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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 **METROCATHEDRAL** 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 METROCATHEDRALNOINFO instead.

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING 18 December 2022

Sunday 18 December

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.00am Mass Cathedral
10.00am Mass Crypt
11.00am Mass * Cathedral
5.00pm Festival Carol Service
 * This Mass will be streamed live on Youtube
7.00pm Mass Crypt

Monday 19 December

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

Tuesday 20 December

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

Wednesday 21 December

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

Thursday 22 December

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

Friday 23 December

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

Saturday 24 December

Christmas Eve
3.00pm First Vespers and Blessing of the Crib
6.00pm Vigil Mass
The Cathedral will close after Mass.
The Cathedral re-opens at 10.30pm
Midnight CHRISTMAS
MIDNIGHT 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

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



Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Fourth Sunday of Advent

People and the situations of their lives take centre stage for this final week of Advent; Elizabeth and Zechariah, Mary and Joseph. They led ordinary lives like others of their time and of ours, yet they were blest people and we hear once again of Elizabeth's hope for a child and shame at being childless, Zechariah's struggle to come to terms with the revelation he received, Mary's willing response to the Angel and yet her fear for the future, and Joseph's soul searching to respond in an honourable way and choose the right course of action. Our Sunday Gospel announces the news that Mary is with child, a child who is Emmanuel, 'God with Us' and then relates the dilemma facing Joseph and the guidance that he received, not in his case by the appearance of an angel but through a dream. Joseph at the time was a young working man and Mary a teenager and they faced many challenges as a young couple due to the oppressive conditions of the time. The Gospels relate the way in which they responded to God's call for them and coped with the challenges ahead of them.

We can learn much from them both especially how their faith in God was the solid foundation on which they led their lives. Mary offers us a remarkable and inspiring example of hope and courage and trust in God in the face of uncertainty. Joseph teaches us the importance of pondering and searching our souls so that we can make the right choices at important moments and to act with sensitivity, honesty and care in our dealings with those we love. In this final time of Advent may we be more aware that 'Emmanuel - God is with us' and that we need the intercession of Our Lady and St Joseph to help us see the Lord's hand at work in our lives

and how we should respond with faith and generosity of spirit.

We have our traditional Cathedral Festival Carol Service this Sunday evening at 5pm on the final Sunday of Advent. Traditionally the final seven days of Advent are celebrated as a special period of anticipation and reflection on the meaning of the Feast of Christmas. The festival of carols and readings offer a way for all the family to enter into the spirit and joyful mystery of the nativity.

With Christmas falling on a Sunday this year it is important that those who normally attend the vigil Masses are aware that the times for Masses next Saturday evening, Christmas Eve, are not as the usual weekend schedule. There will be a service at 3pm on 24th December in the Cathedral which is the 'Solemn Vespers of Christmas and Blessing of the Crib'. The First Vigil Mass of Christmas is at 6pm in the Cathedral followed by the traditional Midnight Mass at 12 celebrated by Archbishop McMahon. The Christmas Morning Masses are at the normal times, the Mass at the Royal Hospital will also be in the and there will be no Christmas Day evening Mass.

We had a very enjoyable Celebration of Christmas Concert last Saturday despite the clash with the football. At the end of the concert we had a raffle for five prizes with the first prize being a bumper drinks hamper. I smiled when I was told afterwards that the gentleman that won was delighted along with the rest of his family. To get it home they promptly lifted the baby out of the pram and placed the hamper in it. I suppose that it what is referred to as welcoming the Christmas spirit!

Canon Anthony O'Brien Cathedral Dean



Cathedral Notice Board

MASS INTENTIONS

Gerard Webb (RIP), Holy Souls.
People of Ukraine, Michelle
Dutton (RIP), Margaret and Tony
McNeillis, Catherine McNeillis,
Peggy O'Sullivan (RIP), Mr
Arnold (RIP), Angela Maria Bebb
(RIP), Frank Murray (RIP),
Debbie Kennan (Get Well), Rita
and Danny McCaughley
(Intention), Carmel and Bill
Antrobus (Intentions), Pat, Bob
and John Leahy
(Intentions), Thérèse and John
Potts (Intentions), Simon and
Muriel O'Neill
(Intentions), Christine and Tom
Mason (Wedding Anniversary),
Charles, Veronica and Charles
Allen (RIP), Michael Joseph
Maxwell (RIP), Miriam
Armstrong (Intentions), Margaret
Sinclair (Intentions), Cathy
Connor (RIP).

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.

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.

NEWS FROM SAINT NICHOLAS' ACADEMY

Each class has performed their
Christmas Nativity play over the
course of the last week and it has
been lovely for our parents/carers to
be with us once again in school to
watch and share these valuable
moments. All the preparations and
rehearsals over the past weeks
always come to such a polished final
performance. We are so proud of all
our children and staff who have
especially worked so very hard over
the last few weeks. Well done to
everyone!

CATHEDRAL READERS

Cathedral Readers required - Come
and Share the Liturgy of the Word!
Would you like to join our group of
readers at the many masses here at
the Cathedral? We would love to
hear from you and require new
readers to join our team in this
important role for all Masses. No
experience is required, all you need
is a clear voice! For more
information please contact Danielle
Myerscough
dmmyerscough@gmail.com or
07919894918

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.

UPDATE FROM THE SYNOD DEANERY COUNCIL

We, as a council, would like to
offer our love and support for
the Parish of St. Francis
Xavier's after the announcement
that the Jesuits will be leaving
the parish next April. We will
keep you all in our prayers.
Significant progress has been
made with regard to electing a
Patron Saint of the Deanery. We
hope to be able to announce it
shortly.
We are looking at ways to put
the name of your Deanery
Synodal Council (DSC)
representative either on your
church noticeboard or on your
newsletter, so that you will know

who to direct any feedback to.

We are arranging events to bring together
groups of people, beginning with
catechists, as a means of bringing our
deanery
closer as a community.

We are arranging a visit to the Liverpool
Chaplaincy to talk about Synod and hope to
arrange a reciprocal visit to the DSC so we
can work together constructively for the
benefit of the Deanery. The Deanery
Synodal Council would like to wish all
priests and parishioners of the deanery a
very Merry Christmas and a Happy and
Holy New Year.

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.

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

Last week's collection: **£897.21**

Keep in touch

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

Stay Connected

Join our online community



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.



— 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)