



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **A Live Screening, Floral Tributes, Royal Bunting, Pimm's, Coronation Teas and Special Services of Thanksgiving are to be enjoyed by all at Ely Cathedral over the Coronation weekend.**

As one of the most iconic, and largest buildings in East Anglia, Ely Cathedral will be leading the way in celebrations over the Coronation weekend with a live screening of the event.

On Saturday 06 May, BBC coverage of the event will be broadcast live from a large-scale screen inside the Cathedral. Entry to the Cathedral and Stained Glass Museum will be free all day on Saturday with free drinks for everyone coming to participate in the celebrations. The live screening and refreshments have been made possible thanks in part to funding from the Combined Authority via a grant from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), to provide an opportunity for communities across East Cambridgeshire to come together on this historic occasion.

Ely's famous Octagon Tower will be lit red, white & blue and parts of the Cathedral will be decorated with bunting. A magnificent, 1.2m diameter flower arrangement of the Coronation emblem, will be on display over the weekend as a special floral tribute to the new King and Queen. For those wanting to celebrate further, tickets can be booked to attend a Coronation Tea Party which will be taking place in the Cathedral's beautiful medieval Lady Chapel, directly following the live broadcast,

In addition to a special evensong on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May, there is a Service of Thanksgiving for the Coronation on Sunday 07 May at 4.30pm. Everyone is invited to attend this celebratory service with the Cathedral choir singing the National Anthem, alongside other famous pieces of music associated with Coronations including *Handel's Zadok The Priest* and *Parry's, I was glad*.

The Very Revd Mark Bonney, Dean of Ely said " Everyone is warmly invited to join with us as we celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla. This is a historic moment for our nation and we pray for God's blessing on them both. We look forward to seeing you at the live-streaming of the Coronation itself on a big screen in the Cathedral and be part of a joyful community celebration. There are also other services and events over the weekend - Everyone is very welcome and we would love to see you."

For further information about the weekend, including details of free entry, services or to book tickets for the Coronation Tea Party, please visit [www.eltcathedral.org](http://www.eltcathedral.org)

**ENDS**

For further information please contact Lesley Ann Thompson - 01353 660350 / 07930 918885

Images – A Royal floral tribute . (Credit Ely Cathedral)

### **About Ely Cathedral**

Highly regarded by historians and architects from all over the world for its beauty and size, Ely Cathedral is widely acknowledged as ‘one of the wonders of the Medieval world’. Visible for miles around, the Cathedral is often referred to as ‘The Ship of the Fens’.

The present building dates from 1081 and is a remarkable example of both Romanesque and Norman architecture. In addition to its unique Octagon Tower and magnificent Lady Chapel, Ely has the third longest nave of any UK Cathedral. The Cathedral’s role today is not so far removed from its days as a Benedictine monastery and offers regular daily worship with a special emphasis on choral music. It still maintains a resident choir of 22 choristers and 6 lay clerks and so continues the tradition of choral evensong every day of the week during term time.

As well as being a major visitor attraction, the Cathedral serves as a cultural focal point for East Anglia by providing a unique venue for the arts & music, for exhibitions, concerts and theatre. Most recently Ely has gained global recognition a prominent film location including *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, *The Other Boleyn Girl*, *Macbeth*, *The King’s Speech* and *The Crown*.