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*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.



Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Catholic Bishops of England, Wales, and Scotland unite in compassionate action to oppose Bill on assisted suicide

The Catholic Bishops of England, Wales and Scotland have issued a statement on Assisted Suicide ahead of the Second Reading of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill.

In it, the bishops explain exactly what 'compassion' means at the end of life - caring for and accompanying people, particularly during times of suffering.

The statement strongly defends the vulnerable in society who are at risk through this proposed legislation, and the bishops advocate for better funded palliative care to be consistently available to everyone in need in England, Wales, and Scotland. "People who are suffering need to know they are loved and valued. They need compassionate care, not assistance to end their lives," say the bishops. "Palliative care, with expert pain relief, and good human, spiritual, and pastoral support, is the right and best way to care for people towards the end of life."

They also assert that assisted suicide raises serious issues of principle that can't be ignored:

"The time given for Parliament to consider the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, which will permit assisted suicide is woefully inadequate. Although the Bill indicates safeguards will be in place, the experience of other countries where assisted suicide has been introduced shows that such promised safeguards are soon forgotten. In Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada, and parts of the USA, the criteria for assisted suicide have been expanded significantly, in law or in practice, often to include people with mental illness and others who have no terminal diagnosis."

The bishops affirm the Catholic belief in human dignity and sanctity of life, but fear that a law that allows for assisted suicide could lead some to experience 'a duty to die':

"Some may well feel their continued existence is a burden to others, and, implicitly or explicitly, be pressured into assisted suicide. This includes people who are elderly, infirm, and living with disabilities. The protection of such people is the foundation of civilised society. It is at the heart of good government."

The bishops also express their concern that this Bill will fundamentally damage the relationship between medical staff and their patients. They fear it could lead to pressure on medical practitioners to recommend or facilitate such procedures:

"The impact on hospices, care homes, and those who work in social and community care cannot be underestimated. It will radically alter the ethos of trust and support which underpins our service to those in need and their families."

Finally, two weeks ahead of the debate and vote in parliament, the bishops urge Catholics and those who share our belief in the dignity and value of every human life, to [contact their local MP](#) to make their opposition known, asking him or her to oppose or not support the Bill.

Many bishops have issued pastoral letters on assisted suicide. You can find those promulgated by the Bishops of England and Wales [here](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/life-issues/assisted-suicide): <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/life-issues/assisted-suicide>

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING 17 November 2024

Sunday 17 November

33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

Monday 18 November

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

Tuesday 19 November

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

Wednesday 20 November

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

Thursday 21 November

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Friday 22 November

St Cecilia

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

Saturday 23 November

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:
 Monsignor Anthony O'Brien Dean
 Fr Derek Lloyd
 Fr Anthony Lippo

DEACONS:
 Rev Noel Abbott
 Rev Paul Mannings

Cathedral Notice Board

MASS INTENTIONS

Michael Taylor (RIP), Michael Taylor (Birthday RIP), The Cornyn Family (Intentions), Winifred Foster (Birthday Remembrance), Harry and Freda Foster (Wedding Anniversary Remembrance), Dawn Hutichison (RIP), Michael Brown (RIP), Moira Burke (RIP), Gerard Webb (RIP) and Carl Petersen (RIP), Dick Moylan (RIP), Jean Cavendish (Special Intentions), Richie Davies (RIP).

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.

YOUNG ADULTS

Young adult Advent retreat: Friday evening 29th November until Sunday lunch 1st December. Time to reflect, relax and make friends. St Joseph's prayer centre Freshfield. Contact James for details: djmoroney@cantab.net 07546 667394.

COME AND BE A CATHEDRAL GUIDE & WELCOMER!

Please give us the gift of three hours a week of your precious voluntary time. Learn on the job for as long as it takes. Answer queries at the welcoming desk. Listen to the stories of our wonderful visitors. If you like, take large or very small groups on tours. Give the job your own

creativity. Be part of a ministry of welcome. Add your own dimension to a large and flourishing team. Be a consistent part of your group throughout the year. Contribute toward presenting our Cathedral as a living Christian community, able to embrace everyone as valued individuals. Make new friends. Enjoy a fresh challenge. This random list could go on! Give us a call and we shall arrange for you to Come and See. Contact Dcn Paul Mannings: p.mannings@rcaol.co.uk

CATHEDRAL FRIENDS MEAL

The Cathedral Friends invite you and your friends to a Chinese Food & Wine Pairing Menu on Wednesday 20 November 2024 at 7.00pm. The cost is £50 per head with complimentary wines to accompany each course. Join us for a unique style of Northern Chinese cuisine with a welcome drink on arrival at the Yuet Ben which literally means 'Welcome Honored Guest' on 1 Upper Duke Street. Please register your interest for what will be a wonderful, interesting and tasty evening by emailing c.hanlon@metcathedral.org.uk and details of how to make payment will be sent to you.

FRIENDS EVENT

Creative Christmas Workshop at the Cathedral

Experience the joy of the holiday season by joining our Christmas wreath and table-centre making event. The perfect opportunity to indulge in self-care whilst getting creative! A fun way to spend the day getting into the Christmas spirit whilst learning a new skill under the expert guidance of Muir Simpson. You will impress your family and friends with the wreath and centre-

piece you will take home with you. Please bring a packed lunch as well! Refreshments throughout the day will be provided. Christmas jumpers – optional!! Let's celebrate the season together!

Saturday 7 December 2024
10am – 3.00pm
Gibberd Room, Metropolitan Cathedral
£45 per person.

For further information on how to book, and to receive the list of 'ingredients' you need to bring on the day please email enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk

PENSION CREDIT

Up to 850,000 pensioner households may be entitled to Pension Credit, but do not claim it. Some pensioners think because they have got savings or own their home they would not get any Pension Credit - but this is not the case. The government have asked that community leaders share this information with people over state pension age (66) - they have put together flyers, posters, social media posts and videos for you to share with your parishioners: [Pension Credit toolkit: advice and guidance for stakeholders](#) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

The aim is to encourage the conversation and the claim for pension credit to ensure those eligible will not only get this vital extra income, but access to the winter fuel payment too.

WOMEN'S REFUGE

Our appeal for toiletries, nightwear, toys for children, chocolates and other new items for the Women's Refuge in our area has started. Anything you can spare for the women and their families will be appreciated. Please drop in to Cathedral House/Cathedral Security Office. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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 29 December will be offered for all their names.

CHRISTMAS EVE

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

Last week's collection: **£1,520.00**



— 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.