

Canterbury
Cathedral

What's On

April - June 2025

Your guide to worship, events,
family-friendly activities, and new visitor
experiences at Canterbury Cathedral



Image © MEGA Events

Lots to discover:

Holy Week and Easter
Services and Events
Stone Week and Family Tours
Illuminated Orchestra
and much more!

Kids Go
FREE

Visitor entry. T&Cs apply

Visitor opening times and the availability of events and activities may change at short notice due to funerals, weddings, services or exceptional circumstances.

Please check our website prior to your visit for opening times, closures and restrictions.

The Cathedral takes the safety and security of all our worshippers and visitors very seriously. If you are coming to the Cathedral, please be aware that as a condition of entry we reserve the right to search any bags or luggage on arrival.

Please take extra care when walking around our historic building, as the stone floors may be unpredictably uneven in places and entry to some parts of the Cathedral is via stone steps or access ramps of varying gradients. Lighting levels may vary.

For more information, please contact:

Cathedral House, The Precincts, Canterbury, CT1 2EH

+44 (0) 1227 762862

enquiries@canterbury-cathedral.org

www.canterbury-cathedral.org

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, X and Bluesky:

@CburyCathedral



Welcome from Dean David



Our programmes for worship, events and activities for these months are underpinned by a theme of 'HOPE'.

This reflects the time of the year, as winter draws in and spring stretches out.

It connects with the Christian season of Lent, which although includes penance and fasting, is really a season about learning to hope afresh in God's goodness, despite our failures.

This then takes us into Holy Week and Easter, which again is a festival of hope, as we celebrate the costs of love and new life revealed in the resurrection of Jesus. This year it is amplified by the Pope, who has invited all Christians to mark 2025 as a 'Year of Hope'.

I have been surprised by hope; as to where it comes, and from whom it emerges. I have learnt it is not obvious, and is not achieved by positive thinking or a cheery outlook, but is something of far greater importance and depth.

Hope seems to emerge from dire situations, and yet speaks of the underlying way things are truly shaped by a love which doesn't let anyone, or any place, down. The news, and too many situations, weigh us down to sadness and beyond. But, hope resets us into the present, with the ability to look forward to a future which is both unknown, yet undoubtedly shaped by love.

One letter in the Bible written to a very dispersed community facing great challenges, speaks of them having 'a living hope'. That is also what we stand for at Canterbury Cathedral; and we invite you in to explore the gifts of hope built into our ancient walls, and lived today through this community called to witness, to hope.

David Monteith, Dean of Canterbury

How to use this guide

Services and events are listed in date order, with colour-coded symbols to show which type of event each is:

WS Worship & Spirituality

MP Music & Performance

AE Art & Exhibitions

TT Talks & Tours

MD Make & Do

CF Child Friendly



This guide offers a brief summary of these months' worship, events, child-friendly activities, and new visitor experiences at Canterbury Cathedral.

Please go to our website for more information and ways to book, if required:

www.canterbury-cathedral.org/events

[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) and stay up to date with all the latest events, news and offers.

Please note, the contents of this guide are correct at the time of publication, but may be subject to change. New events and services may also be added.

To avoid disappointment, when planning your visit we advise you to check our website for up-to-date details, seasonal service changes and any closures in place.

Our Regular Services

WS

All are welcome, and there is never a charge to attend a service of worship or to come into the Cathedral to pray.

Our Chaplains lead prayers on the hour and are available outside of regular service times if you wish to speak with them. Confessions are also available throughout the day.

Monday to Saturday

07:30 **Monday-Friday:** Morning Prayer

08:00 Holy Communion

09:15 **Saturdays:** Morning Prayer

12:00 -13:00 **Fridays:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) and Counsel

12:30 **Wednesdays:** Holy Communion

17:30 **Mon-Wed & Fri-Sat:** Choral Evensong †

Thursdays: Said Evening Prayer including silence

Sunday

08:00 Holy Communion (using the Book of Common Prayer)

09:15 Morning Prayer

10:30 Children's Church* in the Community Studio

11:00 Sung Eucharist †

17:30 Choral Evensong †

Sunday Worship for Children

Children and young people are a valued part of our worshipping community and there are a variety of ways for them to get involved and for families to find support.

At our 11:00 Sung Eucharist on Sundays*, there are parent-led crèche facilities for babies and toddlers and we invite 5–11** year olds to join us for Children's Church from 10:30, where through story, songs, craft and games we worship together before joining the church family for communion.

*Children's Church runs most Sundays, but please check dates at canterbury-cathedral.org/worship

Children's Church is free, but with a suggested donation of £1 per family to contribute to running costs.

**Under 5s are welcome, but must be supervised by a parent/carer.

Regular Talks, Tours & Exhibitions

FREE* Mini Talks

DAILY Between 10:00-16:00, various intervals

15-minute bite-sized talks about the Cathedral's history, delivered by our knowledgeable team. Subject to availability on the day. Ask at our Visitor Centre.

***Included free with a valid Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' Card. Children aged 17 and under go free (T&Cs apply).**

TT

'The Inside Story' Tour

Mon-Sat 10:30,12:00 & 14:00; Sun 13:00

(There will be no tours on 17, 18 & 20 April)

Discover the story of Canterbury Cathedral through its soaring architecture, beautiful medieval stained glass and the history that helped to make and shape it.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

TT

NEW AND FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

FREE EXHIBITION

Eat. Sleep. Pray. Repeat.

From mid-April 2025 in the Viewing Gallery, Visitor Centre

Visit the fascinating new exhibition in our Viewing Gallery, which delves into the lives of the medieval monks of Canterbury Cathedral.

Told through their own words, drawings and objects, discover what they did with their day, what they cared about, and why they needed sign language for "pass the soap"!

This family-friendly exhibition is available to view every day, during visiting hours.

Check our website for [visitor opening times](#).

You do not need a Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' card to view this exhibition.

AE

CF



April

RECOMMENDED LENT BOOK

Doorways to Hope by Christopher Chapman

Forty days of spiritual wisdom with suggestions for reflection and action.

The author, Christopher Chapman, will be leading a Lenten Quiet Day on 12 April ([see page 10](#)). Copies of the book are available in our Cathedral shop and other online outlets.

WS

'The St Thomas Becket Story' Tour

Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 April, 11:15-12:30

(16 April tour date is subject to change)

Uncover the full story of St Thomas Becket in the Cathedral, where echoes of his life and legacy resound.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

TT

Gentle Tours

Thursdays 3 & 17 April, between 14:15-16:00

Join us for our step-free tours, delivered at a gentle pace, in a smaller group; split into two parts, with a comfort break.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

[Find out more](#) - Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email to our Visits Office to reserve your space.

TT

Stained Glass Windows Tour

Fridays 4, 11 & 25 April, 11:15-12:30

An introduction to the history and range of stained glass found at the Cathedral, from medieval to modern.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

TT

WS

Worship & Spirituality

TT

Talks & Tours

MD

Make & Do

MP

Music & Performance

AE

Art & Exhibitions

CF

Child Friendly

Easter Holiday Activities

CF

***Included free with a valid Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' Card. Children aged 17 and under go free (T&Cs apply).**

FREE* Easter Holiday Drop-in Crafts

MD

Mon 7 - Wed 9 & Mon 14 - Wed 16 April, 11:00-15:00
- by the Compass Rose in the Cathedral

Join us for free* mindful crafts for all ages!

Make a woven paper-plate flower or a 'tie-dye' effect paper cross. Take them home for Easter decorations or contribute to a collaborative, community piece that will be displayed in our Cathedral Visitor Centre.



FREE* Family Tours

TT

Mon 7 - Fri 11 & Mon 14 - Wed 16 April, 11:05 & 13:30

Bring your little historians to Canterbury Cathedral to hear stories of Becket and the Black Prince, Monks and Miracles, Tombs and Towers.

These tours are aimed at children aged 6 - 13 but are suitable for the whole family to enjoy!

Family Tours last 45 minutes, and pre-booking is suggested as spaces are limited.

To book, email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org

FREE* Easter Holiday Music Workshops

MP

Thurs 10 & Fri 11 April, 10:00-11:00 & 14:00-15:00
- in the Chapter House

Join us for a free* musical workshop this Easter holiday!

Discover the fun and magic of music, in a historic setting; with singing, percussion and games - accompanied by fluffy (toy) chicks and bunnies!

Perfect for children aged 4-11 (and their grown ups!).

No need to book.

Find out more at www.canterbury-cathedral.org/easter

FREE Informal Organ Recital

MP

with John Mountford, Director of Music, Oakham School

Fri 4 April, 18:15 in the Quire - after 17:30 Evensong

One in our series of informal organ recitals, featuring the Cathedral's resident organists and guests.

Free and un-ticketed, with a retiring collection.

[Find out more](#)

See recital programmes in the monthly Services and Music List

A FRIENDLY TALK

TT

Ostend - it's more than just fish and flip flops

Thurs 10 April, 10:30-11:30 in the Clagett Auditorium

Melanie Gibson-Barton, one of our most popular speakers, will return to speak about Ostend; a coastal city that combines the grandeur of the Belle Époque, with the artistic flair of the Flemish artist James Ensor, and his many successors. Melanie will offer an insider view of the history of this popular city by the Sea; to explore sandcastles, ferries, royalty, artists, architecture, wars, and herring.

**£10 Friends of Canterbury Cathedral;
£15 non-members.**

[Find out more and book](#)

This event is organised by and in support of The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral (Registered Charity No 256575).



Historic Graffiti Tour

TT

Thurs 10 April, 13:15-14:15

Members of our Historic Graffiti Team will shine a light on a selection of historic graffiti found throughout the Cathedral.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

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Worship & Spirituality

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Child Friendly

Cathedral Library Tour

Thurs 10 April, 14:00-15:00

Learn about our Library and view some of the amazing, historic collection close-up.

£8 per person. Cathedral admission not included.

Pre-booking required; not suitable for under 12s.

[Find out more and book](#)



Spring Precincts & Gardens Tour

Fridays 11, 18 & 25 April, 11:15-12:30

Explore the Cathedral's spring gardens with one of our gardening team, just as the daffodils, alliums and spring grasses burst into life! Discover the history of the Cathedral's outdoor spaces, and how they are cared for today.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.



American Connections Tour

Fri 11 & Thurs 24 April, 11:15-12:30

Discover the strong bond Canterbury Cathedral has with the United States.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.



LENTEN QUIET DAY

Through the Door to Hope:

Stepping into hope within challenging times

Sat 12 April, 10:00-16:00 - in the Jesus Chapel, All Saints Chapel and quiet garden of No.15, The Precincts

An opportunity to reflect on the nature of hope, with a spirituality that engages what is real, to bring about change.

This quiet day is led by Christopher Chapman, spiritual director, retreat leader, teacher and writer; based on his book *Doorways to Hope*.

£12 per person - Bookable via Eventbrite

[Find out more and book](#)



Palm Sunday 13 April

Gather at the Yeomanry Memorial in Canterbury (opposite Nationwide), where we will bless the Palms and informally process to the Cathedral.

For those unable to walk, please go straight to the Cathedral and blessed Palms will be brought to you.

10:45 Blessing of the Palms and Procession

11:00 Palm Sunday Eucharist †

17:30 Palm Sunday Evensong †



NON-RESIDENTIAL

Holy Week Retreat at Canterbury Cathedral led by Canon Emma

Wednesday 16 April - Easter Day (Sunday 20 April)

Immerse yourself in the hope of the Easter story at Canterbury Cathedral; through worship, reflections, Bible study and silence.

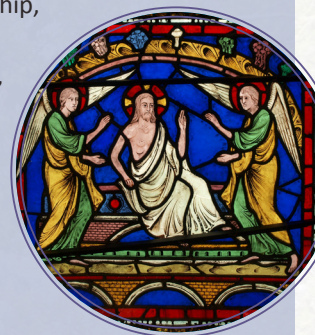
Join us in this transformational time, for a special programme of events.

Booking essential; limited spaces.

£150 per person for full retreat; or £50 per person per day.

This is a non-residential retreat; accommodation is not included.

To find out more and book, email stay@canterburycathedrallodge.org



A Concert of Music by Candlelight

Good Friday (18 April), 19:30-21:00 in the Quire

The Lay Clerks and Organists of Canterbury Cathedral will perform a selection of music appropriate to Holy Week.

The Cathedral Choir will be directed by Jamie Rogers, Assistant Director of Music; the organ will be played by David Newsholme, Director of Music.

Tickets: £22 (Incl. £2 booking fee)

[Find out more and book](#)



WS	Worship & Spirituality	TT	Talks & Tours	MD	Make & Do
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Holy Week and Easter

Living Hope

WS

Holy Week Reflections: Living with Hope †

Monday 14 - Wednesday 16 April, 17:30 in the Quire

Join Dean David and the choir each evening for a Holy Week reflection based on our Lent and Easter theme of 'Hope'.

A service of **Said Evening Prayer** will also take place each day **Monday 14 - Saturday 19 April, at 16:00 in the Crypt.**

Mon 14 April - Wed 16 April

16:00 Said Evening Prayer

17:30 Holy Week Reflection: Living with Hope †

Maundy Thursday 17 April

11:00 Chrism Eucharist with Renewal of Vows and blessing of Oils †

16:00 Said Evening Prayer

19:30 Liturgy of Maundy Thursday, with Foot Washing and Vigil

Good Friday 18 April

10:00 Good Friday Family Service

12:00 The Cross of Hope - Meditations led by Dean David
-13:30

13:45 The Liturgy of the Cross,
-15:00 concluding in the Precincts

16:00 Said Evening Prayer

Holy Saturday 19 April

16:00 Said Evening Prayer

19:30 Vigil and first Eucharist of Easter

Easter Day Sun 20 April

08:10 Sung Eucharist - Broadcast live on BBC Radio 4.

Doors open at 07:30. All must be seated by 07:45; due to broadcast requirements, late comers cannot be admitted.

11:00 Easter Day Eucharist † with Bishop Rose

17:30 Solemn Evensong †

FREE* Gregory and Peti's Easter Trail

Easter Monday (21 April), during visiting hours

Follow the trail map to discover the real meaning of Easter as you explore different parts of the Cathedral, and learn why this festival is the most important celebration in the Christian calendar.

Return your completed trail sheet to the Cathedral Shop to claim your (chocolate) prize!



***Included free with a valid Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' Card. Children aged 17 and under go free (T&Cs apply).**

Tudors and Stuarts Weekend 2025

Fri 25 - Sun 27 April, various timings and locations

The Centre for Kent History and Heritage's annual Canterbury History Weekend returns for its 10th year!

A diverse programme of lectures and guided visits showcase recent research on the period of the 'Tudors & Stuarts', making it readily accessible to a wide audience.

Among the exciting internationally-recognised scholars and well-known, popular historians who will be in attendance are Alison Weir, Glenn Richardson, Clare Jackson, Steven Gunn, and Jackie Eales. They will cover topics across the period featuring several Tudor and Stuart monarchs and the problems faced by them and their subjects across a turbulent period in British history.

Tickets: £10 per event; £8 per event when buying 10 or more tickets; £2 student tickets available for some lectures

This weekend event is organised by the CCCU Centre for Kent History and Heritage in conjunction with Canterbury Cathedral Archives & Library, which will provide two tours.

[Find out more & book](#)

WS Worship & Spirituality

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CF Child Friendly

† *Live streamed on our YouTube Channel.*

May

Gentle Tours

Thursdays 1, 15 & 29 May, between 14:15-16:00

Join us for our step-free tours, delivered at a gentle pace, in a smaller group; split into two parts, with a comfort break.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

[Find out more](#) - Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email to our Visits Office to reserve your space.



Stained Glass Windows Tour

Fridays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May, 11:15-12:30

An introduction to the history and range of stained glass found at the Cathedral, from medieval to modern.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.



FREE Informal Organ Recital

with Robin Walker, The King's School, Canterbury

Fri 2 May, 18:15 in the Quire after 17:30 Evensong

One in our series of informal organ recitals, featuring the Cathedral's resident organists and guests.

Free and un-ticketed, with a retiring collection.

[Find out more](#)

See recital programmes in the monthly Services and Music List



Pray with the Labyrinth

Sat 3 May, 10:30-16:00 in the Crypt

An opportunity to meet and know yourself, meet the divine or sacred, and relate to others.

Pray and be mindful as you take a meditative walk using a medieval maze pattern derived from that at Chartres Cathedral in France. [Find out more](#)



ONLINE BOOK GROUP

The Fire of Love by Richard Rolle (c.1300-1349)

Tuesdays over 10 weeks (starting 6 May), 20:00 - 21:00 GMT via Zoom

The Fire of Love presents the thoughts and feelings of the 14th-century hermit Richard Rolle, as he confronts the divine mystery. Rolle's personal love of God and the sweetness and melody of his writings assure his place among the foremost pre-Reformation English mystics.

Join Canon Emma online via Zoom to reflect and discuss this profound exploration of the love of God.

This group is free, but donations are kindly accepted.

Booking essential - Book to be sent a Zoom link.

[Find out more and book](#)



'The St Thomas Becket Story' Tour

Wednesdays 7, 14, 21 & 28 May, 11:15-12:30

Uncover the full story of St Thomas Becket in the Cathedral, where echoes of his life and legacy resound.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.



'Climb the Corona' Tour

Wednesdays 7, 14, 21 & 28 May, 14:15-15:15

Fridays 9, 16, 23 & 30 May, 14:15-15:15

The Corona Chapel was built in the 12th century to house the crown - 'corona' in Latin - of St Thomas Becket's skull, which had been sliced off during his murder and was revered as a saintly relic.

Explore the Chapel, usually closed to the public, before climbing the 95 steps to the top of the Corona Tower itself!

£12 per person. Cathedral admission not included.

This is a popular tour; pre-booking suggested. Over 16s only.

[Find out more and book](#)



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VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations



This year, the nation celebrates the 80th Anniversary of 'Victory in Europe Day' (VE Day), which marked the end of the war in Europe on May 8th 1945.

In honour of this day, we are holding a special programme of services and events at Canterbury Cathedral.

Choral Evensong to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day †

Thurs 8 May, 17:30

This service will feature the lighting of the VE Day 80 Lamp Light of Peace, and the singing of "I vow to thee my country", which is to be sung across the nation on this day, to mark this very special commemoration.



Ringling Out in Celebration of Peace

Thurs 8 May, 18:30

As church bells ring out across the nation to mark VE Day, the Cathedral bells will join in the peal.

FREE* WWII-themed Mini Talks

Thurs 8 May - Between 10:00-16:00, various intervals

Join us for a series of special themed 15-minute bite-sized talks, delivered by our knowledgeable team, telling stories of bravery and sacrifice from WWII.

Subject to availability on the day. Ask at our Visitor Centre.

***Included free with a valid Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' Card. Children aged 17 and under go free (T&Cs apply).**



The Canterbury Book of Remembrance

On display throughout May, in the North Quire Aisle

This fine hand-written volume records the names of the 121 civilians who died in Canterbury during World War II.

SPECIAL THEMED TOUR

'The Cathedral in WWII' Tours

Mon 5 & Tues 6 May, 11:15-12:30

Thurs 8 May, 12:30-13:45 & 14:30-15:45

Fri 9 May, 12:30-13:45 & Sat 10 May, 11:15-12:30

Join us on a special tour telling the story of how Canterbury Cathedral fared in WWII; from the preservation of precious stained glass, to the work of the brave firewatchers, perched on the roof, who saved the Cathedral from the worst of the Blitz.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.



Enjoy Fish and Chips in the Lodge Lounge

Mon 5 - Fri 9 May, during café opening hours

During your visit to the Cathedral, pop in to our onsite Lounge café and enjoy traditional fish and chips - Britain's favourite dish - to celebrate VE Day.

Why Fish and Chips? To pay tribute to the brave fishermen who fished the seas and the farmers and land girls who toiled in the fields.

See menu on the day for prices. No need to book.



Worship & Spirituality



Talks & Tours



Make & Do



Music & Performance



Art & Exhibitions



Child Friendly

American Connections Tour

VE Day (See page 16): **Thurs 8 May, 11:15-12:30**

Memorial Day: Mon 26 May, 11:15-12:30

Discover the strong bond Canterbury Cathedral has with the United States.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

TT

Historic Graffiti Tour

Thurs 15 May, 13:15-14:15

Members of our Historic Graffiti Team will shine a light on a selection of historic graffiti found throughout the Cathedral.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space

TT

Support

The Big FRIENDLY Sing! *BOOK NOW*

Sat 10 May, 18:00-19:30 in the Quire

Support The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral by joining us for an exciting performance of Mozart's *Requiem*; performed by a choir of 200 enthusiastic amateurs, and Cathedral musicians!

We are fully booked for singers, but if you would like to be added to the waitlist email friends@canterbury-cathedral.org

Tickets: £15; Children aged 17 and under go free

[Find out more and book](#)

This is a charity event in support of The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral (Registered Charity No 256575).

MP

Cathedral Library Tour

Thurs 15 May, 14:00-15:00

Learn about our Library and view some of the amazing, historic collection close-up.

£8 per person. Cathedral admission not included.

Pre-booking required; not suitable for under 12s.

[Find out more and book](#)

TT

A FRIENDLY TALK

Jane Austen in Kent with Dr Susan Civate

Thurs 22 May, 10:30-11:30 in the Clagett Auditorium

2025 is the 250th anniversary of the birth of Jane Austen.

Author of some of the best-known novels in English literature, Austen had many connections to Kent, and is known to have visited our Cathedral and Canterbury.

In this talk, Dr Susan Civate, Reader in Romanticism at Canterbury Christ Church University, reveals more.

£10 Friends of Canterbury Cathedral, £15 non-members

[Find out more and book](#)

This event is organised by and in support of The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral (Charity No 256575).

TT

MONTHLY FRIENDLY Singing for Wellbeing

Mon 12 May, 14:00-15:00

St Paul's Church Hall, Canterbury, CT1 1NH

Turn up for a cuppa and a biscuit followed by sociable singing to put a smile on your face. Led by Jamie Rogers, Assistant Director of Music, and our Choral Scholars. [Find out more](#)

All welcome. No need to book.

Free to attend; donations welcomed.

This event is organised by and in support of The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral (Charity No 256575).

MP

NEW Private Evening Cathedral Tour

Fri 23 May, 18:30-20:00

As evening falls outside and the crowds have gone home, experience Canterbury Cathedral in a unique way.

Discover 1,400 years of history as you explore the Cathedral, hear stories of saints and royalty etched in stained glass and stone, and explore areas not usually open to the public.

£40 per person. Pre-booking required.

[Find out more and book](#)

TT



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Murder, Miracles, Liturgy, and Stained Glass: Thomas Becket and Benedict of Peterborough

TT

Tues 27 May, 19:00 - in the Michael Berry Lecture Theatre
- Old Sessions House, Canterbury Christ Church University

Canterbury Christ Church University's annual Becket Lecture given by Professor Rachel Koopmans, expert on medieval history and associate professor of York University, Canada.

Free lecture. No need to book. Wine reception from 18:30

Find more events like this at www.canterbury.ac.uk/events

May Half Term Fun

CF

***Included free with a valid Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' Card. Children aged 17 and under go free (T&Cs apply).**

FREE* Stone Week Activities

Tues 27 - Thurs 29 May, 11:00-15:00

Help Gregory Gargoyle on his Stone Quest and try your hand at carving!

Carve your initials into stone with the Cathedral stonemasons.

Follow the Stone Quest trail map to explore different parts of the Cathedral, answering questions and completing challenges along the way!

Activity book included

Drop-in activities; no need to book.



MD

FREE* Family Tours

Mon 26 - Fri 30 May, 11:05 & 13:30

Bring your little historians to Canterbury Cathedral to hear stories of Becket and the Black Prince, Monks and Miracles, Tombs and Towers.

These tours are aimed at children aged 6 - 13 but are suitable for the whole family to enjoy!

Pre-booking is suggested as spaces are limited.

To book, email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org

Find out more at www.canterbury-cathedral.org/half-term

June

LIMITED TIME ONLY FREE* ART INSTALLATION

moon landing: an immersive art installation

AE

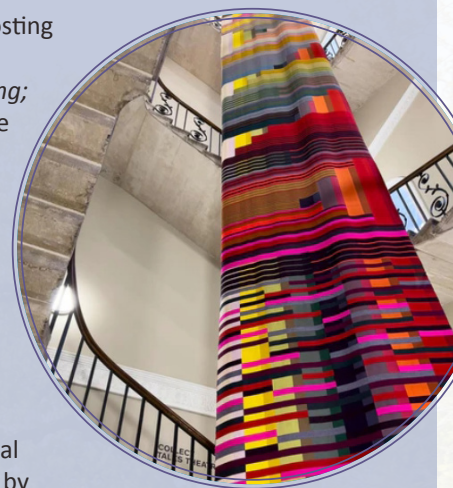
JUNE 2025

This June, we will be hosting the breathtaking art installation *moon landing*; created by British textile artist and designer of woven textiles, Margo Selby, in collaboration with composer, Helen Caddick.

An immersive artwork comprising a 16-metre hand-woven textile by Margo Selby, and a newly-composed musical piece scored for strings by Helen Caddick.

It is a celebration of the mathematical and technical possibilities of weaving and the crossovers of pattern, tone and rhythm found in both music and woven textiles.

Keep an eye on our website and socials to find out more!



'The St Thomas Becket Story' Tour

TT

Wednesdays 4, 11, 18, 25 June, 11:15-12:30

Uncover the full story of St Thomas Becket in the Cathedral, where echoes of his life and legacy resound.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

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Stained Glass Windows Tour

Fridays 6, 13, 20, 27 June, 11:15-12:30

An introduction to the history and range of stained glass found at the Cathedral, from medieval to modern.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

TT

'Climb the Corona' Tour

Fridays 6, 13, 20 & 27 June, 14:15-15:15

Wednesdays 11, 18 & 25 June, 14:15-15:15

The Corona Chapel was built in the 12th century to house the crown - 'corona' in Latin - of St Thomas Becket's skull, which had been sliced off during his murder and was revered as a saintly relic.

Explore the Chapel, usually closed to the public, before climbing the 95 steps to the top of the Corona Tower itself!

**£12 per person.
Cathedral admission not included.**

This is a popular tour; pre-booking suggested. Over 16s only.

[Find out more and book](#)

Read full tour information and restrictions before booking. *You will be required to sign a disclaimer, to confirm you have understood and will abide by the tour guidelines/restrictions.*

FREE Informal Organ Recital

with Simon Hogan, Southwark Cathedral

Fri 6 June, 18:15 in the Quire - after 17:30 Evensong

One in our series of informal organ recitals, featuring the Cathedral's resident organists and guests.

Free and un-ticketed, with a retiring collection.

[Find out more](#)

See recital programmes in the monthly Services and Music List

MP

WS Worship & Spirituality

TT Talks & Tours

MD Make & Do

MP Music & Performance

AE Art & Exhibitions

CF Child Friendly

MONTHLY FRIENDly Singing for Wellbeing

Mon 9 June, 14:00-15:00

St Paul's Church Hall, Canterbury, CT1 1NH

Turn up for a cuppa and a biscuit followed by sociable singing to put a smile on your face. Led by Jamie Rogers, Assistant Director of Music, and our Choral Scholars.

All welcome. No need to book. [Find out more](#)

Free to attend; donations welcomed.

This event is organised by and in support of The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral (Charity No 256575).

MP

FREE* Summer Recitals

with our Cathedral Choral and Organ Scholars

Dates in June, 13:15-14:00 in the Crypt

- immediately after 12:30 Lunchtime Eucharist

Wed 11 June - Ellen Griffiths (Alto)

Wed 18 June - Benjamin Ferriby (Bass)

Wed 25 June - Ivan Leung and Jamie Rogers (Piano)

For further information about these recitals, please email music@canterbury-cathedral.org

***Included free with a valid Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' Card. Children aged 17 and under go free (T&Cs apply).**

MP

Cathedral Library Tour

Thursdays 12 & 26 June, 14:00-15:00

Learn about our Library and view some of the amazing, historic collection close-up.

£8 per person. Cathedral admission not included.

Pre-booking required; not suitable for under 12s.

[Find out more and book](#)

TT

Gentle Tours

Thursdays 12 & 26 June, between 14:15-16:00

Join us for our step-free tours, delivered at a gentle pace, in a smaller group; split into two parts, with a comfort break.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

[Find out more](#) - Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email to our Visits Office to reserve your space.

TT

SELLING FAST - BOOK NOW!

The Best of Hans Zimmer & Film Favourites Illuminated

in collaboration with MEGA Events

*Two dates available: Fri 13 &
Sat 14 June, 19:00-21:00 in
the Cathedral Nave*

Cinema's most iconic
music performed
by the Illuminated
Orchestra, enhanced
by a stunning light
show!

Featuring music from
Inception, Interstellar,
Gladiator, Jurassic Park,
E.T., Harry Potter, James
Bond, Lord of the Rings,
Lion King, Star Wars, Titanic,
and much more.



Images © MEGA Events

MP

*"An incredible show, a true
spectacle"*

*"First-class
entertainment by first-
class musicians"*

*"A wonderful evening
with magical music"*

See [ticket prices online](#).

Doors open at 18:00.

[Find out more and book](#)

Organised and managed by MEGA Events.



WS Worship & Spirituality

TT Talks & Tours

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MP Music & Performance

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CF Child Friendly

Refugee Week 2025: Community as a Superpower

MP

AE

TT

Sun 16 - Sat 22 June, various events

Join us to celebrate the power of community to bring people together who have fled from disparate parts of the world as a result of war, oppression, abuse and climate change.

Organised by Canterbury Cathedral, The Social Justice Network and the Kent Refugee Action Network (KRAN).

Keep an eye on our [Event Calendar](#) for more information and how to book.

Refugee Week Displays

Sun 16 - Sat 22 June, during visiting hours

Displays will include the Calais Memorial boards, naming all who have died in Calais and on small boats; Robert Marshall's Ukrainian Door Installation; and more.

Free with a valid form of Cathedral admission.

International Dinner in the Deanery

Sun 16 June, 19:30

Try various dishes from around the world, and enjoy music from the Canterbury for Ukraine Ladies' Choir and Oud player, Rihab Azar. **Booking required.**

Refugee Forum on Safe Routes hosted by Bishop Rose

Wed 18 June, 18:30-20:00 in the Clagett Auditorium

An opportunity to discuss the political and humanitarian directive to stop the small boats across the Channel with open safe passage. **Booking required.**

Free, but donations are kindly accepted.

More details to be announced on our website and socials.

American Connections Tour

Juneteenth National Independence Day:

Thurs 19 June, 11:15-12:30

Fri 27 June, 11:15-12:30

Discover the strong bond Canterbury Cathedral has with the United States.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

TT

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Stained Glass Studio Tour

TT

Fri 20 June, 14:00-15:30

Visit the studio, meet one of our conservators and learn more about their specialist work in the conservation, restoration and protection of our historic stained glass.

£25 per person. Cathedral admission not included.

[Find out more and book](#)

NEW Private Evening Cathedral Tour

TT

Fri 20 June 18:30-20:00

As evening falls outside and the crowds have gone home, experience Canterbury Cathedral in a unique way.

Discover 1,400 years of history as you explore the Cathedral, hear stories of saints and royalty etched in stained glass and stone, and explore areas not usually open to the public.

£40 per person. Pre-booking required.

[Find out more and book](#)

Canterbury Choral society presents
Elgar: *The Kingdom*

MP

Sat 21 June, 19:30 in the Cathedral Nave

Elgar tells the story of the development of the Christian church with choruses and solos of touching beauty together with some of his most stirring and evocative orchestral writing. A wonderful work not to be missed!

Tickets range £10 - £34 (Incl. £2 booking fee)

[Find out more and book](#)

Organised and delivered by Canterbury Choral Society.

Historic Graffiti Tour

TT

Thurs 26 June, 13:15-14:15

Members of our Historic Graffiti Team will shine a light on a selection of historic graffiti found throughout the Cathedral.

£5 per person, plus Cathedral admission charge.

Book at our Visitor Centre on the day of your visit, or email visits@canterbury-cathedral.org to reserve your space.

WS

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EXCLUSIVE ONSITE PARTNERSHIP CLASS

MD

RSN Day Class: Jacobean Leaf reflecting
the James I Charter at Canterbury Cathedral

Fri 27 June, 10:00-16:00 in the Community Studio

Join Royal School of Needlework tutor, Kathryn Sanders, to embroider a beautiful Jacobean leaf motif as reflected in the original James I Charter issued to the City of Canterbury in 1608.

There will also be an opportunity to visit the Cathedral Archives to enjoy a brief curated viewing of the original Charter; an exquisite illuminated document of historic significance.

This exclusive project is part of The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral's unique association with the Royal School of Needlework; dating back to the 1930s.

The class cost is £170 per student and includes all materials and necessary equipment to complete the project.

[Find out more and book](#)

FREE* RSN Family Drop-in Workshop:
Illuminated Leaf Motif

MD

CF

Sat 28 June, 11:00-15:00 in the Community Studio

Create your own beautiful leaf motif with Royal School of Needlework Tutor, Helen Stevens, inspired by the illuminated leaves of the James I Charter issued to the City of Canterbury.

The perfect handmade piece to display in your home or to give as a special gift.

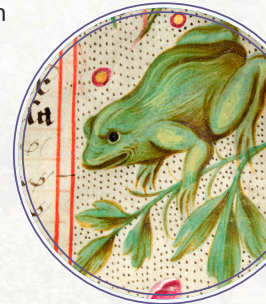
This free* event is proudly presented in partnership with The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral.

Kindly supported by The Worshipful Company of Broderers.

Drop-in activity; no need to book.

Both children and adults welcome. Suitable for ages 4+ (parents/carers may need to assist younger children)

***Included free with a valid Cathedral Admission Ticket, Cathedral Pass or Friends' Card. Children aged 17 and under go free (T&Cs apply).**





CATHEDRAL LODGE
Canterbury

Why not stay overnight and wake up to views of the Cathedral from your bedroom window?



Canterbury Cathedral Lodge is our unique hotel and conference venue, situated within the Cathedral Precincts, with stunning views of the Cathedral, and comfortable accommodation.

It is also a superb venue for meetings, conferences and events, as well as parties and wedding receptions.

www.canterburycathedralodge.org



The FRIENDS of
CANTERBURY
cathedral

Join The Friends

The Friends are the Cathedral's fan club!

They are a community who work together to help support this magnificent place.

Friends also benefit from free entry to the Cathedral and its Precincts, access to exclusive trips and events, e-newsletters, a 10% discount in the Cathedral Shop and Cathedral Lodge (some exclusions apply), an annual Friends' Day, Friends' Carol Service, and a special welcome event in the summer.



Get 15 months for the price of 12 if you join today and quote

WO10

SAVE THE DATE

Canterbury Medieval Pageant

Sat 5 July 2025, from 11:00

Canterbury's Medieval Pageant and Trail returns!

This year's event will celebrate Geoffrey Chaucer and his famous creation, the Canterbury Tales!

Make sure to plan a visit to Canterbury on Saturday 5 July to join the fun!

Full details will be released in May 2025!

Keep an eye on the [Medieval Pageant website](#).

CF



WS

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Child Friendly

Give the Gift of Friendship

Membership starts at just £35 and includes a welcome pack with a Friends' card and badge.

The Friends can even dispatch the gift on your behalf!

www.canterbury-cathedral.org/friends

Special Events at The Lodge

To book for an event call 01227 865350 or email events@canterburycathedrallodge.org

All events at Canterbury Cathedral Lodge have limited availability and must be pre-booked.

Full pre-payment will be taken at the time of booking and is non-refundable, unless we are able to re-sell places booked.

Easter Sunday Lunch

Sun 20 April – bookings available 12:30-15:30

Come and enjoy a delicious three-course À la carte lunch with all the family in our bright Refectory Restaurant, with the incredible backdrop of Canterbury Cathedral.

£40 per adult; £22 per child under 14 years
Under 4's eat for free

TT

Hidden Views Tour & Tea

Mon 21 April - Two sessions: 13:30-15:30 or 15:15-17:15

View the Deanery and Archdeaconry from within their gardens, and learn more about the history of these buildings from these usually inaccessible perspectives.

The tour will be followed by a full afternoon tea in the Deanery, with the option to add a glass of Prosecco.

£45 per person; or £50 with glass of prosecco included

TT

'The Monks Tale' Archives Afternoon

Mon 28 April, 13:45-17:00

An afternoon featuring a visit to the new exhibition in the Viewing Gallery (see page 6); an illustrated talk by Cressida Williams, Cathedral Archivist, on the history of the Benedictine monastery at Canterbury Cathedral and the monks who lived and worked here over the centuries; followed by a tour of the gardens and full afternoon tea.

£32 per person

VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations (See page 16)

Enjoy Fish and Chips in the Lodge Lounge

Mon 5 - Fri 9 May, during café opening hours

Pop in to our Lounge café, and enjoy traditional fish and chips, to celebrate VE Day - a limited time only addition to our everyday Lunch and light bites menu!

See menu on the day for prices. No need to book.

A Day to Explore the Cathedral Gardens

Mondays 19 May & 16 June, 10:15-17:15

Join our gardening team for a fascinating day of exploration. Discover the history of gardening at the Cathedral; with a two-course hot lunch in the Refectory Restaurant, and tea, coffee and cake to finish the day.

£67 per person

TT



'Magna Carta' Talk and Afternoon Tea

Mon 9 June, 14:15-16:30

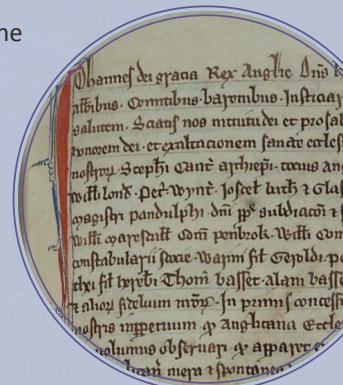
This year marks 800 years since the issue of the 1225 Magna Carta under King Henry III. It was this which became the final version of the document, rather than the first Magna Carta of King John of 1215.

In this illustrated talk, Cressida Williams, Cathedral Archivist, will talk about the importance of Magna Carta, including its associations with Canterbury.

The talk will be followed by a full afternoon tea in the Refectory Restaurant.

£27 per person

TT



[Find out more about these and other special events.](#)

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL CHOIR AUDITIONS

For children with a love of singing:

- Boys currently in Years 2 or 3
- Girls currently in Year 7

**No previous
experience
necessary.**

Apply by:
Sunday 22 June
2025

Auditions:
Saturday 28 June
2025

Successful candidates will
be invited to join the choir from September
2025.

[Find out more](#)

Informal enquiries warmly encouraged.

Please email music@canterbury-cathedral.org

