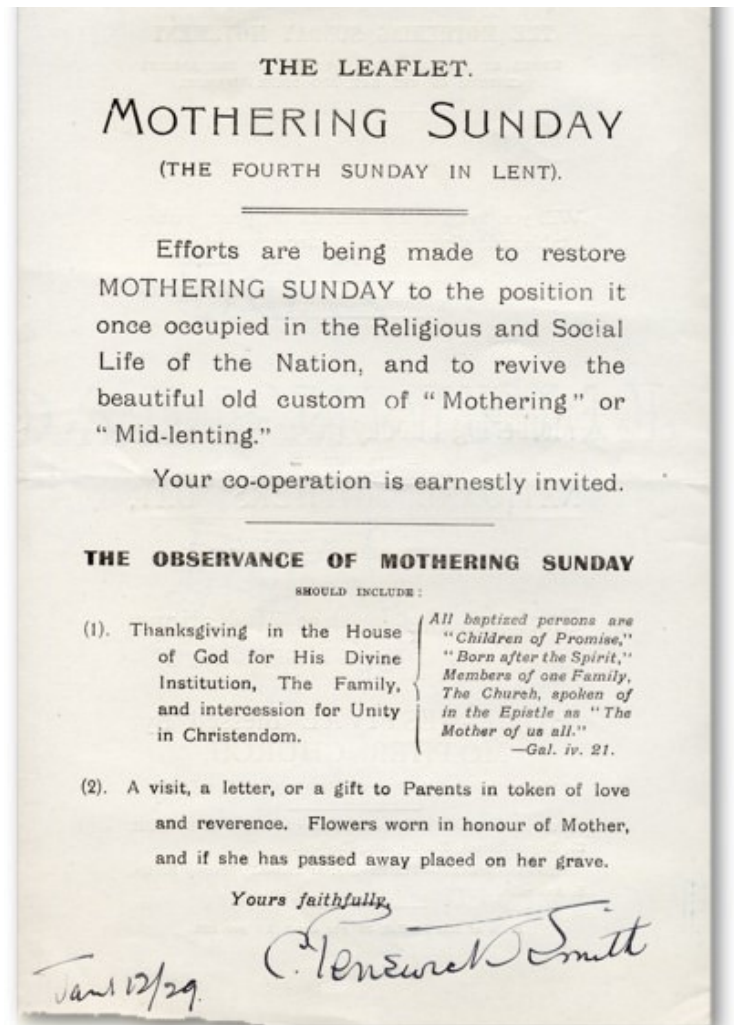
It is a very happy and convivial morning of great industry and much chatter. Gradually we fill the baskets with posies and ensure that we reach our target of at least 300, so that they can be distributed at all the services on Sunday.

The giving of a posy to a family member, in particular mothers, is a small symbolic gesture to recognise the church in communion with all Christian communities not only in this country but across the world. It takes us back to remembering the Mother Church and over the centuries, customs have developed and remain part of our Christian heritage.

Mothering Sunday (Rejoice or Laetare) Sunday is the 4th Sunday in Lent and this has traditionally been seen as a day to return to the home church and attend a service with members of your family. Since the middle ages visiting the family home on this day has been expected, and employers gave their workers the day off to travel home. If possible, children would arrive there bearing gifts, especially spring flowers. Violets were the favourite flower as they grew wild and were plentiful in the spring. They also carried Simnel cakes often decorated with marzipan and twelve small marzipan eggs to symbolise the apostles. The cake was a treat to relieve the fasting of Lent. It was always hoped that Mothers would attend the family church with their children whilst probably the eldest daughter would cook the midday meal.

By the 19th century rapid changes in working practises in the United Kingdom meant families became scattered, as industrial towns grew up and people moved to them to work in factories cotton mills and mines. City churches tried to keep the traditions going but found the commercial world began to put the emphasis on honouring Mothers and wished to secularise the day. In America the first Mothers' day cards were printed and entrepreneurs in England began to talk about publishing a calendar where Mothers' day had moved to May. However, the determined work of one Nottinghamshire woman would make sure that Mothering Sunday would remain part of Lent and observed in the Christian church.

Miss Constance Penswick Smith the daughter of a vicar, and with four brothers in holy orders, was a chemist working in Nottingham at the hospital for skin diseases. In 1920 she produced a booklet entitled 'The Revival of Mothering Sunday' recognising mother church, symbolic of the body of Christ, and the mother church of a person's baptism. With the help of friends and using the Girls' Friendly Society Lodge in Regent street, she distributed information all over the world. She contacted all the well-known confectioners and florists, persuading them to join the campaign, as they would all benefit when their wares were bought, as gifts for Mothers. Her movement was a great success and by the time of her death in 1938 Mothering Sunday was anchored as a valuable part of Lent in all Christian churches across the globe. Miss Smit



Nottinghamshire pioneer woman who we are proud to remember.

She is buried in Coddington churchyard beside her father and the Lady chapel there is dedicated to her. We are fortunate to have a collection of her writings in our Historic Library. Her book on the subject sold so well (for 2/s) that a further one was produced only 2 years later. In 1984 her scrapbook of newspaper cuttings, which had been sent to her from around the world, was donated to the Cathedral by her two nieces. It makes for fascinating reading. Do visit the Historic library and find out more.

Jan Richardson



## A Conversation with Bishop Ronald Milner

I didn't expect to have anything in common with Bishop Ronald as we sat down to talk of his long life, but was pleased to find that, like me, he was born in Yorkshire and his father was a bricklayer: a good place to begin. We connected again when he described his rather daunting and lone (no parents driving you to interviews in those days!) train journey aged 17 to Cambridge (change at Doncaster) to sit college entrance exams; a first-generation grammar school boy who knew very little of what lay ahead and had no experience of the social scene he would enter.

Ronald was born into a Hull family; his paternal grandfather was a builder and mother's father a merchant seaman who entertained him with exotic tales from his travels around the world. He had a younger sister, Audrey, and there were lots of aunts, uncles and cousins living nearby.

He passed the 11+, acquired the regulation cap and blazer, and entered Hull Grammar School in 1939. However, fears of possible bombing of Hull docks resulted almost immediately in the school being evacuated to Thorne near Doncaster, where Ronald and his friend Gus were 'billeted' on a local family. It was a relief to hear they returned home in 1940 where, despite the systematic bombing of Hull, he sat out the War with his own family under the sole protection of the Anderson shelter in the garden.

I was curious to know how his decision to become a priest had emerged, but listening to his teenage experiences I began to see it probably happened when he was about fifteen. Around that time, he worshipped and sang in the choir of Holy Trinity Church, Hull, a vibrant Evangelical church which had connections with Wilberforce, and where his Headmaster worshipped. The Curate there offered to teach him Latin and he was confirmed by William Temple. Perhaps more importantly, he was deeply involved in the active youth group whose members were given the task of setting up a Sunday School for children living in the deprived central and dockland areas of Hull. The young people he worked with on that project have been lifelong friends.

The memorable journey to Cambridge resulted in a place to read English at Pembroke College, which he did for two years. He studied Theology for a further two years, meaning a shorter time in Theological College, but first National Service intervened. And this is where his future wife Audrey came into the story. They had been corresponding since meeting at a CMS summer school in 1944, and became engaged in 1949 as Ronald began life in the RAF as an Education Officer, working with practical men, carpenters and metal workers, helping improve their basic academic skills: work which Ronald obviously found rewarding. In 1952 after Wycliffe Hall Oxford,



Bishop Ronald; picture at his grandson's wedding

ordination and marriage to Audrey, who was pursuing a career teaching English, he was offered his first curacy in Sheffield as Succentor at the Cathedral. Bishop Ronald described this as a 'wonderful start'. It was the early days of industrial chaplains and Sheffield's steel industry was at its height. He was charged with going out to meet and minister to the parish of 3000 souls, mostly living in poor tenements and streets scheduled for demolition. He was given a free hand to evangelise and set up bible study groups, and Audrey looked after the needs of the young wives as well as, eventually, their children Howard and Claire.

Five years spent in Sheffield was a suitable preparation for the next challenge: a group of three churches with two curates serving a housing estate with 40,000 people on the outskirts of Coventry. They moved to an old farm house given to the church as

a vicarage set in four acres, but still in the middle of an industrial area dominated by vehicle manufacturing. Ronald developed a team ministry that worked closely with Methodists and Baptists, and also played a part in the Ministry of Reconciliation that grew from the consecration of the newly completed Coventry Cathedral. The first Cross of Nails was presented to one of his churches that had been restored for community work. Was it here that the theme of 'reconciliation' running through Bishop Ronald's ministry began?

All his previous experiences were brought together for the next project he undertook: another example of the Church's 'frontier thinking' that Ronald has always embraced. In 1970 they moved to Southampton where the Diocese of Winchester were planning to merge seven churches to make one City Centre Parish, and he was appointed rector working in a team of seven clergy. It was to be a new form of ministry aiming to make the church relevant to the working life of the city and involved training lay people to take important roles. Each member of the clergy team was responsible for specific areas of city life such as residents, shops, offices, education, social services and, Ronald's special interest, civic and political life.

Audrey served as a magistrate in Southampton and continued teaching English as a second language to Asian women. Their family of two sons and two daughters were largely grown up by 1983 when they made the next move.

Four years as Archdeacon of Lincoln based in Sleaford followed, building on his Southampton experience and again rolling out a new Church initiative, this time developing the scheme for Local Non-stipendiary Ministers and training groups of lay people in pastoral care. In 1985 his work



coincided with the publication of the 'Faith in the City' report which highlighted areas of social deprivation and lead to the setting up of the Church Urban Fund. Another area of 'frontier thinking' for Ronald to take on board?

The theme of serving where there is social need in a community continued when he accepted the Bishop of Blackburn's invitation to become his Suffragan Bishop of Burnley in East Lancashire, a move back to the North, all be it the other side of the Pennines. The urban deprivation here was widespread, as a result of the loss of the textile mills and coal mines, and Ronald and Audrey carried on their work there until they retired to Southwell in 1993.

## Bible Verses for Reflection

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. **2 Corinthians 5: 17-19**

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly.

**Isaiah 58: 6-8a**

**Suggestion for Reflective Reading, based on the ancient tradition of Sacred Reading ('Lectio Divina')**

- Read the verses slowly, perhaps more than once.
- If any word or phrase strikes you in particular, stay with it, repeating it quietly to yourself.
- Reflect about what God might be saying to you through this.
- Move into quietness, resting in God's loving presence.



It felt appropriate that the light of the winter afternoon was fading when we reached the Southwell years, but there was still so much more to report. We were both amazed to realise he has lived here for twentyfive years, the longest period of his ministry. By this time he was most definitely non-stipendiary but we have all benefitted from his continued passion to make a difference. The long list of causes that he has spear-headed here include, Make Poverty History, Jubilee Debt Campaign in 2000, Fairtrade in Southwell and the Minster, Ecumenical work with Churches Together in Southwell and many of us have experienced his unseen pastoral care. His latest contribution is to bring his vision and love of God's natural world to the Southwell Leaves project. He hopes that the Minster will lead the Church of England in the theology and practical action needed to sustain the future of our world.

When I asked how Bishop Ronald felt about living here in the oasis that is Southwell sheltered from many problems and anxieties of life, his answer was 'the contrast between the privileges and resources we enjoy and the lack elsewhere make it even more stark and demanding that we work and do all we can to close the gap'. He continues to inspire us all to attempt to do just that.

*Christine Kent*

With kind permission of the Dean & Chapter of Southwell Minster

**The Rotary Club of Southwell**  
presents

**"Male Voices at The Minster"**

featuring

**Mansfield & District, St. Edmundsbury and Bestwood Male Voice Choirs**  
**With Special Guest: Flautist Chris Hill**

**March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019 7:30pm**

**Mansfield & District M.V.C.** 

 **of singing** 

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Southwell Minster 01636 812933 + Southwell Rotary Club 07899 008009  
M. & D.M.V.C. 01623 455373 + on line @ [www.mansfieldmvc.co.uk](http://www.mansfieldmvc.co.uk)

Proceeds in aid of:   

Southwell Reach Project + Live at Home Scheme + Local Rotary supported charities

## Ladies' Choir

**T**he Ladies' Choir start again on February 12th with the first rehearsal for the Women's World Day of Prayer service. This year this will be held in the Minster on March 1st at 2pm. The Choir continue rehearsals on the 19th and on the 28th when we have a run through of the service. The service this year has been devised by the women of Slovenia and includes music from the country and carnations made by the Committee.

The next service is a Diocesan Mothers' Union one celebrating Lady Day on 25th March. We start rehearsing on 5th March and continue with practices on the 12th and 19th (this one in the Minster with the organ). Our rehearsals are at 2 pm in the Trebeck Hall unless otherwise stated. There are ladies from many towns and villages as well as Southwell, so you are very welcome to come and join us.

*Gwen Bragg (Conductor)*

## Mothers' Union Southwell Minster Branch



**H**ello, this is the first Mothers' Union report from me, Shelagh, as the new branch leader, although most of the work at meetings is done by the lovely ladies of the committee. As many will know, I am a member of Holy Trinity church, but have been a member of the Minster MU since 2009, with a two-year break while I was living in Uganda. While there I was hugely impressed by the work done by Mothers' Union members, to educate and empower women and girls in poor rural communities. Back here in the UK I am also impressed by projects in our own diocese such as Away From It All (AFIA), and the Contact Centre in Retford.

Our branch has a programme of meetings through the year, usually in Sacrista Prebend, on the third Thursday of each month. We begin at 2.00pm with a short service, then usually have a visiting speaker, followed by tea, biscuits and fellowship. We finish between 3:30 and 4:00 so children can be picked up from school.

In spite of the name, Mothers' Union is open to anyone with a Christian faith; you do not need to be a mother, or even female! Visitors, and possible new members, are always welcome, so why not give us a try one month?

Please contact me for more information: 01636 918341 or email [shelaghbairdsmith@gmail.com](mailto:shelaghbairdsmith@gmail.com)

*Shelagh Baird-Smith*



Shelagh Baird-Smith and the Mothers' Union Chairperson in Abilonino, Northern Uganda.



## Notes from Chapter

Since Chapter met in early December, we have welcomed not only our regular congregations but many visitors to the Minster taking the opportunity to share in the celebrations and reflections around the Christmas Story. The preparation and delivery of all we can offer takes an immense amount of hard work and we are hugely grateful to all those who contribute in making the variety of services and activities happen. Chapter would like to say a big thank you to all.

As we move into the new year the work continues. The new website is now active for all to access and although much can already be seen, additions and adjustment will be made as the site is developed further. The Marketing team are developing the use of social media to highlight both worship and events opportunities to a wide audience; locally and beyond.

Further scrutiny of financial planning and budget setting is taking place with a review of spending and how appropriate key performance indicators (KPI's) can be used to help prioritise and focus as we move forward; skills of members of Chapter and external advice are being utilised for this. Chapter members of the finance group have met with Heads of Departments to help and support in a way forward by continuing to grow the Minster's missional activity while at the same time managing costs.

Many visitors have been attracted by exhibitions, musical events and education days although not exclusively. The Minster has had a 7% increase in visitor numbers over the year. The offer of guided tours and Tower tours by the Guild of Stewards have almost doubled through the year. Thanks go to all involved in this initiative beside the day to day support from Stewards in welcoming visitors. The Leaves Project moves on apace. Canon Nigel was able to update Chapter as to the developments. The mid-stage review was very positive and encouraging with guidance as it moves towards the next stage. Those working on the project continue to carry out the work needed for the project to be a success at the final stage. We offer our thanks and prayers at this time.

As we reflect on the way forward in our work, we have had further opportunity to join Chapter representatives from other Cathedrals. Six members of our Chapter were able to attend an event in Birmingham on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January, funded by the Association of English Cathedrals. There were members from a wide variety of Cathedral settings giving a chance to talk about common issues: strengths and challenges. Focus for the recent training (following on from the previous focus on Finance) was Governance, Strategic Marketing and Growth and our place in issues relating to Social Change. It was an informative day giving us opportunity to discuss our own circumstances and how those things presented can help us to shape the future. Although Cathedrals face challenges of many kinds we were able to come away with hope for our own work in the future.

The appointment of a Canon Precentor and the position of Organ Scholar for next academic year are in process at this time and we ask for your thoughts and prayers for those engaged in the procedure. Update will be shared through Pew News as soon as possible.

Full Chapter meeting and sub groups continue to work hard on our way forward in the future.

*Vicky Thorpe and Andy Corner*



*Southwell Minster Choir Association presents*  
**Come and Sing**  
**Haydn's Creation**  
(excerpts)  
**Saturday 9 February 2019**

**Workshop and performance led by Neil Page**  
10.30am Registration  
11.00am Workshops begin  
3.30pm Performance

**£12 for singers (£5 for U18s)**  
*performance free to attend*

**Soloists:**  
Harriet Astbury, soprano  
Keith Halliday, tenor  
Nic Beemster, bass  
Simon Hogan, organ

01636 812649 [www.southwellminster.org](http://www.southwellminster.org)  
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 **Southwell Minster**

# Archbishop Welby's Call for Economic and Social Justice

Two major reports on the British economy have come out over the autumn. The first found that 14 million British people, including 4.5 million children, are below the breadline, with more than half trapped in poverty for years. This includes 20% of families in the East Midlands.

The second came from the Institute for Public Policy Research's Commission on Economic Justice, of which Archbishop Welby is a member. The report condemns the failure of the British economy to raise the standards of living for millions of workers since the 2008 financial crash, and argues that major changes are needed both to prevent this continuing for a further decade and to reduce ever-growing social inequality.

When the report came out, the Archbishop said 'For decades the UK economy has not worked as it should, with millions of people and many parts of the country receiving less than their fair share. The widening gulf between rich and poor, and fears about the future among young people and their parents, have damaged our nation's sense of itself. Our report shows that it doesn't have to be like this. By putting fairness at the heart of the economy, we can make it perform better. Achieving prosperity and justice together is a moral imperative.'

The report is long and detailed but recommends a 10-point action plan:

**Reshaping the economy**, including fuller and more focussed investment in transport and other infrastructure

**Securing good pay and good jobs**, including a rise in the minimum wage

**Improving the private sector**, including employees on company boards and reduction in rewards to shareholders and senior staff to promote more investment

**Promoting competition**, not least in the digital economy of e.g. Google and Facebook, and protecting consumers

**Increasing public investment** e.g. in areas like broadband

**Strengthening the financial system**, e.g. by tackling tax avoidance and stopping illicit money getting into our financial system and protecting housing from excessive banking speculation, a key cause of the 2008 financial crash

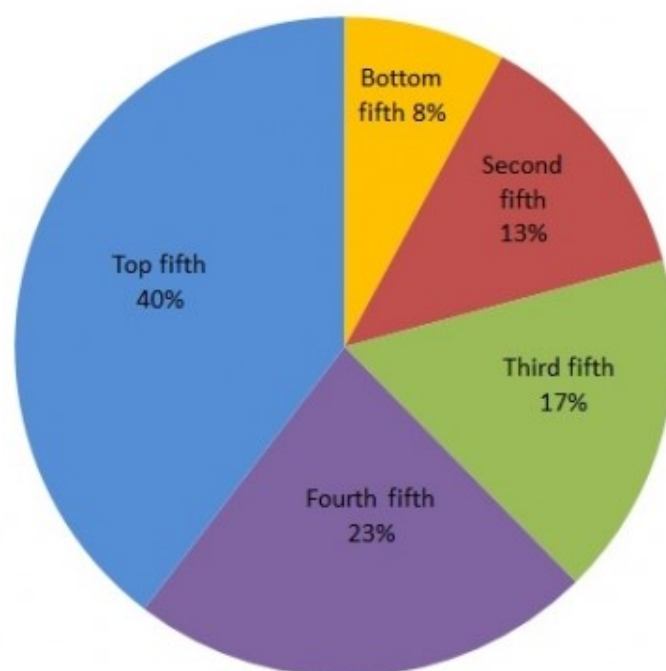
**Tackling wealth inequality**, in part by taxing the gains from wealth more heavily and by creating a fund to pay 25 -year olds a lump sum of £10000 as a universal minimum inheritance

**Fair and simple taxes**, including a single income tax schedule for all types of income

**Environmental sustainability** through e.g. legislation to limit environmental damage caused by individual industries and to require firms to set long-term plans to reduce pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions;

**Devolution** of economic powers to the nations and regions through new economic zones.

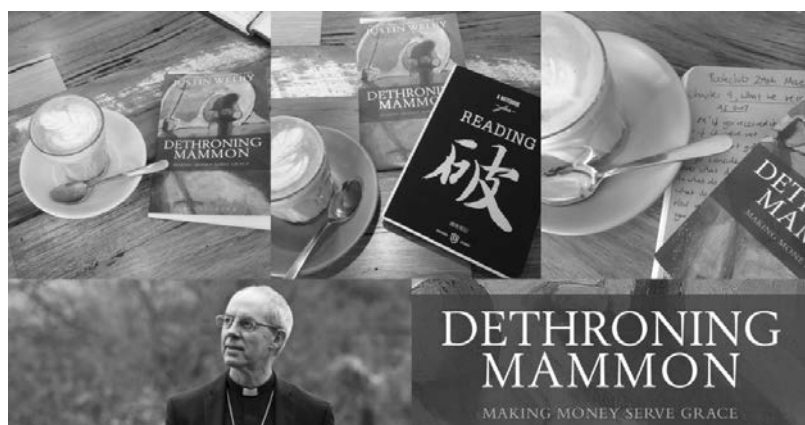
How is income shared in the UK?



The report has been called a 'once-in-a-generation rethink of our approach to the economy' and will, hopefully, be acted upon. At the Minster we have been doing what we can to ease poverty, for example through support of the Newark Foodbank, and campaigning for a fairer economy and society, e.g. through supporting the End Hunger campaign, the UK Citizens call for a Living Wage, Church Action on Poverty and the Church Urban Fund – similarly seeking for fairness and prosperity globally through, for example, our support of Christian Aid and Fairtrade.

These commitments need to be sustained. They could also be extended through, for example, more ethical consumption and investment and advocacy of taxation as a positive means of promoting fairness and collective prosperity. Above all, we should pray for all who have influence in guiding the nation's and world's future; Archbishop Welby, and all those people who campaign for greater justice, churches and Christians in their/our social witness, and for the powerful action of the Holy Spirit in promoting the common good.

*Patrick Sills on behalf of the Justice Action Group*





# What's On at Southwell Minster

## Key to Abbreviations

### Choirs

[BV] Boys' voices  
[C] Congregational  
[CC] Cathedral Choir  
[GV] Girls' voices  
[LC] Lay Clerks  
[MC] Minster Chorale  
[Mct] Minster Consort  
[VC] Visiting Choir  
(see music list for details)

### Venues

(PC) Pilgrim's Chapel  
(SP) Sacrista Prebend  
(SC) State Chamber  
(TH) Trebeck Hall

## February

### 1 Friday

*Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, c.525*

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Lunchtime at  
the Cathedral  
5.30pm First Evensong of  
Candlemas [CC]

### 2 Saturday

#### THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (CANDLEMAS)

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
4.30pm Eucharist and  
Procession [CC]

### 3 SUNDAY

#### PATRONAL FESTIVAL;

#### The Fifth Sunday before Lent

7.30am Morning Prayer  
and the Litany  
8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Sung Eucharist [CC]  
3.00pm Pre-Evensong Recital  
3.30pm Festal Evensong and  
Procession [CC]

### 4 Monday

*Gilbert of Sempringham, Founder of the Gilbertine  
Order, 1189*

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion (SP)  
5.30pm Evening Prayer  
7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

### 5 Tuesday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [BV]

### 6 Wednesday

*The Accession of Queen Elizabeth II;  
The Martyrs of Japan, 1597*

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
4.30pm Messy Minster Worship  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

### 7 Thursday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Communion  
12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

### 8 Friday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Time Travelling  
Commissioning Service  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

### 9 Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
3.30pm SMCA Come and Sing  
Informal Performance  
5.30pm Evensong [MC]

### 10 SUNDAY

#### The Fourth Sunday before Lent

7.30am The Litany  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Family Eucharist [GV]  
11.15am Mattins [CC]  
3.30pm Evensong [CC]

### 11 Monday

*John Gregory, Master Mason, 1885*

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [GV]  
7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

### 12 Tuesday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [BV]

### 13 Wednesday

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

### 14 Thursday

*Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869  
and 885; Valentine, Martyr at Rome, c.269*

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Communion  
12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]  
7.30pm Farewell Service for  
The Ven. Sarah Clark

### 15 Friday

*Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden, 1045; Thomas  
Bray, Priest, Founder of the SPCK & SPG, 1730*

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Lunchtime at  
the Cathedral  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

### 16 Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Mass for The Society of  
St Wilfred and St Hilda  
5.30pm Evensong [VC]

### 17 SUNDAY

#### The Third Sunday before Lent

7.30am Morning Prayer  
and the Litany  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Family Eucharist [C]  
11.15am Sung Eucharist [VC]  
3.30pm Evensong [VC]  
5.00pm Messy Minster Worship

**18 Monday**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
 9.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evening Prayer  
 7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

**19 Tuesday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 12.30pm Prayers for Justice (PC)  
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

**20 Wednesday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

**21 Thursday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 9.45am Holy Communion  
 12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

**22 Friday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

**23 Saturday**

Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c.155  
 8.30am Morning Prayer  
 9.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evensong [VC]

**24 SUNDAY****The Second Sunday before Lent**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 and the Litany  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 9.30am Family Eucharist [C]  
 11.15am Sung Eucharist [VC]  
 3.30pm Evensong [VC]

**25 Monday**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
 9.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evening Prayer  
 7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

**26 Tuesday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evensong [BV]

**27 Wednesday**

George Herbert, Priest, Poet, 1633  
 7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
 5.30pm Evensong [VC]

**28 Thursday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 9.45am Holy Communion  
 12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
 5.30pm Evensong [CC]

# March

**1 Friday**

David, Bishop of Menevia, Patron of Wales, c.601  
 7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 12.15pm Lunchtime at  
 the Cathedral  
 2.00pm Women's World Day  
 of Prayer Service  
 5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**2 Saturday**

Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672; D.H.  
 Lawrence, Nottinghamshire Poet and Author, 1930  
 8.30am Morning Prayer  
 9.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm RSCM Award-Winners'  
 Evensong [CC]

**3 SUNDAY****The Sunday next before Lent**

7.30am The Litany  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 9.30am Family Eucharist [MC]  
 11.15am Mattins [CC]  
 3.30pm Evensong [CC]

**4 Monday**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
 9.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evensong [GV]  
 7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

**5 Tuesday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evensong [BV]

**6 Wednesday****ASH WEDNESDAY**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
 1.10pm Eucharist with Hymns  
 4.30pm Messy Minster Worship  
 5.30pm Evensong [CC]  
 7.00pm Sung Eucharist [MC]

**7 Thursday**

Perpetua, Felicity and their Companions, Martyrs at  
 Carthage, 203; William Mompasson Prebendary of  
 Southwell, Minster Reformer, 1709

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 9.45am Holy Communion  
 12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
 5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**8 Friday**

Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, 1910; Felix, Apostle  
 to the East Angles, 647; Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy,  
 Priest, Poet, 1929; International Women's Day

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evensong [LC]

**9 Saturday**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
 9.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evening Prayer  
 7.30pm Concert – NTU  
 Chamber Choir

**10 SUNDAY****The First Sunday of Lent**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 and the Litany  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 9.30am Family Eucharist [C]  
 11.15am Sung Eucharist [CC]  
 3.30pm Evensong [CC]

**11 Monday**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
 9.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evensong [GV]  
 7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

**12 Tuesday**

Commonwealth Day

7.30am Morning Prayer  
 8.00am Holy Communion  
 5.30pm Evensong [BV]  
 7.30pm Lent Address & Compline



**13 Wednesday**

*Bernard Heywood, third Bishop of Southwell, 1960;*  
Ember Day

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

**14 Thursday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Communion  
12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**15 Friday**

Ember Day

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**16 Saturday**

Ember Day

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
2.00pm Holy Matrimony  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**17 SUNDAY****The Second Sunday of Lent**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
and the Litany  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Family Eucharist [GV]  
11.15am Sung Eucharist [CC]  
3.30pm Evensong [CC]

**18 Monday**

*Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, Teacher of the Faith, 386*

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm First Evensong of  
Joseph of Nazareth [GV]  
7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

**19 Tuesday****Joseph of Nazareth**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Festal Evensong [BV]  
7.30pm Lent Address & Compline

**20 Wednesday**

*Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 687*

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

**21 Thursday**

*Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury,  
Reformation Martyr, 1556;*  
*Christopher Wordsworth, Bishop of Lincoln, 1885*

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Communion  
12.30pm Curate Training Eucharist  
12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**22 Friday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Lunchtime at  
the Cathedral  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**23 Saturday**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]  
7.30pm Concert – Southwell  
Rotary Club & Mansfield  
Male Voice Choir

**24 SUNDAY****The Third Sunday of Lent**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
and the Litany  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Family Eucharist [MC]  
11.15am Sung Eucharist [CC]  
3.30pm First Evensong of the  
Annunciation of Our  
Lord to the Blessed  
Virgin Mary [CC]

**25 Monday****THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD  
TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
11.00am Diocesan Mothers'  
Union Lady Day Service  
5.30pm Festal Evensong [CC]  
7.30pm Concert – Seth Lakeman  
7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

**26 Tuesday**

*Harriet Monsell, Founder of the Community of St  
John the Baptist, 1883*

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [BV]  
7.30pm Lent Address & Compline

**27 Wednesday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)  
5.30pm Evening Prayer

**28 Thursday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.45am Holy Communion  
12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**29 Friday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
12.15pm Lunchtime at  
the Cathedral  
5.30pm Evensong [CC]

**30 Saturday**

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [LC]  
3.45pm Concert – Nottingham  
& 7.30pm Bach Choir: *St Matthew  
Passion* Parts I & II

**31 SUNDAY****The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering  
Sunday)**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
and the Litany  
8.00am Holy Communion  
9.30am Jazz Eucharist  
11.15am Sung Eucharist [CC]  
3.30pm Evensong [CC]  
5.00pm Messy Minster Worship

# April

**1 Monday**

*Frederick Denison Maurice, Priest, Teacher of the  
Faith, 1872*

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evening Prayer  
7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

**2 Tuesday**

7.30am Morning Prayer  
8.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm Evensong [BV]  
7.30pm Lent Address & Compline

# In Search of Mansfield Stone

“The best geologist is the one who has seen the most rocks.”

Thus said Geology Professor H H Read of Imperial College; implying that would-be geologists need to get out of doors to examine rocks in their natural environment.

Because I have not done much geologising recently, I decided it was time for me to examine part of the local sedimentary geological sequence known as the Magnesian Limestone. Specifically, I wished to find the type of Magnesian Limestone from which those building materials known as the Mansfield Stone are derived. A or at least abandoned ones. Sadly, my optimism was ill-founded. Prior to venturing out I needed to search for what had been written about the Mansfield Stone, and particularly where to see it in situ. From the outset a



Mansfield White Quarry in 1930 (Copyright BGS)



Mansfield Red Stone (P751706) Copyright BGS

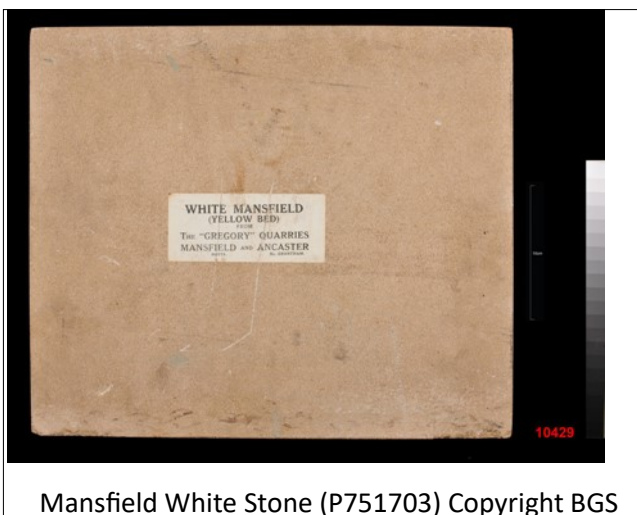
comprehensive survey, published by English Heritage (2013), warned me that Mansfield Stone is no longer quarried in Mansfield, and that the former workings are filled-in and built over.

Now I wondered ‘if Mansfield Stone is no longer quarried, how would buildings using it in their construction be repaired?’ And more to the point ‘how would repairs to Southwell Minster be possible?’

I put these questions to Canon Nigel Coates and he in turn asked the Minster Architect, Nicolas Rank (Buttress Architects Ltd). Mr Rank confirmed that I had raised a serious issue because only last year had it been necessary to replace weathered stone copings and string courses in the Quire Aisles’ roofing. In turn he put me in touch with Michael Goulding from the contractors (Heritage Conservation Restoration Ltd) and finally by him I was directed to Jason Barratt (Natural Cut Stone Ltd). This local company holds a stockpile of Mansfield Stone and sufficient stone was supplied to affect the repairs just mentioned.

Finally, I paid a visit to the huge web site of the British Geological Survey, Keyworth. They hold a vast amount of data, much of it in the public domain. In particular, as well as published reports and photographs, they hold the National Building Stone Collection. This includes hand specimens of various types of Mansfield Stone. Anyone wishing to explore any aspect of Earth Science would do well to begin at BGS.

My thanks go to all those who took time to deal with my enquiries. I owe it to them to suggest an amendment of Professor Read’s aphorism:



Mansfield White Stone (P751703) Copyright BGS

“The best geologists are those who have practised geology indoors and outdoors.”

Robin Old



## Education Department

It's January. Dark mornings, chilly damp days, but this is the 'spring term' and shortly the days will lengthen and daffodils will begin poking up all around us. For the education team, it's a sure sign that Time Travelling is just around the corner. Our week-long pilgrimage events for schools at the Minster in March and June are our biggest of the year, and we aim to draw in around 3000 primary aged children during these two weeks. The early part of the spring term will be spent putting resources together, planning exciting activities for the children, and making sure that our team of volunteers have the information they need to ensure that all children have a wonderful day out. In order for each day to run smoothly, a huge amount of organisation happens behind the scenes for many months in advance, but it's worth it when we receive comments from teachers, such as this one from March 2018

*'We would like to thank you for a wonderful day... very well organised and the activities very appropriate and well planned...a super, enjoyable day from start to finish.'*

Time Travelling is educational, first and foremost, aiming to help teachers to cover their RE curriculum – so all activities are securely linked to the Nottinghamshire Agreed Syllabus for RE. It provides an opportunity for children to visit the Minster and see it as a living place of worship. They meet Christians, have an activity focussing on the building, and learn about faith practices, beliefs and how Christians live out their beliefs in the world. Time Travelling is a core part of the Cathedral's mission and outreach, and it is wonderful to see the Minster brimming with the energy and life of young children as they experience something of what this special place has to offer.

Diana (Education Officer) and Matt (Administrator) organise the event and lead the Time Travelling team of volunteers. Each day, we need around 50 people to come and help in a variety of capacities from time keeping to sweeping floors after lunch, from guiding a small group and ensuring they don't get lost, to leading an activity base. We welcome people of all backgrounds to join our friendly team. If you are interested in hearing more, please feel free to either contact us using the details below or pop along to our Commissioning Day on 8th February when, at 9.45am there is an open

**For visits to Southwell Minster and Archbishop's Palace for schools and other groups.**

**Visit the Education pages of our website for details.**

**For Time Travelling educational pilgrimage days visit <http://www.timetravelling.co.uk>**



information meeting to which anyone is welcome. Meet by the Information Desk, and Diana will give an introduction to Time Travelling, explain some of the roles involved and you'll have an informal chance to find out whether you'd like to be involved. The Commissioning Service starts at 11.15 and all are very welcome (come earlier for refreshments). We would love to see you there!

Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who ensure that Time Travelling continues to be a success, and to the Minster staff and community who value children enough to allow the disruption it entails to the daily life of the Cathedral.

*Diana Ives (Education Officer)*



**Nottingham Bach CHOIR**

# JS BACH

## St Matthew Passion

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019, Southwell Minster**  
**Part I 3.45pm to 5pm, Part II 7.30pm to 9.45pm**

**With Orchestra da Camera**  
**Paul Hale Conductor**  
**Rogers Covey-Crump Evangelist**

**Giles Underwood Christus**  
**Ruth Provost Soprano**  
**Helen Charlston Mezzo-soprano**  
**Peter Harris Tenor**  
**Geoff Williams Bass**

**TICKETS**  
£20 (Front Nave), £18 (Rear Nave), £14 (Side Aisles), Concessions £5 (for school age children and registered full-time students)

Tickets are available from the Cathedral Shop (with booking fee). Tel 01636 812933, by emailing the Ticket Secretary at [tickets@nottinghambachchoir.org.uk](mailto:tickets@nottinghambachchoir.org.uk), by PayPal through our website, or on the door.

**BOOKING OPENS 16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**  
[www.nottinghambachchoir.org.uk](http://www.nottinghambachchoir.org.uk)

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# Treasuring God's Creation

**T**he Five Marks of Mission have been developed by the Anglican Consultative Council since 1984. Since then they have been widely adopted as offering a broad and comprehensive understanding of what contemporary mission is about. They were adopted by the General Synod of the Church of England in 1996 and many dioceses and other denominations use them as a basis of creative mission ideas:

- To proclaim the good news of the kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth.

They can be abbreviated and remembered as 5 words: **tell-teach- tend- transform- treasure.**

**A**t a recent community forum, we considered the fifth Mark of Mission as something that can help us understand the deeper reasons behind **The Leaves of Southwell Project**. Much of our time has been rightly concerned with necessary practical issues: a leaking roof, the need to conserve the stone carvings, a proper heating system, suitable lighting, improved access, an expansion of the Education Garden to enable plants recognised in the Chapter House carvings to be grown, and an outdoor classroom - but how does this relate to mission?

It is the fifth Mark that can help us understand more clearly: **to strive and to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth.**

We need to recognise that creation is a gift of God that is to be treasured, not exploited or feared. Creation is not there to be conquered, harnessed and used simply for our benefit, and part of our mission is to help people see creation differently. So how can the Minster and in particular the Chapter House help us to treasure creation? The artist Bill Viola wrote that *art is the process of trying to awaken the soul*. It can be of help to us to understand the awakening that took place in the 12th and 13th centuries because our Chapter House was built in this age of the great mediaeval cathedrals. Socially and politically, feudalism was on the wane. It was the age of Magna Carta and a culture of deference was being challenged. There was considerable growth in religious orders and very significantly the Dominicans were speaking of fraternity. Friendship with one another and with God was critical. There were the stirrings of democracy with more freedoms being enjoyed, including freedom to travel. The Guilds were making democratic decisions. It was a time of new ideas as the great university cities of Bologna, Madrid, Paris, Oxford and Cambridge began to flourish. There was a rediscovery of Aristotle and Islamic scholarship and the world was being seen in a new light.



The Franciscans were teaching that the forest and its creatures were not to be feared. They were the creation of a good God and their notion of fraternity extended not only to humanity but to the whole world as God's creation. So St Francis speaks of brother sun and sister moon. St Bonaventure went further. Yes, creation was fallen but imprinted on every creature was a likeness of the giver, a mark of the maker. Every creature was a word from God; everything had intrinsic value – 'matter matters'. It was deeply sacramental because God in Christ has become our brother. St Francis said he had a duty to every creature because they shared the same flesh and blood, and this before our present knowledge that we share 97% of our DNA with Orang-utans. Francis encouraged people to thank God **for** creation, but more significantly to praise God **with** creation. When we worship we are joining in with something that is going on eternally. We are impelled towards Christ and the fulfilment of all things in him. It is not without reason that Pope John Paul II made St Francis the patron St of Ecology.

The Chapter House was built at this very time. Cathedrals were built for the glory of God and we are stewards of a treasure that reminds us of the intrinsic value of creation. We are guardians of the heritage that can continue to speak to us and to future generations. The Chapter House was built at the very apex of a tradition that had a profound understanding of creation both through its theology and its observation. Artistry and craftsmanship coalesce.

So how do stones speak of mission? How does sculpture convey ideas? How do they awaken the soul? How do the





Leaves speak of worship, of freedom, of collegiality and of creation?

It is helpful to consider other places in Europe where similar carving is to be found. It was at Rheims in the 13<sup>th</sup> century that we first see pillars coming alive, like tall trees with overflowing foliage at the top of capitals. They were pictures of human flourishing and communities blossoming into life. After French kings were enthroned they went out through the west portal of the Cathedral. On the right-hand side they could see an example of good kingship with David being anointed by Samuel. On the left they could see Herod slaughtering the innocents. All around them stone foliage spoke of the healing of the nations and the crib scene with St Francis points to the true King. 'If you want your kingdom to flourish, then this is what you must do'. Stones are visual metaphors. So creatures amongst the stones were chosen with deliberate purpose. Nightingales were there to encourage praise, lampreys would illustrate holding fast to God.

At St Chapelle in Paris, leaves adorn and enclose a chapel; at Naumberg in Germany they encircle the western quire. Both Rheims and Namburg have international recognition through their UNESCO status. Southwell's leaves are of the same quality. Our context is different but it is unique amongst Chapter Houses in having creation at its heart rather than particular biblical stories. The sculptors were given freedom of expression and have produced a work of art to awaken the soul.

The Chapter House can teach us and future generations

about the need to see the world aright with creatures having intrinsic value: it offers the opportunity to reconnect with one another, with the natural world and with God. There are a number of interpretive schemes we are exploring. It may be a visual metaphor for a new Garden of Eden with its eight sides pointing to the fulfilment of creation and the eighth day of resurrection. It may be a *hortus conclusus* for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It may be a Noah's Ark or a place of healing. It may be a visual metaphor of Psalm 1 where the righteous are depicted as those who produce fruit in due season and leaves which do not wither. Whatever the overall scheme, it is a gift from God that we are called upon to treasure. The very stones cry out and speak to the major spiritual crisis of our time encouraging us **to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth.**

*Canon Nigel Coates*

## Children's Prayers

*D*ozens of children and their families followed the Christmas Trail in the Minster in the holidays. One activity involved writing prayers on stars and hanging them on a prayer tree.



Here are some of the moving prayers which children wrote, as they were written:

*Concentrating on the prayer!*

'Thank you God for being in my life.'

'For all those with no one to love.'

'Happiness for everyone.'

'For refugees.'

'For my mum to be happy and back the way she was.'

'Make me strong.'

'For peace and happiness.'

'Dear God help my friend who is ill'.

'I hope the homeless people have a happy Christmas.'

'For world peace and water.'

'God please help the poor.'

## Lent Books to choose from ...

**L**ent is traditionally a time to do some serious reading! The Cathedral Shop and Sacrista Prebend bookstall will have a wide selection of books to read, and *Southwell Leaves* is pleased to describe five of those which will be for sale. Some are about the God we believe in, some offer ideas about better ways to pray, and one outlines how Christians can build bridges in a divided world. Four of the books are divided into short chunks, which make it easier to read and reflect on a daily basis.

**“Eavesdropping,”** by Henry Martin is a book of daily readings which offers a fresh way of deepening the way that we talk to God. We eavesdrop or listen in on forty-nine instances of people in the Bible who actually spoke to Jesus, and ask what we can learn from what they said and how he responded. Sometimes his answers brought delight to those who asked him, and sometimes his response was not what they expected or hoped for.

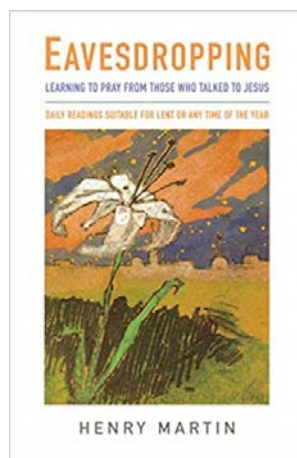
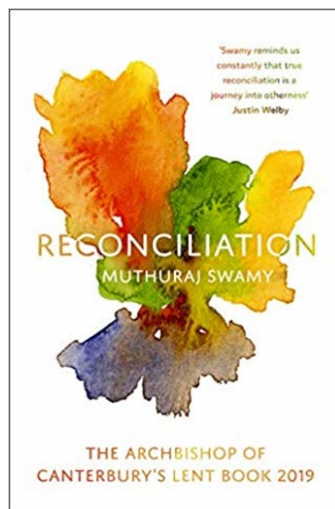
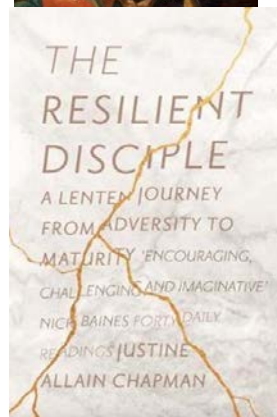
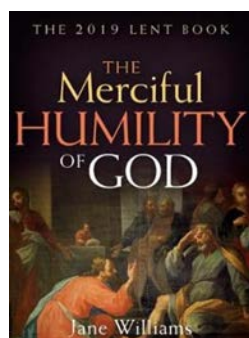
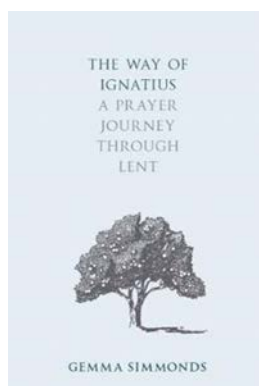
In the final section of the book, the conversations we overhear took place during Jesus' final days, and bring us closer to him during Holy Week. **“Eavesdropping,”** can be read in daily sittings at any time of year, but is particularly suitable for Lent.

**“Reconciliation,”** is Archbishop Justin Welby's recommended Lent book for 2019. Its author, Dr *Muthuraj Swamy*, comes from India but is now Director of the Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide.

The book comes at a time when the world seems more polarized than for many years, both within our own country and between fundamentalists of all religions and ideologies worldwide. The book affirms that reconciliation is a central part of the Gospel, and that present-day Christians can engage confidently in a ministry bequeathed to us by Christ himself. It shows how the church can cross borders to build connections with different denominations, and to maintain open attitudes towards our neighbours from other religions and ideologies.

There are forty meditations which introduce topics such as impediments to reconciliation, risking the self, humility and self-criticism, and peace with justice.

**“The Merciful Humility of God,”** is written by Jane Williams, university lecturer, sub-dean of a theological college, and wife of former Archbishop Rowan Williams. The book is about the God we



believe in. Contrary to the Victorian picture of God as a stern taskmaster, Williams describes God as humble and forgiving. She says it is only the merciful humility of God that can penetrate our armoured pride.

As we follow this book through Lent, what begins to emerge is that God's merciful humility is the source of life. The chapters include: 'Humble Beginnings', 'How to win friends and influence nobody', and 'Risen and ascended into humility'. This reflective Lent book will be a trusted guide for anyone seeking a deeper understanding of God's humility.

**“The Resilient Disciple,”** sub-titled ‘A Lenten Journey from Adversity to Maturity’, is by a Justine Allain Chapman, Archdeacon of Boston, Lincs. Alone on an eight-day retreat in the Egyptian desert, she experienced first-hand the physical, spiritual and mental struggle many have endured before her. Our own desert experience may involve attending to challenges that come upon us suddenly - such as an illness or bereavement - or difficult relationships or patterns of thinking that have long been draining us of life and joy. A Lenten pilgrimage involves searching within ourselves for answers which lie hidden, to reflect deeply, and to trust that we will be enabled to integrate our many experiences.

A reviewer describes this as ‘vividly written’. It includes wide-ranging prayers and scripture readings.

**“The Way of Ignatius, a Journey through Lent,”** answers the question: Isn't a deep prayer life only for religious specialists? The book explores the prayer tradition of Ignatius of Loyola, together with the contribution of the seventeenth-century Yorkshire woman, Mary Ward. It is an introduction to the spiritual life which shows that everyone can find prayer a rewarding experience, and that chewing over Bible stories in a prayerful and reflective way is possible for all.

The book helps readers to pray with the Scriptures in an imaginative way. One reviewer writes: ‘In this wonderful book, Gemma Simmonds explores the method of prayer developed by St Ignatius in a way that makes this profound approach to prayer accessible . . . I highly recommend it.’

Vincent Ashwin





## Minster Justice Action Group's Focus on Poverty

The Minster Justice Action Group has launched a bi-monthly series of issue-focussed themes for members of the congregation to engage with in prayer, action and possibly giving. The first in December, focussed on the needs of children and families, and specifically on the work of Homestart with vulnerable families in Newark. A special lunchtime service took place, there was a display about Homestart at the West End of the Minster, the charity was included in the prayers at midweek and Sunday Minster services, and the collections taken at Christmas Day services were given to boost Homestart's work. This amounted to an extremely valuable £1526.24.

The issue to be highlighted in February and March is poverty, with a particular focus on the work of Church Action on Poverty which the Minster has long supported in our missionary giving. Church Action on Poverty Sunday is on 3 March when we will all be asked to eat less or nothing for Sunday lunch, and give what we would otherwise have spent towards Church Action on Poverty's work. In addition:

- There will be a display about poverty and the charity's work at the West End
- There is an article elsewhere in this magazine about growing inequalities in society and the proposals of a recent church-supported Commission to reverse these trends
- Poverty and the charity's work will be included in Minster prayers
- We will hold a special service in the Pilgrims' Chapel on Tuesday Feb 19th at 12.30pm which we hope very much you will be able to come to

The themes planned for future months include:

- Christian Aid
- Human Trafficking and the Christian charity Hope for Justice
- Climate Change and the work of Operation Noah and A Rocha
- Mental Health and the Mental Health Awareness Guide diocesan scheme
- Homelessness and the work of Framework

Through pursuing these bi-monthly themes we hope to engage more people in the Minster's justice mission and ministry. Perhaps you could commit yourself to supporting one or more during the year through your prayers, giving and becoming more informed about relevant charities' work and activity? The Justice Action Group is planning to survey interested parties to clarify where our strengths and concerns lie. If you would like more information please contact Patrick Sills; 01636 815173, [patrickills18@gmail.com](mailto:patrickills18@gmail.com) or Vincent Ashwin; 01636 813975, [vincentashwin@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:vincentashwin@tiscali.co.uk)

# The Friends of Southwell Cathedral

## A Conversation with Alison Salter, Friends' Secretary



Alison Salter has been secretary of the Friends for twelve years and is keen to describe its work. She was brought up in Southwell, and her father was churchwarden at the Minster. After getting married and moving away from the area, she and Edmund later moved back to Bleasby, where they have their home and worship at the parish church. She soon re-connected with the Minster, as a volunteer with the children's programme 'Time Travelling', as a steward, a cathedral guide and with the Friends.

The Friends of Southwell Cathedral have some 600 members who live in Nottinghamshire, around the UK and even in other countries. There are 140 corporate members - parish churches and other cathedrals. The Friends exist to bind together all who love the Cathedral and who want to preserve the fabric of the building, to enhance its adornment, and to maintain public worship. They were founded by Provost Hugh Heywood in 1947, and serve as a group for people who support the upkeep of the building, by tangible benefactions in the main, rather than donating to general running costs.

Alison explained, 'People come to concerts and services and are so moved by the building that they join the Friends. For example, a few years ago a couple came from Norwich and attended the Easter services. They said that every year they went to a different cathedral for the Easter period, and that coming to Southwell was the best visit they had ever made, the finest cathedral and the warmest welcome. And they joined the Friends.' She added, 'People are of any religion or none at all. It is the building.'

Income comes from investments (averaging £20,000 p.a. in recent years), subscriptions (roughly £10,000 per annum), donations and legacies. When work on or in the cathedral is needed the Dean, on behalf of Chapter, approaches the Council of the Friends who then decide whether to offer a grant. The Friends have spent less in the last two years, so as to be able to contribute up to £150,000 for the Chapter House project, which includes re-leading the High Quire roof.

Since their foundation in 1947 the Friends have given over one million pounds to the Minster. Some gifts are relatively small, like the annual maintenance of the sound system, and some very big. The largest was the Quire organ in the 1990s – a sum of over £150,000. Two other large grants were in 2012 for the restoration of the North Porch and £50,000 in 2013/14 to pay most of the cost of some new chairs in the Nave.

"Enhancing its adornment" includes an annual grant to the Flower Guild and another to the Needlework Guild whose work is entirely funded by the Friends; the Guild make and repair vestments, and recently made all the kneelers in the Sanctuary and the cushions in the Palace. Last year the Friends paid for the refurbishment by Peter Ball of his sculpture 'The Light of the World' in the Candle Chapel, which they had commissioned and given to the Minster nearly 30 years ago.

Alison is keen to recruit new members to the Friends. 'The subscription is quite modest,' she said, currently £15 p.a. for an individual and £25 p.a. for a couple (though many people give more). Members all receive *Pepperpots*, the Friends' magazine which is published twice a year, and each June there is a Festival, with a public lecture, AGM and Festal Evensong. Twice a year visits are arranged to other cathedrals or major churches, or to places like the Loughborough Bell Foundry. Recently there have been a few fund-raising events in Southwell. Enrolment forms can be found at the welcome desk in the Minster, in the Palace and at the cathedral shop.

Vincent Ashwin

### Framework Annual Service

The local charity Framework will hold its annual service at the Minster on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 10.30am, followed by refreshments. This moving service of celebration and reflection brings the charity's work into sharp focus through the stories of people whose lives have been changed and sometimes saved.

All are welcome.



Another reason for thanksgiving is the continuing generosity of the Minster community and its congregations: the collection at the Framework carol service amounted to just under £3,000 which contributed to a total of £52,500 raised to continue the work of Framework's street outreach nurse. Thank you all.

Chris Senior

Fundraising Manager, Framework



## From the Mission Partnership Group

**T**he Group receives regular reports from those to whom we send our annual grant. 10% of 'planned-giving' income (which was £110,000 last year) goes to support projects in this country and overseas.

### News of Loos

In their latest report, the Swaziland Schools Project describes supporting a school in a very poor community where there are no toilets, and drinking water comes from a stream where cattle drink. With their UK partner Changing Futures, the Swaziland Rotary Club and the Anglican Diocese of Swaziland, they have built new toilets and a large water tank. Another school is at Forbes Reef. 'One of the things we insist on when we help a school is that the community must play its part. About 50 people turned out to dig the holes for the toilets and the foundations for the classrooms. A real partnership.'

### Carols for Framework

The homeless crisis in our local area received a boost when the Minster hosted Framework's carol service in December. The High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire Nick Ebbs introduced Suzey Jacobs, the nurse on the street outreach team, and Andrew Redfern the chief executive led prayers. The Minster was very full.

### Homestart Newark

The local charity for vulnerable families in Newark, Homestart, featured in the last edition of *Southwell Leaves* and was the focus of a special service held in the Minster, and they received all the collections on Christmas Day, including the Midnight Communion. There was a display about their work in the Minster throughout December.

### Bibles for China

The printing of Bibles is restricted in China, so it was good that the collection of £441.76 taken on Mission Sunday last year has gone to provide paper for the Church's printing presses for the production of the Bible Society's Chinese Scriptures.

Vincent Ashwin

## NOURISHING OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE Rooted in God - Growing in Christ



*Blessed are those who trust in the Lord.  
They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.  
(Jeremiah 17:7-8 NRSV)*

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SOUTHWELL DAY OF REFLECTION led by Angela Ashwin

Saturday 23rd March 2019  
Southwell Methodist Church  
9.30 for 10.00 am until 3.30 pm



*Building the toilet at Salakutshelwa*



*Chinese people with Bibles*



## A mini Minster in Derbyshire?

Those who work in and around the Minster will be familiar with the comment from visitors that the Minster is Nottinghamshire's best kept secret. There is clearly a lot of truth in it. Just a few months ago I was fortunate enough to come across one of Derbyshire's best kept secrets. Ostensibly I was taking part in my regular monthly country walk with my friend who has a passion for English churches. As we set off that morning I was unaware that we were in for a rather pleasant surprise.

The door below bears a strong resemblance to the Minster's West Door but in fact it is the West Door of Melbourne Parish Church, St Michael with St Mary in Derbyshire. The outer arches are original but the remainder of the door was restored to its original design by Sir George Gilbert Scott in (Melbourne's Ewan Christian!), 1859.



*The West Door*

As in the case of Southwell Minster, there was a church of Anglo-Saxon origin before the Norman Church was built in 1120 under the instruction of Henry 1. However, there is doubt about whether it was extended and given to Adeluf, the Bishop of Carlisle, in 1136 as a southern place of refuge, after Carlisle was captured by the Scots. It is, like the Minster's nave, a splendid example of 12th Century architecture.

The broad Norman columns and the round, leaping Romanesque arches are very reminiscent of The Minster, although they are different in terms of the chevron carvings. Another slight difference, however, is the gallery at the clerestory level which is essentially a walk-way around the entire nave. The south side is Norman, but the north is Early English. Also, at the West End of the gallery is a narthex, which was basically a private pew for the Bishop and nobility, complete with its own altar! Another theory suggests that in fact it was for the King's use – a royal pew!



*The Norman nave*

For a parish church the layout is surprisingly intricate. In addition to

the impressive nave with its huge pillars, as in the Minster there is a transept, the north end of which is the Lady Chapel. The south end of the transept houses the vestry and the organ above.

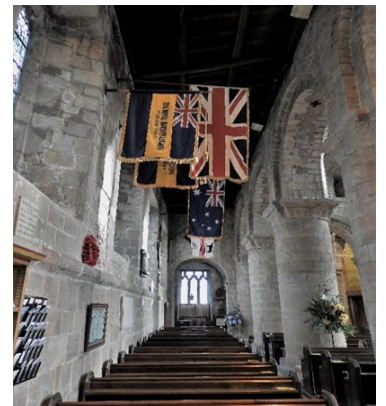


*Melbourne Parish Church  
St Michael with St Mary*

Like the Minster, there is a central tower with no less than three tiers of triple arches. This is a beautifully impressive sight. Twelve bells are housed in the upper tower. However, bells have been rung from the ground floor since the Victorian restoration, which adds extra charm to the church.

The chancel is a delight. Originally built in the 12th century, it was rebuilt in the 15th century and not very sophisticatedly! The Church originally had three apses and traces are visible behind the altar. The side walls however are Norman.

In the North Aisle the flags of Australia and Melbourne,



*The North aisle*



*The Narthex*

given to the Church by the City of Melbourne, hang to denote the fact that local figure, Lord Melbourne, Queen Victoria's first Prime Minister from 1835, had one of Australia's new provinces named after him. Incidentally Thomas Cook was born in the town in 1837.

Three other striking features of this beautiful church are the 13th Century font, a colourful late medieval wall painting and a rather lovely ancient parish chest.

There is so much to say about this hidden gem of a church, designed like a mini cathedral. Do pay it a visit and take your camera!

Melbourne itself has plenty of charm and is not too dissimilar to Southwell. There is an array of independent shops and places to eat. One of the bonuses is the fact that just a few hundred yards to the south of the Church is Melbourne Hall and its beautiful lake, around which you can take a very pleasant stroll.

The parishioners and people of Melbourne can feel immensely proud of their 'hidden secret'!"

*Tom Hislop*



# “Succeeding Together”; A New Era for Southwell Minster School

Many of you will have heard or read of the change in status to the Minster School. Like all other secondary schools in Nottinghamshire, the school is now an academy. However, those concerned that this change may affect the link between the Minster cathedral and the school may be reassured. As in its previous existence as an Aided Church of England secondary school, the Minster School will continue to have indelible links with the cathedral.

The most obvious example of this is in its links with church music. Southwell has the almost unique example of a comprehensive state school providing free education of the highest calibre, to pupils from the school who sing in the two cathedral choirs. Peterborough is the only other example of which I know. Under the guidance of Paul Provost and his team, choristers experience the richness of the choral tradition, but at the same time rub shoulders on a day to day basis with other pupils from all walks of life. Moreover, those choir members can avail themselves of the opportunities the school offers for curriculum enrichment both within music and within other areas such as drama, art and design, sport and games, literature and social studies. Indeed, our choir members were noticeable in the musical production of “Legally Blonde” at the end of November, but also in the orchestras and choirs, ensembles and bands who put on a concert of the highest quality on December 19th. These mutually beneficial links will continue unchanged with academy status.

Also continuing unchanged will be the control exercised by the Diocese/Chapter, which retains a majority on the school governing body. Rev Canon Nigel Coates is one of two governors appointed to represent the Bishop (the other is Christine Bowering, Chair of Strategic Development) and there are currently five governors appointed by the Chapter. One of these, Alan Wright from Woodborough, is Chairman of Governors. The others are myself, as Chair of Finance, Tracey Sparkes, who has long connections with the cathedral choir, Liz Turner and Nigel Ladbury. Thus the governing body remains committed to working with the whole community of young people in the Minster School, ensuring that the academy is clearly a church school. The governors reflect this through a whole range of policies which establish a Christian distinctiveness in the way in which the school is run. So as well as being identified by Ofsted as an outstanding school for academic standards, the Minster School has also been assessed as an outstanding church school in its last two church inspections. The last of these was completed by a church school inspector in November 2016.

The range of policies compiled by the governors reflects the Christian distinctiveness of the school. For example



admissions policy makes provision for every secondary age pupil resident in the town, to attend the Minster school. Looked-after children and those with a statement of Educational Need receive priority. Thus, foundation governors are offering a haven to the vulnerable. All pupils aged eleven living within the town are admitted. Other pupils

will come on Foundation places, where the parents wish them to receive a church school education. Thus the school's intake is inclusive; we are all of infinite worth and made in the image of God.

The ethos of the school is overtly spiritual. The staff submitted what they thought were key values for them; a focus group including clergy and governors distilled them. The result is a school motto, “Succeeding together”. The school's vision document expands further:

“Succeeding together means enabling all members of our school community to work together, care for each other and strive to realise their potential in their studies and in all other aspects of life”.

I hope you will agree that this has equal potency to those certain of faith, and for those beginning their pilgrim journey. It finds echoes in the writings of Paul to the Ephesians (Ch 6 vv10-20) and the writer to Hebrews (Ch 12 v1 onwards) in which striving is a key Christian virtue. Furthermore, the motto identifies five values which we look for in all members of the school community. These have the mnemonic W-O-R-K-S identifying

Wisdom  
Optimism  
Resilience  
Kindness  
Service.



All staff, pupils, parents and governors have become familiar with these values in a variety of ways. They pervade our documentation, from the Behaviour Policy through Safeguarding to Admissions. They are the key values which are affirmed through the House Point and awards mechanisms, which promote good conduct. They are exemplified by all staff of a daily basis as they go the extra mile to promote pupils' safety and success. You may be assured that I and my fellow foundation governors will ensure these values, emphasised in a distinctive Christian way, continue to be at the core of our work in partnership with this thriving and highly successful school.

*David Shannon, School Foundation Governor*

## Letters:



### A response to 'Europe; Reflections', Mal Rose, SL October/November 2018.

What an intelligent and sensible article you wrote on Europe. We were horrified at the result of the referendum. Why isn't it mandatory that a much higher majority is required in referenda I wonder? Our son and his family live and work there in Barcelona. They and I feel European, and their two little girls speak English, Spanish and Catalan which is great. Unhappily my husband died 16 months ago, but at least he is not here to see the mess we are in now.

Thank you, Joy Pragnell.

### Foodbank News

Dear Southwell Churches Together, Minster School, Village Collection Points, NTU,  
Happy New Year to all.

We are writing to thank you all for the unprecedented collection from Southwell in December 2018. This weighed in at an astonishing 447.1 KGS.

We had our busiest ever Christmas and New Year period since records began in 2012. We couldn't do what we do without local support like yours.

Kind regards, NEWARK FOODBANK

## From our Registers

### Weddings

14 December - Costas Constantinou & Harriet Jane Orme

### Baptisms

9 December - Florence Gibson

23 December - Evelyn Herbert

### Funerals

16 November - John Slocombe

13 December - George Roberts

17 December - John McMunn

17 December - Joan Howe

18 December - Betty Arundel

16 January - John Smith

21 January - Dennis Brown

25 January - Patrick Maiden

## News from the Deanery "in which the Minster sits"



Area Dean: Revd Canon Mark Adams  
Lay Chair: Mr Michael Wilson  
Deanery Administrator: Mrs Louise Riley  
Deanery Treasurer: Mrs Alison Slinger

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.00 - 4.00 pm

Keep up to speed with what's happening at Deanery Synod here:  
<http://southwell.anglican.org/about-us-2/deaneries/newark-and-southwell-deanery-synod/> Website: <http://southwell.anglican.org/about-us-2/deaneries/newark-southwell-deanery-home/>

### Deanery Office:

Norwell Vicarage, Main Street. Norwell, Notts, NG23 6JN

Tel: 01636 555082

Email: [nsdeaneryoffice@gmail.com](mailto:nsdeaneryoffice@gmail.com)

Jennifer is a fine artist by training and a freelance murpainter by profession. This the real world and the spiritual, and playing with the language exhibition is of paintings she has done in between commissions that reflect al her faith and delight in exploring the crossover between of metaphor.

Exhibition on display 2-28 February 2019

[www.campionbell.com](http://www.campionbell.com)

Exhibition by kind permission of The Dean and Chapter of Southwell Minster



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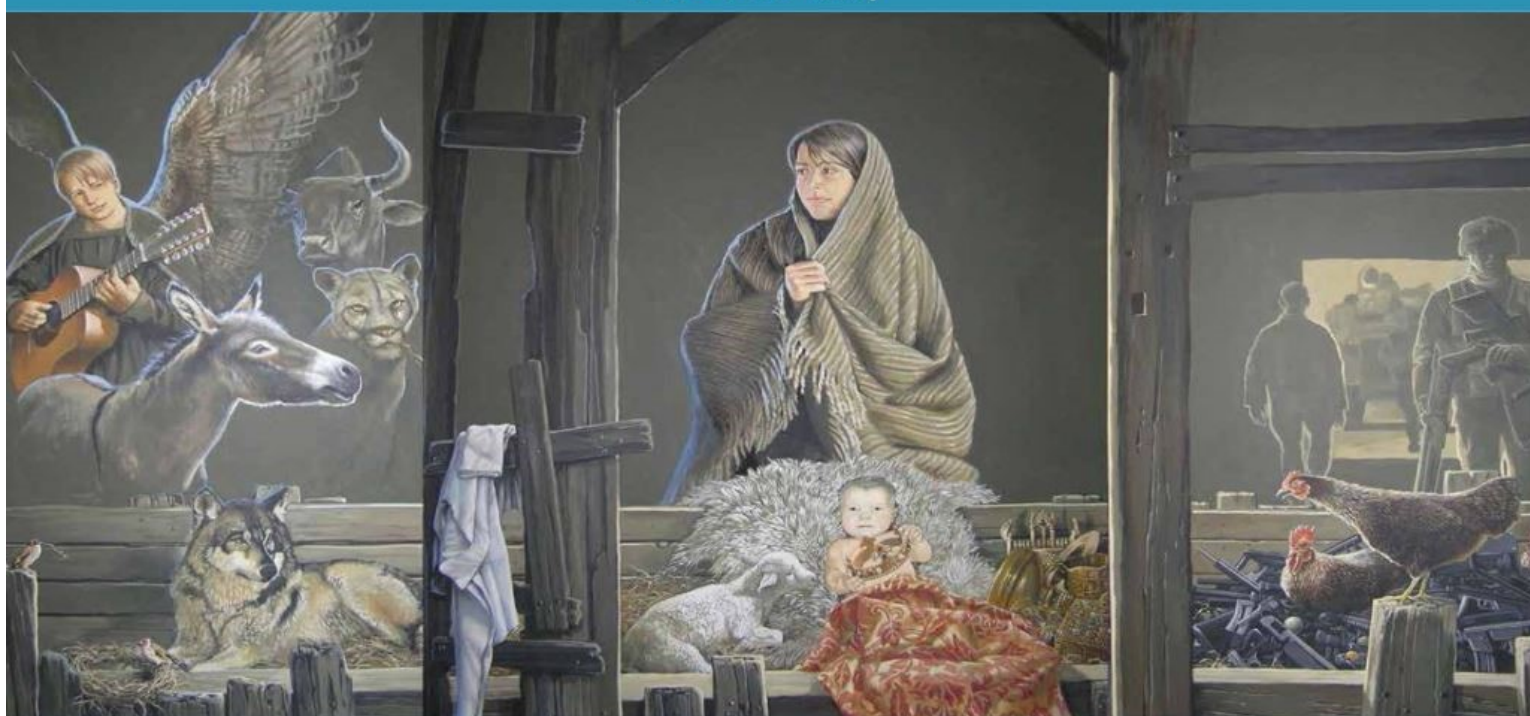
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*A Nativity for a New Year and other paintings*  
by Jennifer Bell  
2-28 February



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# Contact Information

The Cathedral and Parish Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Southwell

*www.southwellminster.org*

## **Dean** The Very Revd Nicola Sullivan

The Residence, 1 Vicars' Court, Southwell, NG25 OHP  
Tel: 01636 812593 Email: dean@southwellminster.org.uk  
(day off Friday)

## **Dean's PA, Minster Diary Secretary & Cathedral IT Co-Ordinator** Mrs Rachel Doe Tel: 01636 817282

Email: deansPA@southwellminster.org.uk

## **Canon Chancellor** The Revd Canon Nigel Coates

4 Vicars' Court, Southwell, NG25 OHP  
Tel: 01636 817296 Email: nigelcoates@southwellminster.org.uk  
(day off Friday)

## **The Precentor** This post is currently vacant

## **Canon Theologian** The Revd Professor Alison Milbank

Tel: 01636 819224 Email: milbankalison@gmail.com

## **Priest Vicar** The Revd Canon Tony Evans

## **Priest Vicar** The Revd Erika Kirk

## **Cathedral Chapter**

### **The Very Revd Nicola Sullivan** (The Dean)

Tel: 01636 817282 Email: dean@southwellminster.org.uk

### **The Revd Canon Nigel Coates** (Canon Chancellor)

Tel: 01636 817296 Email: nigelcoates@southwellminster.org.uk

### **Vacant** (The Precentor)

### **The Revd Canon John Bentham**

Tel: 0115 846 1054 Email: john.bentham@nottingham.ac.uk

### **Canon Phil Bliston**

Tel: 01636 817305 Email: philbliston@sky.com

### **Mr Shaun Boney**

Tel: 01636 830178 Email: shaun.boney@gmail.com

### **Mr Andy Corner** (Parish Representative)

Tel: 07710869968 Email: andrew\_corner@hotmail.com

### **Col Tim Richmond DL OBE**

Email: tsrichmond@btinternet.com

### **Mrs Vicky Thorpe** (Parish Representative)

Tel: 01636 813222

Email: safeguarding@southwellminster.org.uk

## **Readers**

### **Canon Angela Ashwin** Tel: 01636 813975

Email: angela.ashwin@gmail.com

## **Music Foundation**

### **Mr Paul Provost** (Rector Chori & Organist)

Tel: 01636 817281 Email: rectorchori@southwellminster.org.uk

### **Mr Simon Hogan** (Assistant Director of Music)

Tel: 01636 814155 Email: adom@southwellminster.org.uk

### **Mr Erik Sharman** (Liturgy & Music Administrator) Tel: 01636 817280

Email: litmus@southwellminster.org.uk

### **Mr Anthony Gray** (Organ Scholar)

Tel: 01636 814155

Email: organscholar@southwellminster.org.uk

### **Mr Will Farr** (Chorister Supervisor)

### **Mrs Julie Wright** (Chorister Supervisor)

## **The Minster Centre**

### **Church Street, Southwell, NG25 OHD**

#### **Mrs Adele Poulson** (Cathedral Administrator)

Tel: 01636 817285 Email: administrator@southwellminster.org.uk

#### **Mr Glenn Formoy** (Head of Marketing and Events)

Tel: 01636 817284 Email: marketing@southwellminster.org.uk

#### **Mrs Andrea Pritchard** (Finance Officer, including Gift Aid)

Tel: 01636 819027 Email: financeofficer@southwellminster.org.uk

#### **Mrs Angela Walters** (Accounts Officer)

Tel: 01636 819027 Email: angela@southwellminster.org.uk

## **The Minster Office**

### **Mrs Nikki Smith** (Minster Office Assistant / Canon Chancellor's

PA) Tel: 01636 812649 Email: nikki@southwellminster.org.uk

## **Cathedral Education Department**

### **The Revd Matthew Askey** (Southwell Minster School Chaplain)

5 Vicars' Court, Southwell, NG25 OHP Tel: 01636 817298

Email: chaplain@southwellminster.org.uk

### **The Revd Professor Alison Milbank** (Canon Theologian)

Email: milbankalison@gmail.com

### **Mrs Diana Ives** (Education Officer)

Tel: 01636 817993 Email: diana@southwellminster.org.uk

### **Mr Matt Hustwayte** (Education Assistant)

Tel: 01636 817993 matt@southwellminster.org.uk

## **Minster Libraries**

### **Mrs Marion Oswald** (Librarian)

### **Mr John Sheppard** and **Ms Victoria Arthurson** (Assistant Librarians)

Tel: 01636 817291 (answerphone)

Email: library@southwellminster.org.uk

## **Vergers**

### **Mr Andrew Todd** (Head Verger)

Tel: 01636 817290 Email: headverger@southwellminster.org.uk

### **Mr Michael Tawn** (Deputy Head Verger)

**Mr Kenny Nairn, Mr Nick Turner, Mr Andy Gill,**  
and **Mr Andy McIntosh**

## **Archbishop's Palace**

### **Mr Charles Leggatt** (Hon. Curator, Palace & Education Garden)

Tel: 01636 817283 Email: charles@southwellminster.org.uk

## **Welcome Desk**

Tel: 01636 812649

## **Cathedral Shop**

### **Miss Amy Rodgers** (Manager)

### **Mrs Nicola Rush** (Assistant Manager)

Tel: 01636 812933 Email: cathedralshop@hotmail.co.uk

## **Safeguarding Officer**

### **Mrs Vicky Thorpe**

Tel: 01636 813222 Email:

vicky@safeguarding@southwellminster.org.uk



## Churchwardens and Deputies

### Mr Andrew Bates

Tel: 01636 812059 Email: andrewandjackybates@gmail.com

### Mr Graeme Hocking

Tel: 01636 812903 Email: graeme.hocking@btinternet.com

### Mrs Jean Jackson

Tel: 01636 813623

### Mrs Lindy Todd

Email: lindytodd2015@gmail.com

### Mr Peter Gibbins (Deputy)

Tel: 01636 555578

### Mrs Kathy Hocking (Deputy)

Tel: 01636 812903 Email: kathy.hocking1@btinternet.com

## Grounds

### Ms Amanda Rushen (Gardener)

Email: gardener@southwellminster.org.uk

### Mr Miles Prothero (Ground Maintenance)

## Minster Refectory

### Mrs Katie Griffin (Manager)

Tel: 01636 815691 Email: therefectorysouthwell@outlook.com

## Sacrista Prebend Retreat House

### The Revd Canon Tony Evans (House Warden)

### Mr Andrew Gregory (House Bursar)

Tel: 01636 816833; Mob: 07794 154816

Email: sacrista\_prebend@btinternet.com

Website - www.sacristaprebend.wordpress.com

## Minster Help Line (Pastoral Committee)

Call 01636 812649

## Website

Email: events@southwellminster.org.uk

## Southwell Leaves

### Dr Hugh Middleton (Editorial Group Convenor)

Email: Hugh.Middleton@nottingham.ac.uk

## Southwell Events

### Mrs Honor Dunkley (Southwell Events Co-Coordinator)

Tel: 01636 819038 Email: info@southwellevents.com

Website: www.southwellevents.com

## Minster Organisations and Groups

### Bell Captain/Bell Ringers

Mr Trevor Bryan

Email: trev.bryan@gmail.com

### Children's Church

Father Matthew Askey

Tel: 01636 817298

### Christian Aid

Mrs Helen Sills

Tel: 01636 815173

### Faith and Light

Mr Tony Dykes

Tel: 01636 918291

Mrs Lee Harbour

Tel: 01636 813805

## Flower Guild

Mrs Barbara Green

Tel: 01636 812709 Email: barbaraafgreen@dsl.pipex.com

## Friends of Southwell Cathedral

Mrs Alison Salter (Secretary)

Tel: 01636 830373 Email: ajsalterbleasby@btinternet.com

## Guild of Minster Servers

Mrs Jill Arrowsmith

Tel: 01636 812908

## Guild of Minster Stewards

Mr Shaun Boney

Tel: 01636 830178 Email: shaun2boney@aol.com

## Healing Group, Churches Together in Southwell

Mrs Bobby Craik

Tel: 01636 812649

## House Groups

Dr Hugh Middleton and Mrs Vicky Thorpe

Tel: 01636 813222 Email: hugh.middleton@nottingham.ac.uk

## Justice Action Group

Mr Patrick Sills

Tel: 01636 815173 Email: patricksills18@gmail.com

## Minster Social Committee

Mr Andy Arrowsmith

Tel: 01636 812908 Email: amarrowsmith@btinternet.com

## Minster Tours

Mrs Christine Bowering

Tel: 01636 816995 Email: Christine.bowering3@gmail.com

## Mission Partnership Group

Revd Canon Vincent Ashwin

Tel: 01636 813975 Email: vincentashwin@tiscali.co.uk

## Mothers Union Mrs Jenny Hodson

Tel: 0115 920 0443

## Needlework Guild

Mrs Liz Turner

Tel: 01636 812250 Email: turnerelizabeth345@gmail.com

## Potwell Dyke Grasslands Action Group

Mr Malcolm Rose

Tel: 01636 813074 Email: mal@clara.net

## Sacrista Prebend Book Group

Mrs Olga Hudson

Tel: 01636 814434 Email: olgaandrobin@googlemail.com

## Silence & Meditation Group

Mrs Elizabeth Yule

Tel: 01636 815311

## Southwell Churches Together Ladies Choir

Mrs Gwen Bragg

Tel: 01636 812527 Email: g.bragg@virgin.net

## Southwell Churches Together

Dr Frank McKenzie (Chairman)

Email: fjmcknz@gmail.com

Website: www.southwellchurchestogether.org.uk

## Southwell Minster Choir Association (SMCA)

Mr Michael Davidson

Tel 01636 813840 Email: m.d46@btinternet.com

## Southwell/Jerusalem Link Group

Dr Hugh Middleton

Email: Hugh.Middleton@nottingham.ac.uk

## Stewardship Officer and Electoral Roll Officer

Mr Peter Gibbins

Tel: 01636 555578

## Sunday Morning Coffee

Mrs Jill Arrowsmith Tel: 01636 812908

Email: amarrowsmith@btinternet.com



# Lunchtime at the Cathedral

Spring 2019, 12.15pm - 1pm

Friday 1 February	Christopher Ouvry-Jones (organ) and Philip Leech (tenor)
Friday 15 February	<i>Just William</i> (readings and music)
Friday 1 March	Odora Piano Trio
Friday 22 March	Musicians from the Minster School, Southwell
Friday 29 March	Anthony Gray, <i>Organ Scholar at Southwell Minster</i>
Friday 12 April	Jeneba, Aminata and Mariatu Kanneh-Mason
Friday 3 May	Hannah Turner (singer/songwriter)
Friday 17 May	Paul Hale (organ), <i>Rector Chori Emeritus at Southwell Minster</i>

Refreshments are available before the concert and entry is free with a retiring collection, proceeds of which fund the Minster's organ scholarship.

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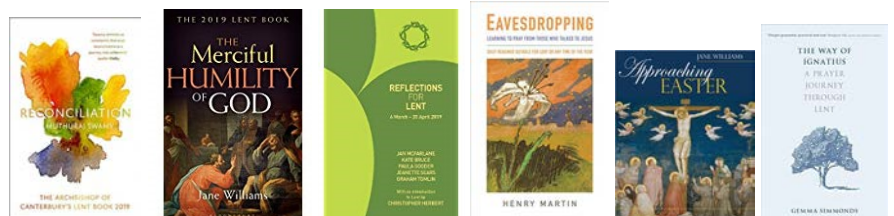
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