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**Press Release 26/04/22**

**Spectacular Stitching Brings the Bible to Life at Worcester Cathedral**

Worcester Cathedral is looking forward to hosting ‘Threads Through Creation’, an extraordinary exhibition of 12 enormous, embroidered silk panels that explore the story of Creation, on display from Wednesday 27 April – Sunday 5 June.

Inspired by the poetic verses of Genesis, the first book in the Bible, textile artist Jacqui Parkinson re-imagines this ancient story in a vibrant combination of silk, hand-dyed materials, metallic leathers and gold leaf, miles of thread – and more than eight million stitches!

The panels are huge – 8ft high by as much as 13ft wide - and vary in appearance from elemental pieces illustrating the first days to highly complex and lush work as we enter the Garden of Eden. Jacqui Parkinson’s work is eye-catching and attractive, designed to be accessible for all ages. Whilst the serious context of the earth and our impact on it underlies the entire exhibition, the embroidery itself is bold and exuberant, with many quirky details.

Jacqui’s first exhibition ‘Threads Through Revelation’ toured 14 Cathedrals, including Worcester, delighting more than half a million visitors. ‘Threads through Creation’ is just starting a three-year tour to 16 Cathedrals.

Jacqui said: “It’s a pleasure to return to Worcester, such a wonderful building where I hope to add a little extra wonder! People loved ‘Threads Through Revelation,’ quite a tough subject. Creation is a simpler story.

“My aim is to capture the wonderful extravagance of the Creation story and to delight people who view it. Despite Adam and Eve’s fall from grace, it remains a story of love and promise, something we can all do with these days. I think the panels will add a lovely sparkle to everyone’s visit to the Cathedral.”

The Dean of Worcester, The Very Reverend Peter Atkinson, said: “We’re very pleased to host this remarkable exhibition which, like the Cathedral, is a wonderful expression of God’s love. We see the story of Creation step-by-step in glorious colours and spectacular designs. It’s a joyful celebration of our amazing world for everyone to enjoy.”

Threads through Creation runs at Worcester Cathedral from 27 April to 5 June during normal visiting hours: 10am – 5pm Monday – Saturday (last entry 4.30pm) and 1 - 3pm on Sundays (last entry 2.30pm).

There is no admission charge to visit the Cathedral, but donations are welcomed and very much appreciated.

For more information, please visit [www.worcestercathedral.co.uk](http://www.worcestercathedral.co.uk)

**ENDS**

For press enquiries about Worcester Cathedral, please contact sarahbowyer@worcestercathedral.org.uk.

**Notes to editors**

Worcester Cathedral has been a place of Christian worship and prayer for fourteen centuries; the present building dates back to 1084 and is dedicated to Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Described as possibly the most interesting of all England's cathedrals, especially architecturally, Worcester Cathedral was founded in 680. Saint Oswald then built another cathedral in 983, and established a monastery attached to it. Saint Wulfstan began the present building in 1084 replacing the earlier cathedrals.

The Cathedral's attractions include King John's Tomb, Prince Arthur's Chantry, the early 12th Century Chapter House, St Wulfstan's Crypt, medieval cloisters, magnificent Victorian stained glass and spectacular views from the top of the Cathedral tower.