



DURHAM
CATHEDRAL

Matins

on

The Second Sunday Before Lent

Sexagesima

Sunday 8 February 2026

11.30 a.m.



Welcome to Durham Cathedral

*Inspired by our saints, Cuthbert and Bede,
the mission of Durham Cathedral
is to offer everyone the opportunity
to encounter God and know God's love in Jesus Christ.*

Worshippers at Matins are invited to arrive early and take refreshments in the Galilee Chapel from 11.00 a.m. before taking their seats in the Quire for the service.

*Flowers are an important part of our adorning of the Cathedral Church
for divine service on many occasions during the year.*

*We are very grateful to Hargreaves Services plc
for their support of our provision of flowers at Durham Cathedral
www.hsgplc.co.uk*

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*This service is sung by the Durham Cathedral Consort of Singers together
with the Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars*

Voluntary

Prelude in C minor

Charles Villiers Stanford

Please stand at the entrance of the Choir and ministers

Hymn

Lord of beauty, thine the splendour
Shown in earth and sky and sea,
Burning sun and moonlight tender,
Hill and river, flower and tree:
Lest we fail our praise to render
Touch our eyes that they may see.

Lord of wisdom, whom obeying
Mighty waters ebb and flow,
While unhasting, undelaying,
Planets on their courses go:
In thy laws thyself displaying,
Teach our minds thyself to know.

Lord of life, alone sustaining
All below and all above,
Lord of love, by whose ordaining
Sun and stars sublimely move:
In our earthly spirits reigning,
Lift our hearts that we may love.

Lord of beauty, bid us own thee,
Lord of truth, our footsteps guide,
Till as Love our hearts enthrone thee,
And, with vision purified,
Lord of all, when all have known thee,
Thou in all art glorified.

Cyril Alington

REGENT SQUARE, *Henry Smart*

Welcome and Introduction

The Reverend Canon Charlie Allen

Minister Let us humbly confess our sins to almighty God.

Please kneel

All **Almighty and most merciful Father;
We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
And we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
According to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake;
That we may hereafter
live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
To the glory of thy holy Name.
Amen.**

Minister May the almighty and merciful God
grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

All

Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please stand

Preces

Richard Lloyd

Cantor

O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:

and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Please sit

The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is :
the compass of the world, and they that dwell therein.
For he hath founded it upon the seas :
and prepared it upon the floods.
Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord :
or who shall rise up in his holy place?
Even he that hath clean hands, and a pure heart :
and that hath not lift up his mind unto vanity,
nor sworn to deceive his neighbour.
He shall receive the blessing from the Lord :
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
This is the generation of them that seek him :
even of them that seek thy face, O Jacob.
Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors :
and the King of glory shall come in.
Who is the King of glory :
it is the Lord strong and mighty,
even the Lord mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors :
and the King of glory shall come in.
Who is the King of glory :
even the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Please stand

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Please sit

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

‘Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone

when the morning stars sang together

and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

Or who shut in the sea with doors

when it burst out from the womb? —

when I made the clouds its garment,

and thick darkness its swaddling band,

and prescribed bounds for it,

and set bars and doors,

and said, “Thus far shall you come, and no farther,

and here shall your proud waves be stopped”?

Have you commanded the morning since your days began,

and caused the dawn to know its place,

so that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,

and the wicked be shaken out of it?

It is changed like clay under the seal,

and it is dyed like a garment.

Light is withheld from the wicked,

and their uplifted arm is broken.

Have you entered into the springs of the sea,

or walked in the recesses of the deep?

Have the gates of death been revealed to you,

or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?

Declare, if you know all this.

Where is the way to the dwelling of light,
and where is the place of darkness,
that you may take it to its territory
and that you may discern the paths to its home?
Surely you know, for you were born then,
and the number of your days is great!

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

Te Deum laudamus

Ralph Vaughan Williams: Te Deum in G

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all angels cry aloud,
the heavens and all the powers therein.
To thee cherubin and seraphin continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world
doth acknowledge thee:
the Father of an infinite majesty;
thine honourable, true and only Son;
also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.
Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee;
and we worship thy name, ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

Please sit

Second Lesson

Colossians 1: 15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands :
 serve the Lord with gladness,
 and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God :
 it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
 we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
 and into his courts with praise :
 be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting :
 and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
 and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
 world without end. Amen.

Please face east

The Apostles' Creed

All	I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
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**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Lesser Litany, Responses and Collects

Richard Lloyd

Cantor The Lord be with you.
Choir And with thy spirit.

Please kneel

Cantor Let us pray.

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

Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect for Sexagesima

O Lord God,
who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do:
Mercifully grant that by thy power
we may be defended against all adversity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord,
in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life,
whose service is perfect freedom:
Defend us thy humble servants
in all assaults of our enemies;
that we, surely trusting in thy defence,
may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father,
Almighty and everlasting God,
who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day:
Defend us in the same with thy mighty power;
and grant that this day we fall into no sin,
neither run into any kind of danger;
but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance,
to do always that is righteous in thy sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please sit

Anthem

sung by the Choir

Christ is the morning-star
who when the night of this world is past
brings to his saints the promise of the light of life
and opens everlasting day.
Alleluia.

The Venerable Bede

Richard Lloyd

Sermon

The Reverend Canon Charlie Allen

The sermon is followed by a prayer and the Grace

**All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 and the love of God,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
 be with us all evermore.
 Amen.**

The minister offers words of farewell and announces the final hymn

Hymn Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
 In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
 Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
 Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
 Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
 Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
 Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

 To all life thou givest — to both great and small;
 In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
 We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
 And wither and perish — but nought changeth thee.

 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
 Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
 All laud we would render: O help us to see
 'Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

Walter Chalmers Smith

*ST DENIO, Adapted from a Welsh song set to a
 hymn in John Roberts's Caniadau y Cyssegre*

The Blessing

Minister The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds
 in the knowledge and love of God,
 and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
 And the blessing of God Almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
 be amongst you and remain with you always.

Choir Amen.

Voluntary Fugue in C minor

Charles Villiers Stanford

Choral Evensong is sung in the Quire at 3.30 p.m. by the Cathedral Choir together with the combined college choirs of Durham University.

Please note that next Sunday (15 February), there will be no service of Morning Prayer at 11.30 a.m. to accommodate the next Community Gathering which takes place at that time (see below).

For all enquiries concerning the provision of pastoral care for members of the cathedral community, please contact The Reverend Daniel Parkinson: daniel.parkinson@durhamcathedral.co.uk.

Student Tuesday

Students are welcome to attend Evensong any time but we extend a particular welcome to students at Evensong on Tuesdays. The next gathering is Tuesday 10 February and, after the service, we will offer food and drink with a chance to engage with each other and with the cathedral clergy in a variety of locations and occasionally with other activities too. We hope to build up a good community of students who worship regularly with us. Evensong on Tuesday starts at 5.30 p.m. and lasts about 40 minutes. Food will be served at 6.15 p.m. and people will be free to go any time.

Community Newsletter

Many of you will have received the February edition of the Cathedral's new community newsletter. It will be issued once a month and will include pastoral words from different members of the cathedral clergy and news about things that might interest the cathedral community—especially about worship, music, talks, and other events that build up our worship and fellowship. It will go to regular worshippers who have joined the community roll as well as other constituencies closely associated with the Cathedral. If you are a regular worshipper here but not on the community roll, you are welcome to join it by sending an email to community@durhamcathedral.co.uk. Alternatively, you can sign up to the newsletter by scanning this QR code:



Durham Cathedral Lent Course 2026: *Giving Thanks*

Lent is traditionally a precious opportunity for Christians to go deeper in faith and the life of prayer. This coming Lent at Durham Cathedral we will be running a Lent Course to explore one of the gems of the *Book of Common Prayer*, the prayer of General Thanksgiving, using a book specially written by the Dean, Philip Plyming. Copies of Philip's book are available to buy at the Cathedral Shop, and from other booksellers.

All members of our worshipping community are invited to join one of four groups which will be meeting weekly during Lent to read and discuss *Giving Thanks* (two chapters per week). We hope this will be a great opportunity not simply to learn more about the life of prayer, but also to get to know each other better, and learn from one another. No specialist knowledge is required.

Led by fellow members of the worshipping community, there will be groups on Tuesday mornings (central Durham), Wednesday afternoons (Cathedral), Wednesday evenings (central Durham), and on Zoom.

To find out more, and to indicate which groups you would be able to join, please scan the QR code or email Martha Stewart on eadean@durhamcathedral.co.uk for a link to the form.



ENCOUNTER!

Encountering God through the Creative Arts

A series of discussions for Lent 2026 at Durham Cathedral with leading figures in the world of the creative arts in conversation with Michael Hampel, Vice-Dean and Precentor of Durham Cathedral. Sundays at 4.30 p.m. for approximately half an hour:

Sunday 22 February—Jolyon Mitchell on film

The Reverend Professor Jolyon Mitchell is Principal of St John's College, Durham University, former producer and journalist with BBC World Service, who has served on international film juries at Venice, Cannes and Berlin

Sunday 1 March—Catherine Fox on literature

Catherine Fox is an author, and senior lecturer in Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University

Sunday 8 March—Greg Doran on theatre

Sir Gregory Doran is former Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company

Sunday 15 March—Peter Taylor on television

Peter Taylor, LVO, is Head of Operations at BBC Studios and oversees the broadcasts of major national events such as Elizabeth II's funeral service and Charles III's Coronation

Sunday 22 March—Mel Howse on art

Mel Howse is an award-winning artist and architectural enameller who created the Illumination Window in the North Quire Aisle at Durham Cathedral

Sunday 29 March—James MacMillan on music

Sir James MacMillan, CBE, is a conductor and composer of sacred choral and orchestral music

**Evensong sung by Durham Cathedral Choir
and the combined choirs of the colleges of Durham University**

Today at 3.30 p.m., the University's college choirs sing Evensong with the Cathedral Choir and the Vice-Chancellor will read the lesson. Everyone is welcome.

Community Gathering: Sunday 15 February at 11.30 a.m.

Following our first community gathering last November, our next such gathering will be on Sunday 15 February—this time at 11.30 a.m. in the Nave, in place of the said service of Morning Prayer which would have taken place then. It's a time for members of the worshipping community to enjoy fellowship with one another, and also to engage directly with the clergy who serve here at the Cathedral. After the meeting, we will go to the Prior's Hall for soup and a roll. All regular worshippers are welcome. Just turn up.

Greece 2026 – Pilgrimage in the Steps of St Paul

As part of Durham Cathedral's commitment to growing pilgrimage, we are planning a pilgrimage to Greece from 7-16 October 2026, tracing the second missionary journey of the apostle Paul. This will be led by our Dean, Philip Plymington, who has researched and taught on Paul for over 20 years, and will be for Durham Cathedral and Friends. Bookings are open and spaces are limited to 45 people. A brochure can be obtained by emailing eadean@durhamcathedral.co.uk

Make a gift to Durham Cathedral

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advancing our mission as a place of prayer, pilgrimage and proclamation,
conserving heritage, and providing welcome.

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- Visit www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20041776
- Use the tap and give machines near the exits
- Drop cash into the collecting boxes or baskets
- Contact development@durhamcathedral.co.uk

Thank you!



Services and other events this week:
(L) = live-streamed (NL) = not live-streamed

Monday 9 February	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (High Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong <i>sung by St John's College Chapel Choir</i> (Quire) (L)
	8.45 p.m.	Compline (online only) (L)
Tuesday 10 February	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	11.15 a.m.	Mothers' Union Prayer Time (Gregory Chapel)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong: Student Tuesday (Quire) (L)
Wednesday 11 February	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
	6.30 p.m.	Catholic Chaplaincy Mass (Quire) (NL)
Thursday 12 February	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
	7.30 p.m.	Gabrieli Roar Concert (NL)
Friday 13 February	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer and Litany (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
Saturday 14 February	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretory) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong <i>sung by RSCM Voices North</i> (Quire) (NL)
	7.30 p.m.	Vivaldi by Candlelight (NL)
Sunday 15 February		<i>The Sunday Next Before Lent (Quinquagesima)</i>
		<i>Choral services today sung by</i>
		<i>University College Chapel Choir</i>
	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP) (High Altar) (NL)
	10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (CW1) (Nave) (L)
	11.30 a.m.	Community Gathering (Nave) (NL)
	3.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (NL)

New Canon Missioner at Durham Cathedral

The Acting Bishop of Durham and Durham Cathedral are delighted to announce the appointment of the Reverend Canon Jane Maycock as the new Canon Missioner and Residentiary Canon at Durham Cathedral.

The Canon Missioner is a new appointment designed to take forward the Cathedral's Proclamation strand within Vision 2033. The Canon Missioner will develop the Cathedral's ministry of evangelism, discipleship and social justice and work with The Reverend Canon Professor Simon Oliver as Co-Director of the Durham Cathedral Institute, hosting leading speakers on key issues facing the world today.

Jane is currently Acting Director of Ministry Development and Interim Diocesan Director of Ordinands in the Diocese of Carlisle. In almost 34 years of ordained ministry she has served in local church ministry and ministered as a theological lecturer, chaplain and Diocesan Director of Ordinands. A published author, she has recently completed her doctoral thesis at Durham University in the area of literature, theology and contemporary culture.

Jane Maycock commented, 'I am thrilled to have been appointed as the new Canon Missioner and Residentiary Canon at Durham Cathedral. It is an exciting time to be joining the team as we develop the Proclamation strand of Vision 2033, and I'm very much looking forward to being part of the Cathedral community.'