

Southwell Leaves

August/September 2019

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News & Information

from Southwell Minster

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Front cover : Duc de Berry, Book of Hours



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At a Glance ...

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

August

Friday 2	12.15pm Friday Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Sunday 4	10.30am Sung Eucharist 3.30pm Choral Evensong

All August Sunday services at these times

Wednesday 7	6.30pm Outdoor theatre; Shakespeare
Saturday 17	10.30pm Open Day begins

Wednesday 21 – Monday 26 Southwell Music Festival

Wednesday 21	4.00pm Organ recital: Simon Hogan
Friday 23	12.15pm Friday Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Sunday 25	10.30am Festival Sung Eucharist 3.30pm Festival Evensong 10.00pm Sung Compline
Monday 26	3.30pm Organ recital: Paul Provost 5.30pm Festival close Choral Evensong

September

Sunday 1	10.30am Sung Eucharist 3.30pm Choral Evensong
Friday 6	12.15pm Friday Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Saturday 7	9.45am-4.00pm Quiet Day Sacrista Prebend
Sunday 8	9.30am 'Brickminster' Family Eucharist Blessed Virgin Mary 11.15am Sung Eucharist 3.30pm Festal Choral Evensong and Installation of Canon Precentor
Tuesday 10	9.30am-4.00pm Discovery Day
Saturday 14	5.30pm Holy Cross Day Festal Evensong
Sunday 15	10.30pm Sung Eucharist with the Archbishop of York 7.30pm Music in the Great Hall
Wednesday 18	7.30pm Organ recital: Simon Hogan
Thursday 19	10.00am Heritage Open Day begins
Friday 20	12.15pm Friday Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Saturday 21	9.45am-4.00pm Quiet Day Sacrista Prebend 10.00am Heritage Open Day begins 5.30pm Festal Evensong for St Matthew's Day
Sunday 22	10.30am Sung Eucharist and Farewell to Canon Nigel Coates, Canon Chancellor
Sunday 29	9.30am Family Eucharist Michaelmas Day 11.15am Mattins 3.30pm Festal Evensong

October

Sunday 6	10.30am Festival Sung Eucharist Dedication Festival 3.30pm Festal Evensong
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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 by 10th September 2019.*

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Welcome to the August/September edition of Southwell Leaves

Over the summer, many people travel to interesting destinations and many of us will visit family and friends. One of the themes of this edition of *Southwell Leaves* is hospitality, and we think of the many visitors who come to the Minster. The Dean writes about the invitation sent out to people in the town to come and experience choral Evensong for the first time; on the same day, the Minster had hosted a party for fifty Syrian refugees who have been re-settled locally (We shall carry a report on this next time). The Education team have prepared activities for children over the summer too, so that they will feel welcomed.

No fewer than four members of staff are leaving in the next two months, and we carry appreciations of the work done by Father Matthew Askey and Simon Hogan, and announcements about Canon Nigel Coates and Anthony Gray. We have short pieces about Canon Richard Frith's arrival as the new Precentor, and about the incoming Assistant Director of Music and the next organ scholar. Our next edition will feature longer articles and interviews.

Chapter are delighted to hear about a generous grant to the Minster from the National Heritage Lottery Fund to protect and enhance our unique carved leaves in the Chapter House. There are articles about that grant and about the community forum, which discussed how to protect the natural environment depicted in the leaves, and another about a lobby of MPs, requesting stronger government policies to conserve planet earth in a time of climate change.

Archbishop John Sentamu will come to Southwell in September, and we explain the oneLIFE mission that he and a large team of bishops, clergy and lay people will lead in this Diocese. We feature articles on two other great men who carried God's good news in a distinctive way – Paulinus from the seventh century and Jean Vanier who died earlier this year.

The Southwell Music Festival takes place in August, with many of the concerts happening in and around the Minster. Our introductory article about the programme and ticketing arrangements shows the central place of the Cathedral Shop in the life of the town. The Festival continues to grow and there are now too many concerts to be shown on a single poster.

Reach, the local charity for adults with learning disabilities, have their headquarters in the old convent behind Sacrista Prebend; there is an article about the Flower Pod where some of Reach's clients work. Our menu is complete with regular features on prayer, Bible-reading, mission partners, local church history, and the tasks fulfilled by members of the Minster team – this time, the stewards who do so much to offer a hospitable welcome to those who visit us.

Have a good read!

Vincent Ashwin

Arrival of New Canon Precentor

In September we shall welcome the arrival of the Reverend Dr Richard Frith as Canon Precentor (Residentiary Canon) for our Cathedral and parish church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Southwell. Two weeks later we will mark the retirement of Canon Chancellor Nigel Coates. More of him in the next edition!

Richard is presently Vicar of Holy Trinity and St Jude Church in Halifax, an ethnically-diverse suburban parish within the Diocese of Leeds. He served his curacy with St. Mary Magdalene Church, Oxford, and prior to ordination worked as a publishing editor.

His ministry has been shaped by teaching and developing Christian discipleship particularly with



Reverend Dr Richard Frith

children and families; accessible liturgical worship and a deep love of the choral tradition.

When his appointment was announced in February, the Dean wrote on the website: "I am thankful to God for calling Richard to the Cathedral to share the rich opportunities for the further development of worship, mission and discipleship. He will bring liturgical, musical and pastoral gifts to the team and will support the Minster in being a deep well of prayer and inspiration for the local community and diocese."

Richard is married to Emma and they have an 11-year old son, Stephen, who will be beginning his secondary education at the Minster School.

Richard will be licensed in Southwell Minster on 8th September 2019.

The power of invitation



We were all delighted, and I have to admit surprised, at the success of the special Choral Evensong on Saturday, 6 July. I say 'special', in fact it was an ordinary Evensong, but made special by the issuing of invitations to local businesses, organisations, schools and clubs. I wrote about this in the last edition of *Southwell Leaves*. The Choral Evensong Project, part of The Pilgrimage Trust, kindly sponsored the reception afterwards, which enabled us to meet and greet, over a glass of wine and delicious nibbles kindly served by the SMCA, the 140 people who had accepted the invitation. For some it was first time they had come into the Minster, although they live locally. Many were unfamiliar with Choral Evensong and surprised at how much they enjoyed its tranquil effect, beautiful liturgy and music and the experience of worship in the Quire. We hope to build on the relationships formed and do something similar in the future.

I've been reflecting on the importance of invitation. We often lament fewer people coming to church these days, or those appearing to care less about faith or faith communities, while in fact - far from being hostile or indifferent - maybe people

are waiting to be asked!

Elsewhere in the magazine Michael Wilson writes about the oneLIFE mission with the Archbishop of York and his team. The success of this exciting opportunity will depend on us inviting friends, colleagues, neighbours and family members to the numerous events that are taking place locally. In particular we hope many will come to hear Archbishop Sentamu preach at the 10.30am Sung Eucharist on Sunday, 15 September. He is an immensely engaging and lively communicator whose ministry as Archbishop during the last 14 years has made a huge impact, most notably when he has been 'on the road', meeting people, speaking of the Christian faith and its transformative invitation to follow Christ, standing in the tradition of the early missionary church in our islands. A short trailer video for oneLIFE features the Archbishop: see it on our website!

Dean Nicola Sullivan

Farewell to Fr Matthew, Helen, Samuel and Isaac

In August this year Fr Matthew Askey and his family move to Worksope College, where Matthew will take up the post of School Chaplain after 6 ½ years here in Southwell. We shall miss the contribution of the whole family to the life of the Minster community, but are delighted that Samuel and Isaac will continue at the Minster School and as valuable members of the Cathedral Choir.

Fr Matthew's dual role has involved ministry at the Minster School and work with young families based at the Cathedral.

In both areas, he has developed ministry in new and creative ways. At school, alongside pastoral work and regular assemblies, a strong ecumenical team now lead regular tutor groups, Holy Communion services for staff and students, a prayer week, 6th form RE sessions, RSCM chorister classes, and engage with the D of E award scheme, which enables students to volunteer at the Minster for their gold, silver and bronze awards. Fr Matthew has also established regular visits to all local primary schools across the catchment area, leading collective worship from Cauntton to Woodborough and Bleasby to Farnsfield.



With regard to ministry at the Cathedral, Fr Matthew has led school services including the major festivals, the end of term services and the Foundation service, and has made links with many young families through baptisms. A major new initiative has been the establishment of a monthly 'Messy Minster' with some 40 people regularly attending on Wednesday afternoons. Helen has also played an active role in this, as in Junior Church, where both have put their artistic, musical and teaching gifts to good effect.

More generally, Fr Matthew has played a full part in the Cathedral's life, sharing in daily worship, leading house groups at The Hearty Goodfellow, retreat days at Sacrista Prebend, and playing the

saxophone at Taizé services, Jazz masses and a Friday lunchtime concert.

In addition, Matthew has curated some notable art exhibitions with 'Crossings', in particular, bringing together the work of major contemporary artists. In straw hat and black attire Matthew has cut an unmistakable figure combining priestly and artistic vocations. We are indebted to him and his family and wish them all Godspeed on the next stage of their journey.

Canon Nigel Coates

oneLIFE Mission

The Archbishop of York is coming

oneLIFE
12-15 Sep 2019 Bishops' Mission
led by the Archbishop of York
An invitation to life's
greatest adventure

A few years ago Archbishop John Sentamu summoned the other eleven Diocesan Bishops of the York (Northern) Province to a meeting on Lindisfarne (Holy Island), where the earliest of missionaries had lived whilst bringing Christianity to the north. I do not know how many turned up, but usually when the Archbishop asks something, few refuse. While there, he reminded them of the fact that part of their commission was to evangelise and be missionaries. The question, I suppose, he was indirectly asking was 'Have the Bishops done that?'

So began the idea that the Archbishop would lead a group of other bishops from the North, supported by teams of preachers and teachers, into a diocese for a long weekend to encourage more disciples of Jesus. The mission would focus around a number of events in parishes and deaneries, which would lead to nurture groups for those wishing to explore their faith deeper.

The first mission was held in the Sheffield Diocese in 2015 followed by five more (Blackburn, Durham, Carlisle, Newcastle and Liverpool) with Southwell & Nottingham Diocese being next, between 12 and 15 September 2019. The Archbishop will retire in a year's time after his final mission in his own Diocese of York. Time restrictions and availability means that four dioceses, Manchester, Chester, Leeds and Sodor & Man will miss out for the time being.

The Bishop of Carlisle, James Newcombe, will be leading the mission in the Deanery of Newark & Southwell with a team of four from his diocese. We will also have the support of Revd Tanya Lord from Bristol and Revd Adam Atkinson from London, who are both part of the Senior Leadership Development Programme for the Church of England.

Our deanery, as I have written before, is very large geographically (the size of Jersey) and for the number of churches (over 70). It is also the deanery in which the Minster, the Cathedral of the Diocese, sits, which - when it comes to this mission - is very exciting.

Congregations are asked to hold invitational events, to call the fringe and forgotten to join with the found into fellowship with Jesus during the four days of the oneLIFE Mission. The objective is to introduce as many

people as possible to the Gospel of Jesus with the aim of growing more disciples through nurture groups and regular church activities – more 'Disciples Younger, Wider and Deeper' (the current motto of this diocese).

So far in the deanery, there are school visits, a film night, a dog walk, a breakfast and a question-and-answer session planned, along with a riverside gathering around a fire pit, and with boats (Farndon becoming the Sea of Galilee for a couple of hours?).

The weekend coincides with two other events. First, in the deanery, Besthorpe Holy Trinity Church (in the East Trent Benefice) celebrates its anniversary. I suspect that not everyone will know where Besthorpe is, so perhaps you could plan a visit

and join in their events. Secondly, it is the Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride event on the Saturday, when hopefully every church building will be open to receive visitors, especially any inspired by the mission happening. I will be taking part cycling around the Octave Group and in and around Newark town. There will be others cycling in the diocese, so look out for them! There will also be activities and events in and around the Minster over the weekend.

This means that we will have a very busy weekend inviting others to accept the Good News (the meaning of the Anglo-Saxon word Gospel) with an Archbishop of York who will be in our Deanery for part of the weekend showing us the One Life in God.

For the Diocese the weekend will start at Field Mill, Mansfield Town Football Club's Ground, with a commissioning service. The 12 or so bishops and a group of evangelists will then go out into the nine deaneries, to support all our responses to the call to the oneLIFE Mission to grow disciples 'Younger, Wider and Deeper'. Besides some targeted visits, Archbishop Sentamu will be at two evening events where he will tell his own journey in the faith story.

Do look out for details of events over the four days, tell your friends about the mission and invite people to explore oneLIFE

Michael J Wilson
Lay Chair of Newark & Southwell Deanery
and
Chair of the House of Laity of the Diocese



Heritage Lottery Heritage Fund comes up trumps.

Southwell Minster has been recently awarded a £1.9 million **National Lottery Heritage Fund** grant that will enable the implementation of plans to conserve and celebrate the internationally renowned Leaves of Southwell. The 13th century naturalistic carvings are among the finest in Europe and have long been a source of inspiration to artists and writers, but our aim is to broaden their appeal, to secure the fabric of the building, and to recognise that we have a particular artistic treasure that can witness to the enduring importance of the gospel. In this article I want to sketch out the multi-faceted physical plans, but also to show how the Leaves of Southwell resonate with one of the most critical issues of our day.

The wide-ranging scheme includes the renewal of the main East roof. Lead will replace worn slates which are nearly 200 years old and leaking badly. We shall become a real cathedral again as scaffolding surrounds the east end from September onwards! The salting in the Chapter House is evidence of dampness and it is important we stabilise the conditions that will best preserve the stonework. Already you can see evidence of monitoring which notes temperature and humidity. We plan to remove the central dais that covers the present inadequate heating system and introduce under floor heating that will have more sensitive controls. An additional benefit might be that we can use the space for other events such as small concerts.

The Chapter House will be lit for the first time, enabling it to be used outside of daylight hours, and in such a way that the higher level carvings and roof vault can be highlighted. Accessibility has been at the heart of the project, and we plan a cantilever lifting platform to help visitors with mobility issues into the passageway of the Chapter House. In addition, improved external lighting will make the western paths and main North porch more welcoming in dark or inclement weather.

Previous collaboration with NLHF enabled the creation of the Education Garden as a place of health and wellbeing. This will be doubled in size through the generous gift of the paddock by the Cathedral Chapter, and will enable the planting of all the species seen in the Chapter House. A focal point of the educational activities offered will be an outdoor classroom with eight sides, reflecting the Chapter House itself.

Familiarity with our Leaves can lead us to overlook their symbolism, and critical to the project will be interpretations of the leaves and the Minster site as a whole. New research into the construction of the building, notably by our archaeologist



Philip Dixon, has enabled us to appreciate the significance of our leaves, and visits to Naumburg and Rheims have confirmed their importance.

The Bible often uses a garden as a visual metaphor for human flourishing and the life of the church. In the words of Professor Jim McManus, director of Public Health for Hertfordshire County Council, it is 'ontological and eschatological'. It tells us about who we are and what we will become. The whole biblical narrative can be told with reference to the Garden of Eden, Gethsemane, Golgotha and the Garden City of Revelation.

The Byzantine and Romanesque art of the early church reflects this imagery but, in terms of visual art it reached its fullest expression in the Gothic architecture of the great European cathedrals of the 12th and 13th centuries. The Chapter House of Southwell Minister belongs to that tradition and its naturalistic carving represents the summit of its expression in the UK. It is one of 'the glories of Europe' but why might the Leaves speak so powerfully to our present culture?

Perhaps the greatest crisis of our time concerns climate change and humanity's effect on the environment. Scientists speak of the *Anthropocene* geological era. In other words we live in a time when it is the human race that is exercising the greatest effect on our planet. Programmes such as 'The Blue Planet' with David Attenborough bear this out. At root is a spiritual crisis in which we selfishly squander resources and fail to see the natural world as a precious gift to be treasured for future generations. It is our aim to play a small part in helping children and adults to reconnect with the natural world, and to learn from the extraordinary artistic work of the medieval masons who observed it so closely and found a joyful balance in its unity and diversity.

The visual metaphors speak of our relationship to the natural world but they also speak of relationships to one another and to God. How do we nurture, respect and sustain all life in God? The Prophet Jeremiah offers an answer that the Chapter House illustrates so wonderfully:

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. (Jeremiah 17:8)

Canon Nigel Coates

Climate change and the Future of the Planet

Trendy bandwagon or life-saving action?

A letter from an elderly correspondent about the climate debate appeared recently in the *Church Times*: 'Am I alone in thinking the Church of England would be better served by bishops seeking to promote the Christian faith, rather than jumping on this week's trendy bandwagon?' A week later, BBC news reported that sea-ice the size of Mexico has melted in the Antarctic recently, and that the Amazon forest is being cut down at the rate of one football field every minute. A week before, 16,000 of us had lobbied our MPs about climate change.

Five representatives of Churches Together in Southwell travelled on a bus organized for the lobby by CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). We aimed to speak to Robert Jenrick our MP about the concern that Christians have about the future of God's earth, and about what governments and individuals can do to prevent a catastrophe.



It was a cheerful occasion, even though traffic snarl-ups in London meant we arrived 90 minutes late and missed an inter-faith event in Church House. As we walked along the Embankment in the sunshine, we were thanked by a group of sixth-formers for being involved in protests about climate change. 'So many in your generation and our parents' generation just don't get it,' they said.

We were a varied bunch of lobbyists: members of CAFOD, Christian Aid, the World Wildlife Fund, the Woodland Trust, Quakers for Climate Justice, RSPB, and Save the Bees; local school-children with harassed teachers and Muslim women with cooling hijabs. Most banners were home-made. 'Do it for David!' said one, with a picture of David Attenborough. 'Listen to the earth. Listen to our young people,' said another.

Our MP was at a meeting overseas but he sent his parliamentary researcher, Freddie Hutchinson, who listened politely and told us about initiatives the government had already taken. We told him about two recent emails from Robert Jenrick. In one he wrote, 'The UK is leading efforts to tackle Climate Change and protect the environment. Therefore, I do not think it is necessary to call it a climate emergency.' In the other he wrote, 'I do recognise the hugely pressing challenge we face, which is why Ministers have asked the Committee on Climate Change for advice on a net zero emissions target. We can and will always do more.' Freddie promised to pass on our message that this is a genuine emergency.

We also met with Simon Tilley of 'Green Southwell', and discussed their plans for a demonstration about climate justice which was to take place in Southwell on July 20th. There is a picture of this event on page 29.

Stop Press

In the next edition of *Southwell Leaves* there will be some new and exciting ideas for plastic-free Christmas shopping. This article will be put together by Angela Ashwin, but she would welcome ideas from every-one. (angela.ashwin@gmail.com)

We were with our Roman Catholic friends, so joined them for the closing Mass. Sixteen coachloads of Catholics had come from all over the country and we crammed the central hall of Church House, Westminster. The Catholic Bishop of Salford, John Arnold, led the service and spoke with passion about the effects of climate change on the people in the poorest nations. He is a trustee of CAFOD and has travelled widely to visit projects all over the world. His sermon ended with saying, 'When we set out on this journey to bring justice to the poor (including climate justice), don't forget that it's Jesus who sends us. What is more, He says, "I'm coming too".'

There was also a talk from a human rights lawyer, working for the Land Pastoral Commission of the Catholic Church in Brazil: the Amazon forest is being cut down, mostly to make way for cattle ranching which supplies the voracious international market for beef. 'Conservation,' he said, 'is fundamentally important for us Christians. Biodiversity belongs to us all.'

A few days later I happened to meet a friend who has been a director of multi-national companies for years, and he is now working with the ethics committee of a large investment fund; he told us about a letter sent by them to a global energy company which stated – in effect - 'If you do not invest more in the search for sustainable sources of energy, we shall withdraw all our funds from your company.' He added, 'Businesses



David Attenborough believes passionately in climate justice

definitely respond to the call to take climate change seriously.'

This was encouraging, because the June 26 lobby had been a low-key affair and we didn't get much press coverage. But there is no doubt that politicians and other policy-makers are influenced by the drip-feed of ordinary, people who worry about the legacy we are leaving for our children and grandchildren. Climate justice is not a passing bandwagon.

Vincent Ashwin

Farewell Nigel



Canon Nigel will be retiring as Canon Chancellor on 30th September 2019. We will have a farewell service on Sunday 22nd September at 10.30 am followed by a reception. After nearly 15 years here, Nigel and Rhoda will leave a huge gap in both the Minster community and the staff team. They will continue to live at 3 Vicars Court until the end of the year so that Nigel can complete some work for the Leaves of Southwell project before they move to the New Forest. Please hold them in your thoughts and prayers for the coming months.

Dean Nicola

Anthony Gray heads back to Yorkshire

Anthony Gray has come to the end of his year as the Minster's organ scholar. He has been specially skilled as an organist, as well as taking his duties teaching the boy and girl choristers, conducting the choirs on occasion, and doing those back-room jobs in the choir library, etc, which keep the Choral Foundation going. He came to Southwell from Cambridge University, where he was organ scholar at Robinson College. He had been a chorister at Blackburn Cathedral, and will return to live with his family at Ilkley for the moment. We wish him well as he goes on to become director of music at St Wilfrid's Harrogate.



Welcome to James, the new organ scholar

In September the Minster will welcome James Furniss-Roe as our organ scholar, and we look forward to welcoming James into the life of the Minster. James comes to us from Portsmouth Cathedral, where he is currently Organ Scholar, having studied at Royal Holloway where he was also Organ Scholar. He has experience working with other professional groups, and is very excited by the move to Southwell and the next chapter in his developing career.

New Assistant Director of Music appointed

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Jonathan Allsopp as Assistant Director of Music from September. Jonny has been Organ Scholar at Hereford, Durham and Westminster Cathedrals, gaining a broad range of experience which will set him up well for this new chapter. He says, 'I'm absolutely thrilled to be coming to work at Southwell. I thoroughly enjoyed the audition process and meeting the cathedral community, and I am really looking forward to working with everyone in the department.' Jonny will be admitted to the music foundation in September, and we shall have a fuller profile in the next *Southwell Leaves*.



Goodbye and Thank you to Simon Hogan

Simon moved to Southwell Minster from St Paul's Cathedral in September 2012 to take up his position; his duties included directing the Minster Girls' Choir, playing for the daily routine of services, and running the Minster Chorale, the Cathedral's chamber choir.

We sensed immediately that his organ-playing would be of the highest order, whether in the masterful accompaniments at daily choral evensongs in psalms (bleating lambs, roaring lions, mighty waves raging horribly), canticles and anthems—no matter their demands in terms of sensitivity, tempi, rhythms, or dynamics. Also, in the closing voluntaries, his playing has always been exemplary. He has demonstrated so well the qualities of the Minster organs and his ever-growing repertoire of organ works, ancient and modern, often moved worshippers to spontaneous applause.

He introduced a series of reflective recitals at the major festivals, working with Canon Jacqui Jones' illustrations from art and, more recently, has preceded choral evensongs with an organ introit appropriate to the liturgy.

In his time as director of the Girls' Choir Simon has built on its successful introduction. The 2016 CD recording '*Sing we of that Mother Blest*', together with the annual performances of Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, demonstrate how far they have developed in his time. Under Simon's direction they have played an increasingly high profile in leading the cathedral's singing. They also sang in Britten's *War Requiem* alongside the Nottingham Harmonic Choir at the Royal Concert Hall last November. Under his direction the Girls' Choir has visited Sarzana Cathedral in Italy, and together with the lay clerks are planning a tour to twin town Sées, Normandy, in late August—a fitting farewell.

As director of the Minster Chorale, he has overseen expansion of their repertoire. They have sung in York Minster and Peterborough Cathedral, and been on tour to Dublin and Guernsey. With the Chorale he has inaugurated the popular annual performance of Handel's *Messiah* at Christmas, with excellent soloists and the Minster Chamber Orchestra. Chorale members have said: 'Simon stretched us beyond what we believed we could do, widening the horizons of what we thought we were capable of, and drawing out of us a capacity for fresh music and higher standards' and 'I always looked forward to coming to rehearsals. He was gentle and patient with us when we got things wrong. He knew how to encourage, rather than tick off, a group of people who were mostly middle-aged plus, and many of whom were tired after a week's work.'



Simon has been a pro-active member of the committee of the Choir Association (SMCA), particularly in developing its role as a charity for public benefit. He has organised the *Music in the Great Hall* Sunday evening series of recitals in the State Chamber, broadening the range of performers whilst not losing sight of its role as a platform for young musicians; those from the Minster School feature regularly. Each Michaelmas term concludes with the girl choristers in an informal festive programme, with food and drink. A complimentary drink (from 7pm) is now available prior to all the concerts (7.30-8.30pm). These rely on audience donations. He also initiated the annual SMCA *Come & Sing* event; this has attracted a growing number of participants.

Simon has featured in the Southwell Music Festival in each of the programmes since its inception.

Appropriately he is the solo recitalist this year on the Quire organ, and he has chosen a very exciting group of master-works to be performed on the first day of the festival, Wednesday 21 August, including as the centre-piece the monumental *Symphonie-Passion* by Marcel Dupré, described as '*a perfect virtuoso showcase*' - not to be missed! The Cathedral Choir conducted by Simon closes the Festival on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August with Choral Evensong, accompanied by *Rector Chori* Paul Provost, following Paul's own organ recital at 3.30pm.

Asked what he looked back on with most satisfaction, Simon wrote: 'probably working with the girl choristers, building up their confidence, increasing their repertoire, etc, and seeing how various characters - who may not necessarily have considered themselves musicians initially - have developed into fantastic singers.'

What would he miss? 'I'll miss most of the job to be honest, but the close community of the music dept. and lay clerks is something which is unique to Southwell, and therefore unlikely to be replicated elsewhere.'

In 2018 Simon married Hilary Punnett at the Minster. They had met when Hilary was organ scholar here some years ago, and later Hilary joined the music team at Lincoln Cathedral. She has now been appointed as Assistant Director of Music at Chelmsford Cathedral, so they are moving away to Essex at the end of August.

Many thanks, Simon, and every good wish to you and Hilary for the future.

Michael Davidson and Vincent Ashwin

Flower Pod

Flower Pod

You can read from their publicity that Flower Pod is a horticultural-based social enterprise supporting people with learning disabilities, located just outside the historic town of Southwell, but you need to walk up Park Lane on a sunny July morning and turn into their gateway to experience the true magic of the place. You're immediately aware of pots and plants everywhere and people of all ages engrossed in a range of gardening tasks in the shade of the veranda of the eco-building. The scent of sweet peas wafts from the poly-tunnels at the side of the straw bale building, which contains a workroom, kitchen and classroom. Beyond is an English flower garden, packed with life and abundant colour seeming to go on and on, eventually leading to a fine view over Southwell.

Jane, the centre manager, describes it as a stimulating space where people thrive, and she advocates the benefits of therapeutic horticulture - social, emotional, nurturing and 'good for the soul'. Her full-time staff consist of a horticultural lead, a client services manager who knows and supervises support for all the clients and an experienced florist who runs the business side of the enterprise, providing flowers for individuals, events, weddings and funerals. They recently worked with the Flower Guild at the Minster and were involved in Easter displays this year.

The centre opens weekdays for clients and serves a total of thirty-five people. Some live locally but those coming from North Notts, Lincolnshire and Newark travel by taxi or volunteer transport. Travel training can be provided for those from Nottingham, so they can travel independently, using the 100 bus.

Fifty or so volunteers make a vital contribution to the continuation of the enterprise. They take on tasks according to their experience and inclinations and careful matching of skills and personalities with the needs of clients make it possible to give each client a personalised experience according to their needs and preferences and enabling them to be involved in every aspect of work.

Amanda, the lead tutor from Reach Learning Disability, runs a formal training session every Wednesday where she teaches



Flower Pod Lunch

practical horticultural skills from over-wintering dahlias to no-dig growing for vegetables.



Phil cutting sweet peas



Pete pricking out Sweet Williams



Ben making natural confetti

Jane told me they are working towards becoming financially sustainable but currently depend on grants, fund raising events, sponsors and donations.

The clients pay a fee for their attendance which is usually covered by their personal budget from social services.

I was then introduced to the most important people, the clients, by Tracey, the client services manager.

In the workroom Steve, who works for Reach Learning Disability Care, (a Community Interest Company set up by Reach which provides domiciliary care and now donates its profits to Reach Learning Disability), was helping Ben to prepare brilliant blue cornflower petals to be dried for natural confetti. Ben has Down's syndrome and autism and has taken a long time to settle at Flower Pod but he's now quite comfortable and obviously enjoys being there and happily stays for lunch, a big step for him. He loves music and was practicing his drumming as he worked. Tracey translated his sign language as saying the best thing about coming to Flower Pod was meeting his friends. Several clients are unable to communicate verbally and Tracey champions the use of signs and symbols to help people express themselves and is planning to use a donation, recently received, to acquire new communication software.

Pete has been coming to the Pod for six years and told me he has become an expert in pricking out seedlings, sowing seeds and planting bulbs. Today he was patiently replanting tiny Sweet William seedlings for next year.

At coffee time Phill came out for a well-earned rest from the, by now, very hot poly-tunnels

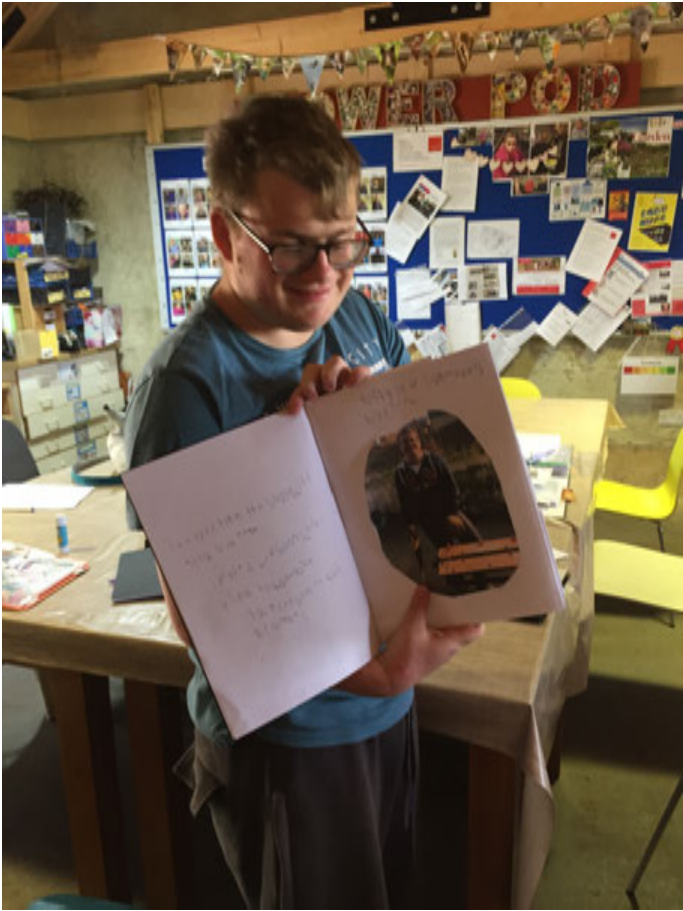
after spending the morning cutting sweet peas. He has attended since the inception of Flower Pod and now takes great pride in teaching others about gardening. He's done a course called 'Growing Together' and works in the Reach Newark allotments close to where he lives.

Another client who is also called Ben comes by taxi two days a week. He was quite clearly delighted to be part of the enterprise and proudly showed me his daily journals with pictures of him weeding, making hanging baskets and happily working in the pouring rain. He also loves music and likes to be called the 'singing gardener' although he emphasised he must only use one earpiece when he's working 'for health and safety' as he put it. He's recently learned to use the lawn mower and been on woodwork and First Aid courses.

Before leaving I spent a time wandering round the amazing array of flowers, visiting the growing wall where the clients have individual little plots and the 'alittlements' (rather than allotment - get it?) where they grow produce to cook at lunch time, helping to promote healthy choices.

Walking home, carrying the wonderful bouquet I'd bought, I knew what Jane meant - this place *is* good for the soul.

Christine Kent with thanks to Jane Hufton



Another Ben proudly showing his daily journal

Southwell Minster Open Days

Explore the ancient history of Southwell Minster and The Archbishop's Palace

Saturday 17 August
Thursday 19 September
Saturday 21 September
Saturday 28 September



For more info see southwellminster.org/open-days



Discovery Day

Adult learning at Southwell Minster
Tuesday 10 Sept 2019 9.30am-3.30pm





You are warmly invited to join staff and volunteers to unwrap the life and treasures of the Cathedral.

Opening Talk: Painting the Christian Message
Minster fundraiser Charlie Leggatt presents highlights from the old master paintings at Dulwich Picture Gallery

* Choose 3 workshops, tours or talks: history, art, music, crafts and more * Live organ music * Home made cakes / drinks *

£15 per person – advance booking please * Everyone welcome



To book, please contact:
Matt Hustwayte, Jubilee House, 8 Westgate, Southwell, NG25 0JH,
01636 817993, education@southwellminster.org.uk

www.southwellminster.org

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 southwellminster



The Welcoming Face of Southwell Cathedral

The Chief Steward writes about his work

As the recently elected Chief Steward I have been asked to write an article about the role, and my aspirations and vision for the Minster Guild of Stewards.

A bit about myself. I moved to Southwell just over 30 years ago, having been seconded to British Coal Enterprise, which was a Government initiative to help regenerate coal mining areas. This was a fixed term placement after which I was to rejoin my banking career. We purchased a house in Southwell expecting to move again some 24 months later (it was our 6th house move in 10 years after all). My wife loved Southwell, anchored by the wonderful Minster, so much that I was persuaded to spend the next 25 years commuting to far off work places. On retirement and seeking a complete change I applied to become a Steward, as I felt that the Minster and the presence that it gave to the town was something I wanted to learn more about. My out of work interests up to then were limited to DIY and gardening, including an allotment. So it was that I started my stewarding journey. During the preparation programme for new Stewards I began absorbing not only the welcome, but also learned about architecture, stained glass and the amazing history revealed within the stones that physically make the building; things that, until then, had interested me little. I was hooked.

Now, back to the Guild. It was formed some 36 years ago in order to offer a ministry of welcome to visitors on behalf of the Dean and Chapter. This remains at the heart of what we do today. Last year Stewards, in their distinctive Blue Gowns, welcomed in excess of 57,000 visitors, not only with a smile but with conversation, to seek an understanding of their needs, discern the purpose of their visit and enhance it.

As you can imagine when dealing with so many and the multi-layered reasons for their coming through the Cathedral doors, with the many services and other events taking place within the Minster, the logistics of this are complex. Fortunately, over the years a fairly unique form of governance and structure has developed.

All Stewards are volunteers who manage themselves through a committee that oversees other groups tasked with organising rotas, open days, guided tours of the Archbishop's Palace, Minster and Bell Tower. Importantly, we seek self-development which includes 'Learning More' sessions, Development Days and social events.

How many Stewards does it take to welcome a visitor?

Some 120 Stewards are rostered to cover the main North Porch, South Door and Welcome Desk seven days a week (commonly 10am - 5pm) in three duties of two or two and a half hours each.



Each Steward would commonly volunteer for three duties a month to suit their availability. We would always welcome the opportunity of more stewards to assist, so it would be helpful here to spell out my vision and aspirations for the Guild.

My vision is continuous evolution, to maximise the power of our welcome and to ensure the visitor experience is as beneficial as possible to the individual, whatever their need or purpose, and to the Minster itself.

My aspirations for members of the Guild are:

For all to enjoy their volunteering - this is key as we portray our own individual, genuine welcome to visitors.

Harmonious working - we all have a common purpose in supporting the Minster in the quest to enhance visitor experience; not forgetting income as appropriate.

Clear understanding of roles and purpose - the less confusion the more smiles!

Willingness to contribute in development and new ideas - key if we are to continue to maximise our potential.

Understanding change - a fact of life and embracing it to the best of our ability makes for a happier environment, and lastly.....

A queue - of new volunteer stewards eager to embrace the role!

This is where you may be able to help? If this article has aroused your interest, or perhaps thoughts of friends, neighbours or acquaintances who you feel may be interested in knowing more about stewarding, or indeed applying, then please pass on details of our work. Our annual preparation programme for new stewards commences in September so now is an ideal time to apply. We are looking for people from any age group or background with a positive approach and an ability to communicate with a variety of people. A commitment to three duties a month, with each duty lasting around two and a half hours, is required.

Within the Minster there are leaflets 'Would you like to be the welcoming face of Southwell Cathedral?' that give more information including contact details: telephone 01636 812649 or email office@southwellminster.org.uk

I believe we are very fortunate to have such a Guild, led by volunteers, and working under the umbrella of the Dean and her support staff.

Please promote our cause when and where you can. Thank you.

Kevin Hender

Mothers' Union Southwell Minster Branch

Our May meeting was a discussion of items from the National MU magazine, 'Families First', led by members of the committee. Subjects covered included a Christian response to knife crime, 'Transforming Lives in Rwanda' and International Women's Day; we had some interesting input from members.

In June we enjoyed our annual Strawberry Tea; some members were hardy enough to sit on the patio outside, and all enjoyed tea, cake and chat.

On July 18th we are looking forward to welcoming Dr Chris Brooke, who will talk to us about Ancient Nottinghamshire Churches.

We usually take a break from our regular monthly meetings in August, but this year we are busy. On Thursday 8th August we will be travelling to Balderton to join their morning service as our Mary Sumner (MU founder) Day celebration - just a day early!

Invitation to Afternoon Tea

We are joining in with the National MU Summer of Hope campaign by holding an Afternoon Tea on Thursday 15th August. The aim is to raise funds to bring hope and peace across the world through projects such as Educating Mums in Burundi, Bonding Families in Northern Ireland, and Uniting Communities in South Sudan. The cost of £2 for tea and cake will be put to very good use.



SUMMER OF HOPE

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

You are invited to join us in making this a summer of hope across the world

We're hosting an event to celebrate the start of summer and raise funds to bring hope to families around the world. We hope you'll join us to enjoy good food, great company and the chance to change lives.

Event: **Afternoon Tea**

Where: **Sacrista Prebend, Westgate**

Date: **Thurs 15th August** Time: **2 - 4pm**

Flg charity no 240531

Our regular monthly meetings will resume on 26th September with our opening service and then continue on the third Thursday of each month. As always, visitors and new members are very welcome to join us at Sacrista Prebend at 2:00pm. We finish between 3.30 & 4:00 so children can be collected from school. Please contact Shelagh Baird-Smith on 01636 918341 or shelaghbairdsmith@gmail.com if you would like to know more.

Shelagh Baird-Smith



Lunchtime at the Cathedral
Late summer 2019
12.15pm – 1.00pm

Friday 2 August	Helen Murray and Laretta Bloomer
Friday 23 August	Southwell Music Festival
Friday 6 September	Simon Watterton (piano)
Friday 20 September	James Gaughan (baritone)
Friday 4 October	Richard Hinsley (piano) & Carmen Flores (viola)

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



www.southwellminster.org

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 Southwell Minster

Bible Verses for Reflection



The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!' Here is your God.

Isaiah 35: 1-2a, 3-4a

How can you say to your neighbour, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye. **Matthew 7: 4-5**

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.

Southwell Music Festival

Varied menu for an artistic feast



There are still tickets left for the 2019 Southwell Music Festival, which runs for six days over the August Bank Holiday – from Wednesday 21 to Monday 26 August – and comprises 35 events: as in previous years more than half take place in the Minster and the State Chamber. The Festival's main performances are given by musicians drawn from an ensemble of around 100 visiting professional singers and players coming from the UK and Europe, many of whom return each year.

Festival Founder and Artistic Director Marcus Farnsworth writes:

"The Minster has always been at the heart of the Festival. Our intention is in large part, to celebrate this wonderful, warm and welcoming building which we all love so much.

The range of spaces and acoustics is a great asset in planning the programme, and we have learned how best to use the building to present a wide range of concerts.

The Nave is ideal for concerts that involve many musicians and/or attract large audiences. So this year we will present our first symphony concert (Wednesday 21) including tuneful and dramatic works by Mendelssohn and Mahler, with an orchestra of more than 60 musicians.

We are also using the Nave for a lunchtime celebrity recital by visiting violin virtuoso Jennifer Pike – a former BBC Young Musician, whose programme (Saturday 24) includes Vaughan Williams' best-loved work *The Lark Ascending*.

Then on the Sunday night (25) we use the Nave to present a programme of American chamber classics, including Copland's evocative ballet score *Appalachian Spring* which concludes with the Shaker tune made famous by Sydney Carter in his hymn *Lord of the Dance*.

Southwell's Nave is such a successful concert venue due to its size and wooden barrel-vaulted roof: this means that audiences can enjoy the details of a performance far better than under the larger, stone-vaulted roofs of other cathedrals. This will be most evident in the major choral and orchestral concert which is the centre piece of the Festival (Saturday 24). In 2019 we present

our first Handel oratorio – *Israel in Egypt*. People who enjoy *Messiah* will love this semi-operatic retelling of how the Israelites escaped from Egypt, with its dramatic double choruses, virtuoso solos and colourful orchestration.

Handel is also the focus of our Come and Sing which includes the ever-popular *Zadok the Priest* (Monday 26) and closes with a spectacular free performance in the Nave by more than 200 singers, accompanied by trumpets, drums and organ.

The Nave will also host free concerts in two Minster series – with leading Festival wind players performing chamber music on Friday lunchtime and Rector Chori Paul Provost performing the Bank Holiday Monday organ recital.

The Minster's Assistant Director of Music Simon Hogan will give a recital on the Quire organ (Wednesday 21) and the Quire will also be the venue for concerts by the string section of the Festival Sinfonia (Thursday 22 and Friday 23) featuring Tchaikovsky's ever-popular *Serenade for Strings*.

The gentle bloom on the Quire acoustic makes it ideal for strings and also for vocal music, which is partly why *a cappella* concerts by the outstanding Festival Voices work so well. The other reason is the special atmosphere of the Minster late at night. Voices of Faith (Thursday 22) features masterpieces by William Byrd and James MacMillan. We also take advantage of the late-night atmosphere in the Quire to present our first folk concert featuring the award-winning talents of Scottish fiddler Aidan O'Rourke and keyboard player Kit Downes (Wednesday 21).

The Minster's late-night atmosphere also contributes to the impact of our concerts in the Crossing – this year (Friday 23) featuring Schubert's famous string quartet *Death and the Maiden*.

The State Chamber was described by *The Sunday Times* as 'ideal for chamber music and song', and it will come into its own once more with two new Rush Hour concerts (5-6pm on Thursday 22 and Friday 23), a lunchtime recital by our Musical Apprentices (Thursday 22) and the free Public Masterclass (Saturday 24).

While the Minster is an inspiring concert venue it is first and foremost a place of worship, which is why the Festival includes four services – with music at the Eucharist and at Evensong (Sunday 25) performed by Festival musicians, and Compline (Sunday 25) and Choral Evensong (Monday 25) performed by Minster musicians.

Thank you to the Dean, Chapter and staff of the Minster and Archbishop's Palace who enable the Festival to happen."

Information and tickets are available online at www.southwellmusicfestival.com or at the Southwell Cathedral Shop. Tickets can be booked by phone on 01636 330014.



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

5 Monday

Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr, 642
8.30am Morning Prayer
9.00am Holy Communion (SP)
5.30pm Evening Prayer

6 Tuesday

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

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

7 Wednesday

Jason Mason Neale, Priest, Hymn Writer, 1866

7.30am Morning Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion
12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)
5.30pm Evening Prayer
6.30pm Outdoor Theatre –
Much Ado About Nothing

12 Monday

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

13 Tuesday

Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor, Teacher, 1667; Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910; Octavia Hill, Social Reformer, 1912

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

14 Wednesday

Maximillian Kolbe, Friar, Martyr, 1941

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

15 Thursday

The Blessed Virgin Mary

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

16 Friday

7.30am Morning Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion
2.00pm Holy Matrimony
5.30pm Evening Prayer

17 Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer
9.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Open Day begins
5.30pm Evensong [VC]

18 SUNDAY

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
and the Litany
8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sung Eucharist [VC]
3.30pm Evensong [VC]

19 Monday

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

August

1 Thursday

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

2 Friday

7.30am Morning Prayer
8.00am Holy Communion
12.15pm Friday Lunchtime
at the Cathedral
5.30pm Evening Prayer

3 Saturday

Thomas Secker, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1893

8.30am Morning Prayer
9.00am Holy Communion
1.30pm Holy Matrimony
5.30pm Evensong [VC]

4 SUNDAY

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
and the Litany
8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sung Eucharist [VC]
12.45pm Holy Baptism
3.30pm Evensong [VC]

8 Thursday

Dominic, Priest, Founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221

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

9 Friday

Mary Sumner, Founder of the Mothers' Union, 1921

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

10 Saturday

Lawrence, Deacon at Rome, Martyr, 258

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

11 SUNDAY

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
and the Litany
8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Sung Eucharist [VC]
12.45pm Holy Baptism
3.30pm Evensong [VC]

20 Tuesday

Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, Teacher, 1153;
*William and Catherine Booth, Founders of the
 Salvation Army, 1912 and 1890*

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

21 Wednesday

*The Southwell Music Festival begins
 today: for details of all events, see
 www.southwellmusicfestival.com.*

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)
 4.00pm Organ Recital –
 Simon Hogan
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

22 Thursday

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.45am Holy Communion
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

23 Friday

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 12.15pm Friday Lunchtime
 at the Cathedral
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

24 Saturday

Bartholomew the Apostle

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.00am Holy Communion
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

25 SUNDAY

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
 and the Litany
 8.00am Holy Communion
 10.30am Festival Sung
 Eucharist [VC]
 3.30pm Festival Evensong [VC]
 10.00pm Compline [LC]

26 Monday

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.00am Holy Communion (SP)
 3.30pm Organ Recital –
 Paul Provost
 5.30pm Evensong [CC]

27 Tuesday

Monica, mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387

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

28 Wednesday

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher, 430

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

29 Thursday

The Beheading of John the Baptist

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.45am Holy Communion
 1.00pm Holy Matrimony
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

30 Friday

John Bunyan, Spiritual Writer, 1688;
George Ridding, first Bishop of Southwell, 1904

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

31 Saturday

Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.00am Holy Communion
 5.30pm Evensong [VC]

September

1 SUNDAY

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
 and the Litany
 8.00am Holy Communion
 10.30am Sung Eucharist [VC]
 12.45pm Holy Baptism
 3.30pm Evensong [VC]

2 Monday

*The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901
 and 1942*

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

3 Tuesday

Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher, 604

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

4 Wednesday

*Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester (Oxon), Apostle of
 Wessex, 650*

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

5 Thursday

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

6 Friday

*Allen Gardiner, Founder of the South American
 Mission Society, 1851*

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 12.15pm Friday Lunchtime
 at the Cathedral
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

7 Saturday

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.00am Holy Communion
 5.30pm First Evensong of the
 Birth of the BVM [CC]

8 SUNDAY

The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary;

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
 and the Litany
 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.30am Brickminster
 Family Eucharist
 11.15am Sung Eucharist [LC]
 3.30pm Festal Evensong with the
 Installation of the Canon
 Precentor [CC+MC]

9 Monday

Charles Fuge Lowder, Priest, 1880

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

10 Tuesday

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.30am Discovery Day begins
 5.30pm Evensong [BV]

11 Wednesday

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)
 12.15pm Short Service of Prayer –
 Warmsworth MU
 5.30pm Evening Prayer

12 Thursday

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

13 Friday

John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople,
 Teacher, 407

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 5.30pm First Evensong of
 Holy Cross Day [CC]

14 Saturday

Holy Cross Day; Murray Irvine, fourth Provost
 of Southwell, 2005

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

15 SUNDAY

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
 and the Litany
 8.00am Holy Communion
 10.30am Sung Eucharist with the
 Archbishop of York [CC]
 3.30pm Evensong [CC]
 7.30pm Music in the Great Hall

16 Monday

Ninian, Bishop of Galloway, Apostle of the
 Picts, c. 432; Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest,
 Tractarian, 1882

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

17 Tuesday

Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179

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

18 Wednesday

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 12.15pm Holy Communion (SP)
 5.30pm Evening Prayer
 7.30pm Organ Recital –
 Simon Hogan

19 Thursday

Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of
 Canterbury, 690

7.30am Morning Prayer
 8.00am Holy Communion
 9.45am Holy Communion
 10.00am Heritage Open Day begins
 12.30pm Silence & Meditation (SP)
 5.30pm Evensong *attended by the*
College of Canons [CC]

20 Friday

John Coleridge Patterson, first Bishop of
 Melanesia, and his Companions, Martyrs, 1871

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

21 Saturday

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.00am Holy Communion
 10.00am Heritage Open Day begins
 5.30pm Festal Evensong [CC]

22 SUNDAY

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

7.30am Morning Prayer
 and the Litany
 8.00am Holy Communion
 10.30am Sung Eucharist with a
 Farewell to the Canon
 Chancellor [CC]
 3.30pm Evensong [CC]
 4.45pm Westgate/Faith
 and Light Service

23 Monday

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.00am Holy Communion (SP)
 9.30am NTU Brackenhurst
 Matriculation
 5.30pm Evensong [GV]
 7.30pm Contemplative Prayer (SP)

24 Tuesday

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

25 Wednesday

Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester,
 Prebendary of Southwell, Spiritual Writer, 1626;
 Sergei of Radonezh, Russian Monastic Reformer,
 Teacher, 1392; Ember Day

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

26 Thursday

Wilson Carlile, Founder of the Church Army, 1942

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]

27 Friday

Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Congregation of
 the Mission (Lazarists), 1660; Ember Day

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

28 Saturday

Ember Day

8.30am Morning Prayer
 9.00am Holy Communion
 10.00am Open Day begins
 5.30pm First Evensong of Michael
 and All Angels [CC]

29 SUNDAY

Michael and All Angels;

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

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

30 Monday

Jerome, Translator of the Scriptures, Teacher of the Faith, 420

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

October

1 Tuesday

Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, Apostle of the Franks, 533; Anthony Askley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury. Social Reformer, 1885

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

2 Wednesday

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

3 Thursday

George Bell, Bishop of Chichester, Ecumenist, Peacemaker, 1958

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

4 Friday

Francis of Assisi, Founder of the Friar Minor, 1226

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

5 Saturday

- 8.30am Morning Prayer
- 9.00am Holy Communion First
- 5.30pm Evensong of Dedication Festival [CC]

6 SUNDAY

Dedication Festival;

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

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

Nottingham Rainbow Project

'I was a Stranger and you welcomed me' (Matthew 25; 35)

One of the groups that receives a grant from the Minster is the 'Rainbow Project' based at St Stephen's Church in Hyson Green.

Their mission is to befriend and support asylum seekers and refugees throughout their journey, and to be a safe place where those seeking refuge and protection are welcomed, valued, and find support to rebuild their lives with dignity.

They do this in many practical ways. Each week there is a drop-in service, offering support from our food bank, clothing bank (in partnership with *Sharewear*) practical and legal advice, and a monthly meal. There are also weekly English conversation tables, and regular workshops. Their annual report states: 'Refreshments are provided each week and food as often as we can!' There is also a monthly cooking class with men and women working together, and separate safe womens' groups.

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently recognized the value of this work when the Hubert Walter Award for Reconciliation and Interfaith Cooperation was awarded in Lambeth Palace to the Revd Graham Burton who founded the Rainbow Project seventeen years ago. He had worked for peace between Christians and Muslims in Pakistan for twelve years and in Nottingham for twenty-five years.

From this year the project will run itself, though still be based at St Stephen's. 'We look forward to continuing to benefit from the support and hospitality of the church, and in turn to support the church's work among refugees and asylum-seekers.'

They are looking for trustees to fill Treasurer and Income Generator roles.

Treasurer, key skills: financial governance and planning, financial

strategy, treasurer experience, accounting.

Income Generator, key skills: fundraising, bid writing, developing corporate relationships.

If you can support them in any of these areas or in sourcing a person who might be suitable please contact Adam at coordinator@nottinghamrainbowproject.org.uk, or www.nottinghamrainbowproject.org.uk.



English language lessons at the Rainbow Project.

A Tale of Two Churches

Recently, whilst walking in North Nottinghamshire (my route was Tuxford to West Markham via Milton and East Markham), I came upon a remarkable story of two churches a few hundred metres apart, which at different times were the parish Church of West Markham. As you begin to leave the hamlet of Milton you are faced with a short uphill climb before you see, on your left, looking forlorn yet elegant, the Newcastle Mausoleum. It was built by Henry Pelham, the 4th Duke of Newcastle, as a resting place for his wife Georgina who died at the age of thirty-four giving birth to twins. In all she bore fourteen children. It was her wish to be buried on the hill at the top end of the village of Milton, which she could see from her residence at Clumber, despite the presence of All Saints Church 800 metres away at the bottom of the hill in West Markham.



Newcastle Mausoleum-Milton

All Saints Church was in a state of disrepair and in 1824 it was decided to demolish the church and relocate it in a more elevated situation. Fortunately, the demolition didn't take place, although the church began to crumble away. Its replacement was the building which we now know as the mausoleum, designed by Robert Smirke, who also was responsible for the British Museum. The mausoleum, built in the Grecian Doric style, has a long nave, transepts, a tall octagonal domed tower and a chancel. It was consecrated in 1833 by The Archbishop of York and, until 1949, served as the new parish Church after the 8th Duke's estates were sold, and the rest of the family remains moved to Clumber. Considerable vandalism took place in the 1960s, and in 1971 the Mausoleum was declared redundant. However, a year later it was rescued by the Churches Conservation Trust which now cares for it. It is open to the public on Sundays from May until October.



Georgina's Memorial

During the time the mausoleum was functioning as the parish Church, all Saints in West Markham (also known as Markham Clinton) stood derelict and disused. However, it did not undergo any Victorian restoration, but in the 20th century has gradually been gracefully restored and exhibits a range of varied and, in places, unique features. Two lifelong residents informed me that until quite recently, there was no floor, and members of the congregation worshipped with bare earth under their feet! It boasts a wooden bell tower, an unusual Norman tub font, and part of the south door dates from the 12th Century. The nave is stone with a half-timbered west gable and south porch. The exposed herringbone stonework on the south wall is of Anglo-Saxon origin and there is also a stone effigy dating from 1100; the pulpit is Elizabethan and there is even a boss carving of a Green Man! The 4th Duke of Devonshire is buried in the churchyard just a few hundred yards from his beloved wife's memorial.

Both churches are well worth a visit. I found the Milton Mausoleum particularly moving as a demonstration of the 4th Duke's undying love of his wife – he never remarried. I applaud the efforts of the Churches Conservation Trust and the people of West Markham in preserving these two remarkable buildings both of which, at different times, served as the parish Church.



All Saints – West Markham

Tom Hislop

Jean Vanier, 1928 - 2019

7 May 2019 saw the death, aged 90, of Jean Vanier. Amongst many other achievements he founded L'Arche, a network of communities of people with learning difficulties. As L'Arche's own tributes read; "Jean Vanier, and those who came to share his vision, learnt two important truths in the early years, which remain at the heart of L'Arche today. People with learning disabilities have a

great deal to contribute to society and, by living in intentional community with people with and without learning disabilities - living with diversity and difference - we open ourselves up to be challenged and to grow." He wrote some thirty books and the picture is of the feast that celebrated his receiving the prestigious Templeton Prize in 2015. Of that occasion Bishop Nicolas Hudson wrote "The joy in the Church at the presence of so many people with disabilities reminded me why I love L'Arche. It's because it announces the Kingdom: it opens our hearts to realise that when we share our lives with those whom society judges unworthy and useless, we are profoundly enriched. More than that: we experience communion; and discover a happiness we simply won't find elsewhere."

Jean Vanier was the son of a high ranking Canadian diplomat whose work took the family between France, Canada and England during the period before, during and immediately after the second world war. As a teenager in Paris immediately after the war, he met survivors returning from the Nazi concentration camps; an experience that never left him.

He began a career in the Royal Navy. As a young naval officer of 18, he accompanied the royal family, including the young Princess Elizabeth, on their 1947 voyage to South Africa. In 1950 he resigned his commission. He subsequently said, "My adolescent years were taken up in the world of efficiency, controlling and commanding others. I was a technician of destruction."

Jean turned to philosophy, initially at the Catholic Institute in Paris where he obtained a PhD in Aristotelian ethics, and subsequently, for a short time teaching at the University of Toronto. This was followed by a brief period teaching philosophy at the University of Toronto, before he left to follow a more spiritual path. Seeking more he bought a small, rundown house without plumbing or electricity in the village of Trosly-Breuil, north of Paris, and invited two men with learning disabilities – Raphaël Simi and Philippe Seux – to share it with him. Both had been living in an asylum and were without family. This move was prompted by Vanier's visits to the long-stay hospitals that housed many people with learning disabilities at the time. "Huge concrete walls, 80 men living in dormitories and no work. I was struck by the screams and atmosphere of sadness", he recounted. So began a life which grew into one that has explored the nature of humanity and relationship in an unprecedented way. The experience of others' loneliness and isolation led Jean to understandings which will long outlive him. The success of the



home in Trosly-Breuil gave birth to L'Arche, which now has some 150 communities, in 38 countries supporting 3,500 people with learning disabilities. It has also spawned the Faith and Light network which is active here in Southwell.

Upon belonging, he wrote: "The longer we journey on the road to inner healing and wholeness, the more the sense of belonging grows and deepens. The sense is not just one of belonging to others and

to a community. It is a sense of belonging to the universe, to the earth, to the air, to the water, to everything that lives, to all humanity."

Upon suffering, he wrote: "When I began to welcome people from broken families and from psychiatric hospitals into L'Arche, I became aware of the intensity of the suffering and inner chaos engendered by an acute sense of isolation. One can smother the feeling by throwing oneself into activities and by seeking success, but if we can't do these things, we can become conscious of this inner suffering which is a fundamental element of human nature which we can try to forget or hide but it doesn't go away. Nothing in existence can completely satisfy the needs of the human heart."

Upon freedom: "In effect, the human heart is uneasy, thirsty for fulfilment and for the infinite. It cannot be satisfied with the limited, the finite. From its creation, humanity has sought to go further, higher, deeper, in pursuit of the hidden meaning of the universe. To travel this road alone would be a journey into dread and darkness, to travel it in the company of God and accompanied by others is a joy."

Jean Vanier's books include *Life's Great Questions*, *Becoming Human*, *Community and Growth*, *Befriending the Stranger* and *From Brokenness to Community*.

Hugh Middleton

From the Registers

Weddings

8 June Joshua Croft & Chelsea Edgington

Baptisms

16 June Hugo Corner

23 June Margot Yates

Funerals

4 June Amanda Cormack

St Paulinus and the Tale of the Sparrow

There are two images of St Paulinus in the Minster, both in the nave; one on the pulpit and the other in the Victorian window made by William O'Connor in the South West corner. In the latter representation he appears to be holding a model of the Minster but in fact he isn't; it's a kind of visual trick or *tromp d'oeil*.

He was born, probably, in the late 580s. Of course, he is reputed to have baptised people in Yorkshire and Northumbria as well as in the River Trent, but there is no firm evidence on this. However, we do know what he looked like. The Venerable Bede in his *Ecclesiastical History of the English people*, describes him as 'tall, with a slight stoop, black hair, a thin face, a slender aquiline nose, at once venerable and awe-inspiring in appearance.'

Italian by birth, Paulinus was one of several monks from Rome sent to England by Pope Gregory in 601 to help St Augustine convert the country to Christianity. For a considerable time, he worked with St Augustine in Kent, where Paulinus was Chaplain to Princess Ethelberta. Later, he travelled to Northumbria with the Princess to marry her to King Edwin. However, at Pope Gregory's behest, Paulinus' main mission was to create a new see in York to convert pagan Northumbria, which was ruled by Edwin, and had, by 625 become the most powerful of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, amounting to a quarter of the entire country in terms of size. The extent of his success in Northumbria is unknown but he was, however, instrumental in the conversion of Edwin to Christianity. Despite his marriage to Princess Ethelberta, who was a Christian, King Edwin was unable to be persuaded to convert to his wife's religion. Indeed, he vexed over the issue for some time. Even after the birth and baptism of a baby Princess, Edwin would still not be moved. However, after either Paulinus himself, or one of his advisors, at a gathering of Northumbrian thegns (Lords), used the analogy of the sparrow, in which he compared the sparrow's life to that of a heathen, the King finally renounced paganism. He was baptised in York on Easter Day 627.



The words attributed to Paulinus are as follows:

'This is how the present life of man on Earth, King, appears to me in comparison with that time which is unknown to us. You are sitting feasting with your ealdormen and thegns in winter time. The fire is burning on the hearth in the middle of the hall and all inside is warm, while outside the wintry storms of rain and snow are raging - and a sparrow flies swiftly through the hall. It enters in at one door and quickly flies out through the other. For the few moments it is inside, the storm and wintry tempest cannot touch it, but after the briefest moment of calm, it flits from your sight, out of the wintry storm and into it again. So, this life of man appears but for a moment. What follows or, indeed, what went before, we know not at all.'

Paulinus remained in York, subsequently becoming the first Archbishop there in recognition of his achievements in Northumbria. However, because of unrest in the North, he was forced to flee to Kent with the Queen after the King was slain in battle in Nottinghamshire in 633. Indeed, he was already in exile by the time the pallium (vestment) for his York Archbishopric arrived. In Kent after the Bishop of Rochester died, Paulinus took charge of the see until his death in 644. His annual festival Day is October 10.

His legacy is represented by the churches he had built around the country as well as the many shrines and churches that are dedicated to him (St Paulinus Church in nearby Ollerton for example). Finally, of course, he instigated the building of a wooden chapel that was later to become York Minster.

Tom Hislop



The Consolations of Age

Years ago I heard Canon Ernest Weil talking about life, saying, as I remember, that we begin with nothing, spend much of life gradually acquiring, and then we lose or discard much that we have acquired. Now I am old enough to agree with him about life, but I find that third stage both interesting and rewarding, despite its constraints. I find much to admire in the way most of my contemporaries deal with the chances and changes of life; generally they accept and deal gallantly with physical limitations, determined to do as much as possible.

Most of my generation welcome modern blessings. At a recent reunion I met ten of my former schoolfellows; mainly we talked. However all but one had recourse to their smart phones – taking and showing photos, and showing a Seamus Heaney quotation about boarding school life. I was the least technically competent.

My Northern Ireland sister-in-law skypes her English grandchildren regularly, and my New Zealand sister-in-law emails friends and family all over the world from her kitchen table.

In some ways we share the attitudes of the very young; our pleasures such as good food, good company and invigorating physical or mental activity are not to be taken for granted but to be intensely enjoyed.

‘Tomorrow we shall not have today’ - words inscribed on an ancient ring found in Southwell - could be the senior citizen’s motto. For the old and the very young a day is a long time; we don’t assume endless life, and it is the present which is there to be enjoyed. If you go slowly, things and people can be more closely observed and appreciated; the weather is more relevant, a flower or an insect more marvellous. When I am in a café full of mature people I see them talking and listening to each other, relishing the face-to-face encounter; on ‘elderly’ outings there is a willingness to be pleased and a determination to do and to see, usually with no shortage of help.

My own experience when travelling has been that tall young women toss my suitcase into plane luggage racks and pleasant young men make sure that I can manage on trains. Bus travel may be bumpy, but I am full of gratitude for the Bus Pass which enables older people to travel freely to shop and to socialise, and some bus drivers are very solicitous.



Cheerful older people

Of course, most of us would vastly prefer to be the helper, rather than the helped. However small children grudgingly accept assistance, so why shouldn’t we older people be equally pragmatic and perhaps a little more gracious. Some speak of being resigned to the limitations of age. I prefer the word ‘acceptance’ to ‘resignation’; still better, acceptance with grace. The interaction seen between D-Day veterans and their youthful escorts demonstrated this.

I must qualify this rose-coloured picture of old age before I am accused of losing touch with reality, and acknowledge that I am currently blessed with good health, good friends and a loving family: not the lot of all my contemporaries. More importantly I live in a town where much is available for my age group with societies for all sorts of interests and a variety of local churches all offering practical as well as spiritual help, with, at its very heart, Southwell Minster.



Senior volunteer at Time Travelling

The Minster is the source of so much nourishment – and I don’t refer only to parish lunches and other refreshments, welcome though they are. Beyond the beautiful building, the concerts and the exhibitions, it is the regular pattern of worship that is the heart of the Minster and the regular worshippers and clergy who provide loving support. I could wish that the Minster were physically more easily accessible to all, but I cherish the specialness of Communion celebrated in early morning sunlight, and the tranquil beauty of Evensong as well as the fellowship of the 9.30 Parish service.

I spoke of ‘loving support’. A few years ago I had the privilege – I use the word advisedly – of sitting with two housebound members of the Southwell Minster congregation. The first was physically disabled, the second was enduring the gradual fading of a fine mind. I probably thought I was doing them a kindness, but I gained more than I gave. I didn’t actually do anything. I simply sat with the person for an hour or so, talking and listening. We talked about anything and everything – our childhoods, our families, the weather, the new curtains – we were with each other, we were companions. We could take much for granted, our faith, our pleasure in small joys, our mutual respect and affection. I know it was an almost sacred time and space; things were said and left unsaid, we were together at different stages of the same journey. Between us there was acceptance and grace and trust. I always left refreshed, feeling more certainly than Philip Larkin that, “What will survive of us is love.”

Helen Roberts

Notes from Chapter

The Chapter meeting held on 11th July was once again extremely busy and the main areas covered included:-



- An update on the organisation Chart of the Cathedral that had been previously issued to Chapter in March. Chapter was delighted to hear that Andrea Pritchard joined the staff full time from 17th July.
- The Role of a Chapter Member and a paper was presented.
- A paper was presented on Chapter Owned Housing Policy, which clearly states responsibilities of both the Tenant and Chapter. This clarity was welcomed.
- The latest management accounts were presented and Chapter noted the key variances from budget. Discussions took place on how any shortfalls might be addressed. There is considerable work going on by both the executive and business advisory group from Chapter on this. Andrea's full time appointment will greatly assist in this.
- A paper concerning the Music Department from The Rector Chori was tabled. It discussed where the department is now and where it may be in some years time. This was an excellent paper albeit work in progress. There will undoubtedly be details of this presented to the Cathedral Family in the future.
- Reports were received from The Justice Action Group, Health and Safety Committee and Shop Board
- Chapter were delighted to confirm the successful outcome of the Cathedrals Application to HLF for Leaves Project and recorded their thanks to all who worked so very hard to put the Bid together. Particular thanks of course went to Canon Nigel.
- The next Chapter Meeting will take place on September 12th, there being no meeting in August. Should anyone have any Parish matters that they would like brought up at this meeting, please contact Jan Richardson or Andrew Corner.

Andrew Corner

What to do if you spot an old vicar or spouse in your congregation?

Spotting Old Vicars

Don't blow their cover.

Retirement and relocation can be traumatic events. After a lifetime in harness she/he might want time and space to take a back seat.

Do they want to be known?

Ask them if they would like to be put in touch with the local retired network. It doesn't happen automatically these days. Data protection has seen to that.

If they do?

Let one of your clergy know. She/he will be able to inform the Rural Dean who will know the right person to contact.

What happens next?

If they live in the Newark area they will be contacted by one of the two voluntary chaplains. At present we hold a coffee morning twice a year. In Southwell there is also a group who meet bi-monthly to discuss a theological paper. In addition, each year there are two events in the Diocese to which all retired clergy and their spouses are invited. One of these is usually held in the Minster. Our aim is that everyone will become known, prayed for and valued rather than ignored and forgotten.

Follow these simple guidelines to help re-tyre your retireds. They deserve it!



*Martin Baldock,
Voluntary Chaplain to retired Clergy in Newark and Sherwood Deanery.*

The Wonderful World of Heritage Education

April Todd has been on placement with the Education Department since April 2019. Here she reflects on her feelings about the Minster.

Why be involved in education in the heritage community? Are you not better off becoming a teacher in a school? These are the questions I hear when I express the desire to have a dedicated career in the education department of the heritage sector. Many times, when you think about your future career it can be quite daunting, especially when you are young. Choosing your career, one that you may have for the rest of your life, doesn't come naturally to all of us. However, it helps when you have a passion for something – a topic that speaks to you and touches your heart. This was the thinking behind my search; and now I can say what I want to do with my career, which is to be a valuable part of an education team in the heritage sector.

The path I now want to take has been highly influenced by my memories of Southwell Minster. Why, you may ask? Well, the Minster has been a key influence in my life. This has come mainly from attending Time Travelling and the St George's Day parade as a young girl. I always remember seeing the Minster and being totally in awe of the height and beauty of the building. My favourite features of the Minster will always be the iconic pepper-pots that you see on the way into Southwell, just as you are coming over the hill past Nottingham Trent University's Brackenhurst campus. As I got older, I became more and more enthralled with the Minster. I visited numerous times, not only as a student but also in the important role of volunteering. Once, it was as a primary school support staff member whilst on placement in Year 10. I remember leading the children into the Minster and seeing their faces light up in amazement, totally taken aback by their surroundings, just like I was the first time I walked through the amazing double doors as a Time Traveller.

During my studies in secondary school, I began to research what I could do as a career. I remember changing my plans on numerous occasions, telling the careers advisor 'I'm not sure...' or 'I've changed my mind'. I didn't think I would ever decide, until I visited Southwell Minster again on a placement with a school for the Year 6 Leavers' event. I began to listen and think about all the Year 6 students taking the next big step in their lives, and it made me realise my big step in my life could be right in front of my eyes and I never even realised it. That day, I saw all the children's smiles and the enjoyment they had on their faces, and, from that point, I knew that I was so enthralled by the possibilities of education that I wanted to be involved in it. In university, I took a step toward my goal by taking an undergraduate joint honours degree in Education and History.

As well as education, history has always been a topic that has attracted me, venturing into the past and understanding how it



has shaped us today. We can delve into heritage and get a glimpse of what life was like for people at different points in history. The Minster does this amazingly. As we walk through its doors, it allows us a glimpse of the past and gives us the opportunity to learn more about people's surroundings in those times.

I am now on the journey to a Master's degree in Museum and Heritage Studies. The most amazing part of this course is the opportunity to work with Diana and Matt in the Minster Education Department. This has allowed me to do exactly what I want to do, which is to delve into the world of education, engaging learners in a whole new experience outside the classroom, and introducing them to a new learning environment, which Diana and Matt do so well at the Minster.

It brings me so much joy to be a part of an incredible team at the Minster, which has given me many different opportunities. A visit to Southwell Minster is, in all honesty, much more than just a one-day event! For me, it's a full day of action-packed learning, whether it be hands on with the students, or a day of creating and planning. I would highly recommend any student in Nottingham, or further afield, to seriously consider volunteering here, as you will get an amazing, high quality experience and you never know if it might open a door to you, as it has done for me.

*April Todd
Education Student Intern 2019*

***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>

Did you know ... about the Early English Quire

Did you know that it took 15 months to remove whitewash from the internal Quire walls?

The Quire was the first part of the Minster to be built, but by the early 1200s the Norman Quire was getting too small for the growing number of canons, vicars choral, choristers and others. Archbishop Walter de Gray, Archbishop of York from 1216 to 1256, prompted the rebuilding. In 1233 he issued Letters of Indulgence for those who contributed to the work 'lately begun'. The building which had been begun had been laid out in the shape of a cross, with two small transepts, and it was being built in a style which we call Early English Gothic. The piers have changed from the huge cylindrical drum shape in cross-section to much more slender columns, each composed of a cluster of eight shafts which have undercut bell capitals at their heads. The arcading is completed by large pointed arches.

Above the arcading the triforium and clerestory are combined, York-style, behind a row of tall lancet arches, possibly filled with waxen-linen. There is a verticality in its form, 'stretching up to God'. The east end and the ends of the aisles are square. The whole of the Quire, its aisles and its transepts are elaborately vaulted, and an extra rib, an English innovation, runs the length of the Quire and each of its side aisles. It is normal for the East end lancet windows to have an odd number; Southwell is very unusual in having four.

The building of the new Quire was begun at the east end, and the sanctuary and both transepts were completed before the Norman building was removed so that there would be no interruption to services. As the older building was subsequently dismantled, work was done from west to east and stone was reused. At the west end of the Quire it is possible to see where the Norman and Early English were worked together. Four bays into the Quire, where this section of the building met the already completed part, some adjustments had to be made; there is a break in the string course on the north side and on the south side by a gap between the top of the arch below and the string course.

The new Quire would have been completed by around 1250. The Eastern wall had been weakened by 8 windows, and more at the sides of the Sanctuary, so flying buttresses were added in the 15th century and a strengthening bar added in the 19th century. Mason's marks show that at least 50 masons were employed.

Another feature of Early English Gothic is the increased amount of decoration used. Dog-tooth decoration is present on all arches on the North side and nailhead carving on capitals on the North but not the South side, suggesting different masons were at work.

Almost every corbel is covered with stiff leaf carving (artificial, not naturalistic as in the Chapter House) and/or with a carved head. On the north side of the Quire is King Henry III, who gave the oak for the roof from Sherwood Forest, and to his left Walter de Gray. On the south side there is a green man. High above the east window is the one carved head of Christ in the Minster. The roof bosses are also elaborately carved with stiff leaf carving. At one time the whole of the Quire would have been coloured and there are still faint traces of colour in St Oswald's chapel. In the 17th century it was whitewashed all over. It is recorded that in 1870, as part of Church Architect Ewan Christian's restoration, it took 15 months to remove all the whitewash from the Quire internal walls!

On the dripstones at the side of the blind doorway in the South Quire aisle are the heads of King Henry IV and his Queen, Joanna of Navarre. This doorway must have been inserted into the Early English wall after the Archbishop of York's Palace was built, to give swifter access from palace to Quire. The Iron gates into the Quire, given by Mrs Player in 1934, replaced solid wooden doors. The Quire was spared in the fire of 1711 that destroyed the roofs of nave, transepts and central tower. Richard Ingleman, 'a retired stone-mason of 47 yrs', spotted the seat of a fresh fire in the Quire roof and, putting up long ladders, doused that fire with a pail of water, using his hat as a ladle. So what you now see is original.

James Pinder, on behalf of Southwell Minster Guild of Stewards

Glossary

Triforium: a gallery or arcade above the arches of the nave, choir, and transepts of a church.

Clerestory: the upper part of the nave, choir, and transepts of a large church, containing a series of windows.

Corbel: a projection jutting out from a wall to support a structure above it.



News and views from Sacrista Prebend

A Quiet Space in the Heart of Southwell

It's free! The next Quiet Day at Sacrista Prebend we are offering free to those who come. It is aimed at those who have not been on a Quiet Day before. Let people know and better still, even if you have been on quiet days before, come to this one and bring someone along with you.

We are now in the green period, ordinary time. Which doesn't mean boring: it means ordered. It means looking afresh at all that is around us and within us. That is what Jesus is doing all the time in his earthly ministry; and, I believe, what Jesus is doing now as he prays and intercedes for us. Penny Young and Jim Wellington are leading two other Quiet Days which will help us in this 'prayerful looking'.

And do join us for communion at Sacrista, followed by a simple fellowship meal (Mondays 9am, Wednesdays 12.15pm); or drop into Sacrista and the Spirituality Library and Gardens anytime- a phone call first is appreciated as there may be groups in the House.

Here is a little more detail about those Quiet Days- but book in quickly please...

Saturday 7th September

Sally Smith

I've never been on a Quiet Day

Quiet days give time and space for us to spend with God. They are not for the especially holy, but for ordinary people whose lives often leave little space for God- so find out what happens on these strange events called 'Quiet Days'.

Sally Smith is an experienced quiet day leader who particularly enjoys introducing people to new ways of praying. She is a member of the Diocesan Prayer and Spirituality Group and a Spiritual Director within the diocese.

Saturday 21st September

Penny Young

Joy in Creation

'I nothing in the world did know
But 'twas divine.' (Thomas Traherne)

Traherne was a 17th century poet, priest and spiritual writer who in his writing communicated his love and worship of the Creator through the beauty of the natural world. On this day we will be looking at his poetry, as well as some poems of other writers – e.g. Gerard Manley Hopkins and the American poet Mary Oliver – who had a strong affinity with the natural world and a sense of its numinousness.

Penny Young is a former Extension Studies tutor at St. John's College, Nottingham, and is a member of the Association of Christian Writers.



Saturday 12th October

The Revd Canon Dr. Jim Wellington

The Jesus Prayer

For centuries the Jesus Prayer has been leading Orthodox Christians beyond the language of liturgy and the representations of iconography into the wordless, imageless stillness of the mystery of God. In more recent years it has been helping an increasing number of Western Christians to find a deeper relationship with God through the continual rhythmic repetition of a short prayer which, by general agreement, first emerged from the desert spirituality of early monasticism. On this quiet day, Jim Wellington explores what the Jesus prayer is, how we pray it and how it can assist us in our life with God.

The Revd. Canon Dr. Jim Wellington is a retired priest in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. He has written two books. The first, *Christe Eleison! The Invocation of Christ in Eastern Monastic Psalmody c. 350-450*, is based on his doctoral thesis. The second, *Praying the Psalms with Jesus*, is a devotional book published by Grove.

(This is a repeat of the day on the Jesus Prayer that Jim led some time ago, and has been much requested!)

With every blessing

Tony Evans, Warden

Ps... We are in urgent need of volunteers, both in the gardens and to provide hospitality. Please contact us at Sacrista if you can help.

Listening to The Leaves



On 19 June Southwell Minster's Community Forum considered what had arisen during the 2018/19 series of house groups. In various ways, under the heading *Listening to The Leaves*, groups had considered what could be learned from paying closer attention to our renowned stone carvings and what might have been in the minds of the medieval craftsmen who created them. At an earlier forum Canon Nigel had suggested that one, if not *the* greatest spiritual difficulty of our time, is a disconnect from the natural world. On 2 March the Minster Community was able to bring worship, theology and local concerns about environmental degradation together under one roof, and of course Canon Nigel has been leading a bid for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to improve care of the Chapter House carvings, and their accessibility and interpretation. News about this wasn't public on 19 June but it has since been announced that the bid was successful. More about the implications of that elsewhere.

On 19 June participants were encouraged to consider how we as a community, and as individuals, might respond to the need for greater respect for Creation. As a community, one practical step would be to register with Eco Church, with an aspiration to become an Eco Cathedral. Eco Church is A Rocha UK's award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God's earth. A Rocha is an international movement working for the protection and restoration of the natural world, both as a response to the biblical mandate to care for the earth, and as a demonstration of Christian hope for God's world. In the UK it is a registered Christian charity under the name of A Rocha UK, which shares five core values with other national A Rocha organisations. They are, as five "C"s:

Christian

Underlying everything is faith in the living God, who made the world, loves it and entrusts it to the care of human society.

Conservation

Primary activities are conservation and restoration of the natural world, and environmental education for people of all ages.

Community

Their commitment to God, each other and the wider creation obliges communal approaches to conservation and environmental care.

Cross-cultural

A Rocha's activities draw on insights and skills of people from diverse cultures, backgrounds and interests.

Cooperation

Accordingly, they work in wide partnership with organisations and individuals who share concerns for a sustainable world.

Eco Church

A Rocha are clear that caring for God's earth is a necessary part of Christian discipleship. Eco Church is a web-based award scheme designed to encourage churches to express this publicly. It is run by A Rocha UK in partnership with Christian Aid, the Church of England, the Methodist Church, and Tearfund. The vision is a vast network of churches acting as local centres of creation care in the community – shining beacons of hope for a brighter environmental future.

How does it work?

At the heart of Eco Church is an online survey that enables churches to record what they are already doing to care for God's earth, and to reflect on what further steps they can take. It covers all areas of church life: *Worship and Teaching; Management of Church Buildings and Land; Community and Global Engagement; and Lifestyle*. It challenges churches to act in relation to the songs they sing, the food they serve, the energy they use, the ethics of their investments, the wildlife that finds a home on their land, of the water that flushes their loos, and more besides. Success across these various domains results in an Eco Church Award; Bronze, Silver or Gold. Churches move progressively toward these as they attain the required standards.

Southwell Minster has registered interest in engaging with this process. There are many different ways in which our love of the natural world, our sense of wonder at it, and how we might cherish it could reveal themselves. It is unlikely that Southwell Minster will ever be double glazed or efficiently insulated, but it invests, it owns land and other properties and for the county it plays a leading and important part in Christian witness and education. In parallel with the Chapter House project, and in partnership with the many local groups who enjoyed the opportunity to meet under the Minster's roof in March, there is much we can do to advertise our love and respect for God's creation. Andy Lester of A Rocha will be our guest at Harvest Time, preaching on 13 October. Concern for the harm mankind's activities have caused the otherwise natural world is becoming a more and more loudly sung chorus. Responses to the 2018/19 house group series resonate with this and confirm that Southwell Minster is keen to play its own special part.

Hugh Middleton



Choir Festival and Farewells

The Southwell Minster Choir Association (SMCA) was the focus of a week-end of singing at the Minster in July. SMCA was celebrating the 30th anniversary of its founding by Paul Hale when he was director of the cathedral choir. At the same week-end, the Old Choristers Association was re-launched with a Friday lunchtime concert performed by young people who left the choir in the last ten years. Kodi Robinson, Ethan Wood, Katie Hodgkinson, Stan Mitchinson, Toby Hyde-Barker, David Edmondson-Jones and Tom Rayner delighted the audience with solo singing and playing the organ and violin.

There was a celebratory concert in the evening. Before it, the current *Rector Chori* Paul Provost (pictured right) and his predecessor Paul Hale (left) were interviewed in the State Chamber about their work by the Ven Robin Turner, chairman of SMCA. At the concert the sixty-five singers on stage sang items in various combinations of the lay clerks (choir men), boy and girl choristers, and the Minster Chorale, interspersed with solos from gifted pupils of the Minster School and Paul Hale on the organ. On Saturday the choir's best-known alumnus, Marcus Farnsworth, led a master-class, and former choristers joined the cathedral choir in singing Evensong.

Sunday July 21st featured a Jazz Mass led by the girl choristers and a combo of Anthony Gray (organ scholar) and his Cambridge friends at 9.30, and Langlais' massive *Messe Solonnelle* at the 11.15 service. At Evensong we said goodbye to two boy choristers, to four girls who are leaving the Minster School, and to Simon Hogan the assistant director of music and to Anthony Gray (featured elsewhere in this edition).



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 2015.

A new approach

Don't we often look at the many events of our lives as big or small interruptions, interrupting many of our plans, projects and life schemes? ...And doesn't this build in our hearts feelings of anger and frustration? But what if our interruptions are in fact our opportunities, challenges to an inner response by which growth takes place, and through which we can come to the fullness of being? What if we see our interruptions as events that can mould us, as a sculptor moulds his clay?

Henri Nouwen, *'Reaching Out'*, Fount 1980, p.52.

A challenge

'See, I am making all things new,' says God in Revelation 21:5. Perhaps that process begins with us. An inner transformation means ...that our attitudes can expand; our judgements on other flawed humans can be less harsh; we can learn to soften or strengthen our words. We can imagine ourselves acting in ways that are more sensitive to others' needs, pause to think before we speak, find kinder ways to phrase hard truths, leap more generously to service where we might otherwise hesitate.

Kathy Coffey, *'God in the Moment'*, Orbis 2005, pp. 145-6.



Refreshing Friendships

In early July a group of some fourteen visitors from Galilee stayed with parishioners of All Saints, Ordsall, near Retford. Fr. Fuad Dagher who led the group is well known to many of the Minster Community, and a similar number of the Jerusalem Link Group caught up with old, and made new friends over food and drink on 9 July. Pictured together are Fr. Fuad, Alison Middleton, Lian Ashkar, Hugh Middleton and Hannah Dagher. Hugh and Alison stayed with Lian's family in Shfar'Am when they visited Israel/Palestine in 2009. In 2009 Lian was very much a little school girl. She is now hoping to find place at university, perhaps as a medical student. It was great to meet her again.



Ten years ago Hugh Middleton tested the bell at St Paul's Shefa'Amr in Galilee, the home church of Father Fuad Dagher.



GINGERNUT

Photography

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Weddings
Portraits
Events

“Die-in” in the Churchyard

Eighty Extinction Rebellion campaigners took part in a demonstration in Southwell on 20th July. This ended in eleven minutes of silence in the Minster churchyard, to symbolize the fact that 2030 is the deadline by which governments must have taken decisive action to prevent catastrophic global warming. The climate justice participants lay “dead” by the church path. The Dean welcomed the group and spoke about useful partnerships between the Minster and local groups working for the planet’s future. See the article on the Church and Climate Justice on page seven.



Summer fun at Southwell Minster

brickminster

Windows Trail

Find Lego® models hiding in the Cathedral which tell the stories found in our stained glass.

NB there may be occasions when the trail is unavailable, especially during the music festival over August bank holiday; please check website for details

15 July - 8 September 50p suggested donation



events

Messy Minster: 3 July 3.30-5.30pm, Trebeck Hall, BrickMinster themed. All families welcome, crafts, informal worship and food.

BrickMinster Trail Launch: 14 July 5pm, Family Service in the Minster. Led by local children, bring your Lego® creations.

BrickMinster Celebration: 8th Sept 9.30am Service in Southwell Minster with children’s activities, all welcome. Bring your Lego® creations.

All welcome, no booking needed



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SOUTHWELL MINSTER CATHEDRAL SHOP



M U S I C G I F T S

