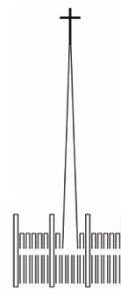


Newsletter

January 2019



BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL
GOOD NEWS FOR LANCASHIRE

Diary

9th

1.00pm Our Lunchtime Organ Recitals begin again with our very own Shaun Turnbull

13th

Congregation members are invited to the Sunday School room on today for a '**Love Came Down at Christmas**' drop-in. There will be nibbles and a tiny gift for all.

16th

1.00pm Lunchtime Organ Recital. Sam Giddy, Australia.

18th

5.45pm Sing Together Teachers' Concert. See below for more details.

23rd

1.00pm Lunchtime Organ Recital. Nigel Morris, St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham.

29th

7.30pm RISE Prayer Service

30th

1.00pm Lunchtime Recital. Pupils of St Christopher's School, Accrington

Newsletter

If there is anything you would like us to include in the newsletter, please get in touch either via the cathedral office or by sending an email to info@blackburncathedral.co.uk putting 'newsletter' in the subject line.

Travelling On

There are a number of words that seem to get overused in our modern parlance. One such word might be 'journey'. We hear much about journeying, in the NHS we talk about the patient journey, on 'Strictly Come Dancing' they talk about the celebrities dancing journey, and indeed we often speak of the journey of faith.

Of course when it comes to the Epiphany there is a legitimate use of the word journey. The journey of the Magi was neither easy nor simple, they encountered difficulties, dangers and maybe even doubts but with perseverance they eventually found Christ.

This is why their particular journey has some relevance for us. We are, if you will allow me, on a journey. Whenever we start out on the road whether it's following a vocation, a profession in life, or some other task, we are attracted by something bright – an ideal, a vision, a hope. Over time the 'star' that initially drew us can become a little dim, perhaps the way becomes 'cloudy' and deprives us of its light. Of course we must expect to encounter difficulties and even doubts. Sadly some people think that they are losing their faith when they experience doubt. We mustn't be surprised when this happens. We must, if you like imitate the Magi. We mustn't be afraid to ask for guidance and hold to the belief that the darkness will pass and once again we will see the initial star drawing us on.

The Magi can, if we let them, teach us in our faith journey. We can learn from their single-minded determination, refusing to be put off by difficulties and hardships. They remind us of what happens to those who find Christ, their hearts are awakened and burst into life. When we find Christ, offering our life to him, he will help us to open up the treasures that lie buried inside us, and then we can offer them in service and devotion.

Blackburn Cathedral Servers

As I write we are coming to the end of the busiest period of the year for our Cathedral Servers. With just under a hundred duties this quarter – over fifty in December alone, I can only look on with thanks and amazement at the commitment of the team. Of course, we are blessed to have 19 servers on the team. And whilst we said farewell to one server last month as he moved to London to take up post as a vicar, we look forward to welcoming a new recruit after Christmas!

It is easy to overlook servers; they don't have a speaking part, and when duties are carried out during services they become almost invisible, but not quite...

Servers are a vital part of our ministry here at the cathedral, they perform not just a functional role but a symbolic role as well and symbolism is the language of worship. Their actions in the Eucharist are symbolic of much more than you think...

So next time you see the servers – just think how different it would be without their presence and give thanks for them.

Having worshipped Christ the Magi returned to their own country by another route, not just by a new road but a new way of thinking. Having encountered Christ, we too will travel through life by a different route. In fact the routes that we travel will be different for different people. We will have different attitudes, values, and goals because it is impossible to encounter Christ without him affecting the way we live.

And so in the life of Blackburn Cathedral we must offer of what we are and have in the service of Christ the Light of the World who has inspired our journeying and has drawn us to this place to worship him and to give of ourselves in the service of his kingdom.

What is it then that you can offer? What is it perhaps that you are holding back? What are your motives for being a part of the fellowship of Christ here in this place? A gift symbolises the giving and receiving of love. But we must be careful because gifts can be misused, they can make us and others feel small, obliged to return the favour, manipulated. We must be careful about how we use gifts and giving. What we do with the gifts that God gives us is both our choice and responsibility. For each it will be different, and each can give much or little or not at all.

It may well be a long and hard journey to Bethlehem for us, as it was for the Magi, but let's be certain it is worth all the effort and travelling time, to glimpse the child at the conclusion of the journey, and lay our gifts before him in a moment of adoration and joy.

Your friend and pastor,
Andrew



Sing Together Music Outreach Teachers' Concert

Come along to the cathedral on Friday 18th January 2019 at 7.30pm to hear the teachers involved in this year's Sing Together project take to the stage! The concert also includes performances by Rossendale Male Voice Choir. Tickets cost £6 (under 16s £3) and can be purchased on the cathedral website, or on the door.

Get Your Camera(phone) Ready!

As a way of raising funds for the continued work and upkeep of the Cathedral we are looking to produce a calendar for 2020 featuring the buildings, life and work of this amazing space.

The competition is open to any amateur photographer be they staff member, congregation member or visitor to the cathedral – see the categories below. You may submit more than one entry.

Having just won the Lancashire Tourism Cultural Venue of the Year we would like the calendar to reflect the many different aspects of the Cathedral – its architecture, its community and its place in the centre of both Blackburn and the Diocese now and through history. So here are some possible topics:

- The fabric and artefacts of the building.
- The Cathedral's surroundings.
- The work of staff and volunteers.
- The Cathedral through the seasons – both liturgical and natural.

If you have a particular wish to photograph a specific aspect of the Cathedral that requires special access, please write in the first instance to the contact details below. We will try to accommodate your request if at all possible.

Deadline: 31 October 2019 – submissions accepted from 1st December 2018 onwards and will be displayed from 1st January 2019.

Categories: 12 and under; 18 and under; over 18; photography student.

Please submit a printed copy of your photographs with your name, the category in which you wish to be judged and the date the photographs were taken on the back to the address below; prints should be no bigger than A5 in size.

A full list of competition rules will be posted at the back of the cathedral, in the shop and on the website.

Submissions and Enquiries should be marked 'Calendar Competition' and sent to:

The Dean
Blackburn Cathedral
Cathedral Close
Blackburn
BB1 5AA

or

c/o: shop@blackburncathedral.co.uk (enquiries only)

Donate to the Work and Fabric of the Cathedral

Just Giving - to donate, go to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/blackburncathedral>

Text Giving - you can donate by texting BLAC01 followed by the amount you wish to donate, to 70070.

You can donate £1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10.

As an example, to donate £5, you would text the following to 70070: BLAC01£5

All the money you donate goes to us. You may be charged for your text message. Please refer to your network operator's standard rates.

If you have any questions about JustTextGiving, visit <https://www.justgiving.com/>

Open Guided Tours

Tours are held most first Tuesdays of the month, all are welcome. Please be at the Welcome Desk for 3.00pm.

Cathedra English Gin



Our locally distilled Gin has really taken off! The first few deliveries sold out within hours of them arriving here at the cathedral.

It is now available in the Gift Shop and online for those of you further afield.

Regular Service Times

Sunday:

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.00am	Parish Communion
10.30am	Cathedral Eucharist
4.00pm	Evensong

Weekdays:

Morning Prayer - **8.40am** Monday to Friday

Holy Communion - Every day, but times may differ, please see the Cathedral Website or Weekly Bulletin for details.

Evening Prayer/Evensong - **5.15pm** Monday to Friday please see weekly bulletin or music list for details of sung services.

Saturday:

9.00am	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Holy Communion
5.15pm	Evening Prayer (Except when Evensong is scheduled which will be at 3.30pm – please see Weekly Bulletin or Website for details)

Contacts

Blackburn Cathedral
Cathedral Close
Blackburn
BB1 5AA

The Dean:	The Very Rev'd Peter Howell-Jones
Canon Sacrist:	The Rev'd Canon Andrew Hindley
Canon Missioner:	The Rev'd Canon Dr Rowena Pailing
Canon Pastor:	The Rev'd Canon Andrew Horsfall
Episcopal Canon	The Right Rev'd Philip North
Dir. of Music:	Mr Samuel Hudson
Shop Manager:	Mrs Julie Eatwell
Events:	Mr Phil Hunwick
Head Virger:	Mr Mark Pickering

Tel: 01254 277430

Email: info@blackburncathedral.com

Website: www.blackburncathedral.com

Friends of Blackburn Cathedral

Email: secretary@fobc.info

Website: www.fobc.info

Cathedral Opening Times

The cathedral is open Monday to Saturday from 8.00am until after the last service of the day.

On Sundays we are open from 7.45am until after the last service of the day.

The Cathedral Cannot Run on Clergy (and Virgers) Alone!

Blackburn Cathedral is a community made not just of the congregation, but of all who come through its doors. In order to ensure that everyone who enters our amazing building is given the welcome they deserve our community needs an incredible number of volunteers to fulfil a range of roles.

There are two groups of volunteers who play an integral role in the welcoming of congregants and visitors. First, there are the Welcomers who look after the Welcome Desk and the shop during the day Tuesday to Saturday, meeting and greeting all who come through the doors; if you feel you have a few hours to spare once a month (or more), please get in touch with Julie Eatwell using the contact information opposite or at: shop@blackburncathedral.co.uk.

The second group of volunteers are the stewards who ensure the smooth running of Sunday services and the many extra services that take place here; ranging from large Diocesan Events such as the ordinations of Deacons and Priests to the weddings and funerals of our own congregation. And as for Christmas, well we always need 'all hands-on deck' for the many and wonderful concerts and services that are held here.

We are particularly short of stewards for Sunday Evensong at the moment, if you are in a position to help out even on just a one off basis the Warden Team would be really grateful, please give your details to anyone of them or email them at wardens@blackburncathedral.co.uk.

A building of this size always needs more help than it has, so if you feel that you could join us in our Ministry of Welcome or in any other way, please, speak to any member of the clergy, one of the wardens or virgers, or get in touch via the contact information opposite.