



DURHAM
CATHEDRAL

Matins

on

The Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday 8 March 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
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Thank you!



Please stand at the entrance of the Choir and ministers

**Hymn Maker of earth, to thee alone
 Perpetual rest belongs;
 And those bright choirs around thy throne
 May pour their endless songs.**

**But we—ah, holy now no more!
 Are doomed to toil and pain;
Yet exiles on an alien shore
 May sing their country's strain.**

**Father, whose promise binds thee still
 To heal the suppliant throng,
Grant us to mourn the deeds of ill
 That banish us so long;**

**And, while we mourn, in faith to rest
 Upon thy love and care,
Till thou restore us with the blest
 The song of heaven to share.**

**O God the Father, God the Son,
 And God the Holy Ghost,
To thee be praise, great Three in One,
 From thy created host.**

*Latin, Charles Coffin
Translated by J M Neale*

DUNFERMLINE, Scottish Psalter, 1615

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

Matthew Martin

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

God is our hope and strength :
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved :
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.
Though the waters thereof rage and swell :
and though the mountains shake
at the tempest of the same.
The rivers of the flood thereof
shall make glad the city of God :
the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
God is in the midst of her,
therefore shall she not be removed :
God shall help her, and that right early.
The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved :
but God hath shewed his voice,
and the earth shall melt away.
The Lord of hosts is with us :
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord :
what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.
He maketh wars to cease in all the world :
he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder,
and burneth the chariots in the fire.
Be still then, and know that I am God :
I will be exalted among the heathen,
and I will be exalted in the earth.
The Lord of hosts is with us :
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

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 Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, 'Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

"Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land." '

And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.'

Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am ^{am} no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am ^{am} a herdsman, and a dresser of sycomore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

'Now therefore hear the word of the LORD.

You say, "Do not prophesy against Israel,
and do not preach against the house of Isaac."

Therefore, thus says the LORD:

"Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
and your land shall be parcelled out by line;
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land." '

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people :
 how is she become as a widow.
She that was great among the nations,
 and princess among the provinces :
 how is she become tributary!
She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks :
 among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her.
The ways of Zion do mourn,
 because none come to the solemn assembly :
 all her gates are desolate, and she herself is in bitterness.
The Lord hath afflicted her
 for the multitude of her transgressions :
 her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.
All they that go by clap their hands at her :
 they hiss and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem,
 saying,
Is this the city that men called The perfection of beauty :
 The joy of the whole earth?

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

For these things I weep : Mine eye runneth down with water.
From on high hath the Lord sent fire into my bones,
 and it prevaieth against them :
 he hath made me desolate and faint all the day.
My flesh and my skin hath he made old :
 he hath broken my bones.
He hath builded against me :
 and compassed me with gall and travail.
He hath made me to dwell in dark places :
 as those that have been long dead.
I am become a derision to all my people :
 and their song all the day.
Let him give his cheek to him that smiteth him :
 let him be filled full with reproach.

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? :
 behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow.
Remember mine affliction and my misery :
 the wormwood and the gall.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us :
 behold and see our reproach.
The joy of our heart is ceased :
 our dance is turned into mourning.
The crown is fallen from our head :
 woe unto us for we have sinned.
For this our heart is faint :
 for these things our eyes are dim.
Let us search and try our ways :
 and turn again unto the Lord.
Turn thou us unto thee, O Lord, and we shall be turned :
 renew our days as of old.
It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed :
 because his compassions fail not.
They are new every morning :
 great is thy faithfulness.
The Lord is my portion, saith my soul :
 therefore will I hope in him.
O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul :
 thou hast redeemed my life.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

Please sit

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 1: 1-11

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God that is in Corinth, including all the saints throughout Achaia: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering.

Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation. We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, of the affliction we experienced in Asia; for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us; on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again, as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

After a short silence, please stand with the Choir

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel :
 for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us :
 in the house of his servant David.
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets :
 which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies :
 and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers :
 and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath
 which he sware to our forefather Abraham :
 that he would give us;
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies :
 might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him :
 all the days of our life.
And thou, Child,
 shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest :
 for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord
 to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people :
 for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God :
 whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness,
 and in the shadow of death :
 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
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.
 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

Matthew Martin

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 the Third Sunday of Lent

We beseech thee, Almighty God,
look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants,
and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty,
to be our defence against all our enemies;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect for the First Day of Lent (commonly called Ash Wednesday)

Almighty and everlasting God,
who hatest nothing that thou hast made,
and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent:
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts,
that we worthily lamenting our sins,
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
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

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato;
passus et sepultus est.

*He was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, and was buried.*

The Nicene Creed

Antonio Lotti

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 My faith looks up to thee,
 Thou Lamb of Calvary,
 Saviour divine!
 Now hear me while I pray,
 Take all my guilt away,
 O let me from this day
 Be wholly thine.**

**May thy rich grace impart
 Strength to my fainting heart,
 My zeal inspire;
 As thou hast died for me,
 O may my love to thee
 Pure, warm, and changeless be,
 A living fire.**

While life's dark maze I tread,
And grief's around me spread,
Be thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
From thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Saviour, then in love
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul.

Ray Palmer

OLIVET, Lowell Mason

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 Choral No 2 in B minor

César Franck

Choral Evensong is sung in the Quire at 3.30 p.m., followed at 4.30 p.m. by the third in our series of Lent Talks with Sir Gregory Doran, the former Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company (see overleaf for more details).

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.

Community Newsletter

Many of you will have received the March 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:



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 March 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.

Songs of Praise: Sunday 15 March at 3.30 p.m.

We're staging 'Songs of Praise' on Sunday 15 March at 3.30 p.m. – an unashamed replica of the famous BBC programme (but not the BBC programme itself!) – to bring Cathedral and Diocese together to sing their favourite hymns and worship songs. You don't need to book. Just turn up.

Durham University Chamber Choir: Monday 16 March at 7.30 p.m.

DUCC which includes most of our Choral Scholars is performing a programme entitled *I Heard A Voice from Heaven* which features Howells' *Requiem* and Łukaszewski's *Lamentationes*. Tickets are available from durhamcathedral.ticketsolve.com or on the door

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

Catherine Fox: Angels and Men

The novelist Catherine Fox who gave the Lent Talk last Sunday kindly signed copies of her novel *Angels and Men* which is set in Durham. These are on sale in the Cathedral Shop which open each weekday from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and, on Sundays from 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Celebrating St Cuthbert 2026

We are looking forward to celebrating St Cuthbert at a special service of Evensong with a Procession to the Shrine on **Friday 20 March at 6.00 p.m.** The service is sung by Durham Cathedral Consort of Singers with the Lay Clerks and Choral Scholars and Junior Consort and the preacher is Rhidian Brook—novelist, screen writer and broadcaster. We very much hope you will be with us on this special day. Please bring guests with you too. All congregational seating is unreserved. The service will last about one hour and drinks will be served in church afterwards.

On Saturday 21 March there is a Pilgrimage Walk from Chester-le-Street to Durham, via Finchale Priory. Pilgrims are invited to gather at St Mary and St Cuthbert Church Parish Centre for refreshments from 9.00 a.m., ahead of a short service of Morning Prayer at 9.30 a.m., prior to departing at 10.00 a.m. Walking pilgrims are also welcome to join later at Finchale Priory, during the lunch break from 12.30 p.m., before the group departs for Durham at 1.00 p.m. Arrival at the Cathedral will be in good time for the Eucharist at 4.00 p.m. Travel: You can get to Chester-le-Street by train (a 15-minute journey from Durham) or bus. A bus transporting people to Finchale Priory will leave Durham County Hall at 12.15 p.m. (with free car parking that day). The bus to Finchale costs £7 per person. You can book the bus to Finchale Priory or sign up for the walk from Chester-le-Street at www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/events/st-cuthberts-day

At 4.00 p.m., the Right Reverend Sarah Clark, Bishop of Jarrow, will preside at the Eucharist and the Very Reverend Dr Philip Plyming, Dean of Durham, will preach. The service is sung by Durham Cathedral Choir and Newcastle Cathedral Choir. There is no need to book for the service: just turn up and sit in the congregation. This service will also be our chance to give thanks to God for Bishop Sarah's ministry. There will be speeches and a presentation to Bishop Sarah at the conclusion of the service. To contribute to a leaving gift from the Diocese, please donate at:

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

Monday 9 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (Quire) (L)
	8.45 p.m.	Compline (online only) (L)
Tuesday 10 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong: Student Tuesday (Quire) (L)
Wednesday 11 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
Thursday 12 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	1.20 p.m.	Music Outreach Celebration (Nave) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
Friday 13 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer and Litany (Feretary) (L)
	12.15 p.m.	Prayers at the Pietá
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	5.30 p.m.	Evensong (Quire) (L)
	7.30 p.m.	Lord of the Rings Concert (Nave) (NL)
Saturday 14 March	8.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (Feretary) (L)
	12.30 p.m.	Holy Communion (Benedict Altar) (NL)
	<u>3.30 p.m.</u>	Evensong in Celebration of County Durham Life and in thanksgiving for Dame Susan Snowdon's time as HM Lord-Lieutenant (Nave) (NL)
Sunday 15 March		<i>The Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>
	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP) (High Altar) (NL)
	10.00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist (CW1) (Nave) (L)
	11.30 a.m.	Matins (Quire) (NL)
	3.30 p.m.	Songs of Praise (Nave) (NL)
	4.30 p.m.	Lent Talk: Peter Taylor (L)

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*The Cathedral Office, The College, Durham DH1 3EH – Tel: (0191) 386 4266
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