



RIPON
CATHEDRAL

Diocesan Farewell
to the
Rt Revd Nick Baines
first Bishop of Leeds

Sunday 23rd November 2025

3.30pm

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds

Welcome to Ripon Cathedral

Welcome to Ripon Cathedral for this act of worship. Christian worship has taken place on this site since Wilfrid built the first church here in 672AD. The crypt of that original church still survives and is the oldest part of any English cathedral and regular prayer has taken place there for over 1350 years.

Built on the firm foundation of that heritage, the Cathedral today continues to proclaim the Christian faith, with daily prayer and active service in Jesus' name.

If you would like to find out more about how the cathedral community is seeking to grow God's Kingdom in this 21st century, please visit our website. Regular updates of all that we are involved in and our worship are posted on our Facebook page and we tweet regularly using "@riponcathedral".

Sitting, kneeling, standing

As human beings, we worship with our bodies as well as through our music and prayers. This order of service invites you to sit or stand as appropriate. Please see these as merely invitations and adopt the posture you find most comfortable.

Large print versions of the Order of Service are available. Please ask those who welcomed you if you would like one.



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Giving to support the work of the Cathedral

Stewardship of all the gifts that God has given is a part of Christian discipleship. Giving is a part of that, and the support of charities and the church is an important part of that in terms of time, talent and money. We would encourage you in your stewardship, offering the following easy ways to support the work of the Cathedral:

- use the collection bags or plates;
- use the card terminals;
- for bank transfers
 - Account Name: The Chapter of Ripon Cathedral
 - Sort Code: 40 38 23
 - Account Number: 91067737
- To support the Development Trust use the QR code.



Welcome to this service

A very warm welcome to Ripon Cathedral as we gather to say thank you and farewell to Bishop Nick and Linda.

This service is prompted by Bishop Nick's retirement at the end of this month. We in the Diocese of Leeds are bound to reflect with a deep sense of gratitude upon the past 11 years during which Bishop Nick has provided exceptional pastoral care and leadership as the first Anglican Bishop of Leeds. The vibrancy and sense of common mission within the diocese is testament to the remarkable ways in which God has blessed us through Bishop Nick's skills and commitment to the whole diocese and region.

As Bishop Nick retires, it is also appropriate to thank God for the whole of his ordained ministry over 38 years. He has served as curate in Kendal and then Leicester; as Vicar of Rothley and Archdeacon of Lambeth; he was consecrated bishop in 2003 and served as Bishop of Croydon and as Bishop of Bradford. Then through his ministry as Bishop of Leeds, he has also developed trusting, fruitful relationships with our overseas links and with people in public life in this country, not least through the House of Lords.

We also have much for which we thank Linda. In addition to the invaluable service she has given to the region as a health visitor, and her support of community groups using her talents as a glass artist, Linda has shown a gift for generous hospitality at home and providing an encouraging smile and supportive comments at diocesan events.

It is natural that today's congregation unites people from right across the diocese, and from the life of the Church and wider community regionally, nationally and internationally. Everyone who attends this service has an important part to play – everyone is very welcome. I am sure we would all wish to extend a special welcome to:

- The Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, Mrs Johanna Ropner;
- The Archbishop of York, The Most Revd and Rt Hon Stephen Cottrell;
- The High Sheriff of North Yorkshire, Sir Andrew Lawson Tancred;
- The Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Mr Ed Anderson;
- The Mayor of Ripon, Cllr Barbara Brodigan;
- The Chair of North Yorkshire Council, Cllr George Jabbour;
- MPs of Leeds Central and Headingley, and Bradford West;
- The Mayors and civic representatives of Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield, Boroughbridge, Harrogate, Knaresborough, Richmond, Skipton, Bedale, Wetherby and Calderdale.

We also welcome from the Diocesan link churches and ecumenical partners:

- The Archbishop of Sudan and Bishop of Khartoum, The Most Revd Ezekiel Kondo;
- The Bishop of Hanover, Bishop Ralf Meister;
- The Roman Catholic Bishop of Leeds The Rt Revd Marcus Stock;
- Rev Graham Ensor of the Yorkshire Baptist Association;
- Kerry Tankard, Chair of the Methodist District;
- Robin Fishwick representing the Society of Friends.

Amongst the leaders and representatives of the Muslim, Jewish, Sikh and Hindu communities we welcome Ishtiaq Ahmed, Laurence and Sally Saffer, Manoj and Bhavna Joshi, Nirmal Singh, Zulfi and Saira Karim, Richard Stroud, and Sofia Buncy.

And, of course, and certainly not least, it is a privilege to welcome the family and personal guests of Bishop Nick and Linda.

Though this service is bound to be a bittersweet event, I do hope you enjoy it.

Dean John

About the service

The Service is led by The Dean of Ripon, The Very Revd John Dobson DL.

The Preacher is The Bishop of Leeds, The Rt Revd Nick Baines.

The choral pieces are sung by the girl choristers, soprano choral scholars and lay clerks of the cathedral choir; the worship songs are led by representatives of the worship band of St George's Church, Leeds.

The Cathedral bells are rung by ringers representing Bradford Cathedral, Leeds Minster and Ripon Cathedral.

The flower display is kindly provided by the Ripon Cathedral Flower Guild.

Safeguarding



Ripon Cathedral is committed to the safety and wellbeing of everyone, especially children, young people, and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns about your own or another's welfare, please report to the Cathedral Safeguarding Team via the QR code or speak to the member of clergy leading the service today.

You can also contact our Cathedral Safeguarding team on 01765 643889 or via safeguarding@riponcathedral.org.uk The Leeds Diocesan Safeguarding Team are available Monday to Friday and can be contacted on: 0113 353 0257 or via safeguarding@leeds.anglican.org.uk

Other independent services you may wish to contact are: Safe Spaces (for victims and survivors of church-based abuse) 0300 303 1056 National Domestic Abuse Line 0808 2000 247

For more information about Safeguarding at Ripon Cathedral visit www.riponcathedral.org.uk/safeguarding

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The Gathering

Song as people are gathering

Please remain seated.

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes and let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
Altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days, oh so highly exalted
You're glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to this Earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
Altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
Altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me.

Words & Music Tim Hughes (b. 1977)

Please stand as The Dean escorts the Lord Lieutenant of North Yorkshire to her seat then please sit.

Words of welcome are given by The Dean, The Very Revd John Dobson DL.

Processional Hymn

Please stand.

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the Head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the Church in one,
Holy Sion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of Hosts, to-day;
with thy wonted loving kindness
hear thy servants as they pray;
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls alway.

All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain,
what they gain from thee for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.

NEH 205

Words: Latin, before 9th century, tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866)

Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Welcome and Bidding

The Dean Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
 and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
All **and also with you.**

The Dean For your goodness to us at all times,
All **we praise you, O Lord.**

The Dean For your blessings on this diocese and its counties,
All **we praise you, O Lord.**

The Dean For all who have served you here in the past,
All **we praise you, O Lord.**

The Dean For the ministry of Nick our Bishop,
All **we praise you, O Lord.**

The Dean For the call you have given to each one of us,
All **we praise you, O Lord.**

The Dean God our Father, Lord of all the world,
 we thank you that through your Son
 you have called us into the fellowship
 of your universal Church:
 hear our prayer for all your faithful people,
 that in their vocation and ministry,
 each may be an instrument of your love;
 and, as he lays down the oversight of our diocese,
 give to your servant, Nick,
 the needful gifts of grace;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Read by Sir Andrew Lawson-Tancred, High Sheriff of North Yorkshire and Capitular Canon of Ripon Cathedral.

The words of the Teacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun? A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. The wind blows to the south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow. All things are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing. What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has already been, in the ages before us. The people of long ago are not remembered, nor will there be any remembrance of people yet to come by those who come after them.

Ecclesiastes 1.1-11

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated as the choir sings.

Magnificat

Choir My soul doth magnify the Lord:
 and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

 For he hath regarded:
 the lowliness of his handmaiden.

 For behold, from henceforth:
 all generations shall call me blessed.

 For he that is mighty hath magnified me:
 and holy is his Name.
 And his mercy is on them that fear him:

 throughout all generations.
 He hath shewed strength with his arm:

 he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;
world without end. Amen.

Music: from the Evening Service in C by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

New Testament Reading

Read by Mrs Linda Baines.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. I pray therefore that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory.

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3.7-21

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as the worship band leads the following two songs.

Worship songs

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree.

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone.

O praise the name of the Lord our God
O praise His name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God.

And then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King.

O praise the name of the Lord our God.

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face.

O praise the name of the Lord our God.

Words & Music: Hillsong worship

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul...

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul...

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul...

Words & Music: Matt Redman (b. 1974)

Please sit.

Prayers of Intercession

Led by Revd Canon Rachel Firth, Chair of the House of Clergy.

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Faithful God, whose wisdom is the cross of Christ, we rejoice in your deep and everlasting love, for your compassion knows no bounds. Free us from everything that keeps us from entering more deeply into your love. Teach us to be still and still moving into that deeper communion you desire for us. Take the threads of our lives and weave them into grace.

Lord of life and hope,

All **hear our prayer.**

Led by Canon Matthew Ambler, Chair of the House of Laity.

Lord, you prayed that your disciples might be one as you and the Father are one. We thank you for the leadership of Bishop Nick and pray your blessing on him and Linda in retirement. We pray for your church in this diocese, rejoicing in our diversity and our partnership in the Gospel. Give us wisdom in the way of Christ that we may live out our baptism with joy and proclaim the good news of your kingdom. Lord of life and hope,

All **hear our prayer.**

Led by The Worshipful Mark Hill KC, Chancellor of the Diocese of Leeds.

We pray for the flourishing of our counties, their cities, towns and villages, and for all who exercise positions of responsibility that together we may work for the common good. We pray for those who serve in the armed forces of the Crown, that they may be honoured and supported. We pray for those whose duty it is to interpret, administer and uphold the law that our systems of justice may be free from corruption and always just.

Lord of life and hope,

All **hear our prayer.**

Led by Canon John Wood, former Head of St Aidan's Church of England High School, Harrogate.

We pray for our schools, colleges and universities that they may be communities of truth and integrity. Give to all who teach and all who study a love of learning and a desire for true wisdom that lives may be enriched.

Lord of life and hope,

All **hear our prayer.**

Led by Revd Canon Matthew Pollard, Chaplain to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society.

We thank you for your promise that seed-time and harvest, summer and winter, shall not cease, and pray for the farming community and all who work on the land and at sea. May we be good stewards of your creation and its resources.

Lord of life and hope,

All **hear our prayer.**

Led by Canon Elaine Swinhoe, former President of the Mothers' Union in the diocese.

We pray for all who serve the local community in any way, and particularly those who reach out to the vulnerable and isolated. May our neighbourhoods be places of safety, hospitality, peace and trust where your love is known. Open our eyes to see beyond ourselves and our own preoccupations.

Lord of life and hope,

All **hear our prayer.**

Led by a chorister.

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom
in the words our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Anthem

Ecce sacerdos magnus, qui in diébus
suis plácuit Deo: Ideo jure jurando
fecit illum Dóminus crescere in
plebem suam. Benedictiónem
ómnium géntium dedit illi, et
testaméntum suum confirmávit super
caput eius. Ideo jure jurando fecit
illum Dóminus crescere in plebem
suam. Gloria patri et filio et spiritui
sancto.

*Behold a great priest who in his days
pleased God: Therefore by an oath
the Lord made him increase among
his people. He gave him the blessing
of all nations, and confirmed His
covenant upon his head.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost.*

*Words: from Ecclesiasticus 44. 16-27
Music: James MacMillan (b. 1959)*

Sermon

Please sit at the invitation of The Bishop.

After the sermon, please stand as the Offertory hymn begins.

Offertory Hymn

A collection is taken from the congregation. A contactless plate is available. If you are a UK taxpayer please complete a gift aid form for your offering. You can also donate by scanning the QR code on the right.



There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of man's mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify his strictness
with a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple,
we should take him at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

NEH 461

Words: F. W. Faber (1814-1863)

Music: CORVEDALE Maurice Bevan (1921-2006) (AM 806)

Please remain standing.

The Blessing

The Bishop
A//

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

The Bishop
A//

Blessed be the name of the Lord
from this time forth and for evermore.

The Bishop

May the Lord grant you
understanding of his wisdom and his grace,
and make you diligent in his service.
May he nourish you in the riches of his Gospel
and make you to persevere in all good works.
May he keep your steps from wandering
and direct you in paths of love and peace;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
A// **Amen.**

Please sit.

The Laying Down of the Crozier

As the choir sings, the deans escort Bishop Nick to the High Altar.

Choir

O praise God in his holiness :
praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him in his noble acts :
praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet :
praise him upon the lute and harp.
Praise him in the cymbals and dances :
praise him upon the strings and pipe.
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals :
praise him upon the loud cymbals.
Let every thing that hath breath : praise the Lord.

Words: Psalm 150

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost :
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be ;
world without end. Amen.

Music: George Surtees Talbot (1875-1918)

The Bishop and the deans stand before the altar.

The Dean of Bradford	The Apostle Peter writes: 'Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising your oversight not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it, not for sordid gain, but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge but be examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.'
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1 Peter 5.2-4

The Bishop of Leeds	For you, I have been your bishop. Among you I am but a fellow sinner seeking the love and mercy of God.
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The Acting Dean of Wakefield	Bishop Nick, following your appointment as the first Bishop of Leeds, you were installed in your three cathedrals. In each service, you received a crozier, a symbol of pastoral care and succession.
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The Dean of Ripon	We thank you for keeping watch over the flock of which God appointed you shepherd, and we pray for you as you relinquish this great responsibility.
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The Bishop of Leeds	I thank God for the privilege of being your bishop and for our partnership in the Gospel. I now surrender into your safe keeping, this crozier for my successor, and ask for your blessing.
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The Bishop hands the crozier to The Dean of Ripon who places it on the altar.

The Bishop kneels.

The Dean	Bishop Nick, we celebrate all we have shared with you in mission and ministry. May God, in his generous love and mercy, grant you health and strength as you continue in your pilgrimage of faith.
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And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
rest upon you and remain with you, now and for evermore.

All	Amen.
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Those at the High Altar now return to the nave as the hymn is sung.

Please stand.

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as Thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

AM 650

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm (1866–1960)

Music: FAITHFULNESS William W. M. Runyan (1870–1957)

Informal speeches of farewell are given.

The Blessing of Bishop Nick and Linda

The Bishop
of Bradford

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.

Organ Voluntary

Orb & Sceptre

*William Walton (1902-1983)
arr. Robert Gower*

As the voluntary is played, Bishop Nick and Linda process out, followed by the cathedral procession.

You are most welcome to stay for refreshments.

