

## Mass Intentions Received

Marie Ward (RIP), Sr Anthony (Intentions), Camilo-Lima (Prayers and Thoughts), Ana and Cornelius (Thanksgiving), Elias and Radrigo (Birthday), Gerard Webb (RIP), Holy Souls, John Sherwood (RIP), Clare and James Cassidy, Ella and Michael Gannon, Aunty Monica Drayer USA, Richie and George, Nora and Henry Lloyd, Bridget Barry, Mary Jacob, Begley Family (Intentions), O'Neill Family, Augustinian Canonesses of the Mercy of Jesus (Intentions), Jennings Family (Intentions), Teresa Hertericka, Rachel Ashton (RIP) and Aston Family, Byrne and Ashcroft Families,

Thomas Greaney, Mary Denning, Terence Brady, Eneid Conroy, Mena Fagan (Birthday), Dominick Murray (Remembrance), Christy Murphy (RIP), Joan Flant (RIP), Anne Duff (RIP), Jack Hindley (Birthday Remembrance), Ellen Brazier (Birthday Remembrance), Marella Shields and Family (Intentions), John McKenna (RIP), Vera Livingstone (RIP), Lynn Yarwood (Get Well), John Sherwood (RIP), Mary Arkwright (RIP), Richie Clarke (RIP), Rosaleen Conlon, Dennis Conlon, Lisa Duckworth (RIP), AnneMarie Martin (RIP).



Metropolitan Cathedral  
of Christ the King Liverpool

# Cathedral Record

Incorporating the Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

## 4th Sunday of Advent

We enter the final few days lead up to our celebrations of Christmas. Just when we are comfortably starting to feel ahead on our preparations for Christmas here at the Cathedral true to form things start to go wrong. We have been waiting all last week for the delivery of a new booklet printer system because one of our machines has developed a fault which can't easily be resolved so we are now behind on all our printing – hence the newsletter this weekend is very last minute. I suppose these little gremlins are a reminder that things didn't go to plan in, human terms, on the first Christmas, not least there was no room at the inn. Nevertheless Christmas will happen whether everything goes according to plan or not – thankfully God's Grace is given freely whether we are ready or not.

At this time of the year there are a whole host of chefs and celebrities giving their tips on how to celebrate Christmas well, ranging from recipes and food for entertaining to decorations and gifts. I'm not sure I have heard anyone giving a few tips on how to make the most of the church opportunities over the Christmas Festival. For what it's worth here's my top tips for our Cathedral over the next week or so. Instead of 'Jamie' or 'Nigella' substitute Fr Tony's top tips for a holy Christmas. As we are now in the final run up to Christmas why not come along to the Festival Carol Service at 5.00pm this Sunday. It is a more reflective and prayerful occasion than recent Christmas concerts and yet still has some of the best and most glorious Carols and Christmas Music as well as Christmas Readings and Verse. With a thick outer coat for both warmth and padding for the benches there is no better place than a Cathedral for a service such as this (a handy tip for any of the services that you will attend over the season). For those in the know one of the most meaningful ways to begin to celebrate the Saviour's birth is the First Vespers of Christmas at 3.00pm on Christmas Eve. We sing a few psalms and are like the shepherds waiting on the hillside on the first Christmas, hoping and praying that all people will experience the love and blessings that

the Lord brings at this time. At the end of this choral service we go in procession for the blessing of the Cathedral Crib, gathering the young children together to sing and say a prayer to the infant Jesus born for us all.

There are different readings and prayers for the various Masses for Christmas. The 8.00pm Mass at St Vincent's and the later Midnight Celebration at the Cathedral follow the texts for Christmas Midnight, the early morning Masses on Christmas Day that of Christmas Dawn, and for the Solemn High Mass at 11.00am the texts for Christmas Day with the wonderful Prologue of St John proclaimed as the Gospel Reading. With a guaranteed welcome to all there is ample opportunity and invitation to all to come and celebrate the Mass of Christ's Birth and to carry the presence and blessing of the Christ child into their celebrations at home.

This year the Sunday after Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Family, follows on immediately from our celebrations of Christmas Day. There will be no morning Mass or confessions on Boxing Day but there will be the usual Saturday Vigil Masses in the Crypt and at St Vincent's and Masses on the Sunday will be at the normal times.

Please take a Blessed votive light and Christmas Grace prayer card this weekend for you to use at your table at home for Christmas dinner. Hopefully we will have a Christmas Newsletter printed this coming week with all the information on service times over the holiday period. May the joy and peace of Christ's birth be with us all at this time.

Canon Anthony O'Brien

Dean

## Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING: 20 December 2015

### Sunday 20 December Fourth Sunday of Advent

**8.30am** Mass  
**10.00am** Family Mass Crypt  
**11.00am** Solemn Choral Mass  
**1.00pm** Polish Mass Crypt  
**4.00pm** Mass RLUH  
**5.00pm** Festival Carol Service  
**7.00pm** Mass Crypt

### Monday 21 December

**7.45am** Morning Prayer  
**8.00am** Mass  
**12.15pm** Mass Crypt  
**5.15pm** Sung Mass

### Tuesday 22 December

**7.45am** Morning Prayer  
**8.00am** Mass  
**12.15pm** Mass Crypt  
**5.15pm** Sung Mass

### Wednesday 23 December

**7.45am** Morning Prayer  
**8.00am** Mass  
**9.00am** Mass (Thomas Gough) STV  
**12.15pm** Requiem Mass  
**5.15pm** Mass  
**5.45pm** Choral Evening Prayer

### Thursday 24 December Christmas Eve

**7.45am** Morning Prayer  
**8.00am** Mass  
**12.15pm** Mass Crypt  
**3.00pm** First Vespers of Christmas  
**8.00pm** Christmas Vigil Mass STV  
(For those who have died at Christmas)  
**Midnight** Midnight Mass

### Friday 25 December Christmas Day

**8.30am** Mass  
**10.00am** Family Mass Crypt  
**11.00am** Solemn Mass of Christmas  
Cathedral closes at 1.00pm

### Saturday 26 December St Stephen

**8.45am** Morning Prayer  
**9.00am** Mass  
**6.00pm** Vigil Mass STV  
(John and Margaret O'Gorman)  
**6.30pm** Vigil Mass Crypt

### RECONCILIATION (Confession)

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

### Saturday:

11.00am – 12noon  
2.00pm – 4.00pm

### Crypt

Crypt Chapel

### STV

St. Vincent de Paul  
Parish Church

### SS -

55 Seel St,  
Missionaries of  
Charity

### RLUH -

Royal Liverpool  
University Hospital

### CLERGY:

#### PRIESTS:

Canon Anthony  
O'Brien *Dean*  
Mgr Peter Cookson  
Fr Gerard Callacher  
Fr Stephen Lee

#### DEACONS:

Rev Noel Abbott  
Rev Paul Mannings

Tel: 0151 709 9222

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

@LiverpoolMet

# Cathedral Notice Board

## ST VINCENT'S LOTTERY NUMBERS

For week commencing 12 December. Winning numbers are 1, 5, 8, 10, 11, and 13. Prize was £550. There were no winners this week. Next week the prize money will be £600.

## ST NICHOLAS' SCHOOL

Life at St Nicholas continues to be busy...this week, the Christian Education Department visited school to celebrate all that the school has achieved over the last 3 years with regards to our Catholicity and ethos of our school community. Our Early Years children performed the Nativity story for the whole school and then their parents and families, whilst Key Stage 1 put on a fantastic Christmas story, The Hoity Toity Angel. Key Stage 2's Carol Concert isn't til Monday so another treat lies in store for us then. The whole school family, including our 2yr old Bluebirds, went to the FACT cinema for a Christmas treat AND we've had our Christmas Dinner too this week...it's a good job we don't finish til next Tuesday as there are still lots of treats and surprises to come! Mrs Naylor begins her maternity leave this Christmas too and we wish her and Luke every good wish for a speedy delivery of their first baby sometime next week! A Christmas birth is always extra special.

This weekend, our *With You Always* sacrament preparation children will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time so please consider them in your prayers

Mrs Vicki Fallon  
[www.stnicholasliverpool.co.uk](http://www.stnicholasliverpool.co.uk)

## HOPE+ NEWS

We have reached another milestone. On 10<sup>th</sup> December at our St Bride's Pantry, we handed out our twenty three thousandth food hamper; that is 350,245 meal portions. As this was happening the Parliamentary All Party Report on food poverty "Feeding Britain" was being launched in Parliament by Archbishop Justin. The work that Hope+ has done to document the reasons people need our help, enabled us to contribute to the report, which you can download here:

<https://feedingbritain.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/a-route-map-to-ending-hunger-as-we-know-it-in-the-united-kingdom-feeding-britain-in-2015-16.pdf>

As Christmas approaches, we continue to need your support. This year, for the first time, we will remain open between Christmas & New Year, operating pantries on both Christmas and New Year's Eve. We will also need your help the other side of Christmas too, which is always a difficult time for so many people who having struggled to cope through Christmas, often find themselves with large debts at a time when utility and food bills are at their highest. Thank you for all you continued support, and from all of us at Hope+ a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.

## WOMEN'S REFUGE

Our appeal for toiletries, nightwear, toys for children, chocolates and other new items for the Women's Refuge has started once again. As you finish your own Christmas shopping please consider popping a little bit extra in for these families who have been through a tough time and who have fled from their homes with nothing. It is hard to imagine isn't it? Please be generous.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

You are invited to buy a Christmas flower or plant 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 27 December will be offered for their names. The flowers and plants will be used to decorate the Cathedral and Crypt Sanctuary over Christmas. If you would like to make a similar donation for flowers for St Vincent's please give your offering in an envelope to one of the Clergy.

## GIFT SHOP

Now has selection of Christmas cards, including the beautiful new Cathedral Christmas cards which are on sale for 95p only. They also have a wide range of calendars, and Nativities, for sale.

Do pop in for a browse and if there is something that you would like but can't find it please speak to a member of staff who will be happy to help you.

## CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Please collect a flier from the back of the Cathedral and Crypt detailing all the services over Christmas.

## MIDNIGHT MASS

No tickets required. Please arrive in good time to get a seat. All welcome. Mass will be at Midnight.

## CATHEDRAL FESTIVAL CAROL SERVICE

Will take place on Sunday 20 December at 5.00pm in the Cathedral. Something for the whole family. Congregational carols; readers and poems. No tickets required. All welcome.

## BBC RADIO MERSEYSIDE

The Carol Service that took place in the Cathedral at the beginning of December was recorded and will be broadcast on Christmas Eve at 5.30pm. A programme full of festive cheer and will get you into the spirit of Christmas whilst you are doing last minute preparations.

## PLEASE NOTE

That the 12.15pm Mass on Wednesday this week will take place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and not the Crypt. It will be a Requiem Mass for Lisa

Last week's collection: **£1,023.00**

## GIFT SHOP

Inspirational Gifts and Souvenirs to choose from.

Monday – Sunday  
10.00am – 4.00pm

Located in the  
Cathedral Visitor Centre

0151 707 3525  
[giftshop@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:giftshop@metcathedral.org.uk)

 MetCathGiftShop



## PIAZZA CAFÉ

0151 707 3536

Fine Food, Speciality Coffees,  
Continental Beers and Wines

Monday – Saturday  
9.00am – 5.30pm

Sunday  
10.00am – 4.00pm

Located in the  
Cathedral Visitor Centre

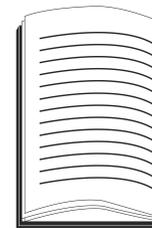


## GOLDEN BOOK OFFICE

0151 707 2107  
[t.lundbeck@metcathedral.org.uk](mailto:t.lundbeck@metcathedral.org.uk)

The 5.15pm Mass on the first Friday of every month will be offered for all those who are recorded in the Golden Book.

Monday – Friday  
10.00am – 3.30pm



LUTYENS  
CRYPT

— THE MYSTERY OF THE —  
**LUTYENS CRYPT**  
— LIVERPOOL'S BEST KEPT —  
**ARCHITECTURAL SECRET**

Open Monday-Saturday: First Admission: 10.00am Last Admission 3.30pm

Crypt Admission Charges: £3 Adults, £8 Family (2 adults + 2 children) £2 School Parties (per person)