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Dec 2016 - Jan 2017

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Curate's Contemplations Page 3

Echoes of mercy, whispers of love Page 8

Lord of the Dance comes home Page 11

Dean's Corner

'O Lord open thou our lips.... And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise'



By The Dean

This is the opening versicle in the offices of Matins and Evensong in the Book of Common Prayer. I want to end the year and begin 2017 by reminding us of the great privilege and joy of offering praise and worship to God as the first of our priorities.

Each morning and evening at the Cathedral we say or sing these opening words aloud, seeking to honour and worship God, the Almighty Lord of the universe. Each day we spend time reciting the psalms—the hymnody of the Old Testament—seeking to direct our hearts and minds toward God in praise. As we reflect back on 2016 we can be grateful for so much that God has done for each of us. We thank God who is revealed to us in our Lord Jesus Christ for his constant presence and for his love and grace in all things.

May we look forward to the New Year with a sense of anticipation and faith. We ask that God's Spirit may lead the Church to sing God's praises in every way for God's faithfulness, mercy and love. I wish each of you every blessing for a very happy New Year!

Rogers Govender



Cathedral Christmas Card **

The 2016 Cathedral Christmas card is now on sale at St Denys' Bookshop and via the online Cathedral shop.

Looking for a stocking filler?

Receive a **25% discount** and free shipping on all Sterling Silver jewellery purchased via our online shop.

www.manchestercathedralonlineshop.co.uk



CURATE'S CONTEMPLATIONS

By The Revd Jane Walker, Cathedral Curate

It is a truism that the older one gets the more quickly time seems to pass. As I write this piece Advent is only a month away and a very full year seems to have passed at almost lightning speed!

It's certainly been an eventful year, one in which our Cathedral has played host to many memorable events, including the national service to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. It's been a year in which we've received visitors from far and wide and, of course, a year which has seen its fair share of disruption too as we've witnessed the start of the mammoth project which is the installation of our magnificent new organ!

Sadly, we've also seen our fair share of funerals for longstanding members of our congregation this year, but a high point has, of course, been the appointment of one of our residentiary canons as our new Bishop of Bolton. The cathedral's loss is the diocese's gain!

Bishop Mark Ashcroft's recent consecration at York Minster was one of those special occasions which reflected the diversity and warmth of the church family of which we are all part. Reunited with so many friends, old and new, I could not help but marvel, as we sang some of the glorious hymns together, at how so many, from so many different places, backgrounds and contexts can come together in love and celebration to praise and worship God who made us. It was a wonderful day when the sense of family and community was palpable, when joy shone from so many faces and when the importance of spreading Christ's message of love and hope in an increasingly troubled world was reinforced.

This Advent I shall leave the cathedral for several months as I join with other members of our richly diverse church family in another parish. Whilst I shall, of course, miss the cathedral congregation and staff, I look forward to meeting more of my Christian brothers and sisters in Gorton where I shall be ministering with the Reverend Craig Smith and his team and helping to proclaim the Gospel in a different context.

I look forward to sharing accounts of my experiences with some of you on my return next year.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a reflective and prayerful Advent and a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

God Bless, Jane

Next February: Welcome to the New Look Cathedral News!

By Canon David Holgate and Joanne Hooper

Over the last few months we have been reviewing the content and appearance of Cathedral News with a view to making it more interesting and attractive to all our readers. To prepare for this process, you will recall that earlier this year we asked you for your views on Cathedral News.

Here is some of what you said. You asked for the newsletter to continue to be produced on a monthly basis, and that we continue to produce both electronic and print copies. Most of you were happy with the range of content, with something of interest for all. Many valued the monthly diary pages and we have looked at ways of improving how content is displayed there. Advertisements were not especially popular, but they help pay for the cost of publishing the News, and we value this way of supporting our partners.

CORN EXCHANGE

There was a particular request for more news about the Cathedral community, and Canon Marcia Wall will now be writing a monthly page focusing on that and other pastoral matters. Equally, the new look News will also feature regular good news stories reflecting the work of our partners, networks and neighbours in Greater Manchester and beyond. Thank you for giving us this feedback. Our overall goal for the new look is to produce a publication that looks fresh and is genuinely outward-looking, reflecting the lives of the many wonderful people who worship here and also celebrating all the ways in which all our partners also enrich the life of Greater Manchester.

The February 2017 issue will be the first edition with a new look and new content. We hope you like it, and will be inviting your feedback after the publication of a few new issues.

A WORLD OF FLAVOUR UNDER ONE ROOF

Pick from 13 of your favourite restaurants offering delicious food and drink from around the world.



The Consecration of Bishop Mark Ashcroft

By David Haywood



The heavy Manchester rain that had arrived to greet the Olympians the previous evening was still present on the morning of 18 October, as a group of almost thirty hardy members of our congregation gathered outside Victoria station to board the coach to York Minster. It seems almost normal these days to experience traffic holdups, and we arrived at 10.30am, with a walk of 200 yards to complete our journey.

We were just about all in our places as no less than eleven different processions started to snake around the Minster, culminating in that of the Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu.

On this occasion there were just two new Bishops being consecrated, and after Canon Mark Tanner was presented by the Bishop of Newcastle as the new Bishop of Berwick, it was the turn of the Bishops of Manchester and Middleton to present the Venerable Mark Ashcroft as the new Bishop of Bolton. Following the statutory Declarations and Oaths, the two Marks had to then show patience as we worked through the readings, hymns and sermon before they could complete their Declarations to the Archbishop.

Finally, the time came for the laying on of hands from the College of Bishops and, in his own inimitable style, the Archbishop caused widespread amusement in motioning all the Bishops to stand closer! This part of the service was very moving, and must have felt really special for those being consecrated in front of their family and friends.

After giving a Bible to each new bishop and anointing them with holy oil, the Archbishop presented them both to the congregation to resounding applause. The Eucharist now followed, and I am sure that both Marks felt honoured to be standing at the front of York Minster administering the bread of Christ to their nearest and dearest.

Those of us who were there felt a really special sense of occasion, and even more so for our verger Derrick May, who took an active part in the service, and for Rev'd Jane Walker and Sonia Soans, who had the honour of being Communion Administrants.



Christmas

at Manchester Cathedral

Christmas Carol Sing-along

Saturday 17 December, 12 noon to 1.30pm (informal - just turn up and stay as long as you like)

Family Carols

Saturday 17 December, 7.30pm www.family-carols2016.eventbrite.co.uk Tickets £10 (£8)

A Festiival of Nine Lessons and Carols Thursday 22 December, 7.30pm

Blessing of the Crib with Children's Nativity Christmas Eve, 12 noon

Midnight Mass Christmas Eve, 11.30pm

Christmas Day Sung Eucharist Christmas Day, 10.30am

Manchester Cathedral

The Manchester Sleepout

By Joanne Hooper, Communications and Marketing Officer

On Friday 4 November, the Cathedral Team completed the Manchester Sleepout to raise money and awareness of homelessness.

At the start of the night we heard from CEO of the Booth Centre, Amanda Croome. Amanda spoke about the work that the centre does to help homeless people in Manchester and the challenges that they face. We then heard from people who have been supported by the Booth Centre before enjoying a rousing performance by Streetwise Opera.

Over 200 people took part and the atmosphere was great. The weather was kind. Although it rained hard in the evening, the night itself was dry. The



very cold temperatures helped us to empathise with those who sleep rough on the streets of our city, and made the fundraising effort all the more worthwhile.

As at 11 November, the overall total raised so far is £53,000 and rising. This money will help the Booth Centre bring positive change in the lives of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and help them plan for and realise a better future by providing advice to find accommodation and employment, education, training, free healthy meals and support with tackling issues with health and addiction.

So far the Cathedral Team has raised £1,300 towards the above total. We couldn't have done this without your support. Thank you.

Fiat

By Rachel Mann

How easy it seemed that day he loped inside, trailing leaves and grit, the pieces of autumn, speaking of blessings falling like apples from a tree.

His hands supple at the piano keys – Bach she thought, a prelude – loosening her objections like a dress. See, it's as simple as this...

As if all it took was Yes. As if all it took was to sit beside him, press a single note, let it sing.



Echoes of mercy, whispers of love

Finland, September 2016

By the Revd Jo Farnworth and the Revd Dr Stephen Edwards



No opening worship, no words of welcome, just coffee, cake and straight out into the world. This was how the Tampere **Diocesan Synod started last** September when Bishop Mark of Middleton. Jo Farnworth and Stephen Edwards attended their six-yearly synod for pastors and deacons. We were divided into groups of about 15 and coaches and guided walks took us to shops, businesses, hospitals, mosques and community centres across the city. As we travelled to our destination we were given some background about the place we were visiting and some advice on how to approach all that we saw and heard.

The 500th anniversary of the Reformation, which will be commemorated in 2017, focuses on grace and mercy. For this reason, the Diocese of Tampere chose the theme, 'Liberated by God's Grace' for this synod. As Bishop Matti wrote in his invitation to all of us who attended:

The word 'synod' derives from the Greek words 'syn' and 'hodos', a joint journey or a common path. Apart from all priests in the diocese, this invitation will for the first time be extended to the ordained deacons too, making the total number of attendants rise up to 600. In a local congregation, the deacons work side by side with the pastors, each ministering their own way but together. They all are ordained on the basis of a vocation into a permanent ministry in the Church of Christ.

This diocesan synod will gather together under the theme of Reformation Commemoration 2017, Liberated by God's Grace. On this joint journey – or a pilgrimage – we will all study and explore what the concept of Grace and Mercy means for the society today. We want to strengthen our network with various actors, services and communities in the public and private sector by reaching out to the society. As we immersed ourselves in various community, business and social centres we were encouraged to ask ourselves, 'Where is mercy? Where is mercilessness?'

Starting the conference in this way set the scene for all that followed. The life of the Church and the reflections, worship and interactions of the clergy during synod all sprang from our encounters with a diverse, and sometimes unusual, pilgrimage in to the city. For nearly four hours over 600 pastors and deacons spread across Tampere – a visible sign of the Church's interest in people's lives and work.

When we returned to the conference venue we were all energised by, and immersed in, what we had experienced – not just through the excitement of learning but through the challenging, sometimes heartrending stories that we had encountered. Grace and mercy – along with the sometimes starkly obvious examples of mercilessness – flowed into the synod in an authentic lived-out theological reflection.

The conference contained all the usual ingredients of a large clergy gathering, but with some extras! A surprise thirty minute appearance from one of Finland's TV comics transformed the after-lunch slot – though the raw laughter of the Finns didn't convert easily for those us listening in translated English! There was worship and input, silence and the usual notices, but this was all sandwiched together so seamlessly that any divide between the sections was blurred. Massive screens showed images connecting the pilgrimage visit and the conference hymn and the live feed of those speaking on stage. The different guests and hosts presented through

conversations on comfy sofas or standing around a tall bar-style table. Dramatic monologues from a professional actress provided reflective moments which focused the attention of the delegates as well as creatively releasing us from the usual conference atmosphere. Lighting, movement, sound and informality worked together to unite prayer and praise, pilgrimage and presentation.

As international guests from link dioceses, we were integral to the whole conversation; Manchester, Sweden, Pennsylvania providing key reference points for exploring grace and mercy in the life of the Diocese of Tampere. Small groups focussed on particular areas – including a presentation from Jo and Stephen on what mission might look like in Brexit-Britain.

This was a large conference, no doubt supported by considerable financial and human resources, but the theme of mercy echoed throughout in an inspiring way, sending us out into the world confident in the grace, mercy and love of the Christ we serve.



Cash for Kids Mission Christmas

We are pleased to announce that for the second year running, Manchester Cathedral will be a drop-off point for Key 103's Cash for Kids Mission Christmas campaign.

One in three children are still living in severe poverty in Greater Manchester. This means there are children going to bed without a hot meal in a house without central heating. It also means that 150,000 children in our city will not have a present to open on Christmas Day. As Christmas approaches, Key 103's Cash for Kids Mission Christmas campaign aims to brighten Christmas for these children by asking you to buy an extra present when doing your Christmas shopping.

Last year, the support and generosity of Manchester people helped Cash for Kids to distribute £1,960,170 worth of toys and helped almost 52,000 children. This year they are even more determined to help children in Greater Manchester and to ensure that as many of them as possible wake up to a present this Christmas.

So, please buy an unwrapped gift for a child aged 0-18 and donate it to the Mission Christmas appeal here in Manchester Cathedral. The last day for drop off will be Wednesday 14 December. Thank you!





Saturday 21 January 2017, 11am Gillian Blair (saxophone)

Award-winning saxophone player, Gillian Blair has performed around the country at festivals and concert series' including the BBC Proms. Gillian will be performing works by Béla Bartók, Paule Maurice and Olivier Messiaen.

Saturday 11 February 2017, 11am

Charlotte Rowan (Violin)

"Vibrant, competing and captivating", Charlotte Rowan returns to the Cathedral with a repetoire combining sparking showpieces and spell-binding lyricism, designed to charm and amaze audiences and showcase her formidable technique and broad mastery of the violin.

Saturday 11 March 2017, 11am

Holly Marland (Kora)

Falented unger, nota player and composer, rively iduriand is undely accounted for her engagement with diverse audiences and is passionate about initial's rule it society, moly returns to the Cathestal with brand new insterial, composed as part of her Soundspaces project at doyal

All concerts take place at Manchester Cathedral Tea, coffee and cake will be available Admission is free, there will be a relating coffee too for Cat

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'Lord of the Dance' comes home

By Amos Millington, Cathedral tour guide

On 24 October 2016, Manchester Cathedral hosted the finals of the BBC Radio 2 Young Chorister of the Year. During the interval the audience of over 700 were entertained by the popular singing trio The Priests. They began their medley with the hymn 'Lord of the Dance' which, in part, owes its existence to Manchester Cathedral.

The tune is entitled 'A Shaker Tune'. The Shakers are remembered as a religious community who had strict rules of conduct and dress and became renowned for their plain but beautiful arts and crafts.

Their leader was an Ann Lee. Her link with Manchester is that she was baptised in Manchester's Collegiate Church (now Manchester Cathedral) in 1736 at a time when there could be up to 60 baptisms a day and was later also married here. She had four children, all of whom died in infancy, which led to her suffering depression or similar mental illness. Ann claimed she had a vision proclaiming the she was 'The Promised One'. When she made an announcement to this effect during a service in the Collegiate Church, she was ejected from the building. She joined an offshoot of the Society of Friends, (Quakers), during which meetings Ann and her friends would dance, tremble and gyrate, symbolically shaking the devil out of themselves and they became known as 'The Shaking Quakers'. Ann became their leader and was known as 'Ann the Word' and 'Mother Ann'. In 1774 she and her followers emigrated to the USA and established the Shaker communities there.

Dancing for them was a spiritual activity and their hymns were, in the words of the hymn writer and composer, Sydney Carter, 'Odd but sometimes of great beauty'. He adapted the tune we know as 'Lord of the Dance' from the Shaker hymn 'Simple Gifts'. Sydney Carter wrote the words of the hymn as a tribute to the Shaker movement and to Christ whom he saw as the incarnation of the piper who calls everyone.

So next time you sing or hear this hymn, note the line which reads, 'It's hard to dance with the devil on your back' and call to mind the Shakers shaking off the devil but also the first church of their leader Ann Lee.

Campaign Corner Updates

By Anthony O'Connor, Director of Fundraising and Development

The East Door and the Hope Window

We are delighted to report on two completed projects. The new Cathedral east door is now finished. When open it will improve accessibility and the Cathedral's presence on Cathedral Street facing the Corn Exchange. Also, the beautiful new Hope Window, at the opposite end of the east wall, will be formally dedicated at the beginning of December.

Subsidised Events at the Cathedral

Commercial hire helps to support Cathedral's activities and our ability to provide Cathedral spaces at subsidised rates, or free of charge, such as during the Christmas period. We estimate that in-kind contributions to musical and other activity in the Cathedral in 2016 (via subsidised or free hire through the Events department only) to be almost £40k. We hope to be able to sustain and enhance our cultural, worship and community activities in the coming years. To make an enquiry to hire the Cathedral, please go to:

http://events.manchestercathedral.org/ or email anthony.o'connor@manchestercathedral.org

Devotional

A Saint for the Month 31 December

John Wyclif (c. 1320-1384), English Reformer



John Wyclif, was a Yorkshireman most often remembered as the man who first translated the Bible into English, but he was also a theologian, philosopher and tireless campaigner for the reform of the Roman Catholic Church of which the Church in England was then part.

Unlike the later King James Version, which was translated from the original Greek and Hebrew, Wyclif's Bible of 1382 was translated from the Latin translation known as the Vulgate. He made this translation because he was determined that the laity should have the Scriptures in their native tongue.

Wyclif's wider aims were even more political and equally radical. In a book about the Rule of God and the Ten Commandments he attacked the temporal power of the clergy, the payment of Annates, a kind of tax on parishes to the Vatican, and simony, the buying and selling of ecclesiastical privileges.

His further proposals that the Church should give up all its property and that all clergy should live in poverty, did not go down well and soon he was in mounting trouble with the Church authorities. His situation was not helped by his ability through sermons, books, tracts and pamphlets to make his ideas widely known. The Pope ordered them to be burned, but in vain. His ideas travelled well and arguably had greater effect in Europe, especially upon Jan Hus, than in England.

Wyclif's followers, many of them influential laity, were known as Lollards. At first, they helped defend him against the condemnation of the Pope for his teachings against transubstantiation, religious orders and papal authority. However, as his teachings grew more radical, he became more vulnerable.

Towards the end of his life Wyclif retired to his parish at Lutterworth, Leicestershire, where he suffered a stroke on the 28th December 1384 and died 3 days later.

Not surprisingly at the Council of Constance in 1415 he was declared a heretic and his writings were banned. For later historians, however, because so many of his ideas were adopted in the 16th century, he became known as The Morning Star of the Reformation.

By Albert Radcliffe

Looking ahead December

Thursday 1 December

1.10 pm Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert 7.30 pm Action for Children Concert

Friday 2 December 9.30 am SelfHelp, Improving Mental Health

Saturday 3 December 10.00 am Manchester Children's Choir 10.30 am Christian Meditation session 7.30 pm Genesis Carol concert - The Christmas Celebration

Sunday 4 December 11.50 am Advent Conversations 1.00 pm, 2.30 pm & 4.00 pm St Ann's Hospice Light up a Life services

Tuesday 6 December 11.00 am Dedication of the Hope Window 12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group 6.15 pm Christmas Tree Light Switch-On 7.30 pm MedEquip4Kids Carol Concert

Wednesday 7 December

1.10 pm Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert 5.00 pm Thursday Lates in the Medieval Quarter 7.30 pm Children's Society Service

Thursday 8 December 9.30 am SelfHelp, Improving Mental Health

Saturday 10 December 10.00 am Manchester Children's Choir

Sunday 11 December 11.50 am Advent Conversations 3.00 pm St John Ambulance County Carol Service 5.30 pm Evoscona with

County Carol Service 5.30 pm Evensong with Installation of new Canons

Tuesday 13 December

11.30 am Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce Concert 7.00 pm The Christie Charity Carol Concert Wednesday 14 December 7.00 pm Henshaws Carols by Candlelight Thursday 22 December

Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve

(no Evensong)

Christmas Day

(no Evensona)

Communion)

Eucharist

7.30 pm A Festival of Nine

Saturday 24 December-

5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 25 December-

12.00 noon Blessing of the Crib

11.30 pm Midnight Eucharist

10.30 am Christmas Dav Sung

11.00 am Morning Praver and

Holv Communion (note change

of time and no 1.10 pm Holy

9.00 am Morning Praver and

Holy Communion (no 1.10 pm

12.00 noon Evening Prayer

Monday 26 December

4.30 pm Evening Praver

Tuesday 27 December

4.30 pm Evening Prayer

(no 5.30 pm Evensong)

Holy Communion)

Thursday 15 December 7.30 pm Christmas Carols in the City for Royal Manchester Children's Hospital Charity

Friday 16 December 9.30 am SelfHelp, Improving Mental Health

Saturday 17 December 10.00 am Manchester Children's Choir 12.00 noon Cathedral Christmas Sing-along 7.30 pm Family Carols Concert

Sunday 18 December 11.50 am Advent Conversations

7.30 pm Shelter Charity Carol Concert

Monday 19 December 2.00 pm The Booth Centre Carol Service

Wednesday 21 December 12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves 7.30 pm Trinity High School Carol Service

Regular Service Times

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer 9.00am Mon-Fri Holy Communion Mon-Fri 1.10pm Tues-Thurs* Evensong 5.30pm Evening Prayer 4.30pm Mon & Fri Saturday Services Morning Prayer & Holy Communion 9.00am Evensong 5.30pm' **Sunday Services** Matins 8.45am Holy Communion (1662) 9.00am Sung Eucharist 10.30am Evensong 5.30pm*

Monday 26 December 2016-Sunday 8 January 2017 Chorister Half-Term Canon Wray's Sock Appeal for the Booth Centre Drop off new pairs of socks between 15 December 2016 and 21 January 2017

*Please note: During the Chorister Half Terms and holidays evening services are said. All said services are at 4.30 pm (unless stated as being sung by a visiting choir on these pages)

Looking ahead January

Monday 2 January

11.00 am Morning Prayer and Holy Communion (note change of time and no 1.10 pm Holy Communion) 4.30 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 3 January 12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group

Wednesday 4 January 12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves

Saturday 7 January

10.30 am Christian Meditation session 5.30 pm Evensong sung by the Harsnett Choir

Wednesday 1 February

12.45 pm Turning

Saturday 4 February

10.30 am Christian

Meditation session

Sunday 5 February

Revealing the ceiling

Thursday 9 February

by Grace Timperley

10.30 am Christian Meditation session

of the Leaves

2.00 pm Talk:

Sunday 8 January

10.30 am Sung Eucharist by the Harsnett Choir 4.00 pm Epiphany procession and Evensong with St. Ann's Church

Thursday 12 January 12.00 noon Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer

Wednesday 18 January 12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves

Saturday 21 January 11.00 am Coffee Concert 1.00 pm Exhibition Launch & 'Meet the Artist' Talk: Church Ceilings -Ecclesiastic Geometry

Tuesday 24 January 12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group

Thursday 26 January 1.10 pm Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert

Sunday 29 January 2.00 pm Talk: 'Psvchogeographic Manchester - Reading the city through its signs and symbols' by Ed Glinert

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Canon Pastor

Cathedral Curate

The Revd Jane Walker

Chapter Lav Canons

Cathedral Chaplains

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Raylia Chadwick

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5.30 pm Evensona suna by the Harsnett Choir

Looking ahead February

Saturday 11 February 11.00 am Coffee Concert

Tuesday 14 February 12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group

12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves

Admission to all our exhibitions is free.

EXHIBITIONS

20 January - 12 February Ceilings-Ecclesiastic Geometry

Wednesday 15 February

Follow us: f /ManchesterCathedral @ManCathedral



Saturday 17 December 2016 7.30pm

Manchester Cathedral Voluntary Choir

Christopher Stokes and James Mitchell, Organ

Family

Geoffrey Woollatt, Director

Tickets £10 (£8) available from www.family-carols2016.eventbrite.co.uk

includes a glass of wine & mince pie



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105