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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](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk)

## Second Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist appears as the herald in today's Gospel calling us to prepare a way for the Lord to make a straight highway for our God. Creating a straight highway in our spiritual lives is an impossible achievement but it is possible for us to clear a few of the weeds from the overgrown path of our spiritual lives which will be enough to allow the Lord to come, he will do the rest – but it still desires effort and a change of heart for this to happen.

In place of the normal Choral Evening Prayer this Sunday afternoon there will be a performance of Bach's Cantata 'Wachet Auf no 140' (Sleepers Wake) written for this part of the Advent season as well and music from the first section of Handel's Messiah.

The schools Advent Services take place on Wednesday morning and afternoon with a wide ranging cast spanning the age range from the young to the venerable. The Cathedral staff, clergy and choirs are all jointly involved in these services trying to bring to life once again the Christmas story for young children from our diocesan schools - secretly we enjoy doing it more than the children! This last week there have been a couple of trips to the Everyman costume department for a few more lavish outfits, the Merseyside Dance Initiative have been rehearsing their dance for the appearance of the star and if all goes to plan we will have a live donkey this year from the donkey sanctuary.

This week I have meetings regarding planning for Lent and Pentecost 2026 and we are even having conversations about plans for 2027 which will be our Cathedral's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. So it is good that we have the children's Advent services

and the Celebration of Christmas Concert on the Saturday to make sure that the focus is firmly on the celebrations of this present season. The last of the Christmas trees have been put in place around the Cathedral buildings and at the start of next week the staff will finish putting the cribs in place in the Cathedral and Crypt. What may sound like small tasks within the home take on a different scale and have a different degree of complexity within a building such as ours. So they have to be carefully planned over a series of weeks. But the same satisfaction comes when each task is completed and the Cathedral slowly puts on the mantle of Christmas during these weeks. Thanks to the staff who make it all come to life.

Pope Francis some years ago spoke of the wonderful sign and tradition of having a Christmas Crib in the home and in public places. 'Dear brothers and sisters, the Christmas Crib is part of the precious and demanding process of passing on the faith. Beginning in childhood, and at every stage of our lives it teaches us to contemplate Jesus, to experience God's love for us to feel and believe that God is with us and we are with Him thanks to the child who is the Son of God and son of the Virgin Mary.'

**Monsignor Anthony O'Brien Cathedral Dean**

## Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING 7 December 2025

### Sunday 7 December Second Sunday of Advent

**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 8 December Our Lady Immaculate

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

### Tuesday 9 December

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

### Wednesday 10 December

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

### Thursday 11 December

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

### Friday 12 December

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

### Saturday 13 December

**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 Hugh Donleavy

Fr Anthony Lippo

Fr Faustinus Ugwuanyi

**DEACON:**  
Rev Paul Mannings

Tel: 0151 709 9222

Email: [enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk)



# Cathedral Notice Board

## MASS INTENTIONS

Kathy Webb (Special Intention), Sarah McGann (Birthday Remembrance), Jeremy Paterson Fox (RIP), Fr Dominic Chukka (Successful Treatment), Anthony Cain Jnr (RIP), Deceased Souls in the fires of Hong Kong, Paul Forrester (RIP), Mrs Stickland (RIP), Joan Margaret Ratchford (RIP), Margaret and Tony McNeillis (Christmas Wishes), Ann Healy and Family (Christmas Wishes), Paul Roche and Family (Xmas Wishes), Deidre and Angela Traynor (Christmas Wishes), Gerard Webb (RIP) and Carl Peterson (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.

## JIGSAWS

If anyone has any jigsaws or games that they have finished with we can pass them on for you to the Seafarers at Stella Maris. Please just drop them in to Cathedral House or to the Security Office. They are always so grateful for anything that we can send on.

## 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.org.uk](mailto:p.mannings@rcaol.org.uk)

## 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.

## A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Saturday 13 December

*A Celebration of Christmas* returns this year on Saturday 13 December with a night of musical cheer, guaranteed to get you into the festive spirit. Join the Metropolitan Cathedral Choir and some very special guests for what promises to be a magical event for all the family. Sing along to classic carols, enjoy traditional readings and celebrate Christmas in the glorious surroundings of the Metropolitan Cathedral. Tickets: £10 each/ £18 family, available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/metcathedral)

## 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 28 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.

## MICAH LIVERPOOL

Micah's latest blogpost focuses on Micah's foundation principles of acting justly, loving mercy and walking humbly. It provides an insight into the context of Micah's social justice work. The blog can be accessed at <https://micahliverpool.com/blog-post/act-justly-love-mercy-walk-humbly/> If you would like to know more about the work of Micah, donate directly to us or volunteer, please contact [catherine.kearney@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk](mailto:catherine.kearney@liverpoolcathedral.org.uk)

## VACANCIES

The latest vacancies from the archdiocese can be found here: [Careers - Join the team \(liverpoolcatholic.org.uk\)](#)

## 12.15PM MASS

On Tuesday next week will be in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Apologies for any inconvenience.

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The Archdiocesan Young Adult Group meet fortnightly at Pauline Book Centre (84 Church Street, Liverpool L1 3AY). From 18:30-20:00 on Tuesday 16 December, Fr Hugh Donleavy will deliver a faith-based talk about 'Is Scripture Outdated?'. There will also be a social time with food and refreshment. Anyone aged 18-35 would be most welcome. Please sign up online if you are interested to join us <https://forms.office.com/e/3A8CKHijnD?origin=IprLink> For enquiries, please contact Moses at [m.mui@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:m.mui@rcaol.org.uk).

## CAFOD CHRISTMAS FUN RUN

Signup is open for CAFOD's annual Fun Run! The run will take place on 27 December at Wavertree Sports Park and is open to all. Run, walk, or wheel with family and friends to share the joy of Christmas and raise money for those in need! Search CAFOD Fun Run.

## MULLIN AWARD

On the Feast of Christ the King at Choral Evening Prayer, the Dean presented **Finlay G** with the Mullin award. This award is made in memory of **Joseph Mullin**, a former chorister who was tragically killed at a young age in a car crash. The chorister chosen to receive the award is voted for by the choristers themselves. The award is made to a chorister who, in the opinion of their peers, is kind, thoughtful and sensitive towards their fellow choristers. Congratulations Finlay G.

Last week's collection: **£1,704.00**

## Keep in touch



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## Stay Connected

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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](mailto:goldenbook@metcathedral.org.uk) for more information.



— 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)