

Support your Cathedral

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.



Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Christmas Message

Christmas Message of The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool.

I have always loved giving and receiving presents at Christmas. The element of surprise is so exciting as the parcels are unwrapped and the gifts revealed. In choosing gifts for those we love, and respect can involve a lot of care and consideration, and the gift no matter how small becomes an expression of love. Receiving gifts tells us that we are loved and lovable.

On Christmas day we celebrate the greatest gift we will ever receive. The gift of the Christ-child, Jesus, is freely given to us by our loving God. God has given us everything that we own even our own lives and God's loving gift of life sustains us throughout our earthly lives. That is not an easy idea for us to understand because we are so used to doing things for ourselves, making our own lives, deciding what we want to be and how we live our lives. But we often forget that the degree of autonomy to make these decisions is a gift from God. In this age of self-entitlement we easily forget that human rights derive from our human dignity which is also a gift from God.

Jesus, the gift of God himself to us, is not a present that is easy to receive. He is not quite what we want or expect. He is not wealthy or powerful. He doesn't live in palaces, wear expensive clothes or have large armies. He makes us wonder what kind of person he is. Jesus was born in poor circumstances, and we are reminded that it is not wealth that makes the gift worthwhile but the love with which the gift is given and received.

In our time many people throughout the world especially those who are refugees or are in war zones give birth to their children with joy and gratitude to God. Their newborn children are gifts from God as well as signs of his love for them and an expression of hope for the future. Every person who is born into the world has a special purpose.

That person is called to a life on earth and, in eternity, to be with God. St John Paul II called this the universal call to holiness. That call or vocation is a special Christmas gift that comes to us along with the babe in the manger.

As we draw close to Jesus over the Christmas season, we can be sure that he is calling each of us to some definite service. This call or vocation takes many forms which often change at different stages of life. We should not be daunted by this but see it as a gift from Jesus who walks with us through life. He will guide and support us – yes, Jesus the Christ-child is the true gift that keeps on giving.

I wish you and your loved ones a very happy and Blessed Christmas.

The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP Archbishop of Liverpool

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING 22 December 2024

Sunday 22 December 4th Sunday of Advent

9.00am Mass
10.00am Family Mass Crypt
11.00am Solemn Choral Mass
This Mass will be streamed live on Youtube
5.00pm Festival Carol Service

Monday 23 December

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

Tuesday 24 December Christmas Eve

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass BSC
3.00pm Vespers and Blessing of the Crib
6.00pm Vigil Mass
Midnight Mass

Wednesday 25 December The Nativity of the Lord

9.00am Mass
10.00am Family Mass Crypt
11.00am Solemn Choral Mass
This Mass will be streamed live on Youtube
The Cathedral closes at 1.00pm.

Thursday 26 December St Stephen

9.45am Morning Prayer
10.00am Mass

Friday 27 December St John

9.45am Morning Prayer
10.00am Mass

Saturday 28 December Feast of the Holy Innocents

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

RECONCILIATION (Confession) Monday - Friday:

There are no Confessions between Christmas and New Year during the week.

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

DEACONS:
Rev Noel Abbott
Rev Paul Mannings

Tel: 0151 709 9222

Email: enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk

Cathedral Notice Board

MASS INTENTIONS

Hilda Cloherty (RIP Anniversary), Tony Moore (RIP), Timothy Ng (Intentions), Aleyamam and Chacko (RIP), Brijit and I P Chacko (RIP), Margaret Grant (RIP), Frank Hanley (RIP), Mr and Mrs Neilson (Christmas Remembrance), Nora and Ken Rugkin (Christmas Remembrance), Emily and the Cooper Family (Christmas Remembrance), Tommy Neilson (RIP), Louise Bolster (RIP), Gerard Webb (RIP) and Carl Petersen (RIP), Sean Hyde (RIP).

NEWSLETTER

Please note that the next Newsletter will be issued for 4/5 January 2025.

MASS TIMES

From Thursday 26 December – Friday 27 December, and on Monday 30 December - Tuesday 31 December there will be one Mass only at 10.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Saturday and Sunday Masses remain at the usual times. The usual timetable for the Cathedral resumes on Thursday 2 January 2025.

WOMEN'S REFUGE

Thank you so much to everyone who donated gifts and toiletries for our Christmas appeal. It was the most successful yet and the response was overwhelming. We have never received so many beautiful gifts. Your generosity was really appreciated. Thank you so much. We appreciate your generosity even more as we know how many demands are

being made on people to donate to all different charities, all of whom are as worthy as the next. We were able to support 3 local Refuges. Thank you to everyone who made such an effort.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone who donated money for the Christmas flowers. The flowers will now decorate the Cathedral and Crypt. 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.

PLEASE NOTE

That the Lutyens Crypt and Treasury will be closed to visitors from Thursday 2 January – Monday 20 January 2025. Watch this space for more closures over the coming weeks, and apologies for any inconvenience caused.

THANK YOU

To all Cathedral Staff and Volunteers who work so hard throughout the year to achieve so much in our Cathedral and Crypt. The work that we do with all the services, Masses, exhibitions, concerts, corporate events, fund raising, outreach work and a whole host of other events increases year on year. There is so much that goes on behind the scenes with so many dedicated people, young and old alike, and each one of what we do makes a tiny bit of difference. Never think that what you do goes unnoticed. You make a real difference and deserve a big Thank You.

CATHEDRAL CRIB

Please do go and have a look at the Cathedral Crib which is situated in the West Apse this year. Thank you to all those people who have made donations towards the Crib. It is most appreciated. May the peace and love of the new born baby Jesus remain in your hearts and homes throughout this Christmas season.

AN INVITATION FROM THE HONG KONG COMMUNITY

Please celebrate Chinese New Year with us – A taste of Tradition

Date: Sunday, February 2nd

Time: After the 11am Mass

Venue: Gibberd Room

We warmly invite you all to join us in celebrating the Chinese New Year, a time of joy, renewal, and togetherness.

As we usher in the Year of the Snake, which begins on Jan 29th, we would be delighted to share the flavours and traditions of this festive season with you. Together, let's enjoy traditional Chinese New Year delicacies and share in the spirit of celebration as one Church community. We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating this joyful occasion together.

AN INVITE TO A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

"A Bishop's task is to preside over a local Church as a visible principle of unity within it and a bond of communion with all the Churches." (69).

"This is why the Assembly desires that the People of God have a greater voice in choosing Bishops." (70)

The Vatican Synod clearly says that in the appointment of bishops the voice of synodal bodies must be heard. As you know, the process is underway for the appointment of a new Archbishop of Liverpool. You are invited to contribute to this process to have your voice heard. This is an exciting development in the life of the Church! There will be two meetings, held with the blessing of Archbishop Malcolm, on: **Thursday 16th January 2025 at St Mary's Leyland, PR25 1PD (7.00pm- 9.30pm) and Saturday 18th Jan 2025 at St Margaret Clitherow Centre, L17 1AA (10.30am - 1.00pm)**

Each gathering will be the same – so only come to one of them. There will be two parts to the meeting: Firstly, we will begin by looking at where we are as a diocese and our future development and secondly we will consider the qualities needed in our future Archbishop. This is open to all members of our community here in the Archdiocese. To reserve a place at one of the meetings please fill in the online form in the link below: bit.ly/ASCMeetingAOL

If you are unable to take part in person, but would like to take part in the Saturday meeting by Zoom, please follow the link below on Saturday 18th January at 10.30am: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89983555285?pwd=GbHwdzCo42YoaRMvlq8GgZBz5M5NW.1>

Last week's collection: **£1,429**



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

Join our online community





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.