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Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Vocations Sunday

Good Shepherd Sunday is the day chosen for 'Vocations Sunday' and is celebrated this year today, Sunday, 21 April.

Archbishop Malcolm writes, 'My dear friends, one of the most important elements of the synodal process is learning to listen. We can see this in action in the 'Conversations in the Spirit' which took place in the international Synod which took place in Rome last October. Bishops and other delegates from different parts of the world sat at round tables listening deeply to each other in an atmosphere of prayer, and often these diverse individuals were able to come to agreement on a way forward on matters which at the beginning of the process seemed impossible to resolve.

Listening deeply is at the heart of discerning our vocation in life. The way in which we listen is not to think of what we want to say; not to have pre-formed answers in mind and to await our turn to speak. In listening like this we become receptive to the holy Spirit. We listen because we are called; every one of us is called to holiness. St John Paul II called this the universal call to holiness, and it applies to every single human person even if they are not Christian. But within this general vocation, there are many other calls which we should listen to. One of our modern problems is that our world is very noisy, and it is often difficult to hear our own voices and thoughts in the surrounding din, let alone the words of others. One situation that can occur is when we find ourselves on set paths in life, and it is not easy to change direction even if we want to do just that. Commitment to our families and other responsibilities block our ears and we just carry on as before.

Today is Vocations Sunday, traditionally a day for asking young men and women if they are called to the priesthood and religious life. There is no doubt that the church needs priests to celebrate the Eucharist and other sacraments, and Religious to offer a living witness to the values of the Kingdom of God. Without them, we would be a very impoverished Church. But how do we work out whether God is calling us to a particular vocation? One simple test is whether following a particular path in life gives us joy. If we are happy and content, or at least think we will be, then it is worth

giving it a try. I am not saying that we should be deliriously happy all the time but there should be an underlying knowledge that we have chosen the right path in response to God's call.

Following a vocation is not an obstacle course that has to be overcome. There will be difficulties, but an inner state of contentment is important. This develops as our friendship with Jesus grows, and our sense of purpose becomes clear. Following a vocation does involve making a leap of faith but it is not a leap into the unknown. Just as there are risks in getting married no matter how much we prepare for it, so there are risks in offering yourself for priesthood and religious life. In all cases, we have examples of happy and fulfilled people living their vocation.

If we listen deeply within our prayer, we may hear that call from God. But we may hear God speaking to us through our families or in our circle of friends. Usually, it is not a very clear call, just some hints and nudges, or a notion that keeps coming back. I would like to suggest to you two ways forward which apply to every Christian, but I think they have special meaning for someone who is discerning a particular vocation.

Pope Francis at the end of the international Synod gave two directions of travel for the participants. The first was to spend time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This he said would free us in spirit so that we would avoid other attractions. Adoration is a special kind of prayer which helps us shirk off everything except that one person who is important to us – Jesus Christ. His second point was to steer us towards service of others. In serving others, giving ourselves to other people in response to different needs, we undoubtedly find Jesus.

In today's gospel reading Jesus says that he is the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. Becoming close to Jesus, through prayer and listening, through adoration and service will involve sacrifice there is no escaping that. But the word sacrifice means to make holy, and holiness is what we are all made for and that which we all should seek. May God bless you as you seek to come closer to the Lord and deepen your understanding of what God is calling you to be.'

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP

Tel: 0151 709 9222
Email: enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING 21 April 2024

Sunday 21 April

Fourth Sunday of Easter

9.00am Mass Cathedral
10.00am Mass Crypt
11.00am Civic Mass * Cathedral
3.00pm Choral Evening Prayer

* This Mass will be streamed live on

Youtube

7.00pm Mass Crypt

Monday 22 April

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

Tuesday 23 April

St George

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

Wednesday 24 April

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

Thursday 25 April

St Mark

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

Friday 26 April

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass BSC
12.15pm Mass BSC
5.00pm Sung Mass BSC
5.30pm Choral Evening Prayer

Saturday 27 April

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

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

BSC
Blessed Sacrament
Chapel

CLERGY:

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

DEACONS:
Rev Noel Abbott
Rev Paul Mannings

Cathedral Notice Board

MASS INTENTIONS

Patricia Daly (RIP), Danny and Anne Grimes (Golden Jubilee), Margaret Keenan (RIP), Patsy Daly (RIP), Sean McCormack (Intentions), Mr Rose (Intentions), Majella McCormack (RIP), Lucy Mallier (RIP), Harry Foster (Birthday Remembrance), Gerard Webb (RIP) and Carl Petersen (RIP).

CHORISTERS' BAKE SALE

The Choir Association will be selling home baked cakes after Mass in the foyer on the following dates to raise much needed funds towards the choir's upcoming trip to Cologne.

Sunday 28 April

Sunday 5 May

Please do stop by and sample our delicious treats! If you would like to get involved by baking some cakes, please contact Jackie Larrosa in the Music Department:

j.larrosa@metcathedral.org.uk

Thank you for your support.

DONATION

An envelope was found in the Cathedral Car Park on Sunday containing £20 and we wanted to let the person who mislaid it know that it got to the right place. Thanks also to the person who found it and handed it in.

JIGSAWS AND GAMES

We are looking for any unwanted jigsaws and games that you may have and are willing to donate to us? The seafarers who are often away from home for long periods of time are looking for these items to help pass the time when they are in port. Anything you can do to help would be appreciated. Please drop off at

Cathedral House.

RECRUITMENT FOR BOY & GIRL CHORISTERS 2024

Do you know a child who would like to be a chorister at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King here in Liverpool?

The search is now on for our next generation of Boy and Girl choristers. All choristers are educated at Runnymede St Edward's Catholic Primary School and St Edward's College meaning that a first class Catholic chorister education for boys and girls in Liverpool is available at no cost.

If you know of a Catholic family who might be interested in this wonderful opportunity, please share this information with them.

Full details of choristerships at the Metropolitan Cathedral, go to: <https://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/music/joining-the-choirs/>

GIBBERD ROOM

Please note that refreshments will be served in the Gibberd Room after the Solemn Mass on Sundays. All are welcome to come along and have a chat with friends and make new acquaintances. Everyone made to feel part of the Cathedral family.

CATHEDRAL GUIDES AND WELCOMERS

We are seeking two new voluntary adult members for Wednesdays (1pm-4pm) and Fridays (1pm- 4pm) respectively. If you would like to assist us at the welcome desk and/or conduct guided tours for our many visitors, we would be delighted to hear from you. Full training would be given. Please contact Deacon Paul: p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk

MUSIC AT THE MET 2024

During 2024 the Metropolitan Cathedral are celebrating the return of their restored grand organ with a

series of concerts and events that will demonstrate the versatility of the instrument.

Eastertide Carol Service,

Sunday 21 April, 3pm

Choral Evening Prayer with the Rededication of the Grand Organ followed by the Opening Organ Recital by Martin Baker,

Sunday 12 May, 3pm

Two Cathedrals' Messiah,

Saturday 18 May, 19.30

Organ Recital by Katherine Dienes-Williams,

Monday 27 May, 11.15

For more information, please call 01517087283 or email music@metcathedral.org.uk

Visit from Fr Gabriel, Parish Priest at Holy Family in Gaza

Sunday 28 April

Fr Gabriel Romanelli, the parish priest of Holy Family Parish, Gaza, has accepted an invitation from the Catholic Bishops to visit the UK at the end of April. During the visit, Fr Gabriel will meet the Bishops to thank them for their continued support; he will speak to MPs and Lords in Parliament before a brief visit to Glasgow. He will spend a few days in English Martyrs parish, Litherland, before returning to the Holy Land. On Sunday, 28 April, he will join the parish for Mass at 10.30am; Bishop Tom Neylon will be the principal celebrant and Knights & Dames of the Holy Sepulchre will also attend. All are welcome.

VOCATIONS

If you think God might be calling you to serve as a priest within our Archdiocese and are ready to explore this further and

perhaps meet other men who are thinking about their vocation, please contact the Vocations' Director, either by telephoning the Parish of St Charles and St Thomas More in Aigburth on 0151 727 2493 or email vocations@rcaol.org.uk

CATHEDRAL EVENT

We would like to invite you and your friends and family to a wonderful dining experience in the Art School which is in Sugnall Street, just around the corner from the Philharmonic. We are delighted to be able to collaborate with Chef Paul Askew and his team and we have arranged with them to provide a two course meal with a glass of prosecco on arrival and an amuse bouche for just £50.00 per person. Chef Askew has a firm reputation as a pioneer of excellent modern British cuisine and this is a dining experience not to be missed! The date you need to keep in your diary is **Wednesday 19 June 2024**. Dinner will be served in The Lantern Room. We hope that you will book some tickets and come and enjoy a convivial evening in surroundings that are timeless and yet modern enjoying the company of new friends and old ones. To book your ticket and to arrange payment please contact Claire Hanlon at c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk

AN INTRODUCTION TO VATICAN II - Saturday 27 April -10am - 3pm

Light of Truth, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Liverpool, will be hosting a study day introducing the basics of Vatican II. This will take place in the Gibberd Room. To sign up for this free event, visit this page: <https://archdioceseofliverpool.churchsuite.com/events/jaujdgxs>

Last week's collection: **£2,014.00**



— 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)

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Golden Book of Remembrance

The Golden Book Office is now open each Tuesday between 10am and 3pm.

Please call **0151 707 2107** or email goldenbook@metcathedral.org.uk for more information.