Anglican Diocese of Ottawa

Celebrating Women in Leadership

130th Anniversary of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa
50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood
25th Anniversary of the Christ Church Cathedral Girls Choir

Saturday | November 14th | 2026

11 am | Choral Eucharist

Christchurch Mass | Malcolm Archer

Our diocese was founded on the homeland of the Anishinaabe Algonquins.
May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

Welcome

Sidespeople can provide headsets for those who need hearing assistance, and can ensure that communion is brought to you in the pew if required.

Please turn off or set mobile devices to silent mode.

A reception will follow in the Great Hall.

At 2 pm, please join in a conversation about reclaiming the leadership of women in our past as we celebrate women's leadership today, with the author of *Anne Boleyn: Reputation, Revolution, Religion, and the Queen Who Changed History,* The Reverend Canon Martha Tatarnic.

Notes on Today's Service

Our choir this morning gathers *en famille* our current Girls as well as many "Old Girl" alumnae going back to the very first class of choristers in 2001. Assisting at the organ is Aleesha Katary, head chorister from 2022-2023. Leading the ensemble is Tim Piper (founding director from 2001-2012) alongside James Calkin, his successor and current Cathedral Director of Music.

The hymn, *Guide Us, O God, with Blessing* was written by The Reverend Canon Dr. Judy Rois, former Executive Director of the Anglican Foundation of Canada, to mark the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Anglican Church of Canada. Rois served as AFC's Executive Director from 2011 to 2021 and was the first woman to hold that position, leading the Foundation through a decade of significant change.

The Anglican Award of merit is the highest honour that a lay person can receive in the Anglican Church of Canada. Our diocese is the home to two recipients of this award, Monica Patten and Patricia Bays. Monica cannot be with us today and sends her greetings, and Patricia will read a lesson. Thanks to them for their ministries!

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude | *Largo BWV 526/2 | J.S. Bach*

Welcome from the Dean

Introit | *Lift thine eyes | Felix Mendelssohn*

Lift thine eyes, to the mountains, whence cometh help. Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved. Thy Keeper will never slumber.

Hymn 465 | *Here in this place new light is streaming*

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
And also with you.

Collect

Lord of all life, you never cease from calling people to turn and follow you, and you empower us with your Spirit to do marvellous things in your service. Strengthen all who those who lead your Church in our day with your many gifts, that they in turn may strengthen all your people in their ministry to bring your light to a world so in need of your truth and your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading | *Isaiah 42:5-9*

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a

covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm | *100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come into the divine presence with a song. Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God; the One made us and to whom we belong; we are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture. Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving; go into these courts with praise; give thanks to God and call upon the name of the Lord. For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting; and whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Reading | *Romans 16:1-16*

A reading from the book of Romans.

I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchreae, so that you may welcome her in the Lord, as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well. Greet Prisca and Aquila, my coworkers in Christ Jesus, who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but also all the churches of the gentiles. Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert in Asia for Christ. Greet Mary, who has worked very hard for you. Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Israelites who were in prison with me; they are prominent among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was. Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord. Greet Urbanus, our coworker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys. Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the family of Aristobulus. Greet my fellow Israelite Herodion. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of Narcissus. Greet those workers in the Lord, Tryphaena and Tryphosa. Greet the beloved Persis, who has worked hard in the Lord. Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and greet his mother—a mother to me also. Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers and sisters

who are with them. Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual | *Antiphon | Ralph Vaughan Williams*

Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! The heavens are not too high, his praise may thither fly: the earth is not too low, his praises there may grow. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King! The church with Psalms must shout. No door can keep them out: but above all, the heart must bear the longest part. Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!

Holy Gospel | *John 20:11-18*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Hymn 500 | *Sister, let me be your servant*

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

Let us pray.

God of creation and inspiration, you call your people to live the Gospel in every time and place. We pray for our national Church, and all who are held within and beyond this communion seeking to live in ways faithful to your teachings and will.

Bless all who hold positions of spiritual leadership, especially Archbishop Shane, Bishop Kathryn, the clergy, and lay leaders of our diocese, who use their gifts and skills in service of others. Bless the hidden paths they walk, the quiet burdens they may carry, and the decisions they must make.

Today we also pray for all those who, throughout the years, stood in faithful solidarity with women, defending their right to ordination within our church. We give thanks for their strength to persevere, the courage to speak out, and the faith to believe in you beyond all systems and institutions. Through the fruits of their labours, we are enriched by a church that has continued to grow within the world and throughout time.

We pray to you, our God;
in faith we pray.

God of wisdom and courage, we give thanks for all who lead with compassion and strength. Grant all our world's leaders the graciousness, wisdom, and humility to act in service of others, and the clarity of vision to recognize the privileges and responsibilities of leadership. May the authority of our world's leaders be used to inspire creativity and generativity, so that one day your people may be reconciled and see each other as kin.

Guide all your creation towards harmony in you, mending what is broken and healing what is wounded. Through your creative and self-giving love, at work within each of our hearts, continue to teach us to cherish this world of beauty and mystery.

We pray to you, our God;
in faith we pray.

God of faithfulness and commitment, we recognize that the life of our church depends on the labour and dedication of many. From our altar to our gardens, our choirs to our kitchens, and our offices to our sanctuary, we are thankful for the many hearts, minds, hands, and voices, that ensure that our community of faith is tended to both in substance and spirit.

We pray for all those who have built up our faith communities in decades past, whose good works remain as witness marks, revealing the deep spiritual life cultivated throughout time. Bless the many ordinary acts of service of our congregations, as they are a part of a living song of faith, sung across generations. May we continue to cultivate community, by being attuned to the gifts you plant among us, and courage to follow where your Spirit leads.

We pray to you, our God;
in faith we pray.

God of comfort and presence, as our own lives ebb and flow, there are times when circumstances beyond our control bring suffering that clouds the light of life. In such moments, whenever they may find us, give us strength when we are tired, calm when we are anxious, and courage when we may despair.

For all who suffer now, may they recognize the light of your love within the gentle hands and hearts that surround them.

We now offer in silence all those people we carry in our hearts this day.

Silence.

Renew in our hearts trust that beyond grief, suffering, and despair, there is a deeper life to be embraced. May all our stories of hardship and healing remind us that you are the love that will not let us go.

We pray to you, our God;
in faith we pray.

God of all, we remember before you all those who have died and now rest in the mystery of your love.

Silence.

May we always hear the echoes of their life within our own hearts, and trust that wherever their absence may be felt, there revealed is an abiding presence.

We are ceaselessly surrounded by a cloud of many witnesses, whose enduring love continues to form us into being. As we carry forth this divine story towards a future good beyond imagining, bless us that we may always love as we have been loved, and grant that our own lives may become a living prayer that continues even beyond death. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Offertory Hymn | *Guide us, O God, with blessing*

Guide us, O God, with blessing to live and love, shalom;
you shepherd us and feed us, your heart shall be our home,
With change and challenge 'fore us we join our hands, resolved
to be your church triumphant: lead on, O God, lead on.

Guide us, O God, with blessing With Hannah, Deborah, called
to be this new day's prophets we shall not be forestalled.
Your cross is e'er before us and in its light we walk;
lead on in peace and promise, lead on, O dazzling light.

Guide us, O God, with blessing with Mary's song allied
with Anna's age and wisdom we travel in their stride.
Give us the will to fashion a future that holds firm
for peace and fairness, justice: lead on, O faithful God.

Guide us, O God, with blessing to live and love, shalom;
you shepherd us and feed us, your heart shall be our home,
With change and challenge 'fore us we join our hands, resolved
to be your church triumphant: lead on, O God, lead on.

Thank you for donating to the ministry of our Diocesan Cathedral! You may also make an offering via the collection plate or tip-tap machine in the foyer, by e-transfer to info@ottawacathedral.ca. or by going to https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/5519

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, so that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.
It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness. You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first.

Therefore we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and singing: *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.
Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.

He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore we proclaim our hope.
Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters, brothers, and siblings. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.
Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please pray using these words, or whichever version or language is closest to your heart.

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei

Communion

All are welcome to come to the altar rail. If you wish prayers for healing before receiving Communion, please carry an Order of Service with you; to receive a blessing, cross your hands over your chest; for a gluten-free wafer, hold out one hand; for a regular wafer, hold out two hands. Please do not dip the bread in the wine.

Motet | *Salve Regina (opus 171/3) | Josef Rheinberger*

Salve regina, mater misericordiae, vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve. Ad te clamamus exules filii Evae. Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lacrimarum valle. Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte. Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, nobis post hoc exilium ostende. O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria. | Hail holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us. And after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

The Sending of the Community

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory to God,
whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever and ever. Amen.

Episcopal Blessing

Dismissal

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn 325 | *Angel-voices, ever singing*

Postlude | *Concerto in G (BWV 592) | J.S. Bach*

Celebrant | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff
Preacher | The Right Reverend Kathryn Otley
Deacon | The Reverend Lianna Gallant
Assisting Clergy | The Reverend Canon Doug Richards | The Venerable Linda Hill
Readers | Rebecca Officer | Patricia Bays
Intercessor | Jessie Stephenson
Duty Warden | Jane Morris

Organists | Aleesha Katary | Tim Piper | James Calkin
Directors | James Calkin | Tim Piper
Sung by | The Cathedral Girls Choir and Alumnæ

Liturgy: *The Book of Alternative Services* ©1985, *The Psalter of The Book of Alternative Services Emended for Contemporary Liturgical Use* ©2016, *Alternative Collects For Years A, B, and C of the Revised Common Lectionary with Seasonal Prayers over the Gifts and Prayers After Communion* ©2019, *Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer #2* ©2001 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. Collect: The Canterbury Book of New Parish Prayers ©2020 Canterbury Press. Readings: *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue)* ©2021 by the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA in partnership with the Society of Biblical Literature.

Office of the Primate

The Anglican Church of Canada
L'Église anglicane du Canada

November 2, 2026

The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa
Sent by email

Beloved in Christ,

As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the ordination of women in the Anglican Church of Canada, and as the Diocese of Ottawa marks its 130th Anniversary with women holding the offices of Dean and Bishop, it my delight to lift up the story of how the Cathedral Girls Choir came into being twenty-five years ago.

By 2001, Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa had been the site of many firsts for women: Frances Macdonnell became Cathedral Organist and Director of Music in 1980, the same year Sally Eaton and Sara Boyles were the first women to be ordained as priests in its sanctuary; in 1985, Kate Lawson became the first woman to be a senior warden; and in 1987 the Reverend Gwenda Wells was the first woman appointed to serve as a priest in the Cathedral.

The idea of a Cathedral Girls Choir had been a topic of conversation and study for several years but had reached an impasse as the new millennium was beginning. While there was support for the idea, the will to simply make it happen was elusive.

In late 2000, I met with Timothy Piper, a former Cathedral chorister and popular, multi-talented musician. I candidly asked if he would be willing to start a Girls Choir if funding could be arranged—acknowledging that it would have to be built as it began. He felt moved to accept the challenge, so I approached the gentlemen of the Cathedral's Trust Fund (who knew and admired Tim) to secure sufficient start-up funds. From there, with the consent of the churchwardens and the cooperation of the Director of Music, Tim was hired and the Cathedral Girls Choir was finally poised to become a reality in 2001.

Very quickly, many members of the Cathedral, excited by the prospect, stepped up to offer support, and girls and their families from across the region began to sign up. The Cathedral Girls Choir soon took on shape, form, and a distinctive sound to become a beloved, robust, and dynamic part of the life and ministry of the Anglican cathedral in the nation's capital—going from strength to strength when James Calkin became its second director.

It was a great joy to play a part in establishing the Girls Choir and to see how it has touched so many lives over the last twenty-five years. When we allow the Holy Spirit to work in us to turn the call to seek and serve Christ in all persons into concrete action, everyone's gifts can be celebrated, and everyone benefits.

With kindest blessings and heartfelt congratulations to all as you celebrate women in leadership in this three-fold anniversary year.

Yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Shane Parker
Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

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Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

Anishinaabe aking ate awaso kikinawadjichigan | A place of prayer on Algonquin territory
The Anglican Cathedral in the Nation's Capital
Cathedral of the Canadian Forces Anglican Military Ordinariate

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Bishop of Ottawa | The Right Reverend Kathryn Otley
Dean of Ottawa and Rector | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff (ext. 161)
Vicar | The Reverend Canon Douglas Richards (ext. 191)
Deacon Residentiary | The Reverend Dr. Jarrett Carty
Honorary Assistants | The Reverend Joan Riding | The Reverend Canon Victoria Scott
LCol (ret'd) The Venerable Michelle Staples | Lt (N) The Reverend Katherine Walker
Lay Readers | Daniel Jerusalimiec | Ted Livingstone

Director of Music and Organist | James Calkin (ext. 201)
Associate Director of Music | Andrew McAnerney (ext. 121)
Music Associate | Nick Veltmeyer

Church Wardens | Katherine Spencer-Ross | Stephen Giles
Director of Operations and Development | Nicholas Galambos (ext. 171)