



From the Canon Steward

I have had the privilege of visiting Melanesia three times; which has included visits to the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu in the South Pacific. The trips were exhilarating, fascinating and challenging. In mid-September the Melanesian Mission UK held their AGM here at the Cathedral and we heard contributions from several priests including our Bishop Mike, about their recent visits to the Solomon Islands. These talks brought back many happy memories of my

visits. The speakers mentioned the amazing hospitality they had received. I too remembered being overwhelmed by our open and generous welcome, particularly being encased in 'lei lei' the beautiful flower necklaces which are given to visitors. Some of these were made from frangipani flowers which have a fantastic perfume.

My colleagues recounted interesting tales especially emphasising the integrity of their worship, the joyousness of their singing and dancing. This joyousness and commitment to the Gospel flowed into their daily life, especially within the religious communities. These religious communities, which are growing, enable young people to engage fully into a life of faith. A concept which has not really been developed in the more affluent western part of the Anglican Communion.

Hearing these stories of visits to our brothers and sisters far away, united in our common faith, made me once again deliberate on the concept of the Anglican Communion. Do we really spend much time thinking about it? Does it enter our minds only when we hear in intercessions/ prayer, that we may be praying for a particular part of the Anglican Communion? We may see reports of Archbishop Sarah visiting different countries but are we aware of why? Archbishop Sarah is the ceremonial and spiritual head of the Anglican Communion, as such has a duty to visit all parts of the Communion. But what is the Anglican Communion? It is a global family of churches, found in over 165 countries, walking together in mission and faith, often referred to as 'the Anglican Way'. The Anglican Way, as we know, is a particular and historic expression of the Christian faith, lived out

by a global family of churches united in a common mission. This faith is rooted in Jesus Christ, shaped by history and expressed in shared worship and service.

When visiting places such as the Solomon Islands, it is fascinating and encouraging that our liturgy and worship is very similar. We are therefore able to feel at home in their services, despite their heavy accent on their own culture. When deliberating on the Anglican Communion, it feels to me that we are Christians joined together by our common faith if you like, we are friends in Christ holding hands around the World in love and peace. *“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”* – Colossians 3:15

Putting faces to, and being in direct contact with, other communities around the world really helps us feel closer to all our overseas links. Let us continue to pray for our friends around the world and maybe that ring of prayer will eventually bring peace for all.

Canon Cate, Canon Steward.

Cathedral Music Trust National Gathering at Exeter 9th -11th October

We look forward to welcoming to Exeter supporters of Cathedral Music Trust, who will gather at the Cathedral from 9th -11th October. Exeter is proving to be a very popular destination and already over 100 supporters of the Trust have booked to attend. They will come to Evensong on all three days, and also the Sunday 10am Choral Eucharist.

On Saturday 10th October, our guests will visit Buckfast Abbey to hear the organ and for a Choral Mass. On Saturday evening at the Gala Dinner at Exeter Southgate Hotel, the after-dinner speech will be a father and son double act-Professor Peter Toyne (formerly Head Server of the Cathedral) and Simon Toyne, a former Head Chorister and now Executive Director of Music at the David Ross Education Trust and a Trustee of Cathedral Music Trust.

Please do come along to one or more of the services over that weekend to welcome our guests. There will be musical treats to enjoy, including a newly commissioned motet, and a number of opportunities to learn more about the Trust and the ways in which it supports and promotes cathedral music.

If you would like to participate fully in the gathering tickets can be booked at <https://www.cathedralmusictrust.org.uk/events/exeter-buckfast-gathering>



From the Company of Tapisers: The Autumn Fair

It surely can't be October already? Suddenly, after so many hot, sunny days of summer, our thoughts are turning to autumn – and, dare I say it, Christmas?!

The annual Autumn Fair, always a vibrant and happy event, is almost here. Tapisers have been busy with their needles and threads to create some 'must have' handmade gifts. This year we have made some unusual Christmas decorations, embroidered bookmarks, lavender bags, pencil cases ... as well as cushions and spectacles cases.

Do come along and visit our stall – we'd love to see you.

Diana Symes, Chairman of the Company of Tapisers

Cathedral Community Committee (CCC)

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th October at 6.30pm. If you have any items for the agenda, please contact Canon Ann Barwood (amb@exeter-cathedral.org.uk) or me at hmm53@tiscali.co.uk

Heather Morgan, Chair CCC

Praying with the Bible – *Lectio Divina*

The ancient form of praying with the Bible known as *Lectio Divina* is a practice of slow reading, which helps us absorb Scripture in depth – very different from our modern habit of skimming text. The *Lectio Divina* group meets on Wednesdays at 8pm on Zoom, led by Clare Bryden and other group members. The session lasts 40 mins, including a reading from John's Gospel, a time for silent pondering, and a time for sharing. Anyone is always welcome to join us and to participate as much as they feel comfortable. Please contact Clare on spirituality@exeter-cathedral.org.uk for more information and the Zoom link.

Clare Bryden

2026 Posbury St Francis Trust Annual Lecture
Monday 5th October at 6pm (drinks from 5.30pm)
Harrison Building Lecture Theatre, University of Exeter (Streatham Campus)

Professor Mark Hill KC: *Freedom of Religion in a Secular World*

In the 2026 Posbury St Francis Trust lecture, Professor Mark Hill KC will examine the importance of freedom of religion in the current age.

Professor Mark Hill KC is Professor of Law, Notre Dame University, London and Chancellor of the dioceses of Chichester, Leeds and Europe. He practises at the Bar in London and for the past eight years has been Vice President of the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies. His publications include: *Islam, Religious Liberty and Constitutionalism in Europe* (2024); *Religion and Law in the United Kingdom* (2021); *Christianity and Criminal Law* (2020) and *Magna Carta, Religion and the Rule of Law* (2015).

Radiators and Drains

You know them when you meet them.

As the name suggests, radiators radiate light and life. They look on the bright side, warm the atmosphere and leave you feeling hopeful. Drains, on the other hand, drain all the life and energy out of a situation or conversation, leaving you feeling exhausted and rather depressed, maybe even annoyed.

I know who I'd rather spend time with.

The Cathedral is going through a tough patch at the moment: financial difficulties, uncertainty for staff, changes among the clergy team. Yet there is still plenty that is good, such as... The team has seen through a successful building project and further improvements are afoot. I look around at the 10am and see a flourishing Cloister Club and increasing diversity. Our worship is a joy, and we have heard some excellent sermons recently. There are opportunities to meet socially or to pray and learn together.

So we have a choice.

Glass half-full, or half-empty? Joy and hope, or doom and gloom? Give thanks, or complain? Are you going to mope? Or are you going to choose to look for the plentiful good, roll your sleeves up and get stuck in nurturing the good and encouraging each other?

Be a radiator. (And if ever you spot me being a drain, feel free to call me out.)

Clare Bryden



A Happy Reminder!

The model Cathedral Cloister Window, initially created to produce the vision and appearance of the stones to be used in the development of the Cloister Gallery, now graces my garden. Lucky me!

I bid for this wonderful reminder of the Development Appeal at the Grand Nave Dinner auction last year. Chris Sampson, the Cathedral's Clerk of Works spent several hours painstakingly installing it and reminded me that the inner window is Marnhull stone from West Dorset and the outer blocks Douling from near Shelton Mallet.

I couldn't be more delighted to host this little bit of the Cathedral and even more delighted that the real thing, the actual new cloister, looks as though it has been there for ever.

Anne Foreman



Well done Cloister Club!

Earlier this year, the children of Cloister Club sowed seeds in raised beds in the garden of the Old Deanery. They had a good harvest including sweetcorn, tomatoes and squash.

The Cloister Club Coordinator, Alastair Endersby shows off a small sample of the produce. He kindly invited members of the congregation to "taste and see".

The tomatoes were delicious!

Well done to all involved.

The new term is now under way for Cloister Club, and it is great to see new families taking part.



Advent Series by Reverend Professor Christopher Bryan on The Lord's Prayer

*We are all familiar with the Lord's Prayer. It is, in a sense, quite ordinary for Christians. Yet that very familiarity can lead us to overlook the fact that it is also **extraordinary**. Utterly of Israel, the Lord's Prayer is also profoundly Christian. Essentially a family prayer, it is also universal. Always for the present moment, it is also for eternity. In two sessions, I hope to explore these thoughts a little.*

This two-session course will take place on Sunday 29th November 2026 and Sunday 13th December 2026 from 11.45 am – 12.30 pm in the Medieval Hall (The Old Law Library)

To book a place on the course or for more information, please contact Chris on: cbryan90@icloud.com

Sometime Woodward Scholar of Wadham College, Oxford, Chris is a priest, academic, and novelist, now semi-retired (whatever that means). His most important non-fiction books are *The Resurrection of the Messiah* ([Oxford, 2011](#)), *Son of God: Reflections on a Tradition* ([Oxford 2023](#)), *Mary of Nazareth: The Mother of Jesus as Remembered by the Earliest Christians* (Seabury, 2024) and the popular *And God Spoke: The Authority of the Bible for the Church Today* (Cowley, 2002). The first of his six "Inspector Cecilia Cavaliere" novels is *Siding Star* ([Diamond 2012](#)), a somewhat supernatural police case that actually starts in Exeter Cathedral!

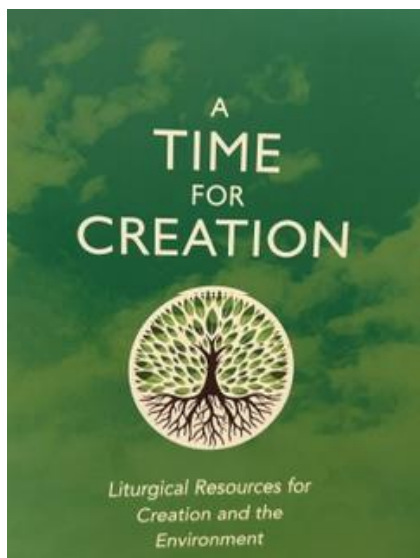
Eco Church 10th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday 17th October 2pm-5pm at The Mint Methodist Church

Join Eco Church (a project by A Rocha) for an ecumenical service to celebrate their 10-year anniversary. The service will be followed by light refreshments.

This is a free event; please pre-book your place

[BOOK YOUR TICKETS >](#)



A Time for Creation: Liturgical Resources for Creation and the Environment

Edited by members of the Liturgical Commission

Church House Publishing 2020

ISBN 978 1 78140 185 9

This slim volume provides a rich variety of material designed, as its cover states, to “attend more closely to the voice of creation itself in our prayer and worship”

Drawn from existing material in Common Worship and New Patterns of Worship, it is usefully ordered into seven sections including Services of the Word, Short Passages of Scripture, Prayers for the

Environment, Alternative and Seasonal Material for the Eucharist and an Appendix of a host of other sources of material.

The introduction (by +Robert Atwell, former Chair of the Liturgical Commission) traces the development of celebrating the “Season of Creation” from its beginning in the Orthodox Church in 1989, endorsed by the Orthodox Primates in 1992 and suggests that if the Church of England’s 5th Mark of Mission, *To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth* is not embraced wholeheartedly and with determination, then the other four marks of mission lack credibility. Some parishes and schools had already been celebrating this Season as part of an ecumenical initiative to raise awareness of the challenges of climate change.

More significantly however, the recent formalisation by General Synod of the Season of Creation (traditionally known as Creationtide) through the final approval of a new annual “Festival of Creation in Christ” serves as a theological reminder. A reminder that the world was made through Christ, is sustained by Him and is destined for renewal in Him. It shifts the focus away from celebrating “Mother Nature” or traditional autumn harvests and towards our understanding of the nature of Christ.

If you’re like me and enjoy resources that aid prayer and reflection then this is a welcome addition to the bookshelves

Anne Foreman

What's On in October

Posbury St Francis Trust Annual Lecture 2026 With Professor Mark Hill KC: Freedom of Religion in a Secular World

5 October

Professor Mark Hill KC will examine the importance of freedom of religion in the current age.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/posbury-st-francis-trust-annual-lecture-2026/>

Cathedral Music Trust: Autumn National Gathering 2026

9 - 11 October

In the beautiful county of Devon, the Cathedral Music Trust's Autumn National Gathering 2026 will give an opportunity to visit the beautiful and world-famous Exeter Cathedral.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/cathedral-music-trust-autumn-national-gathering-2026/>

Exeter Cathedral Autumn Fair 2026

13 - 14 October

Journey into the new season at this year's Autumn Fair in the awe-inspiring Nave on Tuesday 13 October and Wednesday 14 October.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/exeter-cathedral-autumn-fair-2026/>

A Friendly Introduction to Palaeography: Reading 15th & 16th Century Royal Letters

14 October

Explore royal correspondence by reading and transcribing real letters from Margaret of Anjou, Henry VII and others.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/palaeography-reading-royal-letters/>

Exeter Cathedral Photography Exhibition 2026 – Competition Finalists

16 – 31 October

This October, experience the stunning winning photographs of the Exeter Cathedral Photography Competition 2026.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/photography-exhibition-2026-competition-finalists/>

Trafalgar Day Service 2026

18 October

Do join us for Exeter Flotilla's 52nd service to commemorate the Battle of Trafalgar, which will be held at 11:45am on Sunday 18 October 2026 in Exeter Cathedral.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/trafalgar-day-service-2026/>

The Music of Queen by Candlelight

22 October

Experience an unforgettable evening of Queen's greatest anthems, performed live by candlelight inside the magnificent Exeter Cathedral.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/queen-by-candlelight/>

The Music of Eagles by Candlelight

23 October

Join us inside a candlelit Exeter Cathedral for an unforgettable evening of Eagles hits, as you've never heard them before.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/eagles-by-candlelight/>

The Four Seasons and The Lark Ascending

24 October

Experience breathtaking music by some of classical music's greatest composers, performed by some of the country's finest classical musicians, all presented in stunning candlelight.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/the-four-seasons-and-the-lark-ascending/>

October Half Term Family Activities

26 - 29 October

Get creative as a family this October Half Term with Cathedral-inspired arts and crafts suitable for all ages.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/october-half-term-family-activities/>

Library & Archives In Focus: Through the Frontispiece

27 October

Step through the frontispiece, and discover how a single image can open the door to an entire narrative.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/library-archives-in-focus-through-the-frontispiece/>

Wonder, Wander and Walk the Labyrinth

31 October

A labyrinth is, a journey to the centre, a winding pilgrim path that is walked prayerfully and reflectively. There is no one way to use the labyrinth; each person experiences this pilgrimage in a different way.

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/whats-on/events/labyrinth-october/>

Here I Am (The Silent Prayer)

By Robert Middleton

When I look at the sky,
see birds flying over
How free they are, I wonder
But is their life what they want it to be?

Here I am, waiting
for God to answer

When I look at the sky,
see clouds passing by
How beautiful they are, I wonder
But is their life what they want it to be?

Here I am, waiting
for God to answer

When I look at the sky,
see the Moon smiling back
How distant the Moon, I wonder
Yet its light shines on me,
as God wants things to be

Here I am, listening
in silent wonder

"Here I am" is taken from Isaiah 6:8; the phrase "Here I am, send me," in which the prophet Isaiah responds to God's call to send him as a messenger. This verse signifies a willingness to serve and fulfil God's purpose, emphasizing the importance of stepping into one's role in God's plan. It reflects a call to action and readiness to respond to our calling.



A very warm welcome to our new Choral Scholars, left to right Hugh Chippington, Aedin Ferguson and Wilfred Aston-Cooke. Thank you to Matt Cann for the photo.

Next month's edition

We hope to publish the next edition of *Cathedral News* on Sunday 1st November. Please send any articles or other information to any of the editorial team: Jenny Ellis, Rosemary Bethell or Heather Morgan at hmm53@tiscali.co.uk by **Tuesday 27th October 2026.**

Canon Deborah Parsons

After the Choral Eucharist on 27th September, the Interim Dean announced that Canon Deborah Parsons would be leaving the Cathedral at the end of November. Her last Sunday will be Advent Sunday. Deborah has made an immense contribution to the life and mission of the Cathedral and been a great support to the Cathedral Community, most especially in her role as the Canon responsible for pastoral care. If you would like to contribute to a thank you gift, please send a donation either to the Finance Department, Cathedral Office, 1 The Cloisters, Exeter EX1 1HS, or donate via BACS. The bank details are – Dean and Chapter of Exeter, Sort Code: 56-00-49 Account Number: 00708526, using the reference Parsons. If you send a donation by post, please mark the envelope ‘Parsons Gift’ and make cheques payable to ‘The Dean and Chapter of Exeter.’

Autumn Fair 13th and 14th October

Come and explore the South West’s finest independent businesses. Discover delicious artisan food and drink, handcrafted jewellery and clothing, stoneware, ceramics, handmade crafts and more!

Entrance to the Cathedral is free during the Autumn Fair, but please purchase your ticket in advance – *all pre-booked tickets include a glass of mulled wine!*

[BOOK YOUR TICKETS >](#)

Renewal of Light and Sound System in the Nave

As work begins on this project, which is generously funded by the Friends of Exeter Cathedral, the following arrangements will be in place for worship.

From Monday 5 October:

- Weekday Morning Prayer (8:15am) and Eucharist (8:35am) will take place in St Petrock’s Church (Monday to Friday).
- Eucharist on Wednesdays at 1:15pm will take place at St Pancras.
- Evensong, Evening Prayer and weekend services will continue in the Cathedral.
- The monthly services of Prayers for Healing and the Contemplative Prayer group will continue in their current location.

From Sunday 18 October Choral Eucharist at 10am on Sunday mornings will take place in the Quire, where possible.

MSE Group will be working behind the scenes during Advent and Christmas to enable a full pattern of services and events to take place.

If you have any questions about the project, please email [Heather Horsley](#) and [Hilary Dawson](#).

From the Cathedral Flower Arrangers

Once again it is all change for us! There will only be pillar arrangements for Advent and Christmas and then nothing probably until Easter! We have been asked to leave the trays empty whilst the sound and light project in the Nave is worked on. We are only arranging in the usual chapels and placements in the remainder of the Cathedral so fewer ladies will be in on Fridays to work their magic. These limitations will apply for the Trafalgar Day service and Remembrance Day so we will have to adapt our usual plans.

We have begun working on autumn plans that include the Autumn Fair, our Advent arranging and our Christmas wreaths. The flyer for the “made to order” wreaths will be available soon. The wreaths will be made on 16th December in the Cathedral, and they will be available to collect from that date from the Cathedral Shop. They will be £45 each and the profits will go towards the cost of our flowers during the year.

Sixteen of our ladies are doing a 2-day workshop in arranging without Oasis, or foam free as it is known. This happens during October in the Law Library, so we hope to learn how to make huge arrangements on the pillars match. Keep an eye out for the results!

Flick Evans, Chair Exeter Cathedral Flower Arrangers

Farewell Ella

Ella Barber is sadly stepping down from her role as the Cathedral's Youth Engagement Officer to take up an exciting opportunity with University of Exeter's Student Guild. Ella has been a wonderful member of the Heritage & Engagement team, and her warm personality, fantastic organisation and sense of humour will be deeply missed by everyone at the Cathedral.

Over the time that Ella has been with us she has instigated our successful Youth Panel, encouraged many new youth volunteers to give their time to the Cathedral, delivered significant events for our National Lottery Heritage Fund programme, and jointly led the consultation sessions for staff, volunteers and members of the public. We are very sad to see Ella go and are incredibly grateful for all her hard work.

Ella's last day will be Friday 16th October but before she goes, she will be representing the Cathedral at the Council of Europe's *Youth Voices for Heritage* initiative as part of the European Heritage Days programme. Please join us in wishing Ella the very best for the future.

Lis Spencer, Community Outreach and Partnerships Officer

Joy Thompson RIP

We were sorry to hear of the death of Joy Thompson. She died on 16th September at a care home in Richmond at the age of 94.

Joy was married to Bishop Hewlett Thompson, who died aged 95 in May 2025, and whose memorial service was held in the Cathedral earlier this year.

Joy was an accomplished group analyst and psychotherapist, and she made a significant contribution to this area of work during her time in Exeter. One of her passions was gardening, and Joy won a national garden award in 1999 for her work in re-designing the three-acre garden at the Bishop's Palace. Bishop Hewlett and Joy commissioned the large Trinity sculpture in the garden. Joy loved the Cathedral and she is remembered fondly by many in the Cathedral community for her warmth, kindness and hospitality.

Joy and Hewlett retired to Joy's family home in Cumbria, where she served as churchwarden at St Theobald's Church, Great Musgrave. Her funeral was at St Theobald's on 1st October.

We send our sympathy and prayers to Joy's large family and her many friends.

Welcome!

A very warm welcome to Isobel, our new Choir Administrator & Chaperone Coordinator.

Vacancies for Volunteers

There are currently vacancies for virgers, flower arrangers, the Cathedral Fabric Advisory Committee and Education Volunteers. For more information go to

<https://www.exeter-cathedral.org.uk/support-us/volunteerwith-us/>

Jill Taylor, Director of Development

Jill has decided to take voluntary redundancy and will be leaving the Cathedral at the end of the year to work freelance. Jill's contribution to the life and development of the Cathedral in two spells, most recently for the last eight years, has been immense, not just in the money she has raised, but also by her presence among us.

There will be time later in the year to reflect on all that she has achieved and to thank her properly for all that she has contributed to the life and work of the Cathedral. For now, we send our best wishes as she continues her efforts on the Cathedral's behalf and prepares for the next part of her professional life.

Saint of the Month: Wilfrid of Ripon, Bishop, Missionary, 709 Lesser Festival 12th October

Wilfrid was born in 634 in Northumberland. Educated at Lindisfarne, Canterbury and Rome, his childhood was a time of the flourishing of the Celtic church. His first visit to Rome had a profound effect on him and though well-versed in both Celtic and Roman traditions he favoured the latter.

In about 660, he was made abbot of a monastery at Ripon. This was a tricky assignment as the monks there, who included Cuthbert, were Celtic through and through. Indirectly, this led to the calling of the Synod of Whitby in 664 to try to resolve the differences between the two traditions, notably about the date of Easter. King Alhfrith was so impressed by Wilfrid's advocacy for the Roman way that he offered him the See of Northumbria, and asked that the Cathedral be moved from Lindisfarne to York. It is telling that Wilfrid thought it necessary to be consecrated bishop in Gaul, where the ways of the Roman church prevailed, in order to be securely within the apostolic succession.

While he was away, the hazards of royal patronage were demonstrated when Alhfrith lost the throne and another monk, Chad, was appointed to Wilfrid's bishopric. After a sojourn back in Ripon where he introduced the Rule of St Benedict, Wilfrid was restored to his See, now officially the See of York, in 669, by Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury. For the next several years he served there with distinction; he founded monasteries, including one at Hexham, built new churches and developed and improved the liturgy.

It didn't last. A quarrel with King Egfrith caused Wilfrid to be expelled from his diocese. The King was not to be moved, not even by the papal decree in his favour obtained by Wilfrid, who made another trip to Rome to argue his case in person. The outward journey was notable for a brief interlude in Frisia where, according to Bede, Wilfrid began the evangelisation of the population, work which was continued by Willibrord and by Devon's own Boniface. On his return to his native shores, however, he was said to have been threatened with imprisonment and in due course he was exiled from Northumbria.

Undeterred, in the year 681 or thereabouts, Wilfrid moved south to what Bede describes as the Province of the South Saxons-roughly Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Bede tells us that Wilfrid was given land for a monastery at Selsey and "performed the duties of a bishop in word and deed in these parts and was held in high esteem by all". By his preaching and pastoral ministry, Wilfrid baptised the leaders and their people. He quenched not only their spiritual thirst; according to Bede, on the very day that the people were baptised, a three-year drought gave way to "soft but ample rain".

The death of Ecgrith enabled Wilfrid to return to Northumbria where he was restored to the monasteries of Ripon and Hexham, and to the See of York. After a few years, in 691, another dispute caused him to be expelled by the king and some of his fellow bishops. After a time of missionary work in Mercia, the inveterate traveller yet again set off for Rome, where Pope John VI ruled in his favour. On the return journey, Wilfrid had a stroke from which he recovered sufficiently to be restored to his monasteries at Ripon and Hexham. Bede records that for four years “he lived his life in peace”. He died in 709 on a visit to Oundle and was buried near the altar of his church at Ripon.

Wilfrid’s strident advocacy for the ways of Rome put him squarely in the middle of a great conflict of his age and clearly his path was not smooth, losing his diocese on no less than three occasions. By his standards, Bede’s account of Wilfrid is rather lukewarm. But Wilfrid remained devoted to monasticism and mission, worked hard, and was both determined and conscientious in his episcopal ministry. Of particular interest is his support for the use of music in the liturgy. He brought a singing master to his northern diocese to instruct the clergy in the singing of antiphons and responses, needless to say, in the Roman style.

Wilfrid was an important and influential figure in the church. He was venerated as a saint very soon after his death. His feast day in the Common Worship calendar is 12th October when the collect is:

*Almighty God,
who called our forebears to the light of the gospel by the preaching of your
servant Wilfrid:
help us, who keep his life and labour in remembrance,
to glorify your name by following the example
of his zeal and perseverance;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Mary Nesbit RIP

Mary Nesbit died on 18th September at the age of 104. Until prevented by ill health, Mary worshipped regularly at the Cathedral and made a significant contribution to its life as a Tapiser - a member of the white work team, and a flower arranger. Her long life included service in the Coding and Cyphering Department of the WRNS during the Second World War. On VE Day she was stationed in Naples and in 2020 she shared her memories of that day with Canon Ian Morter, a conversation recorded on the Cathedral website. Mary was a much-loved member of the Cathedral Community. We send our sympathy and prayers to her family and friends.