



BELFAST CATHEDRAL

CHORAL EUCHARIST

**Sunday 27th February 2022
11.00am**

**The Sunday before Lent,
marking the Feast of the Transfiguration**

Welcome to the Cathedral Church of St Anne, Belfast. Following the downgrading of Covid restrictions to guidelines we respectfully ask you to wear a face covering when inside the building during the service, but especially when singing the hymns. Please follow the instructions from the Churchwardens.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Baptised members of Christian churches are welcome to join in this Eucharist.

It is the Lord's table and this invitation is given in his name.

The Eucharist will be celebrated and distributed in accordance with Covid precautions as laid down by the Church of Ireland.

If you wish to receive communion, please move to the Quire Steps when directed by the cathedral wardens. Those seated on the North (left) side of the Nave will move first, then those seated on the South (right) side afterwards.

Following the easing of Covid restrictions, distribution of Communion is now in both kinds. The communion wine will be distributed in individual cups. When you approach the clergy at the quire steps you will first receive the wafer bread. Please consume this as you make your way to the tables on the north and south aisles. Here you will receive the wine. Please approach the table on the side on which you are seated. After receiving the wine, please place your empty cup in the basin provided.

Seating is by alternate rows. Please keep 1m social distance at all times and continue wearing your face covering until you return to your seat.

Please indicate if you require a gluten-free wafer, or if you need Communion to be brought to your seat.

If you wish to receive a blessing only, please indicate by crossing your arms across your chest.

Post-service Refreshments have been re-instated

Once the organ voluntary has ended, and you are guided by the cathedral wardens, you may wish to collect a coffee or tea from the West End of the Cathedral. Please leave adequate space around you and:

PLEASE DO NOT CONGREGATE AROUND THE SERVING TABLES.

Thank you.

It is not permitted to make video recordings or take photographs during the service

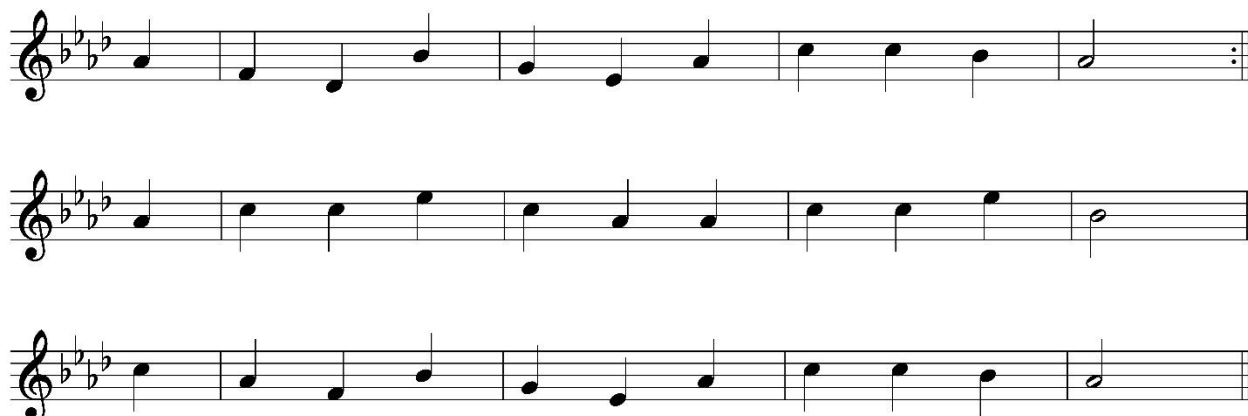
Organ Prelude: Le Jardin Suspendu Jehan Alain (1911-40)



THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE



Please stand to sing **HYMN 6:**



**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

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

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

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

Words: W. Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)

Tune NEH 377: ST DENIO Welsh hymn melody (1839) founded on a folk tune

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Jesus said: 'Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.' *Matthew 11:28*



**PRESENTATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
BELFAST CATHEDRAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR**



The members of the Children's Choir stand in the choir stalls

The Director of Music says:

Mr Dean, I present to you Lily Rose Cadden, Méabh Conlon, Grace Eyre, Rory Gray, Lydia Hamilton, Sophie Holmes, Georgie Horner, Emilia Huey, Esmee Huey, Charlotte James, Niamh Keenan, Yasir Larkin (Senior Boy Chorister), Freya Lowry, Ruby Marshall, Isaac Mason, Orla McCann, Nell McClean, Molly McKenna, Rebecca McKeown (Senior Girl Chorister), Jack Mitchell, Edward Owens, Lorcan Rippon, Saoirse Rippon, and Thea Ellis Thornbury to be admitted as members of the Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir.

The Dean asks the members of the Children's Choir:

Do you accept your membership of this cathedral choir?

*The members of the Children's Choir reply together: **We do.***

The Dean asks:

Do you promise to give of your very best to this choir for the worship of God in this cathedral?

*The members of the Children's Choir reply together: **We do.***

The Dean asks:

So may God, who has put into your heart the desire to serve him, enable you to fulfil your promise.

*The congregation responds: **Amen.***

On behalf of the cathedral Board and congregation, the Dean welcomes each member of the Children's Choir by name:

N, we welcome you as a member of the Children's Choir of this Cathedral.

*The congregation responds: **We welcome you.***

Dean:

Sing, rejoice and be glad. Praise the Lord with a cheerful voice and delight him with a true melody in your heart. And may the Lord bless you from this time forth and for evermore, by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

*All respond: **Amen.***

*The members of the Cathedral Choir say **A PRAYER FOR ALL CHORISTERS:***

Bless, O Lord, all who lead your praise. What we sing with our lips, may we trust in our hearts, and what we trust in our hearts may we practise in our lives; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

PENITENCE

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace:

Please kneel or sit in silence

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please stand whilst the choir sings the **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS:***

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee,
we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Setting: Communion Service in G, Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: Give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD



Please sit for the **EPISTLE READING:** 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Since we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside.

Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated as Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir sings the **GRADUAL ANTHEM:**

*Make me a light to lighten the world,
make me a star to lighten the darkness,
make me so bright with your living word,
that I may shine with your love.*

I hold a candle in my hands,
light which I hold and which I hold true,
Light of the world shine out in the dark,
may it always remind me of You.

*Make me a light to lighten the world,
make me a star to lighten the darkness,
make me so bright with your living word,
that I may shine with your love.*

I hold a mirror in my hands,
there what I am and what I may do,
shines back to me in your glorious light,
make me a worthy reflection of you.

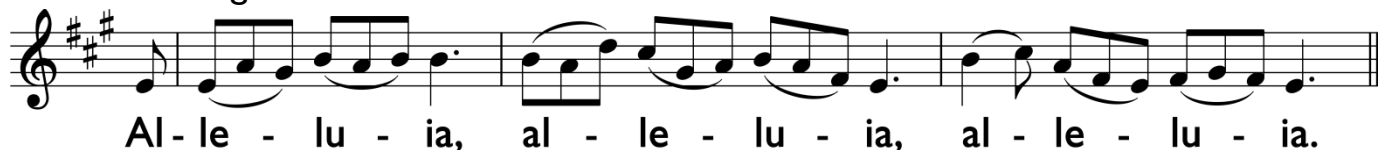
*Make me a light to lighten the world,
make me a star to lighten the darkness,
make me so bright with your living word,
that I may shine with your love.*

I hold a seed within my hands,
lend me your help to make it grow
into the sweetest scented flower
that it may lovelier flowers sow.

*Make me a light to lighten the world,
make me a star to lighten the darkness,
make me so bright with your living word,
that I may shine with your love.*

Words and music: Philip Wilby (b. 1949)

Please stand to sing the **ALLELUIA**:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

From the cloud a voice said: 'This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him!'
Matthew 17:5

Please remain standing for **THE GOSPEL READING**: Luke 9:28-36

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.



Glo - ry to you, Lord, Je - sus Christ.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON by the Reverend Canon Mark Niblock, Dean's Vicar

Please stand and face east to say the **NICENE CREED**:

We believe in one God, the **Father**, the **Almighty**, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Please kneel or sit

Let us pray that the glory of the Lord may shine on the Church and on the world.

On the heights of worship and in the duties of daily life, keep the Church ever faithful. Grant that we, his disciples at this present time, may share the awesome joy that the first disciples felt in the company of their Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give to all in authority and power the desire to stand aside from the demands of their position and reflect quietly about the responsibility that they bear to seek peace and avoid war. May the wisdom and holiness of the past prevail for the guidance of the world today.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Day by day, in our homes and in our work, grant us the vision of glory in simple things around us. Teach us to know that in every situation it is good to be there because the Lord is with us.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Touch with your healing power the sick and afflicted and give strength to those who minister to them, especially those within our cathedral family. Give times of refreshment and peace to those whose lives are too full for them to find space for the things of the spirit.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the departed, that in the company of patriarchs and prophets and all the saints, they may enter into eternal life. May the light of heaven shine for ever upon them. We pray for Canon Stephen Fielding, his wife Julia and the wider family following the death of Julia's mother. Grant them strength and peace in their sorrow.

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

Please stand for **THE PEACE**

Christ will transfigure our human body and give it a form like that of his own glorious body. We are the Body of Christ. We share his peace.

cf Philipians 3:21, 1 Corinthians 11:27, Romans 5:1

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Please remain standing to sing **HYMN 431*:**



**Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
first-begotten from the dead.
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia ,alleluia,
Jesus, true and living bread.**

**Here for faith's discernment praying,
lest we fail to know thee now,
here our deepest homage paying,
we in loving reverence bow;
alleluia ,alleluia,
thou art here, we ask not how.**

**Life-imparting, heavenly manna,
stricken Rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb that died.
alleluia ,alleluia,
Risen, ascended, glorified!**

*Words: George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)
Tune NEH 296 (1): ST. HELEN George C. Martin (1844-1916)*



CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE



Please remain standing

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us
therefore let us celebrate the feast.

The Lord is here. His spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose divine glory shone forth upon the holy mountain before chosen witnesses of his majesty; when your own voice from heaven proclaimed him your beloved Son:

And so with all your people, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

The choir sings the **SANCTUS:**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory:
Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Setting: Communion Service in G, Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us; he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded: **we remember his passion and death, we celebrate his resurrection and ascension, and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please kneel or sit

THE LORD'S PRAYER is sung by Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir to a setting specially composed by its Composer-in-Association, Gary Davison (b.1961):

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*Please remain seated whilst the choir sings the **AGNUS DEI**:*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Setting: Communion Service in G, Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

THE COMMUNION

Please observe the guidance of the Church Wardens and follow the directions as printed at the beginning of this order of service

Organ music: Méditation (Suite Médiévale) Jean Langlais (1907-91)

*During communion Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir sings the **ANTHEM:***

My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddës grace:
No other care nor hope is mine,
to heaven I turn my face.

One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
Tis named when Goddës name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart,
That burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.

*Words: Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
Music: Matthew Owens (b. 1971)*

THE GREAT SILENCE

When all have received communion, the presiding minister, other ministers and people keep silence for reflection



GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. May we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

*Please stand to sing **HYMN 643***:*



**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my breast-plate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my armour, and be thou my might;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

**High King of heaven, when the battle is done,
Grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's sun,
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

*Words: Early Irish tr. Mary Byrne (1880-1931), versified Eleanor Hull (1860-1935)
Tune ICH 643 (i): SLANE Irish traditional melody, harmony by Erik Routley (1917-82)*

THE BLESSING

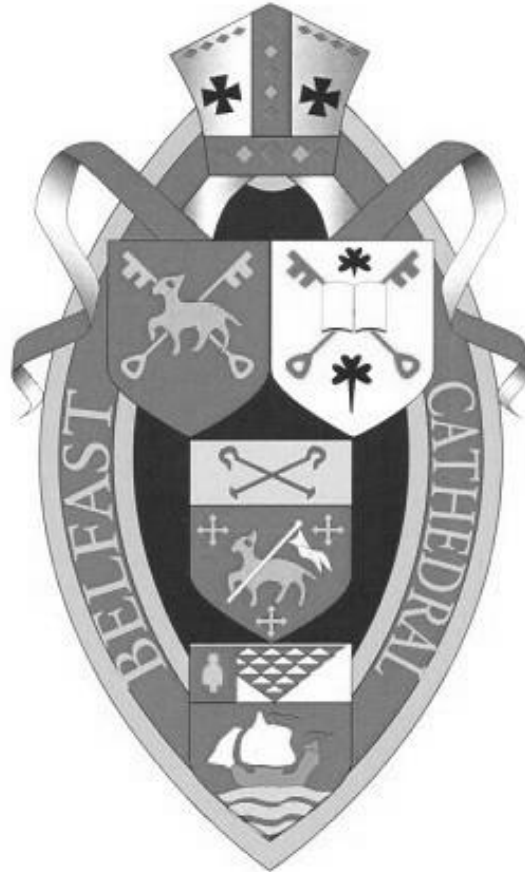
The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Postlude: St Bride, assisted by angels *Judith Bingham OBE (b.1952)*

*Please remain in your place until the Churchwardens direct you to move
Thank you*



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NOTICES



We are pleased to re-introduce refreshments following the service. Please avail of these, following the directions at the beginning of this order of service. We are appealing for volunteers to assist with providing refreshments on rotation, please consider signing up for this if you are able.

Please join us this afternoon at 3.30pm for Choral Evensong:

Leighton *Fantasy on 'Lumetto'*
Howard Skempton *Preces and Responses*
Psalm 128 (chant by Bennett)
Leighton *Second Service*
Cooper *The Call*
Leighton *Scherzo, Op. 41, ii*

Ash Wednesday, 2 March 2022, 7.30pm

You are invited to start the season of Lent with a Penitential Service with imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion
Preacher: The Dean

Sunday 6th March 2022: The First Sunday in Lent

11.00am Choral Eucharist
Preacher: The Reverend Janice Elsdon

3.30pm Choral Evensong

Lent Contemplative Prayer

As part of your Lenten preparation, why not join us in the Chapel of Unity on the first 5 Fridays of Lent to explore Contemplative Prayer? Whether or not this is something you are familiar with, it is a great opportunity to experience it for yourself. Sessions will be led by former Dean's Vicar, Canon Raymond Fox, and will consist of some liturgical prayer followed by periods of contemplative prayer. Friday 4, 11, 18, 25 March and 1 April, 10.30-11.30am

As you leave, please remember to make your Free Will Offering contribution to support the ongoing work and life of Belfast Cathedral, or give via online banking to:

Account Name: "Parochial No 1 Current Account"
Sort Code: 90-21-27
Account Number: 10006051