



ELY CATHEDRAL

19/11/2020

Dear Members of the Cathedral Community,

UNPLUGGED, BUT NOT DISCONNECTED



For those among our Cathedral Community who have escaped the mixed blessings of the internet at home, the Church of England's *Daily Hope* could be a very helpful resource. *Daily Hope* is a Freephone number that offers daily services of Morning and Evening Prayer, an audio version of the Church of England's Sunday Service, a selection of hymns and reflections to listen to and a welcome message from the Archbishop of Canterbury. There are even some gentle physical exercises to do whilst sitting in your chair! The *Daily Hope* number is available 24 hours a day and is entirely free of charge. Call 0800 804 8044.

PRIVATE PRAYER

The Cathedral remains open for private prayer daily from noon to 3.00pm (closing early this week at 1.30pm on Monday and 2.00pm on Sunday). Under the current lockdown regulations, the Dean and Chapter are permitted to hold services in the Cathedral, so long as they are broadcast. Professional musicians whose work is to offer worship are allowed to continue to do this in a Covid-secure way, but we are not able to admit a physical congregation or any voluntary choirs at this stage.

DR ARTHUR WILLS OBE

The Requiem Eucharist for Arthur Wills (Director of Music between 1958 and 1990 and a generous and unstinting supporter of Ely Cathedral) will take place in the Cathedral on Monday 23 November at 2.30pm. Since only 30 can be in the congregation for a funeral, you are invited to join via either of the following links: <https://youtu.be/b6olb-kkDPM> (YouTube) or <https://www.elycathedral.org/public-worship/live-streamed-services-concerts> (Cathedral Website).

STELLA BALAAM

Stella Balaam died peacefully at her home last week having reached the great age of 101. A good proportion of her life had been spent as a member of the Cathedral congregation. Details of her funeral service are yet to be announced. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Advent Sunday falls within the current lockdown period, so this year's Advent Carol Service will be broadcast live from the Cathedral. We hope to be permitted to gather once more as (socially distanced) congregations from Thursday 3 December and we are planning on that basis. To help ensure that our maximum seating capacity is not exceeded, attendance for Sunday and Christmas Services will again require pre-booking online or over the phone. It is likely that we shall be asking everyone to hold back from booking to attend multiple services at peak times so that as many people as possible can come to at least one service this Christmas. Thank you for your understanding.

Comfort
and Joy

ZOOM AT NOON

It was very good to meet up for post-service Virtual Coffee last weekend. The next date for a Zoom at Noon will be Sunday 13 December. I will publish the Zoom details nearer the time.

PASTORAL SUPPORT



It is heartening to hear so many stories of people's concern for others at this time – phone calls, video chats, shopping trips, friendly walks and acts of creativity. Anyone who is in need of additional support at this time of lockdown is welcome to contact us on 01353 667735 or by emailing support@elycathedral.org.

SIXTEEN DAYS OF ACTIVISM

As in previous years, The Mothers' Union is joining the *Sixteen Days of Activism* against domestic and gender violence, beginning on 25 November. One third of the world's women are estimated to be subject such abuse, and Covid lockdowns have worsened the situation. The MU's display of campaign literature with a prayer tree and further information will be available in the Cathedral from 3 December. In the meantime, details of the *Sixteen Days of Activism* can be found here:

<https://www.mothersunion.org/projects/16-days-activism-against-gender-based-violence>. Also, in support of the three Women's Refuges in the Diocese, Bev Sweet has made card baubles for Christmas trees to remember the victims of domestic violence locally. These cost £2 each and can be ordered by emailing bev.sweet@btopenworld.com (or phone her on 01353 720077).



FAITH ENGAGEMENT REVIEW

Colin Bloom, the Faith Engagement Adviser at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has launched an *Independent Faith Engagement Review Call for Evidence*. The purpose is to establish how best the government should engage with faith groups in England. The call for evidence poses a series of questions around how those of all faiths, or none, perceive the government's engagement with faith organisations. Please take part in this survey and help represent the Church of England. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-faith-engagement-review-call-for-evidence>.

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT AND FOOD FAIR



Don't forget to browse this year's online fair and, if you can, support the local businesses represented. See: <https://www.elycathedral.org/events/virtual-christmas-gift-food-fair>. The Friends of Ely Cathedral have four designs of Christmas card available for sale. See: www.elycathedral.org/friends. If you shop on Amazon, please register the Cathedral as your nominated charity through *Amazon Smile*: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/264803-0>.

LIVESTREAMED WORSHIP

Sunday services at 10.30am and 4.00pm are livestreamed to *YouTube* as well as most weekday Evensongs at 5.30pm. Morning Prayer at 8.00am can be accessed on *Zoom* as well as Evening Prayer at 5.00pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Here are the details:

- *Zoom* for Morning Prayer at 8.00am: Meeting ID: 729 302 849; Passcode: 827697
- *Zoom* for Evening Prayer at 5.00pm (M, W, F, S): Meeting ID: 819 0657 0977; Passcode: 065383
- Cathedral *YouTube* Channel: https://www.YouTube.com/channel/UCxdMTrNgBuMRq_Izwm0nbiQ
- Orders of Service (Saturday / Sunday): <https://www.elycathedral.org/public-worship/orders-of-service>

Stay safe and God bless,

The Revd Canon James Reveley
Residentiary Canon for Congregation and Community