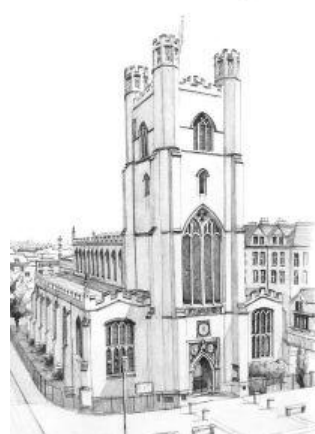


Great St Mary's eMag

17 July-23 August 2026

Issue 200



From the Associate Vicar:

Dear Friends

The summer holidays are upon us! Schools are breaking up, some of the regular groups are taking a summer 'pause' and this eMag edition is lasting a whole month because it, too (and its amazing editor, Andrew) is having a break.

Even if you are not going anywhere, or even if your main break isn't in the summer, or (especially) if for whatever reason you just can't take a real break, I'd love to suggest that in the time you would have spent reading the 'missing' eMag edition you declare a little bit of bonus time, and try one or more of these things to nourish body, mind, and soul:



1. Consider the lilies of the field: spend some quality time with a plant or flower – use your senses to delight in it, wonder about it and listen to what it says to you.

2. Look at the birds of the air: look up, or out of a window and notice what birds you can see, open a window to hear the dawn or dusk chorus or go online to listen to birdsong.

3. Taste and see that the Lord is good: if you are able to, share a snack or meal or cup of tea with someone and give thanks for the gifts of food, drink, hospitality and time.

4. Walk humbly with God: go for a walk (or on wheels), and pray for God's blessing on the places you move through (you can do this in your house if you are able to go from room to room, and ask God's blessing on each space for the purpose it has in your life, or look at a map of your neighbourhood, or even of the world, and trace the places that you are asking God to bless).

Every blessing,
Ally



Livestreaming of Services

Live and past services can be accessed via the Great St Mary's YouTube page on <https://www.youtube.com/c/greatstmarys>

Please note: If you have any comments regarding the on-line live-streaming, please email office@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Reading this eMag online or forwarded from a friend?

Sign up for our mailing list at greatstmarys.org/emag

Worship Schedule

July-August services - see [website](#) for details

Sunday 19 July - Trinity 7

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist (no Children's Church during school holidays)
- **12pm** *a short pre-tour concert by the choir*
- **5pm** Choral Evensong - Visiting choir: All Saints' Cathedral, Nairobi, Kenya
- **6.30pm** Peace Vigil

Sunday 26 July - Trinity 8

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist (Oriana Singers)
- **5pm** Choral Evensong (Oriana Singers)

Saturday 1 August

- **5pm** Choral Evensong (St James the Greater, Leicester)

Sunday 2 August - Trinity 9

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist (St James the Greater, Leicester)
- **5pm** Choral Evensong (St James the Greater, Leicester)

Sunday 9 August - Trinity 10

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Sung Eucharist with Baptism
- **5pm** Evening Prayer (said)

Sunday 16 August - Trinity 11

- **8am** BCP Holy Communion
- **10am** Choral Eucharist (Come and Sing choir)
- **5pm** Evening Prayer (said)

Regular Weekday Worship

- Monday—Friday 9am **Morning Prayer** in church and on YouTube
- Mondays 12.30 pm **Christian Meditation** in Michaelhouse - followed by soup lunch
- Tuesdays **No Ark or Choral Evening Prayer during the summer break**
- Wednesdays 12.30pm **Holy Communion**
- Wednesdays **No Choral Compline during the summer break**
- Thursdays **No Choral Evensong during the summer break**

News and Events

Moveable pews!

On Mon 10 August we will be starting the works to adapt the first two pews on either side of the nave to make them moveable, so that we have a more flexible space at the front of the church for services, concerts and orchestral events, and to improve accessibility for visitors to Great St Mary's. The work will involve stonemasons Brown & Ralph removing the four pews, adapting them and making good the stone floor. When not in place, the pews will then be located against the side walls, and the present votive candle stand will be removed and replaced with a moveable one - you can already see this outside the vestry. We expect that the building work will go on for 3 to 4 weeks in total. The Church will remain open, and services will happen as usual, with the works area taped off. We will work hard to keep disruption to a minimum.



Fri 17 July, 1-2pm - Lunchtime Concert at Great St Mary's



Cambridge Chamber Ensemble

Stephen Foster, violin

Dietrich Bethge, cello

Elizabeth Altman, piano

Music by Mozart, Schubert and Haydn. Admission free, with retiring collection



**Sat 18 July, 1-2pm - Friends of Michaelhouse Concert
(at Michaelhouse, Trinity St)**

Yoko Sakakura

Jehan Alain *Étude de Sonorité*

Francis Poulenc *Quinzième Improvisation (Hommage à Édith Piaf)*

Claude Debussy from *Preludes* book 2

Free entry, retiring collection in aid of Michaelhouse Singers



Mon 20 July - Christian Meditation
12.30pm in Michaelhouse

Christian Meditation continues through the summer (except bank holidays) – all are welcome!

We meet on Mondays 12.30 to 1pm, in the Harvey de Stanton Chapel at Michaelhouse (followed by optional soup)

A space for stillness in a busy world!

Please see Jutta or mail clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk if you would like to know more.



Fri 24 July - GSM Lunchtime Concert

Great St Mary's, the University Church, Cambridge

Lunchtime Concert 1.00pm
(until 2.00pm)

James Woodrow: Guitar

Music by Bach, Bizet, Purcell
Maxwell Davies.

Free entry, with retiring
collection



and

SILENT PRAYER
CHRISTIAN
MEDITATION

Mondays 12.30 – 1pm
Michaelhouse, Harvey de Stanton Chapel

EVERYONE IS WELCOME, AND TO STAY FOR A SOUP LUNCH

For more information, contact:
clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Mon 27 July - Summer at the Museums
events for families

Drop in for nature-themed craft activities. Learn about the life cycle of bees, butterflies, and swallows, and the importance of encouraging biodiversity. Use your imagination to create art with pastels, pencils, and stencils. Explore the recently replanted churchyard garden, and see what's blooming and what pollinators, insects, and birds you can spot. There will be art materials for you to sketch what you see.

This event is most suitable for children of primary school age, but we will have a play mat for younger children and the open-ended nature of the activities/materials means that older children/teens are welcome to come along.

Bees, Butterflies & Biodiversity

27 July at 10am - 11:30am
3 August at 12-1.30pm
at Great St Mary's

Drop-in nature-themed craft activities

Learn about the life cycle of butterflies, bees, & swallows

Explore what's growing & living in the newly replanted churchyard

Draw what you see: art materials provided

free!

Activities are best for primary age children (with an adult) - all age groups welcome

Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE
ECO CHURCH
A WARDENHURST PROJECT



Mon 27 July - Summer at the Museums

events for families

Drop in for nature-themed craft activities. Learn about the life cycle of bees, butterflies, and swallows, and the importance of encouraging biodiversity. Use your imagination to create art with pastels, pencils, and stencils. Explore the recently replanted churchyard garden, and see what's blooming and what pollinators, insects, and birds you can spot. There will be art materials for you to sketch what you see. This event is most suitable for children of primary school age, but we will have a play mat for younger children and the open-ended nature of the activities/materials means that older children/teens are welcome to come along.



Fri 31 July - GSM Lunchtime Concert

Friday concert 1.00pm (until 2.00pm)

Great St Mary's

Lunchtime Concert: The Choristers and Youth Choir of St Wulfram's Church, Grantham sing a selection of sacred choral repertoire, including music by Palestrina, Overington, Parnell, Briggs, Rheinberger, Gjeilo and more, offered during their week's residency singing at Ely Cathedral

Tim Williams Director of Music

Free entry, with retiring collection.



Fri 31 July - Folk Festival Concert - Katherine Priddy

Great St Mary's, the University Church, Cambridge

Doors open at 7.00pm

Tickets are priced from £25 to £27.50 (plus booking fee) and are [available here](#).

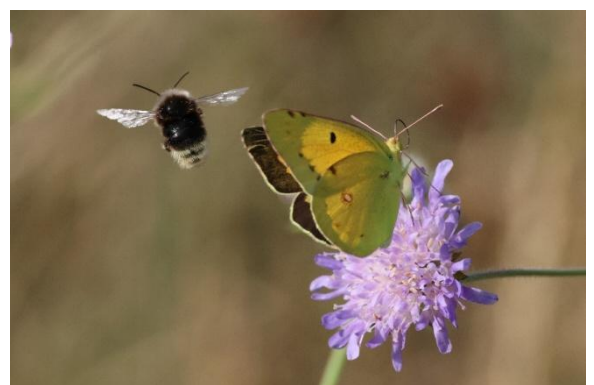
[Read more](#) about this wonderful singer/songwriter



Mon 3 Aug - Summer at the Museums - events for families at Great St Mary's

Bees, butterflies, and biodiversity.

Drop-in nature themed craft activities at Great St. Mary's 12-1.30pm
(See Mon 27 July for more details)





Wed 5 August - First Wednesday Lunch

Lunch will be in the Michaelhouse Chancel, 1-2pm. It follows on from the 12.30 Holy Communion service in GSM but there is no obligation to attend that! It is a simple lunch of soup and bread, together with fruit and home-made cake/biscuits and we invite a contribution of £5. If you find standing in a crowd at coffee on a Sunday morning a bit tricky, this might be the place for you to come and sit and chat.



Sat 8 August - Women's Breakfast – 9.30am

Meet in the Montefiore Room at Michaelhouse

All welcome to eat, chat and pray.

Please contact office@gsm.cam.ac.uk for more information.



Sat 8 August - The BIG Sing

Come and Sing with The BIG Sing!

Saturday 8 August • 11.30am • Great St Mary's Church

Join **The BIG Sing**, one of the UK's largest and most uplifting community choirs, for a joyful morning of music in the heart of Cambridge! As part of their annual **Secret Day Out**, around **300 singers** from our choirs across Kent, Essex and the Midlands will come together to fill Great St Mary's with the sound of powerful harmonies, inspirational songs and infectious energy. Whether you love uplifting music, enjoy singing, or simply want to experience something special, this **completely free** performance is open to everyone. Come along, bring your family and friends, sing if you'd like to, clap along, or simply sit back and enjoy the music. No tickets are required – just turn up and be part of this uplifting community celebration.

We'd love to see you there!



Sat 15 August - Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast 9.00am

(and women are welcome too!)

Starting with Communion in the Harvey de Stanton Chapel (Michaelhouse)

Followed by breakfast in the Montefiore Room.

All are welcome - you can just turn up.

Please contact office@gsm.cam.ac.uk for more information.

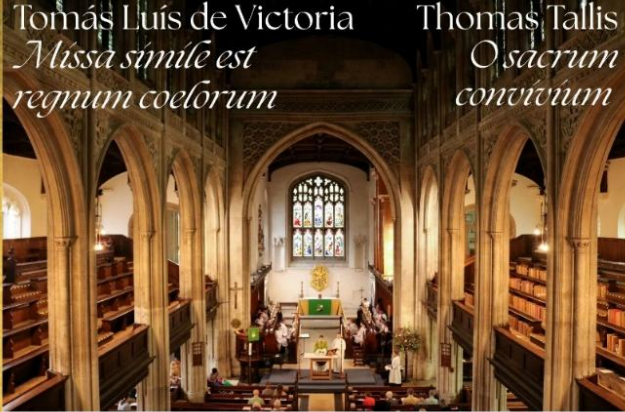


Come & Sing Choral Eucharist

at the University Church
Sunday 16 August 2026

Tomás Luís de Victoria
*Missa similē est
regnum coelorum*

Thomas Tallis
*O sacrum
convivium*





9am rehearsal (arrive by 8.45)
10am Choral Eucharist
Scan the QR code to sign up!



Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE



Music
@
GSM



Sun 16 August - Come and Sing at 10am

Would you like to join a choir to sing at the 10am service on 16 August?

It's not especially for advanced singers, it's for anyone.

Here is [the form to complete](#) so that we have an idea of numbers and have music ready for you.



Farewell and Welcome

On Monday 6 July, Great St. Mary's hosted an Evensong farewell service of thanksgiving for the ministry of the Venerable Dr Alex Hughes, outgoing Archdeacon of Cambridge. He has been appointed Suffragan Bishop of Brixworth, in the Diocese of Peterborough. It was also an opportunity to welcome The Right Reverend Sarah Clark on her first visit to Great St. Mary's as the new Bishop of Ely.



Cloud of Unknowing: Home Group

A discussion and meditation group which restarts on Tues 8 September.

Held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month from 7.30-9.00pm, at 22 Manhattan Drive, CB4 1JL

After a summer break, the Cloud of Unknowing home group will be gathering again to share the deepening of contemplative prayer with the help of a text on Christian contemplative tradition.

This group takes its name from the medieval anonymous classic, the “Cloud of Unknowing”, which was our guide during the first few months of the group forming. At each meeting we reflect what we have learned and put into practice from the text, sharing our personal experiences of contemplative prayer, and conclude with a 20-minute time of silent prayer, using the pattern with which those who attend the Monday lunchtime Christian meditation sessions will be familiar.

We warmly welcome new members at this point when we will embark on the exploration of the themes in a new book.

For more information please contact Richard Summers on richards.rs12@gmail.com or Clio Edgington on clio.edgington@gmail.com



Visiting Choirs

at Great St Mary's Summer 2026

All Saints Cathedral, Nairobi, Kenya

Sunday 19 July 5pm Choral Evensong

Oriana Singers

Saturday 25 July 5pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 26 July 10am Choral Eucharist

5pm Choral Evensong

St James the Great, Leicester

Saturday 1 August 5pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 2 August 10am Choral Eucharist

5pm Choral Evensong

The Big Sing

Saturday 8 August 11.30am

Come and Sing

Sunday 16 August 10am Choral Eucharist



*Come-and-Sing Eucharist,
directed by Alexander Berry,
with rehearsal at 9am
Sign up to sing with the
QR code*

All Saints, West Ham

Saturday 29 August 5pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 30 August 10am Choral Eucharist

5pm Choral Evensong



Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

The Music Programme at Great St Mary's involves over a hundred singers, including 85 children from local schools. While our own choirs are on their summer break, we are delighted to welcome guest choirs from all over the world

To discover more about music at GSM, including opportunities to sing, concerts, and how you can support us, visit:

greatstmarys.org/music

or send an email to:

music@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Pastoral Care



Pastoral Care and Prayer at Time of Need

Pastoral Visits and Home Communions

If you would appreciate a pastoral visit at home or to receive prayer (either by the Home Intercessors group or as part of the intercessions in GSM services) please do talk to one of the ministry team either in person or contact them via email on clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Please know that **you can request a visit from one of the clergy who would be delighted to share Holy Communion with you and your loved ones at home.**

If you would like to know more about either the Home Intercessors or the Pastoral Care Groups from the point of view of joining either group, do please talk to Jutta or Ally (or send an email to clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk).

Funeral Plans

Many people find it helpful to think about their funeral wishes well in advance, and to talk to their family about this, or to a member of the clergy. To help you think about funeral planning please feel welcome to download this [Funeral Wishes Form](#) and use it to record your thoughts. When you are ready, please share what you have noted with your next of kin, and consider if you would like this to be shared also with the clergy team at Great St Mary's so that we can keep it safely for you.

In a pastoral emergency the phone number remains 01223 747277 (messages left on this number will be responded to within 24 hours.



Year's Mind

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Jack Crossan	23 July
Colin Ian Calthrop Campbell	31 July
Norah Money	1 August
Colin Cunningham	4 August
Hugh Fleming	5 August
John Gleave	6 August
Ian Campbell Dodds	7 August
Ann Peacocke	8 August
Robert Goff	14 August
Don Ensom	18 August
Austin Maynard	20 August
Susan Spencer	25 August



Service



The Sacristan

The Sacristan looks after things in the Sacristy, which is part of the Church around and including the High Altar. In other words, the Sacristan looks after the Altar linen, the vessels, other things used in the Communion Service, clergy vestments and the robes for the servers. It tends to involve a lot of washing, ironing and cleaning but other things as well. In Great St Mary's a big change in the role came in the autumn of 1955, weeks after Mervyn Stockwood became Vicar. He changed the pattern of worship to make the Eucharist the main service on a Sunday morning and at the same time, introduced clergy vestments, servers and marking the liturgical seasons with the Altar frontal, pulpit fall and vestments. Mervyn appointed Gladys Cannon as his Sacristan. There were, at first, no vestments, so she made them - and they are still being used, though we now have others as well. After some years, Betty Gaskell became her assistant. Betty was another fine needlewoman and embroidered the gold cross on the Frontal for the High Altar. It was originally on blue, but when that faded, the cross was carefully transferred to the present cloth of gold (see photo).



Miss Cannon continued for nearly 40 years as Sacristan but retired shortly after her 90th birthday. Catherine Smart was appointed by John Binns shortly after he became Vicar. She had learned a lot from Miss Cannon and Betty Gaskell: in particular, that the Sacristan's work should be behind the scenes. If it was visible - something was wrong! Different Vicars have different preferences - as any long-serving sacristan will know. One task that falls to the Sacristan at GSM is to advise ordinands on the more practical aspects of their calling - such as how to remove candle wax or red wine spills from cassock-albs and altar linen.

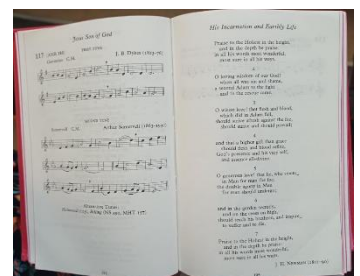
When Catherine had been Sacristan for 30 years, she decided it was time to retire. She was fortunate that one of the senior Servers was willing to take it on. So in the summer of 2024 Gillian Weale was appointed by the Vicar, Jutta Brueck, and became only the third sacristan since the Second World War - and more to the point, only the third sacristan since Mervyn Stockwood centred worship on the Eucharist and introduced the first vestments used in GSM since the time of the Tudors. (Top photo: Catherine Smart with Gillian Weale).

Catherine Smart



Hymn Books with tunes

Thanks to an amazing website called 'Clergy Clutter', we have obtained a good number of melody hymn books which members of the congregation might like to use if you would like to follow the tunes. Please just ask for one when you collect your order of service sheet.





Wider Concerns - Petertide Collection



At Petertide, the Wider Concerns Committee supports theological training overseas, where funds are urgently needed. In 2024 we supported the Janani Luwum Theological College in Uganda, who provide wonderful training for priests, urgently needed in an area near the border of Southern Sudan which was devastated by a rebel movement. We have received inspirational newsletters from them outlining the good progress in the work of the college, such as the following:

Christian Greetings: We cannot express the value of your prayers and encouragement. There is always more to accomplish and more to work towards, but as we see the building fund run out and be replenished month after month, as we see prayers answered in graduating students, and as we progress the development of the college we are daily aware of answered prayers, and know that your faithful remembrance of us makes all the difference to what we see happening here



We wish to support them again at this Petertide.

Donations may be made [at this link](#): or by scanning the QR code (WCC brown envelopes in the pews)

Holy Land Institute for the Deaf

At the GSM Advent Carols and Crib services last December we raised £1,133 for the Institute. Our contact originated from 2012 when Shirley Holder took a pilgrimage group including members of GSM to the Holy Land and visited the Institute for the Deaf at Salt in Jordan. They were so impressed by the inspirational work they were carrying out. We have supported them ever since. The Chairman of the Friends of the Holy Land Institute writes:



"The Middle East continues to be a tinderbox, and the violence in the Persian Gulf, has created significant economic and political headwinds, with new 'hot zones' appearing in the world. I continue to pray that our leaders will find resolution and that calmer heads will prevail—it is the vulnerable and less fortunate who suffer the most. Despite this, the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf remains a beacon of hope, resilience, and dedicated service to deaf and deafblind children and young people in Jordan. Your generosity remains transformative. Your partnership affirms that education, compassion, and community endure. Thank you for being a friend of the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf."



... and another Thank You. We did it! With Gift Aid, our parish's total came in at £1,327.50, which well exceeds the £1k I was hoping for. Thank you to those who hosted coffee mornings, donated - and bought - cakes (and cards) and all those who contributed to this excellent result. Lorna.

Photo left: Juliet Jackson giving a churchyard talk in aid of Christian Aid (in competition with the bells!)





Time and Talents

Stewardship of Time and Talents: Scan the code or visit <https://greatstmarys.churchsuite.com/forms/n1xybehs>

if you would like to volunteer at Great St. Mary's. There are also paper copies of this form at the back of the church on Sundays.

There are a few areas where we are in urgent need of volunteers:

Livestreamers, especially for the Sunday Eucharist. No previous experience needed, training provided - talk to Jacob Kidd or email jacobk@gsm.cam.ac.uk to find out more. We are also hoping to grow the **Altar Servers' team**, especially for the Sunday Eucharist and Festivals; again, no experience is required, and training is provided: talk to Gillian Weale to find out more.

Congregational Art Exhibition:

Thank you so much to those who enabled us to fill Michaelhouse with artwork by members of the congregation. Being able to enjoy one another's gifts and creativity is a beautiful thing! If you missed taking part and would like to contribute to the next one, email allyb@gsm.cam.ac.uk.



Eco Tips - Creating a more sustainable future

**Cambridge Zero free event: Saturday 18th July, 10am-6pm
at the Student Services Centre, Bene't Street CB2 3PT**

Free, family-friendly celebration of climate action, community resilience, creativity and sustainability. This event will bring together local organisations, researchers, artists, academics, campaigners and community groups to explore practical ways of creating a more sustainable future. Interactive exhibits, community stalls, talks, children's story sessions, film screenings and more. You can book [here](#).



The Church of England's Net Zero Carbon Programme reported to General Synod in York on Sunday 12 July and discussed '[Hope for All Creation](#)' - a landmark new theological text, or teaching document, from the House of Bishops, produced by the Church of England's Faith and Order Commission (FAOC). They then moved for final approval of the new annual 'Feast of Creation in Christ', which includes prayers and readings reflecting God's creation. Finally, the NZC Programme presented their progress report, a response to the ambition set by Synod in 2020 for the Church to work towards reaching net zero carbon emissions. On Tues 14 July the General Synod voted against plans to rewild 30% of its land by 2030. [Read more here](#).



Bookstall

You may be noticing gaps on the shelves of our two bookcases. It is because we are running out of books. If you are able to bring just one or two books when you come to church, or into town, and to leave them in the box by the bookcase in the narthex (the west end entrance), that could add up to quite a good number of books. Paperback novels are our mainstay, but most books (other than gardening, sewing and cookery) are suitable. We have just hit the £1k mark so far this year, all of which goes towards our forthcoming roof repairs. Many thanks to those who bring books, and equally to those who buy them.



Ely Cathedral

Ely Cathedral: Parish Passes and Pilgrimage Visits

Anyone on our electoral roll is eligible for a Parish Pass, which allows free entry to the Cathedral at times it is open to the visiting public. Attendance at worship is, of course, always free. The pass is for entry only and does not cover any tours or events which require paid for admission. Passes must only be used by the named parishioner and are not transferable. Proof of ID may be required when you visit. Your pass remains valid as long as you are resident in the Diocese. Parish Pass application forms can be [downloaded here](#). Please note that older Parish Passes, even if past their expiry date, remain valid for entry. After completing the form, please ask one of the churchwardens to counter-sign. Paper copies of the form are also available from the churchwardens. Please take the form to the Ticket Office at Ely Cathedral between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Saturday, to collect your pass.



Choir tour to Denmark & Sweden

In July, a group of over fifty members of Great St Mary's Choir will be travelling to Denmark and Southern Sweden for a five-day tour. As well as singing in some wonderful churches, they will visit the Roskilde Viking Ship Museum, Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens, and feast on Smørrebrød and pastries! The choir would love it if members of the congregation would like to support us in our concerts and services. You can join us at the following times:

- Thursday 23 July, 3.00pm: Concert at [St Alban's Anglican Church](#), Copenhagen
- Friday 24 July, 12.00 noon: Concert at the [Trinitatis Kirke](#), Copenhagen
- Saturday 25 July, 5.00pm: Concert at [Lund Cathedral](#) (Sweden)
- Sunday 26 July, 10.00am: Højmesse (communion service) at [Roskilde Cathedral](#)





Inaugural Major Churches Music Conference



On Saturday 13 June 2026, Great St Mary's hosted the inaugural Major Churches' Music Conference. The day conference, held in Michaelhouse, brought together over fifty musicians, incumbents and those with an interest in music in major churches, to meet, share ideas and to talk about music and mission in our churches.

Early birds started the conference with a demonstration of the 1698 Father Smith University Organ given by Stanley Godfrey, and the day proper then began with a welcome from Jutta and the Revd Canon Hilary Barber (Vicar of Halifax and Chair of the

Major Churches' Network). Carl Jackson MVO, former Director of Music of Croydon Minster and the Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, brought the day into focus through an inspiring and pithy Keynote Address majoring on music's value as a vital cultural asset, its ability to engage and inspire, and the role choristers and musicians have to play as ministers: "At every service there might be a visitor who has wandered in and, who, listening to the music, has an encounter with God". Buoyant and inspired, the first heavy-duty item of the day followed immediately: recruitment to church choirs. Simon Toyne (Executive Director, David Ross Educational Trust) gave a picture of music and singing in state-maintained schools and the positive impact the new National Plan for Music Education will have; David Fawcett (Composer; Assistant Director of Music, St Mary's Swanage) talked about the practical steps of establishing a children's choir from scratch; and Tom Daggett (Director of Music, Sheffield Cathedral) introduced us to Choir Church, a faith- and social justice-focused music programme based around singing in schools, and discussed recruitment and partnership work in the Diocese of Sheffield.

After this, delegates took part in an interactive workshop with the soprano, Helen Groves (our Voice Coach), which involved an introduction to a way of teaching vowel-production and legato to choristers. The main afternoon focused on fundraising. Hugh Morris (Director of the Royal School of Church Music) spoke about raising money from the perspective of a charity; Ruth Massey (Head of Fundraising, Southwell Minster) gave some practical and holistic advice about approaches to fundraising; and Graham Robinson (Trustee, Cathedral Music Trust) explained what grant-funding bodies are looking for in a successful application.

Delegates then had the opportunity to talk around two questions: *What are the biggest challenges for you as major church musicians and those supporting music at the moment?* and *What would you like a network to offer you?* The plan is to use these answers to these questions to discern next steps for supporting musicians and churches with music programmes (or desire to build music programmes). The day finished with an evensong, sung by the delegates and a few members of Great St Mary's Choir. If the quality of music-making is anything to go by, it is fair to say that the future of choral music in our Major Churches is in good hands. The day was organised by Alex Berry, Oliver Hancock (Director of Music, Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick), and Ally Barrett. The feedback from the day has been overwhelmingly positive and encouraging. We are greatly looking forward to seeing what impact this and future events could have.

Coming up



Something Understood (GSM poetry group) - Sat 26 Aug

Invite you to our annual visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum.

On Saturday 29 August at 10.00am

We will meet at the courtyard entrance.

Our very own Sam Race will talk to us about Pieter Brueghel the Younger's *A Village Festival with a Theatrical Performance and a Procession in Honour of St Hubert and St Anthony* (1632). There will be 15 places only, so book soon not to be disappointed by emailing Juliet Jackson: juliet@jmcj.org

This cultural summer treat is free and there will be portable chairs for us to sit on in the gallery.



GSM Patronal Festival Sun 6 Sept - Come and Sing

Patronal Festival Come & Sing Choral Evensong for advanced singers Sunday 6 September 2026



Celebrating the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ave Maria - Bruckner

Responses - Shephard

Jesus Collège Service - Mathias

Isyng of a mayden - Kathleen Allan



Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

3pm Rehearsal
5pm Choral Evensong
Followed by a glass of fizz
Scan the QR code to sign up



Great St Mary's, The University Church

CAROL COMPOSING COMPETITION 2026

£250 prize

Winning entry performed at
'Carols by Candlelight' at Great St Mary's
on 20th December 2026

Closing date: 1 September 2026
Scan the QR code to read the
full rules, download the chosen
text, and submit your entry.



Elsewhere


ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

PUBLIC FAITH COMMON GOOD CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ORDER

A Day Symposium



**Tuesday
21 July 2026**
10am - 4pm
in the Old Divinity School

with
Rowan Williams, Guli Francis-Deqhani,
Nick Spencer, Anna Rowlands,
Alison Webster, Anderson Jeremiah,
Rob Wickham and Malcolm Brown

CHURCH TIMES  The Church of England
Diocese of Ely

The Common Good Programme
Free event
Open to all
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