

Manchester
Cathedral



News

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November 2014



Prayer / Worship / Music / Arts / Education / Heritage / Welcoming

FREE



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Dean's Corner

Cathedral Community

By The Dean



For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me - Matthew 25:35-36

This is the call of God to every follower of Christ and to every church congregation. On these practical acts of love depends our earthly and eternal blessing in the Lord. Practical service and acts of love are central to our belief in Jesus who calls us to reach out to the vulnerable members of our society. When we engage in these acts of mercy we are being like Christ to others. We are seeking to affirm and restore human dignity and helping to address gross inequalities in our communities.

It was with this call in mind that two years ago we established our Volunteer Programme with JobCentre Plus to reach out to unemployed people in our city. This ten-week programme based in our Visitor Centre enables the unemployed participants (many of whom are long-term unemployed) to retrain, restore their self-confidence, and even get into paid employment with our business partners in the city. The rate of job outcomes is near 60%, which astounds JobCentre Plus!

And our business partners value our volunteers as employees because of the good preparation they receive at the Cathedral. Our partners include the Arndale Centre, The Printworks, Crowne Plaza and Hilton Hotels, Wilkinsons, ProperTea and many others.

Our long-standing Guides and Welcomers are great mentors to our volunteers and our Cathedral staff do a great job in providing opportunities to learn new skills. This is a partnership between the Cathedral, government, businesses and our volunteers, in which everyone wins. I'd like to say a thank-you to everybody involved, and especially to Anthony O'Connor, Tracy Fishwick, Lauren Bailey-Rhodes (Programme Manager) and colleagues for such a sterling effort.

I am pleased that the success of our programme has led to recognition by central government and, in turn, to additional funding that will enable us to roll-out the programme in other cathedrals –beginning imminently with Liverpool!

This is a wonderful, modern way to empower people. Praise be to God who inspires and enables us to work in partnership to reach out with His love in such practical ways.

Cover image: Ian Howarth Photography

The war to end all wars

This November has particular significance as we approach Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day, 100 years after the first world war began.

On a personal note, I know that five of my grandmother's seven brothers lost their lives in that war, as did three of my grandfather's brothers. My other grandfather lost his twin brother. The stories behind these men whose lives were taken are varied and I can only imagine the impact it must have had when yet another message arrived to say that a brother or son had died. What an incredible loss it was. For me it makes Remembrance Sunday very poignant with all these thoughts of people who I know who lost loved ones and those I never knew who died in the war.

The phrase the war to end all wars is often attributed to the American President Woodrow Wilson who used it as a rationale for America entering the first world war, but it originated in the form "the war to end war" with the writer HG Wells in 1914. The phrase now has a hollow ring as the numerous wars over the last 100 years have taken their toll on thousands of lives and families who, like my family in the '14-18 war, have lost loved ones.

It carries a particular sadness as our country is once again involved in a war, this time against the Islamic State. None of us are under the illusion that this action will end war, let alone war against Islamic extremists; the most you can hope for is that the tide of destruction is stemmed and we do not sow greater bitterness and anger.

So how do we respond in the midst of all the complexities of politics, religion, history and power? I hope it is not too much of a get-out to remember, and think about, and pray for those individuals behind the statistics of the news headlines; the uncles and aunts, brothers and sisters going through unimaginable ordeals as they face their loss of home and family.

I hope too that we never forget that it is a just and merciful peace that can end war, so that we work for that day when the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard will lie down with the baby goat. The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion, and a little child will lead them all.

Remembrance

Saturday 15 November 12.30 & 1.30 pm
The Manchester Blitz (Drama - £3)

Wednesday 19 November 2.00 pm
Bombed and Besieged: Manchester Cathedral at War (FREE talk)

G F Handel

Messiah

Manchester Cathedral Choir
The Secret Orchestra
Directed by Christopher Stokes

Rochelle Hart Soprano
Joanna Gamble Contralto
Robin Green Tenor
Victor Sgarbi Bass-baritone

Saturday 13 December
7pm

Tickets £15 (plus booking fee)
Available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/secretopera
Unreserved seating

Manchester Cathedral, Victoria Street, M3 1SX
0161 833 2220, www.manchestercathedral.org



Harmonious Society Exhibition

By Dympna Gould, Visitor Services Manager

This is part of the city-wide Asia Triennial Exhibition, re-examining the conflicts as well as the harmony of China. In the past three decades China has experienced unprecedented political reform, economic development and rapid urbanisation.

The Cathedral is showcasing leading Chinese artists alongside other partners including John Rylands Library, Museum of Science and Industry, the Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art and the National Football Museum.

The exhibition has been attracting media attention and a large numbers of visitors since its opening in September. We have welcomed many visitors from the Chinese community in Manchester, students and art lovers from across the region – many of whom had not set foot in the Cathedral before.



Both Harmonious Society artworks in Manchester Cathedral are completely new commissions. Li Wei's mirror sculpture, A Decorative Thing was inspired by the artist's visit to the Cathedral in February, particularly the medieval architecture and misericords.

The mirror is crafted out of bronze, depicting real and imaginary beasts. A mirror, which might ordinarily be used in a superficial way, can within the Cathedral's contemplative space invite more profound reflections upon the issues of representation, perception and collective consciousness.

In the north aisle, Zheng Guogu's Brain Lines depicts the imagined results of research on the brains of Jesus and his 12 Apostles. The pictogram for Jesus symbolises complete consciousness, while the others are shown with connected or developed left or right hemispheres.

The light-boxes explore the links between Jesus and the Apostles, Science and Religion; between religious and scientific enlightenment. They have provoked a great many conversations about the Apostles and their individual relationships with Jesus, and the dominance of the rational or perceptual sides of the brain.

Please pick up one of the yellow brochures for more information.

Christmas at Manchester Cathedral

Manchester
Cathedral

Handel's Messiah

Saturday 13 December, 7pm
Tickets £15, www.ticketsource.co.uk/secretopera
or call 0161 833 2220

Christmas Carol Sing-along

Saturday 20 December, 12 noon to 1.30 pm
(informal - just turn up and stay as long as you like)

Family Carols Concert

Saturday 20 December, 7.30 pm
Tickets £10 (£8), 0161 833 2220

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Monday 22 December, 7.30 pm

Blessing of the Crib with Children's Nativity

Christmas Eve, 12 noon

The First Communion of Christmas

Christmas Eve, 11.30 pm

Christmas Day Sung Eucharist

Christmas Day, 10.30 am
(incense will be used at this service)

Victoria Street
Manchester, M3 1SX
www.manchestercathedral.org



Dispatches from the Home Front:

Part One, 1914 By Bishop Frank Sargeant

Peter Green had been a Residentiary Canon for three years when war was declared, and addressed the attitudes to war in weekly *Artifex* articles for the *Manchester Guardian*.

In his 11 June article he suggested that folk were ignorant of the terrors of modern warfare and expressed regret that the Church was dumb. He decried the cost of war, which would feed the country's needy children for a winter, and prophesied that all the working man could expect was 'a painful death, taxes, and a medal.' There was complacency that Britain would win because she had always won at sea. Those bishops, who prattled of war as a tonic, would have to prove their point. Green could foresee only misery for young and old.

War was only justified as the lesser of two evils. The nation was confronted by two wrongs: to wage war or to abandon her allies, Belgium and France. War entered into unwillingly had some virtue, but Green pleaded that embittered public opinion against the Germans should be resisted and embellished stories of atrocities dismissed because the prevailing jingoistic aggression debased Britain's character.

On the 20 August, 3000 Territorials mobilised in Manchester and Salford, joined by 4 battalions of the Lancashire Fusiliers. Green urged the parochial clergy to visit those preparing to go to war – to pray with them and promise to write – and urged that churches should be kept open for prayer.

He encouraged clergy to enlist as Chaplains but opposed them being combatants.

Whilst wives of soldiers had difficulty in receiving meagre allowances, Green was concerned by their increased alcohol consumption. Food tokens were being traded to pay for alcohol, to the detriment of children.

He attacked 'The Drink Trade' as 'The National Enemy'.

On 17 September Green addressed public indignation that Russia had joined the allies. He recognised in the Russian character a sympathy with humanity and the Gospel truth that force is no remedy to overcome evil.

Three columns in October covered the philosophy of Nietzsche, mistakenly considered the figurehead for Germany's wrong-doing: Green suggested that Nietzsche might share some blame for Germany's 'super-race' ideals.

Green's 1914 Christmas message was one of love, in which he avoided any emphasis on the perceived wickedness of the Germans. He felt that the Church had failed its Christian duty of overcoming evil with good, and that she should be penitent whilst also being supportive of her sons' fight. A significant event in 1915 would test his attitudes.

Look out for the next instalment in 2015.

Manchester Cathedral Poetry Competition 2014

Fine poetry can come in many forms – epic, ballad, lyric, free verse and so on. But whatever the form, quality poetry arrests us with wonder, surprise and precision. Poetry is exhilarating and – even if it is, in the public mind, the Cinderella of the written arts – it is utterly vital to living well. If, in a time of disenchantment, we are unsure how to articulate our sense of the transcendent and noumenal, poetry's ability to wield words as mystery as well as revelation is essential.

Our prize-winning and runner-up poems are arresting many different ways. Jo Bell's winning poem, *Infallible* is both utterly specific and yet gives space for the reader to dance, play and delight in the delicious syntax and phrasing. It is a quite remarkable offering. Yet if that quality is what marks it out for special praise, all of the ten prize winning and commended poems engage with the interface between understanding and wonder. Particular thanks must be extended to our judge, Dr Helen Tookey, for sifting the entries with sensitivity and generosity. On the winning poem, Helen writes, 'Infallible was a clear

winner for me because of the clarity and compression of its language, the sureness of its choices, enabling the poem to put across some large ideas in very few words. I very much liked the calm, understated tone of the poem ('They sent me here for beauty... Your children are so plain') which brings out the ironies so well.

The pope's emissary is unable to see the beauty in the ordinary human lives he's confronted with, and cannot see how God 'speaks for himself' precisely through the ordinary world of people going about their business.

The title, again, does good work on behalf of the poem, setting up the irony from the outset; but the poem, I think, works out its ideas through a beautifully controlled use of form and language. I found that it stayed in my mind for a long time'.

Rachel Mann

Poetry Competition 2014 Booklets

The booklets are now available to order from the Cathedral office. Any profits from the Poetry Competition go to the Booth Centre charity.

Full Results

First Prize

Jo Bell, *Infallible*

Second Prize

Sheila Wild, *Pieta*

Third Prize

Frances Corkey Thompson, *Goddess of Mercy*

Highly Commended

In no particular order: Gillian Rathbone, Jonathan Wooding, Jennifer A. McGowan, Julian Dobson, Kate Wise, Martyn Halsall, Jacqui Rowe.

Well Done!

The Winning Poem 2014

Infallible

By Jo Bell

Outside the workshop, toddlers tumbled by.
They sent me here for beauty,
said the courtier. Your children are so plain.
Giotto laughed a blacksmith's laugh.

I made them in the dark, he said.
The envoy blushed, unsealed his errand-
His Holiness commands
a sample of your work.

Indeed, said Giotto. We will talk
as soon as Pietro's roof is done.
The messenger leaned in and scowled;
the Holy Father's business is to speak for God.

Giotto snatched the scroll;
returned it with a circle,
compass-perfect in a single sweep of red.
God speaks for himself, he said.

Campaign Corner

Be a part of it

Finding God in the Colour: Manchester Cathedral & Manchester Airport School Art Project

Manchester Airport artists in residence Andy Leigh and Angela Greenway worked with children from five Wythenshawe schools, visiting Manchester Cathedral and producing their own artistic responses to the stained-glass windows, in ceramic. These wonderful artworks are now on display in the airport. Images courtesy of Ian Howarth Photography and Manchester Airport.



BDP Cathedral Lighting Mock-Up, September

After BDP's September presentation, the Cathedral community were invited to submit any further comments. We were very pleased, once again, to have positive feedback from all respondents. Thank you to everyone who attended and submitted feedback.

Booth Centre
Activities, advice and support for homeless people

The 2014 **Manchester Sleepout**
Friday 7th November
Manchester Cathedral

Sponsor!

To sponsor the Cathedral team, please visit our JustGiving page: www.justgiving.com/ManchesterCathedralSleepout2014

Participate!

If you would like to participate in the Manchester Sleepout, please register here: www.boothcentre.org.uk/registration.html

Some of the Cathedral staff have put together a team and will be participating in the sleepout. We are hoping to raise funds for the Booth Centre so please give what you can! Last year we raised over £2000, it would be great to beat this target!



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Christians versus Humanists?



The dichotomy is a false one. The opposing sides in this important modern debate should really be described as **Christian Humanists and Secular Humanists**, preferably without the versus. The writer is a **Christian Humanist** and is not a little annoyed by the way that **Secular Humanists** have dropped the word ‘**Secular**’ from their title: it muddles the waters of discussion and encourages the widespread impression that **Humanism stands in opposition to belief in God**.

Few public debates in Britain today are as important as that between Christian and Secular Humanists. It would also be better for all concerned, however, if the British Humanist Association, not to mention many Christians, were less belligerent and more given to respectful dialogue. The roots of Humanism in the West goes back to the Renaissance with Petrarch, who like many humanists was a priest, as the founding father. None of these early Humanists were atheists or anti-Christian. All that came later with the 18th century Enlightenment and the rise of the belief in the all-sufficiency of Reason and Science as the only trustworthy paths to truth and human happiness. This cultural amnesia and over-simplification of history forgets that it was largely the late medieval church which in founding the universities created a culture in which experimental science

developed and reason and critical enquiry were championed. Today’s secular humanists largely focus their attention on Creationism and other forms of Christian fundamentalism, forgetting that in modern Britain these are the views of only a small proportion of Church members. In arguing against such things they are largely doing battle with straw men. It would be far more productive if there could be an informed and serious debate on the limits of human reason and science, as these are topics of widespread public and academic interest.

Ours is a world which more than any other in history is built on science and technology. We are carried along on a seemingly unstoppable tide of new discoveries and devices. Is there any limit to what we can do or what can be known? Books are now being written in an attempt to explore and answer these questions. Humanist, both Christian and Secular, are profoundly interested in what it means to be ‘human’, while aware that in modern society technology is beginning to impinge on and in some ways change what it means to be human. Are we re-creating humanity in such a way that we are slowly becoming ‘post-human.’ These are serious questions for all humanists whether they believe in God or not. It’s time the slanging matches were over and the serious debate began.

By Albert Radcliffe

Saint for the Month will be back in December.

The Diary November

Saturday 1 November 6.00 pm <i>Columns Festival</i>	Wednesday 12 November 12.45 pm <i>Turning of the Leaves</i>	Thursday 20 November 10.00 am—2.30 pm <i>Mothers’ Union Quiet Day with Revd Eileen Short</i>
Sunday 2 November All Saints Day 10.30 am <i>Sung Eucharist—incense used</i> 5.30 pm <i>Festal Evensong and Procession—incense used</i>	Thursday 13 November 12 noon <i>Mothers’ Union Thursday Prayer</i> 1.10 pm <i>Chetham’s School of Music Lunchtime Concert</i>	Friday 21 November 6.00 pm <i>Hope14 Service</i>
Monday 3 November All Souls Day 3.00 pm <i>Five Lost Churches Book Launch</i> 5.30 pm <i>Requiem Eucharist—incense used</i>	Friday 14 November 6.30 pm—9.30 pm <i>Hanging Ditch Wine Fair</i>	Saturday 22 November 9.00 am—5.00 pm <i>Come and Sing</i>
Tuesday 4 November 12.30 pm <i>Julian Prayer Group</i> 2.30–4.30 pm <i>Societies Fair: showcase for people in their 50s and beyond</i>	Saturday 15 November 11.00 am <i>Coffee Concert</i> 12.30 & 1.30 pm <i>The Manchester Blitz (Drama—£3)</i> 2.30 pm <i>Children’s and Youth Work Certificate Presentation</i> 7.00 pm <i>Piano Recital</i>	Monday 24 November 7.00 pm <i>Sharon Van Etten</i>
Friday 7 November 8.00 pm <i>Manchester Sleepout for the Booth Centre</i>	Monday 17 November 5.15 pm <i>Una Krol’s Book Launch, ‘Bread not Stones’</i>	Tuesday 25 November 12.30 pm <i>Julian Prayer Group</i>
Saturday 8 November 7.30 pm <i>Concert with Manchester Baroque</i>	Tuesday 18 November 7.00 pm <i>John Gillibrand, ‘Celebration of Theology’</i>	Wednesday 26 November 12.45 pm <i>Turning of the Leaves</i>
Tuesday 11 November 10.45 am <i>Manchester Regiment Remembrance Service</i>	Wednesday 19 November 10.00 am—4.00 pm <i>Growing in Kingdom</i> 2.00 pm <i>Bombed and Besieged: Manchester Cathedral at War (Talk by Jonathan Schofield—FREE)</i> 5.30 pm <i>Evensong with welcome to new head teachers</i>	Friday 28 November 2.00 pm <i>Manchester’s Religious History (Talk by Ed Glinnert—FREE)</i>
		Saturday 29 November 7.30 pm <i>Fodens Brass Band Concert</i>
		Monday 30 November Advent Sunday 10.30 am <i>Sung Eucharist with Installation of the Canon for Theology and Mission</i>

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Service Times

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer	9.00am	Mon-Fri
Holy Communion	1.10pm	Mon-Fri
Evensong	5.30pm	Tues-Thurs*
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*

*Please note

During school holidays evening services are said. All said services are at 4.30 pm.

Variations to the schedule for special dates and services will be listed here whenever possible.

Looking ahead *December*

Monday 1 December

7.00 pm *Augustines*

Tuesday 2 December

7.30 pm *MedEquip4Kids Christmas Sing Along*

Wednesday 3 December

7.30 pm *Action for Children Carol Concert*

Thursday 4 December

1.10 pm *Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert*
7.30 pm *Children's Society Carol Service*

Friday 5 December

7.30 pm *North West Air Ambulance Charity Concert*

Saturday 6 December

11.30 am *Star for Christmas (Age UK)*
2.15 pm—5.00 pm
Be a Chorister for a Day
5.00 pm *Be a Chorister: Act of Worship*

Sunday 7 December

12 noon *Advent Conversations (Library)*
1.00 pm, 2.30 pm & 4.00 pm
Light up a Life (St Ann's Hospice)

Monday 8 December

11.00 am & 2.15 pm *Manchester Evening News Concert*

Tuesday 9 December

11.30 am *Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce & Industry Carol Concert*
7.30 pm *NSPCC Carols by Candlelight*

Wednesday 10 December

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*
7.00 pm *Henshaws Carols by Candlelight*

Thursday 11 December

12 noon *Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer*

Saturday 13 December

7.00 pm *Messiah Concert*

Sunday 14 December

12 noon *Advent Conversations (Library)*
3.00 pm *St John Ambulance County Carol Service*

Monday 15 December

6.30 pm *'Merry Alexmas' (Alex Hulme Foundation Charity Concert)*

Tuesday 16 December

12.30 pm *Julian Prayer Group*

Wednesday 17 December

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*
3.30 pm *BBC Choral Evensong*

Thursday 18 December

7.30 pm *Royal Manchester Children's Hospital Charity Carol Concert*

Friday 19 December

7.00 pm *The Genesis Christmas Concert*

Saturday 20 December

12 noon—1.30 pm *Cathedral Christmas Sing-Along (FREE event, drop in at any time)*
7.30 pm *Cathedral Family Carols Concert*

Sunday 21 December

12 noon *Advent Conversations (Library)*

Monday 22 December

7.30 pm *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*

Wednesday 24 December

12 noon *Blessing of the Crib & Children's Nativity*
11.30 pm *First Communion of Christmas*

Thursday 25 December

10.30 am *Christmas Day Eucharist—incense used*
12 noon *Evening Prayer*

Friday 26 December

11.00 am *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*
4.30 pm *Evening Prayer*

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Christmas Concerts - Tickets

Messiah tickets: www.ticketsource.co.uk/secretopera
Family Carols tickets: familycarols.eventbrite.co.uk

For all charity concerts, please contact the charity directly for tickets. Details of the competition for Manchester Evening News tickets will appear in the paper.

Looking further ahead *January*

Sunday 4 January

4.00 pm *Epiphany Service*

Tuesday 6 January

5.30 pm *Epiphany Eucharist*

Wednesday 7 January

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*

Thursday 8 January

12 noon *Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer*

Saturday 17 January

11.00 am *Coffee Concert*

Tuesday 20 January

12.30 pm *Julian Prayer Group*

Wednesday 21 January

12.45 pm *Turning of the Leaves*

Thursday 22 January

1.10 pm *Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert*

Friday 30 January

7.30 pm *Manchester Camerata Concert*

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