

SOUTHWARK
◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

CHORAL EUCHARIST

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER 2025

11.00AM

SOU

THW

ARK

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.

LIVESTREAMING

Please note that this service is livestreamed. If you would prefer not to appear in the livestream, please sit in the North Transept.

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 HM Revenue & Customs.

Contactless donations can be made by selecting your donation amount and tapping the terminal provided by the stewards.



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 bookshop.org and designating Southwark Cathedral shop for the 30% of purchase price donation they offer us.

CHORAL EUCHARIST

PRESIDENT

Canon Michael Rawson, Sub Dean & Pastor



DEACON

Canon Kathryn Fleming, Precentor



SUBDEACON & PREACHER

Canon Wendy Robins, Chancellor



CHOIR

The Cathedral Choir

Helen Smee, Director of Music

Simon Hogan, Cathedral Organist & Assistant Director of Music



SETTING

Missa Aeterna Christi munera

G. P. da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)



MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam, BWV 684

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand as the Procession enters.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

CP 28 (tune NEH 320i)



Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing,
stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?
Is it the music of his people's prayer?

Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices
shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb;
surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,
glad in his coming who hath sworn: I come!

This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?
This shall he do, and can we still despair?
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,
cast at his feet the burden of our care.

Yea through life, death, through sorrow and through sinning,
he shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

TUNE: HIGHWOOD

R. R. Terry (1865-1938)

TEXT:

Frederic W. H. Myers (1843-1901)

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.

The President welcomes the congregation and introduces the celebration.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The President introduces the lighting of the second candle on our Advent Crown. When the candle is lit, the following prayer is said:

ADVENT 2 ♦ THE PROPHETS

We light this candle for all God's prophets;
confronting injustice and restoring the dream
of a world of freedom and peace.

God, as we wait for your promise,

All give us light, give us hope.

Members of Junior Xpress come forward for a blessing before departing for their worship and activities.

THE PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Christ the light of the world has come
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

**All Come let us return to the Lord and say:
Lord our God
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Choir sings:

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

All Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 11.1-10

Read by **Malcolm Baines**

A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

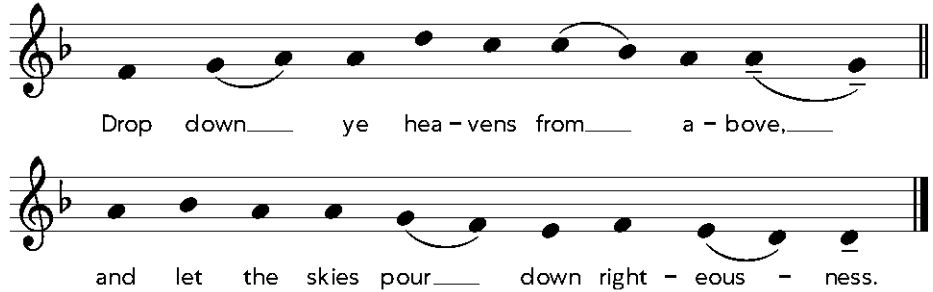
On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the
nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

THE ADVENT PROSE

The response is:



Be not wroth very sore, O Lord,
neither remember iniquity forever:
thy holy cities are a wilderness,
Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
our holy and our beautiful house,
where our fathers praised thee. **R**

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind,
have taken us away:
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. **R**

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen:
that ye may know me and believe me:
I, even I, am the Lord,
and beside me there is no Saviour:
and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. **R**

THE SECOND READING

Romans 15.4-13

Read by **Claire Pidancet**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name’;

and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him’;

and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and turn to face the Gospel as the Procession moves into the Nave.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 3.1-12

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

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 Vivienne Baines

One of these responses may be used:

Maranatha.
All Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**All Let us pray to the Lord,
 Lord, have mercy.**

At the end one the following may be used:

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

**All Hasten, Lord, the day
 when people will come
 from east and west,
 from north and south,
 and sit at your table
 in your kingdom
 where we shall see
 your Son in glory.
 Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please stand.

THE PEACE

In the tender mercy of our God
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**All The peace of the Lord be always with you.
 And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

During the Hymn, 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.

<https://bit.ly/3T6o2tL>



THE OFFERTORY HYMN

CP 591 (tune NEH 433)



The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

TUNE: HANOVER

A Supplement to the New Version 1708

TEXT:

Bryn Rees (1911-1983)

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory.

All **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- All** The Lord be with you
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 and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation.
Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
to proclaim your glory
for ever praising you and singing:

The Choir sings:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra
gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God of Sabaoth.
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.

The President continues:

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.

Christ is the bread of life.

All

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

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 Blessed 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

As we look for the coming of the kingdom, 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 anyị... Fader vår... Pai nosso... हे हमारे स्वर्गबासी पिता... Padre nuestro... 我們在天上的父... Отец наш... 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지... Πάτερ ἡμῶν... اے ہمارے باپ |
|------------|---|--|

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup

All **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessèd are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Please be seated. If you wish to receive Holy Communion or a blessing, please follow the directions of the Stewards. If you wish to receive from the chalice, please go to the point of administration after receiving the host. Receiving Communion in one kind is still receiving Communion in full. 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 come forward for a blessing.

During the distribution of Communion, the Choir sings:

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis
peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Followed by:

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM

A tender shoot • Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace,
as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter,
turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand.

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Generous God

You have fed us at your heavenly table.

Set us on fire with your Spirit

That when Christ comes again

We may shine like lights before his face,

Who with you and the Spirit lives for ever.

Amen.

THE NOTICES

Please be seated.

THE BLESSING

Please stand.

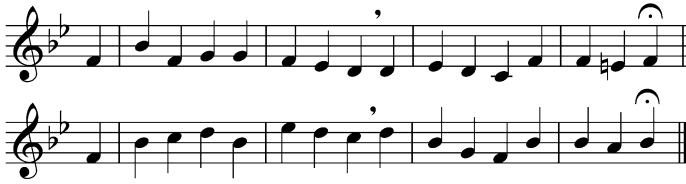
The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you
scatter the darkness from before your path
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

THE FINAL HYMN

NEH 12



On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come then and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.

Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,
And make us rise, to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.

TUNE: WINCHESTER NEW

Adapted from a chorale in
Musicalisches Hand-Buch Hamburg 1690

TEXT:

Charles Coffin (1676-1749)
tr. John Chandler (1808-1876)

THE DISMISSAL

Our Lord says, "I am coming soon".

All Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

All Amen.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude & Fugue in A minor, BWV 543 • J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

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.

◆ PRAYER LIST ◆

THE SICK

Christopher KD, Dee Dee HS, Tom, Errol H, Sr Sue CSF, Ida D, Caroline C, Jeremy B, Sam J, Hugo S, Marcia W, Julie R, Phyllida P, Santou BC, Catherine S, Justine M, Leo T, Pauline S, Francis, Larisa O, Maia, John L, George M, Jeremy J, Helen S, Dinah K, Pam M, Jean P, Sally P, Sarah R, John G, Roxanne W, Elizabeth H, Shireen

THE DEPARTED

Herewood Davies, Janet Barnes, John Barron, Colin Andrew, Terry, Don Grozier, Paul Bashford, Phui Ying Tan, Debra

YEAR'S MIND

Andy Ferguson, James Andrew Parker, Miranda Woodrow

CLERGY AWAY

The Very Rev'd Dr Mark Oakley, Dean of Southwark (St Francis & St Mary, West Wickham)

Canon Jeremy Clark-King, Treasurer (St Catherine, Hatcham)

Canon Roxanne Eversley, Librarian (St Philip, Norbury)

The Rev'd Shannon Preston, Succentor (Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Geneva)

◆ NOTICES ◆

WORSHIP

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

Services marked with a † are only available online.

Preachers are indicated in italics.

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER • THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

| | |
|---------|--|
| 8.30am | Morning Prayer* |
| 9.00am | Eucharist <i>Canon Wendy Robins, Chancellor</i> |
| 9.30am | Eucharist at St Hugh's <i>The Rev'd Delorine Green</i> |
| 11.00am | Choral Eucharist* <i>Canon Wendy Robins, Chancellor</i> |
| 3.00pm | Choral Evensong <i>Canon Kathryn Fleming, Precentor</i> |
| 6.00pm | Compline† |

MONDAY 8 – FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER

| | |
|---------|--|
| 9.00am | Morning Prayer* |
| 9.30am | Eucharist (Tuesday only) |
| 12.30pm | Midday Prayer <i>with The Litany of Reconciliation</i> (Friday only) |
| 12.45pm | Eucharist |
| 5.30pm | Choral Evensong (Mon, Tue, Fri) or Evening Prayer (Wed, Thu) |

SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER

| | |
|--------|------------------------|
| 9.00am | Morning Prayer* |
| 9.30am | Eucharist |
| 4.00pm | Evening Prayer |

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER • THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

| | |
|---------|--|
| 8.30am | Morning Prayer* |
| 9.00am | Eucharist <i>Canon Jeremy Clark-King, Treasurer</i> |
| 9.30am | Eucharist at St Hugh's <i>The Rev'd Delorine Green</i> |
| 11.00am | Choral Eucharist* <i>Canon Jeremy Clark-King, Treasurer</i> |
| 3.00pm | Choral Evensong <i>Canon Roxanne Eversley, Librarian</i> |
| 6.00pm | Compline† |

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, gathering each week in term time 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 Youth Xpress is on 14 December.

JUNIOR & YOUTH XPRESS CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER, AFTER THE 11.00AM CHORAL EUCHARIST

Children and parents of Junior and Youth Express are warmly invited to our Christmas party, upstairs in the Library, after the 11.00am service on Sunday 14 December. It's a great way to celebrate the forthcoming festive season and meet other families. If you are new to either, please join us too, as the event will be hosted by our volunteers and you can learn more about the sessions which take place every Sunday during term time for Junior Express and monthly for Youth Express.

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.

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

ROBES SLEEP OUT

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ROBES AND ALL THOSE WHO WERE SLEEPING OUT ON 21 NOVEMBER!

The SleepOut might have happened, but **you can still make a massive impact on Robes Project** by sponsoring our Dean, Sub Dean, Junior & Youth Xpress and the Lay Clerks:



[The Very Rev'd Dr
Mark Oakley,
Dean of Southwark](#)



[Canon Michael
Rawson,
Sub Dean & Pastor](#)



[Junior / Youth
Xpress](#)



[The Lay Clerks](#)

ROBES SHELTER VOLUNTEERS

Our Robes team will be hosting 20 guests one night a week from Friday 23 January providing food, welcome, laundry and hospitality for 12 weeks.

If you would like to join the team either on Friday evening, Friday night or Saturday morning please contact Neil Tryner, nptryner@gmail.com one of the team leaders who can explain what is involved.

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 Officer (CSO) or Representatives (CSRs) in the first instance:

CSO **Neil Morter** neil.morter@southwark.anglican.org

CSRs **Cherry James** cherry.james@southwark.anglican.org

Jill Tilley jill.tilley@southwark.anglican.org

Russell Silverwood russell.silverwood@southwark.anglican.org

Concerns can be brought to any member of the clergy.

POSTPONEMENT: RS THOMAS TALK

Sadly, the Dean's talk on RS Thomas on 8 December has had to be postponed due to a community event in the Cathedral hosted by our MP. The talk will be given now in the New Year.

GIVING TO THE CATHEDRAL

We are encouraging everyone to join the Parish Giving Scheme. 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 Kristin or contact Canon Michael Rawson.

The Cathedral is keen to change to a more ethical and environmentally friendly bank and the move from many standing orders to one monthly transfer from the Parish Giving Scheme makes this aspiration achievable.

You can sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/bdzdpuhp>. 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.

THE FRIENDS OF SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

PILGRIMAGE TO WINCHESTER

We are now on a winter break from the monthly pilgrimage. We'll be starting again in March from Four Marks on the last few stages of our pilgrimage to Winchester.

AN EVENING WITH THE DEAN: DISCS FOR A DESERT ISLAND TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER, 6.15PM

The Very Rev'd Dr Mark Oakley will be in conversation with Michelle Lovric as he explores his essential music choices and other essential items when swept away to a desert island. Festive drinks will be served on arrival. Tickets available on Eventbrite.

BECOME A FRIEND

Still thinking of joining us? We'd love to welcome you. The Friends play a vital part in contributing to the future of the Cathedral and its missions. Membership costs from £25 a year. [Join the Friends today!](#)

CONTACT FRIENDS' OFFICE

You can email the Friends: kate.dean@southwark.anglican.org, call 020 7367 3724 or post to:

The Friends of Southwark Cathedral
Southwark Cathedral
London Bridge
London, SE1 9DA

SILENT GROUP

The Silent Prayer Group meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We gather from 9.45am and the silent prayer session is from 10.00-10.30am. We always have some spare seats for latecomers. If you would like more information, please contact Linda Ridgers-Waite or Lizzie James.

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/>

A RETREAT ON THE ISLE OF IONA

7-12 SEPTEMBER 2026

The Dean will be leading a retreat on Iona next September entitled: '**Astonished by Love: with poetry as our guide**'. The retreat is shaped by four human themes - love of creation, love of justice, love of God, and love of love. We will encounter classic poets such as Hafiz, John Donne, George Herbert, WH Auden, Emily Dickinson, RS Thomas, and Seamus Heaney, and be introduced to more contemporary ones such as Raymond Antrobus, Jen Hadfield, Kei Miller, Zaffar Kunial, and Carol Ann Duffy. No prior knowledge of poems or poets is required.

For more information:

<https://www.stcolumba-hotel.co.uk/groups-retreats/mark-oakley>

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: <https://sthughsbermondsey.org.uk/bible-study/>

ADVENT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY: O ANTIPHONS

SUNDAYS 14 & 21 DECEMBER, 9.45AM

Please join us for one or both of these Advent sessions on the O Antiphons. The O Antiphons accompany the Magnificat during the last days of Advent. Come along for a session on the "traditional Os" on the 14th and/or a more contemporary interpretation on the 21st.

INCLUSIVE CHURCH OPEN LETTER IN RESPONSE TO LIVING IN LOVE AND FAITH

If you would like to make a response to the recent House of Bishops statement on Prayers of Love and Faith and clergy civil marriage you can sign an open letter at <https://www.inclusive-church.org/llf-open-letter/>

DOGS AT SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL

In early 2026 we will be welcoming well-behaved dogs and owners to the Cathedral following a policy being developed and approved by Chapter. We will review this in six months' time and Canon Michael Rawson will be pleased to hear any feedback during this time as well as requests for a copy of the policy. Owners are asked to respect the Cathedral as a place of worship and also as Hodge's home. Do please contact Michael if you have any questions.

SOUTHWARK STANDS TOGETHER

MONDAY 8 DECEMBER, 7.00PM

Southwark Stands Together is a special event in Southwark Cathedral with inspiring speakers and music to celebrate our wonderful neighbourhood and local community. It will bring people together at a time of rising conflict and racism to recognise and celebrate the strength we find in unity and shared purpose.

If you would like to attend or request further details, please RSVP by reserving a free ticket [here](#).

MISSION ALLOCATION 2025

We are at the time of year when we seek suggestions from you as to which charities we should support in the coming year. The Mission Allocation Group selects charities from the suggestions we receive and recommends them to Chapter. Depending on the level of planned giving in the previous year, each charity will receive a gift in the region of £2,400. This can make a big difference to a small charity. Please fill in the suggestion form by following the link below or by picking up a paper copy from the stewards.

[Mission Allocation Nomination Form](#) – please return your form by Monday 8 December.

YOUNG ADULTS CONNECT GROUP

MONDAY 8 DECEMBER 6.15PM

Young adults in the congregation are invited for a December social at the Southwark Tavern this Monday from 6.15pm. Please join us and if you have any questions email Shannon.Preston@southwark.anglican.org

Please hold the date for our next meeting on Monday 5 January at 6.30pm at the Cathedral (following Evensong) where we will meet together and explore the topic of angels together.

CATHEDRAL CAROL SERVICES

SUNDAY 21 & MONDAY 22 DECEMBER 2025, 6.00PM

The Cathedral carol services are fully booked. If you realise you can no longer attend, we encourage you to cancel your tickets so that others can be given the opportunity to come.

WELCOME TO JACQUELINE

Welcome to Jacqueline Gray who is a third-year ordinand from St Augustine's who is with us on placement through Advent to Epiphany. Please do say hello and give her a warm welcome.

UK AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT

The UK Aids Memorial Quilt, an irreplaceable piece of social history, tells the stories of many of those lost in the dark days of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the early 80s and 90s. The Quilt is a unique historical document.

The complete Quilt is composed of 42 twelve-foot by twelve-foot panels, each comprised of 8 smaller panels. Each Quilt panel is approximately 4m². Each individual panel commemorates someone who has died of AIDS and lovingly has been made by their friends, lovers or family. They contain emotive testimonials, photos, and personal documents of the life lived. The Quilts represent approximately 384 people from all around the UK.

The Quilt reminds us how far we have come in the fight against HIV – it no longer stops you living a long and healthy life - but there is still much more to be done.

Southwark Cathedral is most grateful to AIDS Quilt UK for the loan and display of this memorial Quilt over World AIDS Day in this the only UK chapel dedicated to people who have died from AIDS and those whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS.

The Quilt has been in storage for several years now and without proper conservation is in danger of deteriorating and being lost. AIDS Quilt UK is a group dedicated to the Quilt's conservation and continued display.

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SOUTHWARK

◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

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.

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