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We are deeply grateful for the donations we receive from our congregation and our community. Now, more than ever, we need your support.

Please visit www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/support-us or text **METROCATHERAL** to **70460** to donate £5*.

*Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message. If you do not wish to opt-in to hear more about our work and fundraising via text, but would still like to donate £5, text METROCATHERALNOINFO instead.



Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Gaudete Sunday

On this Third week of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, we are invited to rejoice that the Lord is near, He is coming to save us. The Gospel this Sunday has John the Baptist imprisoned and alone in the sure knowledge that a violent death awaited him. What hope could there be for him, had his preaching and life's witness been in vain? Even John, the great prophet, in fact Jesus declared him to be the greatest of all prophets, needed assurance that his words and example had purpose and meaning. He sent a message to Jesus and the response he received was an echo of the words of Isaiah 'the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life and the good news is proclaimed to the poor'. This would not just have lifted his spirits but the fact that the promised word of God was being fulfilled in Jesus meant that the good he had done and his words and actions had helped others and prepared a way for the Lord. His life had witnessed the dawn of Christ's coming and the signs were that God's promises of the past were now being fulfilled.

For one or two of the Christmas Concerts we use sleigh bells and a wooden block to create the sound of the horses hooves to accompany some of the Christmas music. Every Advent there's always a mad panic to find where they had been put away the previous year. So true to form the search has just begun for the concert this weekend. But there is another more baffling mystery of disappearing bells relating to the crypt Chapel. For many years we have had a bell by the internal entrance to the Chapel which is rung to signify the start of the procession for mass. Over the years two of these bells have gone missing, one was the former school bell from the old St Nicholas School. The most recent bell was chosen because it was so small and inconsequential that it could be well hidden and

wouldn't be of interest to anyone. But over this last year it seems to go missing for a number of weeks and then return for a while this has happened a number of times but at the moment it has gone missing again. It would be wonderful if we could have it back for Christmas. I suspect it is down to our Crypt Ghost who wonders around when all is quiet.

There are three Schools holding prize-giving ceremonies in the Cathedral this coming week. They are Bellerive, Belvedere and St Mary's College Crosby. On Tuesday Evening the Wine Society will have their annual wine tasting evening – promoting sales of their wines for Christmas.

With the World Cup concluding rounds taking place over these final two weekends of Advent it has cast a shadow of doubt over the scheduling of our special evening events for the final weeks of Advent. I am now at the stage of praying that England get knocked out of the competition this weekend so that we can go ahead with next weekend's Festival Carol Service. I don't think that we will be the only Cathedral or church torn between supporting our national team and yet concerned about their planned Advent services. The Celebration of Christmas Concert this Saturday will go ahead as planned. In the event that England reach the final next Sunday please keep an eye on the website and newsletter in case there are any changes regarding the Festival Carol Service.

Canon Anthony O'Brien Cathedral Dean

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING 11 December 2022

Sunday 11 December

Third Sunday of Advent

9.00am Mass Cathedral
10.00am Mass Crypt
11.00am Mass * Cathedral
3.00pm Choral Evening Prayer
 * This Mass will be streamed live on Youtube
7.00pm Mass Crypt

Monday 12 December

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass BSC
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Mass BSC

Tuesday 13 December

St Lucy

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass BSC
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Mass BSC

Wednesday 14 December

St John of the Cross

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass BSC
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Sung Mass BSC

Thursday 15 December

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass BSC
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Sung Mass BSC

Friday 16 December

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass BSC
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Sung Mass BSC
5.45pm Choral Evening Prayer

Saturday 17 December

8.45am Morning Prayer
9.00am Mass BSC
5.00pm Vigil Mass

EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Will take place from 4.00pm on Fridays.

RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Monday - Friday:
 Following the 12.15pm Mass in the Crypt

Saturday: 9.30am - 10.30am & 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Please note that there are no Confessions on Holy Days.

Crypt
 Crypt Chapel

SS -
 55 Seel St,
 Missionaries of
 Charity

RLUH -
 Royal Liverpool
 University Hospital

CLERGY:

PRIESTS:
 Canon Anthony O'Brien Dean
 Fr Derek Lloyd
 Fr Chris McCoy
 Fr Peter Murphy

DEACONS:
 Rev Noel Abbott
 Rev Paul Mannings

Tel: 0151 709 9222

Email: enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk

Cathedral Notice Board

MASS INTENTIONS

Constance O'Brien (Birthday Remembrance), Mr and Mrs PJ O'Brien (With Gratitude), Danny Ditchfield (Poorly), Barbara Ford (Intentions), Geoff Toleman, The McKeever Clan, Jimmy Moran (RIP), Karen McAdan (RIP), Debbie Mercer (RIP), Denise (Intentions), Catherine Maloney (RIP), Nora Fanning (Special Intentions), The Gallagher Family (RIP), Tessa Gallagher (Intentions), Michael and Ada Duffey (RIP Christmas Blessings), John Duffey (RIP Christmas Blessings), Anthony Duffy (Christmas Blessings), Esther Robinson (RIP), Leah Bauress (RIP), Anne Healy and Family (Christmas Wishes), Flo Traynor and Family (Christmas Wishes), Gerard Webb (RIP), Holy Souls, People of Ukraine.

CATHEDRAL WALKING GROUP

Start the New Year on the right foot (plus the left) and join the Cathedral walking group on Sunday, 8th January 2023, for a stroll round the city centre and along the waterfront. Meet in the car park at 12.30pm, suitably attired. En route there'll be plenty of places for a warming beverage if it's a cold day! Distance: about 4 miles. Contact: nicklightbearer@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Please note that there will be an extra Mass on Christmas Eve at 6pm in the Cathedral. All are welcome.

LGBTQ+ CATHOLICS

The next gathering and Mass will be on Sunday 11th December 2022 here at All Saints Anfield. There will be a social gathering after Mass. Mass will begin at 2.00pm. For more information, please contact Canon Stephen Maloney frsmaloney@aol.co.uk

WARM AND COSY

During the winter months, parish centres across the archdiocese will be open to all as 'warm and cosy' hubs. There will be free tea, coffee and biscuits with access to TV and wifi and friendly company in a safe and warm space. The centres will be open from 1.00 pm-3.30 pm but opening days will vary, please see the link for more details and information on other places in the archdiocese offering similar support: <http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/index.php?p=2561>

ST EDWARD'S COLLEGE

Please support the Sixth formers of St Edward's College, who are helping fundraise for our Cathedral, by running a piety stall at Sunday 11am Mass. They have a selection of cards, calendars and religious gifts for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You are invited to buy a Christmas flower in memory of a departed loved one by placing £5 and the name of the person in an envelope and leaving it at the reception at Cathedral House or give it to one of the Cathedral clergy. The 10.00am Family Mass on Sunday 1 January 2023 will be offered for all their names.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Please collect a flier from the back of the Cathedral and Crypt detailing all the services and concerts during Advent and Christmas time.

WOMEN'S REFUGE

Our appeal for toiletries, nightwear, toys for children, chocolates and other new items for the Women's Refuge has started. Anything you can spare for the women and their families will be appreciated.

NEWS FROM SAINT NICHOLAS' ACADEMY

Wednesday 6th December was Saint Nicholas's Feast Day and we all visited the Cathedral to celebrate Mass led by Father Derek. Gold coins (of the chocolate variety!) were given out to the children to remember one of Saint Nicholas's good deeds. It was lovely to be able to celebrate our special Feast Day once again by celebrating Mass in the Crypt as we have not been able to do this for the last few years. Thank you Father Derek for getting our special day off to such a great start.

MIDNIGHT MASS

No tickets required but please arrive in good time to get a seat. You need to be seated by 11.45pm for a start time of Midnight.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY TO THE LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL

"I was sick and you cared for me..."

The Catholic Chaplaincy to the Liverpool Hospitals, is looking for new volunteers to join our team. Volunteers often enjoy visiting patients and their families on the wards. These visits can include praying with patients, and bringing them Holy Communion, or simply having a chat. It is possible to volunteer just a few hours one morning or afternoon each week. Full training and support will be given. You don't have to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. If you are interested in this very rewarding opportunity, please contact Fr Peter by email peter.murphy@rlbuht.nhs.uk or by calling 0151 706 2828.

Liverpool Archdiocese Online Advent calendar

This Advent, the archdiocese will be running an online Advent calendar which will feature daily videos from various people across the archdiocese. The videos will include reflections, an insight of what Advent means to them and their plans for Advent.

To see our Advent calendar, please follow the archdiocese's social media channels: <https://www.facebook.com/liverpoolarchdiocese> <https://www.instagram.com/liverpoolarchdiocese/> <https://twitter.com/lpoolcatholic>

Last week's collection: **£1,160.58**



THE MYSTERY OF THE
LUTYENS CRYPT
LIVERPOOL'S BEST KEPT
ARCHITECTURAL SECRET




Open Monday – Saturday: First Admission: 10am, Last Admission: 3.30pm
Crypt Admission Charges: £5 Adult, £12 Family (2 adults + 2 children)

Keep in touch

Be the first to hear about Cathedral news, services and events. Please visit liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/sign-up

Stay Connected

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Golden Book Office

The Golden Book office is currently closed. We are still accepting requests which will be dealt with as soon as we can. Please email us at enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk.