ICONS of RECONCILIATION

Silvia Dimitrova
Commissions for permanent display

Please support this project.

Each painting will cost around £1500. The total cost of the project is around £9000. Contributors so far have wanted to offer thanksgiving for a marriage, or the memory of a friend or loved one. Others simply want to see the Chapel further enhanced.

It is planned that a small book will be produced to acknowledge donors, as well as telling of the story behind the icons and other aspects of the Bishop's Chapel.

Please use this form to make your contribution. If you are a UK tax payer please indicate in order that we may receive additional tax revenue, at no cost to you.

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____

I am/am not a UK tax payer *(please delete as appropriate)*

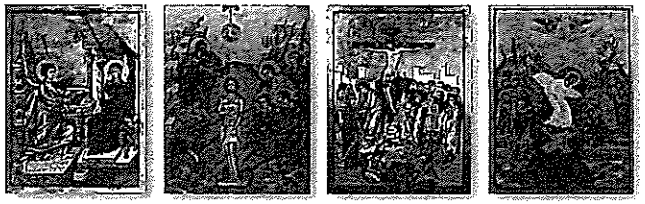
I am/am not willing to have my donation recorded in the Commemorative Book *(please delete as appropriate)*

Please make your cheque out to **Palace Trustees** and send it to:

The Bishops' Domestic Chaplain
Rev Julia Hedley
The Bishop's Palace
Wells
Somerset BA5 2PD

Silvia Dimitrova
is an outstanding artist who was born in Bulgaria in 1970 and now lives at Downside with her husband Simon. She has been artist in residence at Wells Cathedral where she was commissioned to paint fourteen Stations of the Cross. Silvia has recently held a most successful exhibition in the Palace.

www.silviadimitrova.co.uk



A selection of icons already commissioned or exhibited by Silvia Dimitrova: Annunciation, The Baptism of Christ, Christ Crucified, The Resurrection

The
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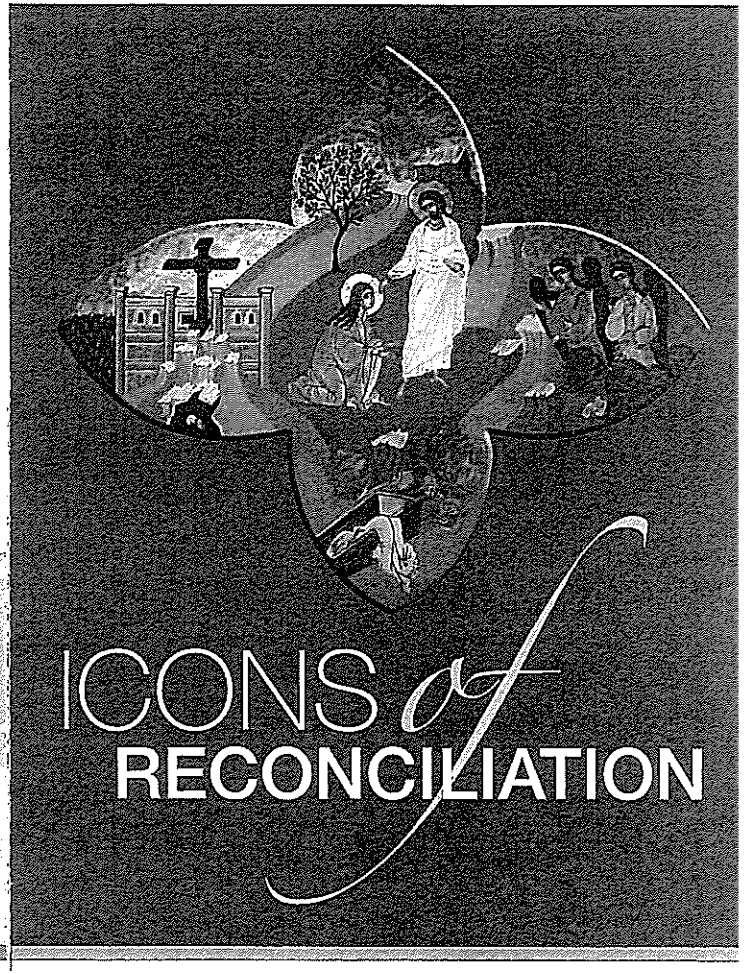

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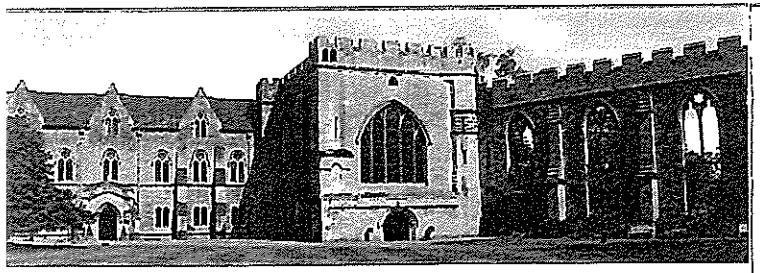
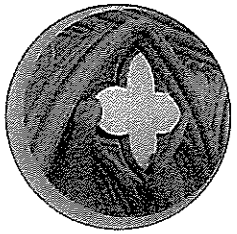
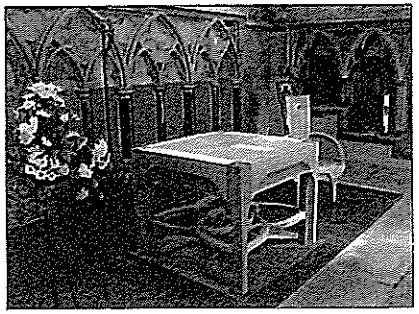


The Chapel of the Holy Trinity with St Mark is at the heart of the Bishop's Palace in Wells.



The Chapel was completed in 1290, during the time of Bishop Burnell, and has been a centre of worship for much of the past 800 years.

To mark the 800th anniversary of the founding of The Bishop's Palace in 1206 the present bishop and his wife, Peter and Dee Price commissioned a new altar designed by David John.

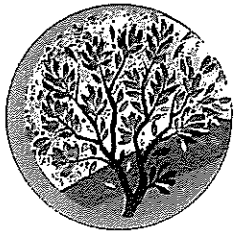


The new altar stands on a re-modelled sanctuary above the text 'God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.'

To complete the re-ordering of the sanctuary the Bishop and Dee Price have commissioned the internationally renowned Bulgarian artist Silvia Dimitrova to paint a series of icon inspired paintings to reflect the theme of reconciliation throughout the Old and New Testaments.

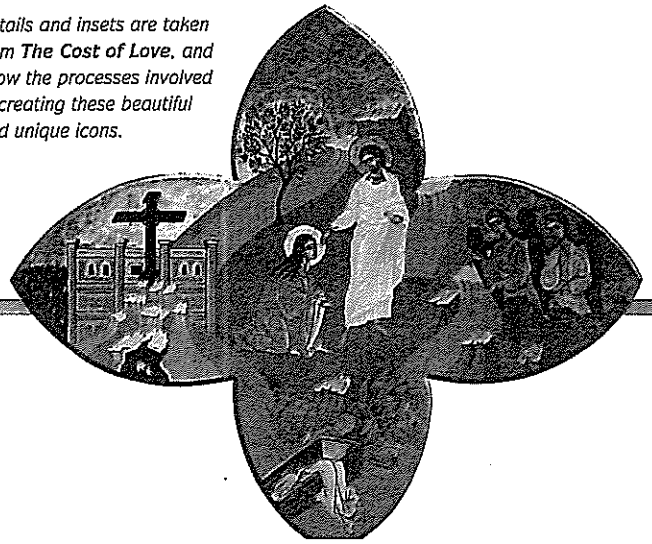
These five paintings will be hung in the quatrefoils on the reredos in the sanctuary of the Chapel.

The first represents *Creation and the Garden of Eden*. The second symbolises *the Fall*, the breaking of relationships. The third draws on the ideas of *hope and promise* as spoken of by the Prophets and Jesus. *The Cost of Love* is illustrated by the Cross and Resurrection. The final picture is the *City of God* revealing the final reconciliation of God with humanity as described in the Book of Revelation.



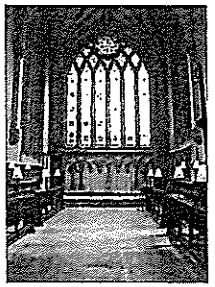
Each of the paintings is being made as traditional icons were made, with the wood being prepared prior to detailed painting.

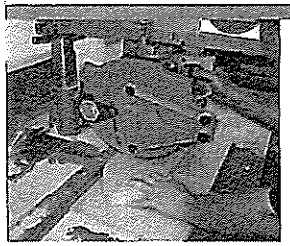
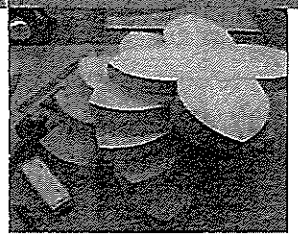
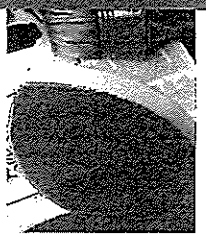
Details and insets are taken from ***The Cost of Love****, and show the processes involved in creating these beautiful and unique icons.*



ICONS of RECONCILIATION

Icons – the word means 'image' or 'representation,' have been used to provide visual teaching of Christian truth.



Today the Bishop's Chapel is open to a wide range of visitors from many backgrounds and faiths. We hope that the reconciliation icons will provide inspiration and a source of reflection for those who view them.

At the heart of the Christian gospel is the theme of reconciliation. Both the Bishop and Dee Price have been active in the work of reconciliation in places as far apart as Northern Ireland and Iraq. Their desire to nurture a vision for people to be reconciled to one another and to God lies behind this vision for Icons of Reconciliation.