

RIPON CATHEDRAL

Festal Eucharist

The Conversion of Paul

Sunday 25th January 2026

10.30am

 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".

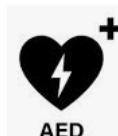
Sitting, kneeling, standing

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.



About this service

The conversion of the anti-Christian zealot, Saul, to the apostle of Christ, Paul, is clearly related in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, but it has to be remembered that this was a beginning: Saul took some time to become Paul and some time to begin to understand that his call to preach -- to Jew and to Gentile -- the saving power of Jesus, the Son of God, was something that was a whole life's journey for him. Paul says in his Letter to the Church in Galatia, "God set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace ... Three years after (the Damascus Road conversion), I went up to Jerusalem." The preparation for this moment of his conversion was his whole life. This feast has been celebrated in the Church since the sixth century but became universal in the twelfth century.

The President is The Canon Pastor, The Very Canon Wendy Dalrymple.

The Preacher is The Canon Chancellor, The Revd Canon Matthew Pollard.

The service is sung by the girl choristers, scholars and the lay clerks of the Cathedral choir. The setting is *Collegium Regale* by *Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*.

The Cathedral bells are rung by the Ripon Cathedral Guild of Bellringers.

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

Children at Ripon Cathedral

There are two **Children's Church** groups taking place. Mustard Seeds (0-6 yrs, with their parents/carers – or school age children can be dropped off if preferred) and Mighty Trees (7-11 yrs). For Mustard Seeds please make your way up the stairs to the Library after the first hymn. For Mighty Trees please drop-off your child from 10.15 at the Chapel of the Resurrection, using the outside door on the south side. Please then collect your child from the same place during the Peace.

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 speak to the member of clergy leading the service today or contact our Cathedral Safeguarding team on 01765 643889 or via safeguarding@riponcathedral.org.uk

You can also contact the Leeds Diocesan Safeguarding Team 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

Words of welcome are given by The Dean.

The Gathering

Processional Hymn

Please stand.

We have a gospel to proclaim,
good news for all throughout in all the earth,
the gospel of a Saviour's name:
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall,
but in a stable dark and dim:
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of his death at Calvary,
hated by those he came to save,
in lonely suff'ring on the cross:
for all he loved, his life he gave.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn,
empty the tomb, for he was free:
he broke the power of death and hell
that we might share his victory.

Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
by all creation glorified:
He sends his Spirit on his Church,
to live for him, the Lamb who died.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim;
we sing his glory, tell his worth.

NEH 486

Words: E. J. Burns (b. 1938)
Music: FULDA William Gardiner (1770-1853)

The organist improvises until the censing of the altar is complete.

The Greeting

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
 and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

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

The president introduces the service.

Prayer of Preparation

All **Almighty God,
 to whom all hearts are open,
 all desires known,
 and from whom no secrets are hidden;
 cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 that we may perfectly love you,
 and worthily magnify your holy name;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer of Penitence

Deacon We were once dead through the trespasses
 and sins in which we lived,
 but now we are alive together with Christ.
 Through him we have access in one Spirit to the Father,
 to whom we humbly confess our sins.

President Open our eyes to your presence in our midst.
 Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

President Turn our hearts from selfish ends.
 Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

President Draw us into your company on the way.
 Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Absolution

President God the Father forgive you by the death of his Son
 and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit
 all your days.
All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, goodwill 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 taketh away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that taketh away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that taketh 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.

Please remain standing.

The Collect

President Let us pray.

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel
to shine throughout the world
through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul:
grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion
may follow him in bearing witness to your truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
All **Amen.**

Please sit.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' 5 He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

Acts 9.1-22

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn

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.

NEH 377

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824–1908)

Music: ST DENIO from John Roberts's Caniadau y Cyssegr 1839

Please remain standing and turn to face the deacon reading the Gospel.

The Gospel

The choir sings the following and the congregation repeats it.

Cantor Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.
All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel is censed.

Peter said to Jesus: 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

Matthew 19.27-end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The organist improvises as the gospel party returns.

The Sermon

Please sit at the invitation of the preacher.

After the sermon, please stand with the president.

All

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 from the Holy Spirit and 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.

Prayers of Intercession

President Encouraged by our fellowship with all the saints, let us make our prayers to the Father through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Please sit.

This response is used after each petition:

Intercessor Lord, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

And at the end:

Intercessor Almighty God,
 you have built your Church
 upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
 with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone:
 so join us together in unity of spirit by their doctrine,
 that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

President Let the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
 guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We exchange warm greetings with those nearest us.

Preparation of the Altar

The table is prepared, the bread and wine are placed on it.

Offertory Hymn

A collection is taken during this hymn. Card readers will be brought round for those who prefer to give by card. Alternatively, please use this QR Code.



Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings within, and fears without,

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,

Just as I am (thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down),
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,

Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,

NEH 294

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789–1871)

Music: SAFFRON WALDEN Arthur Henry Brown (1830–1926)

The organist improvises until the censing of the gifts is complete.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

President Almighty Father,
 as we celebrate this holy sacrament of our redemption
 may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith;
 by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

President Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

President It is indeed right and good,
 our duty and our joy,
 at all times and in all places
 to give you thanks and praise,
 holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For on this day he called to his service
the blasphemer and persecutor of your Church.
Saul, who had resisted your grace,
became Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles.

Because he was faithful and true in his ministry,
you made him an example of patient service,
to instruct in the way of eternal life
all those who heard his preaching and believed your word.

Now, therefore, he who became your chosen instrument
for the salvation of the nations
has made us also eager to proclaim your mercy,
and sing in union with all the powers of heaven
the joyful hymn of your praise:

*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.*

President Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
 grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
 and according to your holy will,
 these gifts of bread and wine
 may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
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 gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; 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.

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

And so Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world,
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

St Peter, St Wilfrid, St Paul and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

All

Please sit.

The Lord's Prayer

President Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

All

**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

President We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The Giving of Communion

President God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

All

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

*We welcome communicants of all denominations to receive holy communion.
If you require a gluten-free wafer, please indicate this to the minister. If you are
not a communicant and would like to receive God's blessing, please come with
this service sheet in your hand. Please move as directed.*

Agnus Dei

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

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Motet

Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt, et
non tanget illos tormentum malitiae.
Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori: illi
autem sunt in pace.

*The souls of the righteous are in the
hand of God, and there shall no
torment touch them. In the sight of
the unwise they seemed to die: but
they are in peace.*

*Words: Wisdom 3.1-13
Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924)*

Prayer after Communion

President Almighty God,
 who on the day of Pentecost
 sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles
 with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,
 filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:
 by the power of the same Spirit
 strengthen us to witness to your truth
 and to draw everyone to the fire of your love;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Notices

Notices may be given, after which please stand.

The Dismissal

The Blessing

President May Christ who called Paul to his service,
 and to preach the good news to the world,
 strengthen you to witness to his grace and love.
 And the blessing of God almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Hope of our calling: hope through courage won;
by those who dared to share all Christ had done.
Saints of today, Christ's banner now unfurled,
we bring his gospel to a waiting world.

**Hope of our calling: hope with strength empowered,
inspired by all that we have seen and heard;
this call is ours, for we are chosen too,
to live for God in all we say and do.**

**Hope of our calling: hope with grace outpoured,
from death's despair the gift of life restored;
our call to serve, to wash each others' feet,
to bring Christ's healing touch to all we meet.**

**Hope of our calling: hope by faith made bold;
to sow God's righteousness throughout the world;
bring peace from conflict, fruitfulness from weeds,
the Kingdom's harvest from the Kingdom's seeds.**

**Hope of our calling: Spirit-filled, unbound,
old joys remembered and new purpose found,
our call refreshed by sacrament and word,
we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

AM 493

Words: Ally Barrett (b. 1975)

Music: WOODLANDS Walter Greatorex (1877-1949)

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

Organ Voluntary

Meditation VI

*Dans le Verbe était la Vie et la Vie était la Lumière...
In the Word was Life, and that Life was the Light...*

Meditations on the Mystery of the Holy Trinity Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

After the service, please join us in the south transept for a coffee, tea or juice.



CANDLEMAS FESTAL EUCHARIST AND PROCESSION

SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY
5.30pm

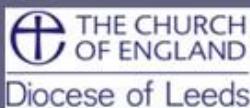
The Annual Service to celebrate the Presentation
of the infant Jesus in the Temple

Over 7000 candles set out in glorious designs will
illuminate the Cathedral



RIPON
CATHEDRAL

All Welcome



RIPON
CATHEDRAL

Ash Wednesday 18th February 2026

Solemn Eucharist with the
imposition of Ash
said at 10.00am
sung at 7.30pm

All Welcome

Find all services at www.riponcathedral.org.uk

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