Calling and Vision

Looking to the future with faith, hope and love
Welcome to Winchester Cathedral. This booklet sets out the developing mission, vision and aspiration for Winchester Cathedral.

This is a significant moment for the Cathedral. In these times of profound change it is more important than ever for the Cathedral to be a trustworthy place of faith, hope and love; a place of deep spirituality and history where people can find renewal and inspiration; and a space where people can connect with God and with one another.

You are warmly invited to share this calling and vision and invited to pray with us:

Almighty God,
trusting in your great goodness,
we ask that you would
renew us by your Spirit
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Very Revd Catherine Ogle
Dean of Winchester

Augustine was a Benedictine monk who eventually became the first Archbishop of Canterbury. In 597 he was sent to Britain by Pope Gregory the Great to spread the gospel and to encourage the British church to reach out to its Anglo-Saxon neighbours.

Pope Gregory advised St Augustine to bundle together ‘whatever things are devout, religious and right’ and use these things to inspire and to teach the English.

Winchester Diocese emerged out of this great Benedictine mission, having been founded by St Birinus who was sent by a later Pope to continue evangelising Southern England. Birinus became the Apostle to the West Saxons. He planted a church in Winchester and, around 650, built the Old Minster – the forerunner of Winchester Cathedral.

Cathedrals bring together ‘whatever is devout, religious and right’ and make all these things available to everyone. Cathedrals are great resources and repositories; they are for everyone from everywhere, and they point to the good news for all time: that God is with us and shares his life with us through Jesus Christ.

Sharing God’s life is the fundamental purpose of Winchester Diocese. God shares his life with us and we share it with others through loving, living and serving.

We are called to live this mission of Jesus so that others can find fullness of life in him and discover a vocation to live for God and build up the common good. This is our way of life, and the shape of our Rule of Life, inspired by the Benedictine tradition.

We welcome all to worship, to hear God’s Word, and to share in our common witness to the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Rt Revd Tim Dakin
Bishop of Winchester
Winchester Cathedral has stood for Christian faith through 1000 years of sometimes turbulent history, as a sign of God's faithful and visible presence among his people. The Cathedral holds an iconic place in our nation's history, world renowned for its breathtaking architecture and beauty. The Cathedral is greatly loved and inspires deep loyalty, as evidenced by its 800 volunteers. It receives visitors and pilgrims from around the world.

Winchester Cathedral is the seat of the Bishop of Winchester, the Rt Revd Timothy Dakin, and a centre of worship and mission of the Diocese. Here we seek to live the mission of Jesus, serving the common good. We are rooted in the monastic tradition of St Benedict and the holy and humane way of life that this continues to inspire.

In the last few years we have successfully raised funds for vital and exciting projects to conserve and steward the Cathedral’s fabric and treasures and open the Cathedral to new audiences.

We look forward to the tasks and challenges of the future with faith, hope and love, and set out here our calling and vision in summary form.

Chapter has been developing this vision in consultation with the worshipping congregations, the Cathedral volunteers and staff, representatives of the diocese and partners in wider society in order to fulfil our calling in this wonderful place.

We invite you to catch the vision and to contribute to its unfolding in this region, diocese and beyond in the years to come.

Wherever you are, please join us in prayer and, if you can, come and join in worship.

May God bless you.

The Very Revd Catherine Ogle
Dean of Winchester, on behalf of Winchester Cathedral Chapter:
Canon Annabelle Boyes
Canon Mark Byford
Canon Mark Collinson
Canon George Medd
Canon Roland Riem
Winchester Cathedral is called to renew, inspire and unite people in faith, hope and love.
These are the values that we live by:

Openness
so that all may be renewed

Excellence
so that all may know God’s love

Kindness
so that all may find a place

This is the work we believe to be our calling:

To be a Christian community of worship, witness and welcome, rooted in Benedictine values and confident of growth

To play a full part in the mission of the Diocese of Winchester and more widely to serve the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus

To be a sign of the Kingdom of God, seeking in partnership with others the unity, peace and justice, which is God’s gift and will for the world

To nurture Christian faith, hope and learning across the generations, using the abundant heritage of our tradition

To be a diverse community in which people flourish in one body through collaboration, mutual respect and shared celebration

To conserve and develop the buildings, contents and estates in our care

To thrive and not just survive

Mission, purpose and values

Cathedral priorities for the next 5 years

Renew
Welcoming and working with more children, families and young people
Building a sustainable future

Inspire
Deepening worship and refreshing learning
Exceeding expectations

Unite
Becoming more diverse through wider social engagement
Serving the common good

“Behold, in His loving kindness the Lord shows us the way of life”
The Rule of Benedict
Welcoming and working with more children, families and young adults

This is a priority for the Cathedral as we seek to share the riches of the Christian faith, values and heritage with new generations.

We intend to:

- ensure that all the Cathedral’s activities and operations warmly embrace the needs of children and families
- widen engagement and partnerships with schools of all types within the Winchester Diocese (which includes most of Hampshire and parts of Dorset)
- develop partnerships and support for FE and HE Colleges in the county, supporting the wider diocesan plan
- work with The Pilgrims’ School, developing its music outreach and choir provision for children of all abilities
- ensure that children and vulnerable adults are always cared for to the highest standards of Safeguarding
Building a sustainable future

This is a priority for the Cathedral as we seek to ensure that what we do now grows the faith, grows the congregations and sustains the fabric of the Cathedral for future generations.

We intend to:

- conserve and care for the Cathedral and its estate, sharing our faith, values and heritage gladly with others
- improve physical and intellectual access to the Cathedral for people of all backgrounds and abilities
- become a recognised Eco-Cathedral, sharing with others the work of addressing climate change
- develop the Benedictine welcome by continuing to improve facilities for welcome, hospitality and pilgrimage
- continue to grow and develop income streams to enable financial sustainability

Renew us by your Spirit

Antony Gormley’s beautiful sculpture Sound II in the crypt of Winchester Cathedral stands as a reminder of our need to find space for reflection, to search for meaning and connection. We seek to share the Cathedral’s sacred space generously, with widening groups of people, so that they may be renewed in faith, hope and love, and so that all have the opportunity to experience the living God.
Inspire

Deepening worship and refreshing learning

We seek to grow in worship and to share the riches of worship with all our visitors. We seek to be a learning community and to refresh our educational programme through the resources of the newly opened ‘Kings and Scribes’ exhibition.

We intend to:

- nurture the unique Anglican choral tradition and offer it to new audiences
- develop new musical and liturgical forms, in partnership with others
- combine learning and liturgy to deepen the experience of visitors and pilgrims
- offer visitors a vibrant interpretation of heritage, enabling them to appreciate the role and value of faith
- provide opportunities, help and support to those seeking to grow in faith and follow their calling

Inspire us with your love

The 12th century Winchester Bible is a treasure of international renown, cared for and lovingly conserved by Winchester Cathedral. The scriptures tell of God’s astonishing love for all he has made and for each one of us, expressed most fully in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We seek to know this love more fully, respond more obediently and share it more generously.
Inspire

Exceeding expectations

We seek to do our best at all times. Guided by our beliefs and values we seek to learn about integrity and fruitfulness as we serve others in Christ’s name.

We intend to:

- bring kindness to every task, conversation and activity, to build up the Cathedral as one body
- strengthen external and internal communications, encouraging open and honest conversation
- receive feedback with humility and confidence, with the intention of building mutual understanding
- develop training for volunteers, staff and clergy and achieve accreditation in ‘Investing in Volunteers’
- strive to exceed expectations of customer care and service in our commercial operations
Becoming more diverse through wider social engagement

We seek to serve the world that God loves and to share faith, hope and love. We are called to serve all the communities of Winchester Diocese, the wider church, and the wider world. We seek to be open to new and diverse groups, ready to be blessed and renewed through our exchanges.

We intend to:

- welcome and worship in ways which help visitors to feel at home and to join in
- develop relationships, partnerships and projects which contribute to social justice and the common good
- collaborate with ecumenical partners and other faith communities wherever possible
- broaden our cultural offer in events and activities
- create compelling experiences and engagements with faith, values and purpose through working with artists and the arts

Unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ

The great West Window is a unique mosaic made from medieval Cathedral glass, a visible reminder of both war and peace. The huge window was deliberately destroyed during the English Civil War by Oliver Cromwell’s soldiers in 1650. At the Restoration, the broken glass was gathered and this window pieced together—a mosaic of hope and unity. Out of brokenness we see beauty, unity in diversity, and the potential of community to rebuild, heal and reconcile.
Serving the common good

We seek to use the resources and heritage of the Cathedral to serve and further the common good, within the Diocese of Winchester as Mother Church, and in the nation and the worldwide church. We will work with people of goodwill from different backgrounds, interests and faiths to witness God’s reconciling love in Christ.

We intend to:

- play a full part in the mission and strategic purposes of the diocese and encourage those involved in them
- develop mission partnerships across the world to promote mutual learning and support
- offer the Cathedral as a gathering place for local and national occasions of celebration and mourning
- nurture prayerful and generous relationships with charities and aid agencies
- make opportunities for significant theological engagement in the city, diocese and region, including through interfaith dialogue
Thank you for reading this statement of calling and vision from Winchester Cathedral Chapter 2019

Getting involved:

- To receive a welcome pack and join the community roll, please contact chaplain@winchester-cathedral.org.uk or make yourself known to any member of the clergy

- To volunteer, please contact the Volunteer Co-ordinator volunteers@winchester-cathedral.org.uk

- To support the work of the Cathedral or the conservation of its heritage, please contact the Director of Fundraising fundraising@winchester-cathedral.org.uk

- To speak to a member of the Cathedral team in person, please call Reception on 01962 857200 or write to us at the address below

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