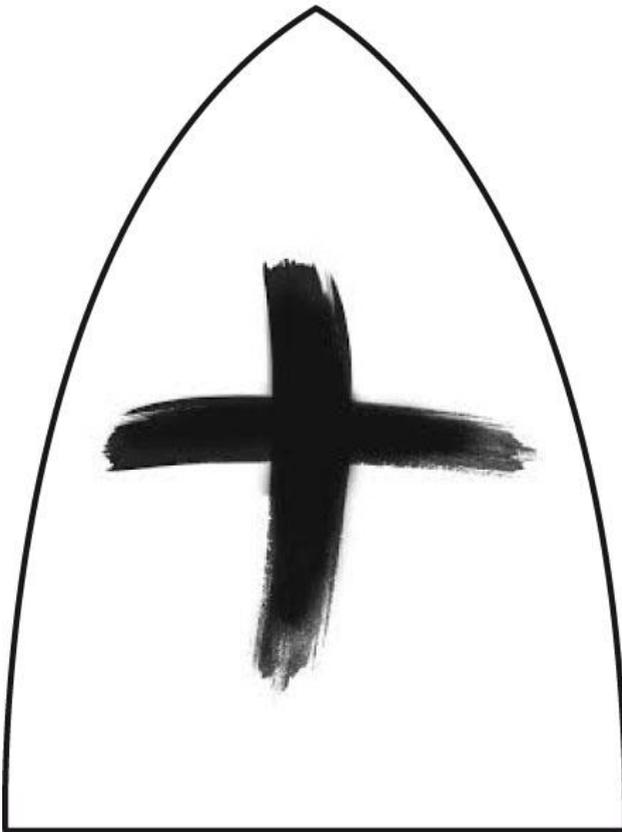




GUILDFORD
CATHEDRAL

5.30pm
Monday 23 February 2026

CHORAL
EVENSONG
during a Prayer Vigil
for Bishop Andrew



WELCOME

PRAYER VIGIL FOR BISHOP ANDREW

This service is taking place on a day of prayer for the Bishop of Guildford, Andrew Watson, who has recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Prayer is being held from 12noon until 10pm and you are invited to add your prayers to those already offered to God today. You have been given a candle with this order of service – at the end of Evensong you will be invited to either light it at the high altar and leave it there, as a sign of your prayer, or take it home with you to pray there. You are welcome to either stay in the nave to pray, or receive prayer and anointing in either the Regimental Chapel, Children’s Chapel, Lady Chapel or Baptistry. Please ask a steward for directions. The evening will conclude with Compline at 9.45pm.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SERVICE

We sing the hymns and say together the words in **bold** type. Although posture is suggested please do whatever is most comfortable for you. **A large print copy of this order of service is available from the stewards.**

PRECES AND RESPONSES

Humphrey Clucas (b.1941)

CANTICLES

Evening Service in F *George Dyson (1883-1964)*

OFFICIANT

The officiant this evening is The Very Reverend Bob Cooper, Dean of Guildford.

Please stand as the procession enters to organ music

Stand

INTROIT

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.*

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

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

Words: from the Roman Mass

Music: Andrew John Watson (b.1961)

OPENING VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

○ Lord, open thou our lips
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

○ God, make speed to save us.

○ 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.

WELCOME The Very Reverend Bob Cooper

Sit **PSALM 67**

God be merciful unto us, and bless us :
and shew us the light of his countenance,
and be merciful unto us;
That thy way may be known upon earth :
thy saving health among all nations.
Let the people praise thee, O God :
yea, let all the people praise thee.
O let the nations rejoice and be glad :
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,
and govern the nations upon earth.
Let the people praise thee, O God :
let all the people praise thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase :
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.
God shall bless us :
and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

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.

Chant: Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

Sit **OLD TESTAMENT** Genesis 6.11-22; 7.11-16

The first lesson is written in the sixth chapter of the book of Genesis, beginning at the eleventh verse.

The earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw that the earth was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted its ways upon the earth. And God said to Noah, 'I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with

the earth. Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above; and put the door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you; and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up; and it shall serve as food for you and for them.' Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

In the six-hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons, entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind - every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the Lord shut him in.

Here ends the first lesson.

Stand

MAGNIFICAT

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

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.

Text: Luke 1.46-55

Sit

NEW TESTAMENT Luke 4.14-21

The second lesson is written in the fourth chapter of the gospel of Luke, beginning at the fourteenth verse.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he

came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.

The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

Here ends the second lesson.

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :

according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;

Which thou hast prepared :

before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :

and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

Text: Luke 2. 29-32

APOSTLES' CREED

**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 catholick Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE LESSER LITANY, LORD'S PRAYER AND PRECES

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

*Sit or
kneel* 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ did fast forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to thy Spirit;
and, as thou knowest our weakness,
so may we know thy power to save;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR 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 thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels, and all just works do proceed;
give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;
that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that, by thee,
we being defended from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers
of this night; for the love of thy only Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Sit **ANTHEM**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.
Amen.

Words: The Blessing of Aaron

Music: John Rutter (b. 1945)

Sit or kneel **THE PRAYERS** led by Canon Chris Hollingshurst

The prayers conclude with

**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.**

Stand **HYMN**



All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;
ye lights of evening, find a voice:

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia!

Thou fire, so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light:

Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
 O praise him, alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
let them his glory also show:

All ye that are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
 O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God, and on him cast your care:

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness;
 O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

Words: William Henry Draper (1855-1933) after Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)
Music: CP 250 Lasst uns erfreuen, melody from an Easter hymn in 'Geistliche Kirchengesang' Cologne (1623) arranged by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

BLESSING

The Bishop of Dorking, Paul Davies

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF A CANDLE

*As the organist plays, a large candle is lit in the quire as a prayer to God for
Bishop Andrew and his family.*

You are invited to come to light your candles at the high altar and leave it there, as a sign of your prayer, and you are welcome to either stay in the nave to pray or receive prayer and anointing in either the Regimental Chapel, Children's Chapel, Lady Chapel or Baptistry.

Please ask a steward for directions.

We keep quiet reverence as we continue to pray.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

LENT TALKS

Following the success of our Advent series, we're delighted to announce that post-service talks have returned for the first four Sundays of Lent and you are welcome to join us at 11.30am after the Eucharist in the Chapter House, for reflection and discussion until 12.15pm. All are welcome to the remaining talks:

Sun 1 March – Lent and Confession (Very Revd Bob Cooper, Dean)

Sun 8 March – Lent and Humility (Revd Jo Winn-Smith, Minor Canon)

Sun 15 March – Lent and Self-Discipline (Canon Chris Hollingshurst)

OBSERVING THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

During Lent we are holding a weekly observance of the Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral nave. During this service we reflect on images of Christ's Passion, sing a hymn, hear a Bible reading and pray. These will be held on the following dates, starting at 1pm:

Thursday 26 February

Friday 6 March

Thursday 12 March

Friday 20 March

Friday 27 March

The Dean says, "The Stations of the Cross invite us to walk slowly through Christ's final hours, from condemnation to burial. There is something profoundly moving about physically journeying from station to station, pausing at each moment of suffering and love. We are not passive observers but pilgrims, allowing our bodies to participate in prayer alongside our hearts and minds. The Stations strip away distraction, drawing us into the story of redemption through simple images and ancient words. Whether this is familiar to you or something entirely new, you are warmly welcome to join us. In walking this way together, we discover afresh that the path to Easter leads through the shadow of the Cross."

DIOCESAN CHRISM MASS - MAUNDY THURSDAY 11am

You are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Chrism Mass on Maundy Thursday 2 April at 11am, at which the oils for use in parishes throughout the year, for baptisms, confirmation, ordination and healing, are blessed and clergy reaffirm their ordination vows.

DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION SERVICE

The Cathedral will be holding the annual Diocesan Confirmation Service here on Saturday 23 May at 7pm. Confirmation is an opportunity for you to confirm the baptism vows made for you by your parents, if you were baptised as a young child. If you are an adult who has not been baptised, you can be baptised and confirmed together in this service. If you are interested in confirming your Christian faith in this way and committing yourself to follow Jesus Christ, please speak to a member of the clergy team who will be able to give you more details.

SAFEGUARDING AT GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral is committed to Safeguarding as an integral part of its ministry and mission, promoting a safer culture and the welfare of every child, young person and adult. As such, the Cathedral has robust policies, procedures and guidelines in place, to ensure good practice throughout the community. Chapter has overall responsibility for Safeguarding, and the Safeguarding Leadership Group reports to Chapter every month on the progress of our Safeguarding journey and any issues arising. The members of the Safeguarding Leadership Group are listed below and can be contacted at any time on any Safeguarding concern you may have about yourself or another member of the Cathedral Community.

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