



THE HEREFORD GOSPELS FOR TODAY ARTIST SUBMISSION DETAILS



THE PROJECT

Next year, from March to October, Hereford Cathedral is celebrating 1350 years of the Diocese of Hereford with a special exhibition* around one of its great treasures, **The Hereford Gospels**. Alongside it, the cathedral has commissioned a beautiful new hand-made blank book called **The Hereford Gospels for Today** into which responses to the Gospels will be pasted into.

We are looking for artists to submit artwork and responses to the Gospels for today based on their own experiences and reflections. The work can be produced in any medium or style.

SUBMISSIONS

Contributions should be A4 or smaller and on not more than 80 gsm paper (so the book is not too stuffed). They can be original artwork if it fits that size and you are happy to gift it to the book, or a good photograph or copy. A short piece of text that can go on the same leaf is welcome.

This project is open to all ages, backgrounds and abilities and the deadline for submissions is 31 December 2025.

To submit your work or ask any questions, please email Bishop David who is coordinating the project at HerefordGospels@skypilots.co.uk or post to Cathedral Library, 5 College Cloisters, Cathedral Close, Hereford, HR1 2NG

WHAT ARE THE HEREFORD GOSPELS?

This cousin of the Lindisfarne Gospels was probably made to be the Book of the High Altar for the Cathedral around 800AD as the cult of St Ethelbert grew. It was a holy focal point, used and read from in processions but also a book in which things could be recorded or over which oaths could be sworn. Part of it is a palimpsest written over an even earlier Psalter – and miraculously it has survived to still inspire us today.

Alongside the exhibition which will take place in the Mappa Mundi & Chained Library Museum next year, **The Hereford Gospels for Today** will contain responses to the Gospels – the old Hereford ones and the ones we read today: artwork, calligraphy, stories, testimonies and more from young and old alike.





HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

The book will be blessed in the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday 2026 and after display there will go on tour round the Diocese.

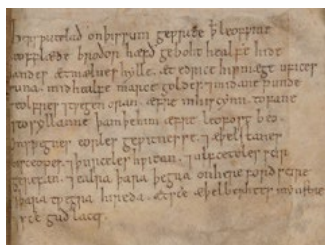
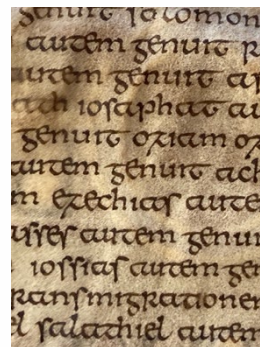
FURTHER INSPIRATION

To set you thinking:



Just a few letters can become the basis for intricate artwork, drawing on different traditions and sources (as the originals did) to make a new whole that speaks of building harmony here and now

Blocks of text have interest and power – and a nearly lost palimpsest (earlier rubbed out text) could shine through a Gospel passage in a script and language of your choice, with words or images from today on a third layer above.



Here the woman Leofwine has a record made (in Old English) of a land purchase just before the Norman Conquest (and someone has tried to cut it out). What would you want to record now? Perhaps of something under threat?

Additional information and imagery can be downloaded here:

www.herefordcathedral.org/news/gospels-for-today

Notes

- *Submissions cannot be returned to the artists*
- *We regret that not all submissions may be included*

***Shaping early medieval faith: The Hereford Gospels** will be on display in the Mappa Mundi & Chained Library Museum from Saturday 28 March – Saturday 12 September 2026

