# SOUTHWARK + CATHEDRAL +

# **EUCHARIST**

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY 18 MAY 2025
9.00AM



## WELCOME TO SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

## A MEMBER OF THE



#### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Please ensure that all electronic devices are switched to silent.

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography and video recording of the Choir is not permitted.

You are welcome to take photographs of the Cathedral but please do not take any photographs or videos during the service.

## **HEARING LOOP**

Please switch your device to 'T'.

#### **POSTURE**

The instructions in this booklet are not prescriptive. Please sit if that is more appropriate for you.

#### **COLLECTIONS & DONATIONS**

During the service, a collection will be taken for the maintenance, mission and worship of the Cathedral.

**Cash donations** may be placed in the baskets brought around by the stewards.

If you are a UK taxpayer we would be grateful if, before the service begins, you would complete the yellow envelope provided, since this enables us to claim a further 25% from the Inland Revenue.

**Contactless donations** can be made by tapping the terminal provided by the stewards. This is set at £10 but the stewards would be happy to alter this amount for you.



Alternatively, either before or after the service, there are several donation points in the Cathedral where you can make your donation, or you can simply scan the QR code, or text SOUTHWARK (Amount) to 70085 (one standard rate message is also charged). Thank you very much for your generous support of the Cathedral.

You can also support the Cathedral by buying your books from the ethical online bookseller <u>bookshop.org</u> and designating Southwark Cathedral shop for the 30% of purchase price donation they offer us.

Please stand as the President, Canon Wendy Robins, Chancellor, enters.

# THE GATHERING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

The President welcomes the congregation and introduces the celebration.

# THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

In baptism we died with Christ, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, we might walk in newness of life. Let us receive new life in him as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

# Silence is kept.

Like Mary at the empty tomb, we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence. Lord, have mercy.

# All Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors, we are afraid to be seen as your followers. Christ, have mercy.

## All Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room, we are slow to believe. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

# THE ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from all your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

#### All Amen.

# **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

ΑII Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father. Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us: you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One. you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

# THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

# Silence is kept.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## All Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

# THE FIRST READING

#### Acts 11.1-18

## Read by the Duty Verger

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw fourfooted animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

This is the word of the Lord.

#### All Thanks be to God.

# THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM

#### Psalm 148.7-14

# The response is:

## The Lord's name be praised.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; Fire and hail, snow and mist, tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word; **R** 

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and birds on the wing; **R** 

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; Young men and women, old and young together; let them praise the name of the Lord. **R** 

For his name only is exalted, his splendour above earth and heaven. He has raised up the horn of his people and praise for all his faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. **R** 

## THE SECOND READING

#### Revelation 21.1-6

# Read by Matthew Peck

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more:

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

This is the word of the Lord.

## All Thanks be to God.

# THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

"I give you a new commandment,

love one another as I have loved you".

All Alleluia!

## THE GOSPEL

John 13.31-35

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

# THE SERMON

**Canon Wendy Robins, Chancellor** 

## THE CREED

Please stand.

All We believe in one God.

the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth.

of all that is.

seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord. Jesus Christ.

the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate:

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures:

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son

is worshipped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead.

and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

# THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ let us pray to the Father.

Please be seated or kneel.

The prayers are led by Mark Harrington

These responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end:

Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand.

# THE PEACE

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you. Alleluia.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Bread and wine are presented at the Altar. A collection is taken (cash or contactless as detailed on page 2). Please use this QR code or the link to donate online.





# THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

All Amen.

# THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in us the image of your glory. He has placed us once more in paradise and opened to us the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

# All Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.

You are the Saviour of the world.

Lord of all life,

help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessèd Virgin Mary and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray.

Please pray in whichever language you feel most comfortable.

All Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread,

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Amen.

Baba wa...

Notre Père...

天におられる私たちの父よ...

Nna anyi... Fader vår... Pai nosso...

हे हमारे स्वर्गबासी पिता... Padre nuestro...

我們在天上的父...

Отче наш...

하늘에 계신 우리 아버지...

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

## **AGNUS DEI**

## All Lamb of God

you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

# THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

# All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Please be seated. If you wish to receive Holy Communion or a blessing, please follow the directions of the Stewards. Please do not dip the host into the chalice. If you would like to receive a blessing, please bow your head.

Members of all Christian churches are welcome to receive Communion. Whatever your faith tradition or background, you are most welcome to draw near for a blessing.

# THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand.

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Living God,

your Son made himself known to his disciples

in the breaking of bread:

open the eyes of our faith,

that we may see him in all his redeeming work;

who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

All Amen.

All Almighty God,

we thank you for feeding us

with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him we offer you our souls and bodies

to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out

in the power of your Spirit

to live and work

to your praise and glory,

Amen.

# THE NOTICES

Please be seated.

## THE BLESSING & DISMISSAL

## Please stand.

The Lord be with you

# All and also with you.

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

## All Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia.

## All Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Please leave the Cathedral by the North West doors and the Millennium Courtyard. Please consider supporting us by giving using the contactless donation points if you have not set up a regular payment. Thank you for joining us. We look forward to welcoming you back.

# **NOTICES**

# **WORSHIP**

Services marked with an \* are livestreamed on the Cathedral's YouTube page: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/@southwarkcathedral2224/streams">https://www.youtube.com/@southwarkcathedral2224/streams</a>

Services marked with a <sup>†</sup> are only available online.

Preachers are indicated in italics.

## SUNDAY 18 MAY • THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8.30am	Morning Prayer*
9.00am	Eucharist Canon Wendy Robins, Chancellor
9.30am	Eucharist at St Hugh's Canon Jeremy Clark-King, Treasurer
11.00am	Choral Eucharist* Canon Wendy Robins, Chancellor
3.00pm	Choral Evensong Canon Roxanne Eversley, Librarian
6.00pm	Compline <sup>†</sup>

# MONDAY 19 — FRIDAY 23 MAY

HONDALI / - INDALI 23 MAI		
9.00am	Morning Prayer*	
9.30am	Eucharist (Tuesday only)	
12.30pm	Midday Prayer	
-	with The Litany of Reconciliation (Friday only)	
12 45nm	Fucharist	

12.45pm Eucharist

5.30pm Evening Prayer or Choral Evensong

## **SATURDAY 24 MAY**

9.00am	Morning Prayer*
9.30am	Eucharist
4.00pm	Choral Evensong

## **SUNDAY 25 MAY • THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

8.30am	Morning Prayer*		
9.00am	Eucharist The Bishop of Kingston, The Rt Rev'd Martin Gainsborough		
9.30am	Activity Service at St Hugh's		
11.00am	Choral Eucharist*		
	The Bishop of Kingston, The Rt Rev'd Martin Gainsborough		
3.00pm	Choral Evensong Canon Kathryn Fleming, Precentor		
6.00pm	Compline & Benediction*		

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Children and young people are an important part of our Cathedral family and play a vital role in our life together. We would love to encourage your children to join one of our Sunday groups for young people.

## **CRÈCHE**

During the 11.00am Sunday Eucharist, crèche facilities are available in the Chapter Room for accompanied children under 4.

#### JUNIOR XPRESS

Junior Xpress is for children in Reception to Year 5 gathers each week in the Cathedral and after a prayer and blessing will go for worship and activities before rejoining the rest of the congregation for the Lord's Prayer and Holy Communion. Children are warmly invited to join Junior Xpress, especially if this is their first time. More details can be obtained from the Sub Dean michael.rawson@southwark.anglican.org

## **YOUTH XPRESS**

Young people in Years 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 are invited to join Youth Xpress for discussion and debate around Christian themes. Breakfast is provided. We meet one Sunday every month at 10.45am in the Cathedral Library. **The next session is on Sunday 18 May.** 

# **CATHEDRAL LISTENING TEAM**

Would you like to talk to someone confidentially? Is something/one on your heart? The Cathedral Listening team are volunteers, who sit in the Retrochoir behind the High Altar after the Choral Eucharist on a Sunday, ready to listen to anyone who would like to talk in confidence. They are available from after the service until 1.00pm. If you would like to talk to a Cathedral Listener, please approach them directly or sit nearby if they are already occupied.

## GIVING TO THE CATHEDRAL

Everyone should have received an email about joining the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) as a new way of giving to the Cathedral on a regular basis. We are encouraging everyone to move to this improved system. If you need any help signing up online or if you would prefer to have a paper copy of the application form please speak with our wardens, Linda and Daniel or contact Canon Michael Rawson.

You can sign up at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/bdzdpuhp">https://tinyurl.com/bdzdpuhp</a>. You will need your personal bank account details; the name of our parish: **Southwark Cathedral**; the PGS code for our parish: **370637001**; and whether you are eligible for Gift Aid.

## A SAFE CHURCH

Canon Kathryn Fleming, Precentor, is Chapter Lead for Safeguarding. Any issues relating to the safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults should be directed to the Cathedral Safeguarding Officers in the first instance:

Cherry James <a href="mailto:cherry.james@southwark.anglican.org">cherry.james@southwark.anglican.org</a>
Helen Quintrell <a href="mailto:hmqmc3@gmail.com">hmqmc3@gmail.com</a>
Jill Tilley <a href="mailto:jill.tilley@southwark.anglican.org">jill.tilley@southwark.anglican.org</a>

Concerns can be brought to any member of the clergy.

## SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL PODCAST

Hosted by members of the Southwark Cathedral team, each episode delves into an area of our mission and opens up a side of our work beyond the pulpit.

Listen to our latest episode here: https://southwarkcathedralpodcast.podbean.com/

## ARE YOU NEW TO THE CATHEDRAL?

We would love to get to know you, so please complete a Newcomer form, available from the stewards or contact the Sub Dean michael.rawson@southwark.anglican.org

# SILENT PRAYER GROUP

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month there is an opportunity to join others in silent, contemplative prayer. It is an opportunity to be attentive to the peace and reconciling presence of God's love. The group meets in the Library at 9.45am for a 9.55am start. All are welcome to attend.

# WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY AT ST HUGH'S

#### THURSDAYS, 7,30PM

The Thursday Bible Study at St Hugh's, Bermondsey SE1 3PT is inclusive, friendly and perfect for beginners or growing your confidence. Contact Bukky Omisakim for more information: <a href="https://sthughsbermondsey.org.uk/bible-study/">https://sthughsbermondsey.org.uk/bible-study/</a>

# ORGAN RECITALS

## **MONDAYS, 1,20PM**

12 May Richard Moore (Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford)

19 May Steven Grahl (Trinity College, Cambridge)

26 May Jake Scicinski (London)

## **PRIDE IN LONDON 2025**

Pride in London will take place on 5 July this year – save the date as the Cathedral is marching in the parade! Please contact <u>michael.rawson@southwark.anglican.org</u> if you would like to be part of the Cathedral group. Wristbands for entry are available for £10 each. First come, first served!

# SOUTHWARK JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE

Our sisters and brothers at St George's Cathedral Southwark have warmly invited us to join their Jubilee Pilgrimage, starting on Monday 2 June with a Pilgrim Mass at 10am at St George's Cathedral. Canon Michael Rawson will preach at the Mass. From there pilgrims will walk to Southwark Cathedral for refreshments and a pilgrim blessing before walking to Greenwich. Pilgrims can simply walk the first stage or first day or the complete pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory, ending on day five. It would be lovely to have a good number from our community at the Pilgrimage Mass and first stage.

You will need to express your interest by logging on to: https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/pilgrimage2025

# **CHRISTIAN AID DONATIONS 2025**

Donate to Christian Aid Week 2025 at <a href="https://give.christianaid.org.uk/donate/CAM-009429">https://give.christianaid.org.uk/donate/CAM-009429</a>

Your gift will help farming communities tackle the climate crisis and escape hunger.

# LECTIO DIVINA WITH ROUEN CATHEDRAL

Every four months members of Southwark and Rouen Cathedrals connect via a video call for an hour of Lectio Divina. This is a meditative and prayerful reading of the Sunday gospel and a reflection on what God might be saying to us through the scriptures. The next meeting is on Wednesday 21 May from 6.00-7.00pm. Please speak with Frances Hiller or the Sub Dean if you would like to know more or join us.

# **CATHEDRAL WARDENS**

Congratulations to Linda Hutchinson and Kristin Ruby who were elected as Cathedral Wardens for the coming year at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting last Sunday. They will be sworn in at the Archdeacon's Visitation on 12 June. Please pray for them in this important role. Many thanks to Daniel Chumbley who has served over a number of years as Cathedral Warden.

## **OLD CHORISTERS' CHORAL EVENSONG**

## SATURDAY 12 JULY 2025, 3.00PM REHEARSAL, 4.00PM CHORAL EVENSONG

We are pleased to announce our 2025 Old Choristers' event. We would love to see the stalls full of former members of the music department, and for those who don't wish to sing, please do still attend, join for a drink afterwards, and relive your Southwark days! I am delighted that Peter Wright and Stephen Disley will be conducting, and the organ will be played by our current acting Sub-Organist, James Gough. Music will include Parry's epic 'Blest pair of Sirens'. There is no cost to attend, but in due course it would be helpful to know numbers, so please let us know if you're able to come. We would also love to hear your memories and anecdotes from your time at Southwark!

If you would like to be included in our mailing list, please email us on <u>Cathedral.Oldchoristers@southwark.anglican.org</u>. N.B. we will not be spamming your inbox – just an annual update on planned events for the association!

Finally – please help us spread the word! Our records are not particularly comprehensive, so we may well have missed lots of former Southwark musicians. Please mention this event to your former colleagues, and point them in the direction of this page, or the email address above, so we can stay in touch.

# **PRAYER LIST**

#### THE SICK

Diane P, Christopher KD, Theodora M, Caroline W, Mo, Zak, Brian H, Cathy P, Barbara M, Anne S, Tom, Debbie L, Alan BF, Sister Sue, Pippa R, Larisa, Caroline C, Emily P, Helen S, Roxanne W, Pam M, Jean P, John R, Elizabeth H, Sally P, Maurice D, Amanda E, Dinah K, Sarah R, David H, Lizzie G, Benjamin, Hannah C

## THE DEPARTED

Aileen Bishop, Colette Samual, Pamela Hewitt, Richard Owen, Patricia Hare, Kat Mason

#### YEAR'S MIND

Michael Anthony Holmes, Dimitri Savoulidis, Eudora Milton King, Ken John Livingstone, Ben Carrol

#### **CLERGY AWAY**

The Very Rev'd Dr Mark Oakley, Dean of Southwark (St Martin's Basilica, Tours) Canon Jeremy Clark-King, Treasurer (St Hugh's, Bermondsey)





# making space for love

with heart, mind, and soul

It is good to welcome you to Southwark Cathedral. Set on the south bank of the River Thames, in one of the most vibrant and diverse communities in London, this building has been a constant witness in a place of change.

The first church was built on this site around the year 606. First a convent, then a monastery, it became in 1106 the Augustinian Priory of St Mary Overie ('over-the-river'). With Westminster Abbey and St Bartholomew the Great in Smithfield, it is one of the three remaining great monastic churches of London. At the Reformation, the Priory became a parish church, and it remains so for the people of Bankside. In 1905, as south London was rapidly expanding, the church was consecrated as the Cathedral for the new Diocese of Southwark.

The Cathedral has a momentous and significant history and has had links with many famous and influential characters including St Thomas Becket, Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare and Charles Dickens. It has also been a Cathedral for those who feel on the edges of faith or society, our welcome reaching out to all people in their beautiful God-given diversity.

Here, our Christian faith is captured in our vision to 'make space for love: with heart, mind, and soul'. Faith requires our hearts to stand up for social justice, upholding integrity and kindness, and supporting the vulnerable and oppressed. It challenges our thinking, inviting our minds to be enquiring, honest, and generous. Faith also seeks to deepen our inner lives, with the arts and creativity, by sharing in the life of our community, and by learning the arts of prayer and attention. In Jesus Christ we see the human face of God, and our faith in him is our joy and our life.

We really hope you enjoy being here with us today and that we will see you again very soon.

Southwark Cathedral London Bridge London SE1 9DA

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