



*The Cathedral Church of*  
**SAINT PETER** *and*  
**THE HOLY AND INDIVISIBLE TRINITY**  
*Gloucester*

# **Family Eucharist**

*Holy Cross Day*

Sunday, 14 September 2025  
10.15 a.m.  
The Nave

## **Safeguarding at Gloucester Cathedral**

Gloucester Cathedral is committed to being a **safe** and **welcoming** place for **all**. The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in the life of the Cathedral is everyone's responsibility.



**If someone is in immediate danger, contact the police on 999.**



Here at Gloucester Cathedral there are two nominated people whom you should contact if you have a safeguarding concern:

Gill Brook: [safeguarding@gloucestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@gloucestercathedral.org.uk)

The Venerable Hilary Dawson: [AGlos@glosdioc.org.uk](mailto:AGlos@glosdioc.org.uk)



Personal photography and videography are not permitted during services.



An induction loop is available for those using hearing aids.



**Large print booklets are available on request. Please ask a steward.**

# Welcome

A very warm welcome to Gloucester Cathedral, whether you are joining us on site or online. All you need for the service is included in this booklet and you are invited to join in the words printed in **bold**. When the congregation is invited to stand, please feel free to remain seated if this is more comfortable for you. Families and children are warmly welcome. Please feel able to move around in the North or South Aisle if you need to. An easy access toilet and changing facilities are available in the Cloister.

If you are new and would like to discover more about congregational life, please do introduce yourself to a member of the clergy at the end of the service. There is also information about being part of the cathedral congregation on the website. You can contact the Cathedral clergy by emailing: [clergy@gloucestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:clergy@gloucestercathedral.org.uk)

*The musical setting of the Eucharist is*  
MASS OF ST THOMAS BY DAVID THORNE

*The president is the Dean*  
The Very Reverend Andrew Zihni

*The preacher is the Canon Chancellor*  
The Reverend Canon Dr Rebecca Lloyd

## About the Eucharist

The Eucharist, which means ‘thanksgiving’, is perhaps the most important act of worship for Christians because it recalls the death and resurrection of Jesus, fulfilling his command at the Last Supper to remember him. Outwardly, the Eucharist takes the form of sharing bread and wine; inwardly, Christ is made present to us in a special way and we are given a taste of the heavenly banquet, which God has prepared for those who love him.

Today’s service has four important elements. Firstly, the **GATHERING** draws the community together in the name of the Trinity, reminding us of our true identity as children of God. We then recall our failings in the *Prayers of Penitence*; this is an important part of our efforts to become more Christlike. We always do this in the certain knowledge that God forgives our sins, and this is made plain in the words of the absolution, given by the president. The *Gloria in excelsis*, a hymn of praise addressed to God, follows as a joyful response to God’s mercy. The *Collect* brings this part of the service to a close, drawing everyone together in a special prayer, said in all churches across the world.

The **LITURGY OF THE WORD** invites us to engage with the words of Scripture and consider what they might mean in our own lives. The *Gospel Reading* is the high point of this part of the service, for in these words we hear of the life of Jesus. A *sermon* follows, which aims to assist us in our application of God’s Word. The *Prayers of Intercession* then give us an opportunity to bring our concerns to God in the certain knowledge that God hears and answers prayer.

The **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST** begins with the *Peace*. In Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that before we offer our gifts at the altar, we should be reconciled to one another, because the Eucharist is the meal which unites the Church. Then the altar is prepared for the *Eucharistic Prayer*, which is a thanksgiving for all that God has done in creation. The president then recalls the Last Supper, using the words of Jesus himself, thereby consecrating or making special the bread and wine. The congregation comes forward to receive communion or a blessing, which is followed by a prayer of thanksgiving.

The **CONCLUSION** brings the whole service to a close with a *blessing* and *dismissal*, reminding us that God is with us always and sends us out into the world so that others may come to know his love too.

# ¶ *The Gathering*

*At 10.15 a.m., the congregation stands to sing the processional hymn*



**We sing the praise of him who died,  
of him who died upon the cross;  
the sinner's hope let all deride  
for this we count the world but loss.**

**Inscribed upon the cross we see  
in shining letters, 'God is love';  
he bears our sins upon the tree;  
he brings us mercy from above.**

**The cross! It takes our guilt away:  
it holds the fainting spirit up;  
it cheers with hope the gloomy day  
and sweetens every bitter cup.**

**It makes the coward spirit brave,  
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;  
it takes the terror from the grave,  
and gilds the bed of death with light:**

**The balm of life, the cure of woe,  
the measure and the pledge of love,  
the sinner's refuge here below,  
the angels' theme in heaven above.**

*Words, Thomas Kelly 1769-1855*

*Tune, BOW BRICKHILL; S H Nicholson 1875-1947*

*The president says*

✙ In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

*The president greets the people*

The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

*The president gives a welcome and introduces the service.*

## **Prayer of Preparation**

Loving God, we have come to worship you.

*All* **Help us to pray to you in faith,  
to sing your praise with gratitude,  
and to listen to your word with eagerness;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Penitence

*The deacon says*

God shows his love for us in that,  
while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*Romans 5.8*

Lord Jesus,  
you came to reconcile us to one another and the Father:  
Lord have mercy

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you heal the wounds of sin and division:  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you intercede for us with your Father:  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*The president gives the absolution*

May almighty God have mercy on you,  
✚ forgive you your sins,  
and bring you to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

# Gloria in Excelsis

*The choir and congregation sing*

*Organ*

Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God,  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est. Glo - ry to God in the  
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.  
Lord God, Heaven - ly King, Al - migh - ty God and  
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God,  
Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the high - est.  
Lord, Jes - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the  
Fa - ther. Lord God, Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us;  
You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther:





## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer, saying*

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
 who in the passion of your blessed Son  
 made an instrument of painful death  
 to be for us the means of life and peace:  
 grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ  
 that we may gladly suffer for his sake;  
 who is alive and reigns with you,  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

*The congregation sits.*

# ¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

## **New Testament Reading**

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
    did not regard equality with God  
    as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
    taking the form of a slave,  
    being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
    he humbled himself  
    and became obedient to the point of death—  
    even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him  
    and gave him the name  
    that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
    every knee should bend,  
    in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess  
    that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
    to the glory of God the Father.

*2.6-11*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation stands to sing*

From heaven you came, help-less babe, en-tered our world, your  
glo - ry veiled; not to beserved but to serve,  
and give your life that we might live. This is our  
God, the Ser - vant King, he calls us  
now to fol-low him, to bring our lives as a dai - ly of - fer -  
ing of wor-ship to the Ser-vant King.

*Refrain*

There in the garden of tears,  
my heavy load he chose to bear;  
his heart with sorrow was torn,  
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

*This is our God &c.*

Come see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice,  
hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered.

*This is our God &c.*

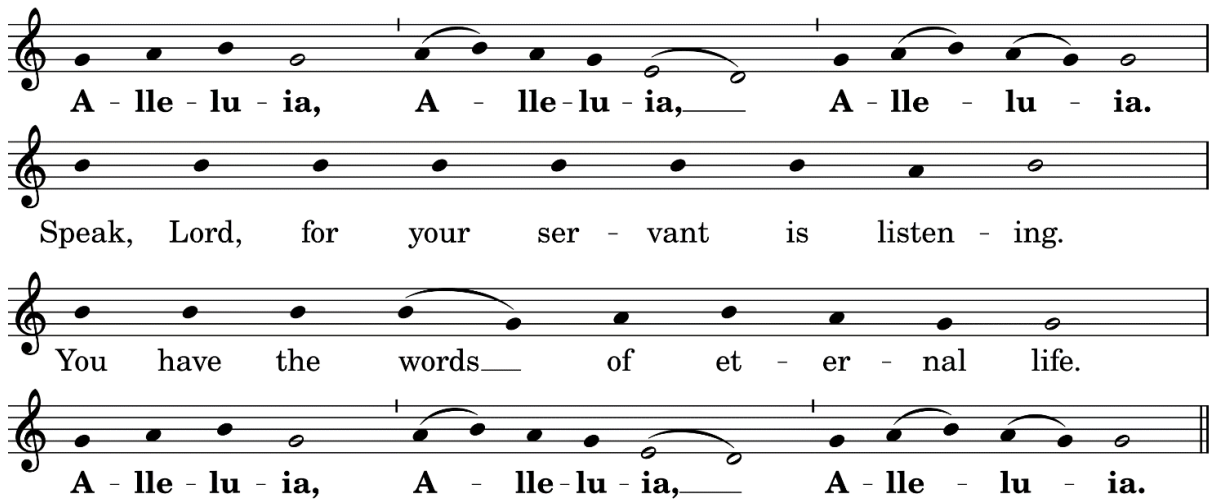
So let us learn how to serve,  
and in our lives enthrone him;  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving.

*This is our God &c.*

Words, Graham Kendrick 1950-  
Tune, SERVANT KING; Graham Kendrick 1950-

## Gospel Reading

*The choir sings the acclamation and all repeat*



A - lle - lu - ia, A - lle - lu - ia, A - lle - lu - ia.

Speak, Lord, for your ser - vant is listen - ing.

You have the words of et - er - nal life.

A - lle - lu - ia, A - lle - lu - ia, A - lle - lu - ia.

*When the Gospel is announced, the deacon says*

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



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

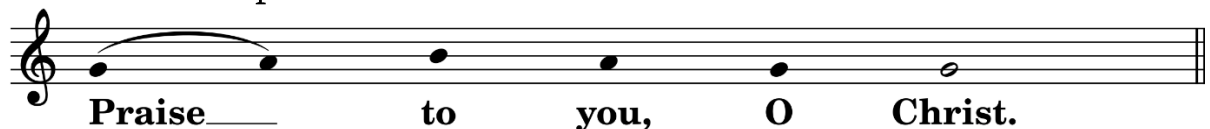
No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

3.13-17

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

*The congregation sits.*

# The Affirmation of Faith

*The congregation stands and the president says*

Let us declare our faith in God.

*All* **We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## The Prayers of Intercession

*The president says*

Let us pray to the Father through his Son,  
who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption.

*The congregation sits.*

*The choir sings and all repeat*



Fill with your Spirit Christ's broken body, the Church,  
especially in this Diocese of Gloucester.  
Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing  
to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.

*All sing*



Look in your mercy upon the world you loved so much  
that you sent your Son to suffer and to die,  
remembering especially the people of the Holy Land  
and the people of Ukraine.  
Strengthen those who work to share  
the reconciliation won at such a cost upon the cross.

*All sing*



Bring healing by the wounds of Christ  
to all who are weighed down by pain.  
Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying,  
to find strength in the companionship of Jesus,  
and in his passion to know their salvation.

*All sing*



Welcome into paradise all who have left this world in your friendship.  
According to your promises,  
bring them with all your saints  
to share in the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.

*All sing*



## ¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

### **The Peace**

*The congregation stands.*

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God  
in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.

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

*The deacon says*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

*You can contribute to the ministry and mission of the Cathedral by using the Q.R. code, placing a cash gift in the collection plate after the service (in a Gift Aid envelope if possible), or using one of the contactless card machines.*



*As the altar is prepared, the choirs sing*

Every time I feel the spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.

Upon the mountain where my Lord spoke  
out of his mouth came fire and smoke.  
All around me look so shine  
I ask the Lord if all was mine.

Every time I feel the spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.

Jordan river, it's chilly and cold,  
it chills the body but not the soul.  
Only one train that runs this track,  
runs from heaven and right back.

Every time I feel the spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.

*Words, traditional before 1861  
Music, arranged by Ken Burton*



*When the altar is prepared, the president says*

With this bread that we bring

**All we shall remember Jesus.**

With this wine that we bring

**All we shall remember Jesus.**

Bread for his body,

wine for his blood,

gifts from God to his table we bring.

**All we shall remember Jesus.**

## **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.**

*The president says*

It is always right to give you thanks,

God our Creator,

loving and faithful,

holy and strong.

You made us

and the whole universe,

and filled your world with life.

You sent your Son to live among us,

Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.

He suffered on the cross;

he died to save us from our sins;

he rose in glory from the dead.

You send your Spirit  
to bring new life to the world,  
and clothe us with power from on high.

And so we join the angels  
to celebrate and sing:

*Organ*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po- wer and might,  
hea- ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bles- sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Father, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
He took the bread, and thanked you.  
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

TAKE AND EAT; THIS IS MY BODY, GIVEN FOR YOU.  
DO THIS TO REMEMBER ME.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:

DRINK THIS, ALL OF YOU.  
THIS IS MY BLOOD,  
THE NEW PROMISE OF GOD'S UNFAILING LOVE.  
DO THIS TO REMEMBER ME.

*The deacon says*

Great is the mystery of faith:



Father, as we bring this bread and wine,  
and remember his death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share these gifts  
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us  
that we may love one another,  
work for the healing of the earth,  
and share the good news of Jesus,  
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,  
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
one God, for ever and ever.



*The congregation sits.*

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us so we pray,  
each in our own language

<i>All</i> <b>Our Father,</b>	<b>Notre Père...</b>
<b>who art in heaven,</b>	
<b>hallowed be thy name;</b>	<b>Vater Unser...</b>
<b>thy kingdom come;</b>	
<b>thy will be done;</b>	<b>Onze Vader...</b>
<b>on earth as it is in heaven.</b>	
<b>Give us this day our daily bread.</b>	<b>Padre Nuestro...</b>
<b>And forgive us our trespasses,</b>	
<b>as we forgive those who trespass against us.</b>	<b>Ojcze Nasz...</b>
<b>And lead us not into temptation;</b>	
<b>but deliver us from evil.</b>	<b>Baba Yetu...</b>
<b>For thine is the kingdom,</b>	
<b>the power and the glory,</b>	<b>E to matou Matua...</b>
<b>for ever and ever.</b>	
<b>Amen.</b>	<b>Ein Tad...</b>

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying*

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.**

## Giving of Communion

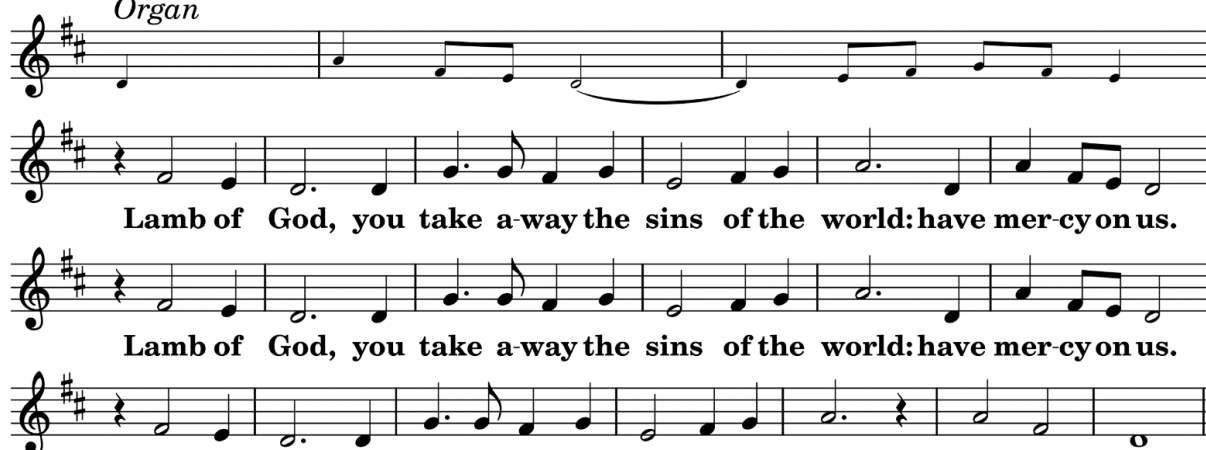
*The president says the invitation to communion*

God's holy gifts for God's holy people

*All* **Jesus Christ is holy,**  
**Jesus Christ is Lord,**  
**To the glory of God the Father.**

*The choir and congregation sing*

*Organ*



**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

*The president and people receive Communion.*

*If it is your custom to receive Communion in your own church, you are welcome to do so today. If you would rather receive a blessing, please bring this order of service with you so that we may know how to minister to you.*

*Communion is offered in both bread and wine, though you may wish to receive the bread only. For hygiene reasons, intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is prohibited.*

*If you require a gluten free wafer, please tell the ministers.*

## Prayer after Communion

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer*

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Faithful God,  
whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree  
and gave us this sacrament to show forth his death until he comes:  
give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for he is our salvation, our life and our hope,  
who reigns as Lord, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*All* **Lord,**  
**we have broken your bread**  
**and received your life.**  
**By the power of your Spirit**  
**keep us always in your love;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

# ¶ *The Dismissal*

*The congregation stands to sing*



***Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.***

**Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,  
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:**

**Saved by the cross whereon their Lord was slain,  
earth's fallen children their lost home regain:**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as though hast promised, draw us unto thee:**

**Let every race and every language tell  
of him who saves our souls from death and hell:**

**From farthest regions let them homage bring,  
and on his cross adore their Saviour King:**

**Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease  
beneath the shadow of its healing peace:**

**From thy blest cross which doth for all atone  
Creation's praise rise before they throne:**

*Words, G. W. Kitchin 1827-1912 and M. R. Newbolt 1874-1956*

*Tune: CRUCIFER, S. H. Nicholson 1875-1947*

## The Blessing

*The president says*

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
+ Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Dismissal

*The deacon says*

Go in the peace of Christ.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation remains standing as the choir and ministers depart.*

*The organist plays*

Imperial March

Edward Elgar 1857-1934

## Christian Stewardship

**‘All things come from you  
and of your own do we give you.’**

Our ability to sustain the Cathedral’s worship and mission relies on the generous investment of our worshippers and visitors.



You can contribute today by using the Q.R. code, placing a cash gift in the collection plate after the service (in a Gift Aid envelope if possible), or using one of the contactless card machines.

Planned giving is a convenient way of making a regular contribution to the life of the Cathedral and it is the least costly to administer. You can use weekly envelopes or a standing order from your bank account. For more information or to discuss your planned giving in confidence, please call 01452 528095 or email [development@gloucestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:development@gloucestercathedral.org.uk)

Please make a Gift Aid declaration if you are a UK taxpayer. This allows the Cathedral to claim an additional 25 per cent of each amount donated. Higher rate taxpayers can claim further relief via their tax returns.



## Notices

**The Worldwide Church: Past, Present and Future  
Tuesday 16 September 2025 at 2.30pm  
Little Malvern Priory, Little Malvern, WR14 4JN**

The Revd Canon Dr Stephen Spencer will share his views on the opportunities and challenges facing the church worldwide now and in the future. He will set these in the context of the development of the global Anglican Communion since the Reformation and will draw on his extensive experience of working with churches in many parts of the world.

Stephen Spencer is Director of Theology and Implementation at the London office of the Anglican Communion, which has tens of millions of members in 165 countries. His work has involved visiting every continent apart from Antarctica. Since studying theology at Oxford University, he has been a parish priest in England and Zimbabwe and Vice Principal at St Hild College in West Yorkshire. He has published books on Archbishop William Temple and study guides on Anglicanism, Christian mission and Church history.

Free admission. Contact Alison Hunka for more information: 07763 464305, [alisonhunka1885@aol.com](mailto:alisonhunka1885@aol.com)

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**Congregational Forum  
Sunday 28 September, following the 10.15am Eucharist**

Join us as we hear the feedback from our last forum on our hopes for spiritual nurture across the Cathedral congregations.

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**Cathedral Community Coffee Morning  
Wednesday 1 October, 10.30am – 11.30am, The Monk's Kitchen**

Join us for coffee and a friendly chat in the Monk's Kitchen. Contact Barbara Merrick on 01452 504376 or email [congregation@gloucestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:congregation@gloucestercathedral.org.uk) for more information.

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**Prayers for Peace and Justice  
Tuesday 7 October, 12.00 noon, the Lady Chapel**

Prayers for Peace and Justice are offered for about 20 minutes on the first Tuesday of each month in person in the Cathedral and online using Zoom. You are warmly invited to join these prayers and contribute your own prayers, silently or spoken, in the Chapel or online, about peace and justice issues locally, nationally or internationally. If you wish to speak, please let the leader know before the prayers begin so that the microphone can be made available to you at the appropriate time. If you would like to join via Zoom, please email the Cathedral Reception to request the Zoom link: [reception@gloucestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:reception@gloucestercathedral.org.uk)

On Tuesday 7 October, we will continue to offer prayers for the restoration of a lasting and just peace to the many areas of conflict. We will also offer prayers for those who are homeless and/or in poverty as 5 October is Homelessness Sunday and 17 October is International Day for Eradication of Poverty. If you are not able to attend Prayers for Peace and Justice in person or online, your concerns about social justice, locally, nationally or internationally can nonetheless be covered in the prayers by emailing Canon Rebecca on: [clergy@gloucestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:clergy@gloucestercathedral.org.uk)

**Please note:** *Due to potential disruption from rebuilding work to on the Cathedral Organ, Prayers for Peace and Justice will be temporary taking place in the Lady Chapel from Tuesday 2 September, until the work is complete.*

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**Cathedral Book Club**  
**Monday 13 October 2025, 2.00pm – 3.00pm, The Laud Room**

The Cathedral book club meets on the second Monday of each month in the **Parliament Room** (new venue!). In September we will be discussing *The Women* by Kristen Hannah. All newcomers are welcome.

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**Sip and Study: Cathedral Community Lectio Group**  
**Tuesday 14 October 2025, 2.30pm, Prinknash Abbey**

The Cathedral's Sip and Study group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at Prinknash Abbey, following the ancient process of Lectio Divina to reflect on a passage of Scripture. Anyone is welcome to come along; you don't need prior experience as we learn the process through experiencing it. Lectio begins at 2.30 p.m. and finishes at 3.45 p.m. but we arrive any time from 1.00 p.m. for lunch or coffee and cake together in the café. Contact Barbara Merrick on 01452 504376, or [congregation@gloucestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:congregation@gloucestercathedral.org.uk)

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