

Mass Intentions Received

Gill Daley (RIP), Rita Kirakosyan (RIP), Gerard Webb (RIP), Holy Souls, Finnan Family, Sheila Ennis, Sue Price (RIP), Kenneth Merterich (RIP), Bridget and Anthony Barry, Audrey Slack (Get Well), Father Andrew (Intention), Sr Anthony Wilson, Katie Hyde, Josie Hyde, Denise Hyde, Noreen Ahern, Elentsa Neoptolemos (RIP), Veale Family, Gospage Family, Sister Christine (Silver Jubilee), Michelle Holding, Gill Smith, Alison Wells, Veronica Barry, Christine Larkin, Linda White, Lorraine Chihadeh, Sadie and William White,

Tracey, Tony, Lily McCormick, Karen, Kevin and Phoebe Hughes, Tony Finnerty (RIP), Anthony Fenerty (RIP), Father Marek Lesniak (RIP), Ann Rouleage, Ida Cappuccio (RIP), Father Malachy (Anniversary), Noel Sutton (RIP), Bobby Shacklady (Remembrance), Mary Teresa Buckley, Linda White, Pamela Buckley, McCormick Family, White-Hughes, Ronnie Lambert, Rose Murphy, Sarah and William White, Mary and Peter McCormick, Michael Waters (RIP), Clare Wrigley (Remembrance), Eddie (Intention), Michael Westhead (RIP), Bud Wingle (RIP), Mary McBride (Intention).

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING: 22 DECEMBER 2019

Sunday 22 December 4th Sunday of Advent

8.30am Mass
10.00am Family Mass Crypt
11.00am Solemn Choral Mass
1.00pm Polish Mass Crypt
3.00pm Choral Evening Prayer
4.00pm Mass RLUH
5.00pm Festival Carol Service
7.00pm Mass Crypt

Monday 23 December

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

Tuesday 24 December

8.00am Mass
12.15pm Mass Crypt
3.00pm First Vespers and Blessing of the Crib

The Cathedral closes at 5.00pm
The Cathedral re-opens at 10.00pm
Midnight CHRISTMAS
MIDNIGHT MASS
The Cathedral closes at 1.00pm

Wednesday 25 December The Nativity of the Lord

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

Thursday 26 December Feast of St Stephen, Martyr

10.00am Mass

Friday 27 December Feast of St John

10.00am Mass

Saturday 28 December Feast of the Holy Innocents

8.45am Morning Prayer
9.00am Mass
6.30pm Vigil Mass Crypt

RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Monday - Friday:
 There are no Confessions between Christmas and New Year during the week.

Saturday:

11.00am - 12noon
3.30pm - 4.30pm

Crypt

Crypt Chapel

SS -

55 Seel St,
 Missionaries of
 Charity

RLUH -

Royal Liverpool
 University Hospital

CLERGY:

PRIESTS:

Canon Anthony
 O'Brien *Dean*
 Fr Philip Carr
 Fr Stephen Lee

DEACONS:

Rev Noel Abbott
 Rev Paul Mannings



Metropolitan Cathedral
 of Christ the King Liverpool

Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Happy Christmas

2019 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE MOST REV MALCOLM MCMAHON OP

'The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.' This is St John's description of the birth of Jesus which is read in churches on Christmas morning. He also speaks of the nativity as, 'the light that shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it'. Jesus is the light of the world, not some artificial light but the true light which can never be overcome by darkness. He comes into the world for us to bring hope to our lives.

They must have been dark days for Mary and Joseph. They lived under an occupying power and then Caesar Augustus decreed that there should be a census and everyone, irrespective of their situation or personal difficulties, had to go to their own town to be registered. So, Mary and Joseph had to leave Nazareth and go to Bethlehem, a long and difficult journey. When they eventually arrived, there was no welcome for them. They were refugees, forced to stay in a stable, but everything was about to change for them.

With the birth of Jesus an angel and a heavenly host appeared to shepherds on a nearby hillside. Blinding light piercing the darkness and leaving them shaken and afraid. 'Fear not!' 'Do not be afraid' said the angel and that is the message of Jesus for us today. As God chose shepherds to bring 'news of great joy' so too he chooses us today to be his messengers and says to us 'do not be afraid'.

As the feast of Christmas comes near people have many hopes and expectations, there are pressures created by the clamour of modern life; created by a 'must have' society, by fear of what the future may hold, or by memories of Christmas past. Yet in the birth of Jesus there is only simplicity: a child lying in a manger, yet the

Son of God among us.

Amid the consumerism of Christmas there are many acts of human kindness, as minds and hearts turn to the needs of others. We welcome the stranger and the refugee; we buy gifts for people we don't even know, and we give our time to those who are in need. In all the uncertainties of life we have hope which is a sign of love – God's love for us in sending his Son into the world. Our celebrations too are a sign of God's love.

2,000 years ago there was a child born for us, a turning point in history which we still rejoice in today, which says that each one of us is loved by God and which takes away fear and gives us hope for the future. We must open our hearts to the welcome offered by our Saviour and let him bring his peace to our lives and to our world. May this Christmas be a time of peace for us all so that we may know the love of God in our lives.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE CATHEDRAL DEAN

There is so much preparation and anticipation that goes into the celebration of Christmas whether at home and amongst families or on a larger scale within the Cathedral. We want it to be a special time of joy and peace and of welcoming and giving thanks for the birth of our saviour. Here at the Cathedral over the month of December that preparation has meant a wonderful array of services, charity concerts and special events along with all the hard work behind the scenes to make them happen. It reminds us of the needs and burdens carried by many in our society as well as the joy of this time of the year. Now the preparations are over and Christmas is upon us. I want to extend my thanks to all who have worked so hard over recent weeks at the Cathedral in preparation for Christmas and to all those who will be helping and ministering here over the next few days. May this be a truly joyful and blessed time for us. May the peace of the Christ be with you and I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Tel: 0151 709 9222

Email: enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk @LiverpoolMet www.facebook.com/Liverpoolmetrocathedral

Cathedral Notice Board

NEWSLETTER

Please note that the next Newsletter will be issued for 11/12 January 2020.

MASS TIMES

From Thursday 26 December – Friday 27 December, and on Monday 30 December, Tuesday 31 December and Wednesday 1 January there will be one Mass only at 10.00am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Saturday and Sunday Masses remain at the usual times. The usual timetable for the Cathedral resumes on Thursday 2 January 2020.

WOMEN'S REFUGE

Thank you so much to everyone who donated gifts and toiletries for our Christmas appeal. It was the most successful yet and the response was overwhelming. Your generosity was really appreciated. Thank you so much. The generosity and kindness never ceases to amaze us and you can be assured that your offerings have made a real difference. We appreciate your generosity even more as we know how many demands are being made on people to donate to all different charities, all of whom are as worthy as the next. Thank you to everyone who made such an effort.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Thank you to everyone who donated money for the Christmas flowers. The flowers and plants will now decorate the Cathedral and Crypt. The 10.00am Family Mass on Sunday 29 December will be offered for all their names.

SAMARITANS

Please remember that for anyone who is feeling alone, a little bit low or totally overwhelmed by events during the Christmas season there will be someone at the Samaritans all over the Christmas and New Year period. They are just there to listen to you. The number you may need is 0151 708 8888 or ring on the FreeCall number which is 116 123.

CATHEDRAL CRIB

Please do go and have a look at the Cathedral Crib which is situated in the West Apse this year. Thank you to all those people who have made donations towards the Crib. It is most appreciated. May the peace and love of the new born baby Jesus remain in your hearts and home throughout this Christmas season.

NEWS FROM SAINT NICHOLAS' SCHOOL

Last week was the final week of term and what another busy week it was! Levels of excitement were getting higher and higher as the last day approached. Children came to school in their party clothes on Thursday and had a fabulous time enjoying their Christmas parties which even included a special visit from Father Christmas! The final nativity play was excellently performed for parents and those children who have been learning how to play violin this term very ably performed a variety of tunes for their parents in a small concert. Well done everyone! On behalf of all of us here at school I would like to wish you a very peaceful Christmas and a very happy and successful 2020.

PLEASE NOTE

That the Lutyens Crypt and Treasury will be closed to visitors from Monday 6 January – Friday 24 January 2020 inclusive. Watch this space for more closures over the coming weeks, and apologies for any inconvenience caused.

THANK YOU

To all Cathedral Staff and Volunteers who work so hard throughout the year to achieve so much in our Cathedral and Crypt. The work that we do with all the services, Masses, exhibitions, concerts, corporate events, fund raising, outreach work and a whole host of other events increases year on year. There is so much that goes on behind the scenes with so many dedicated people, young and old alike, and each one of what we do makes a tiny bit of difference. Never think that what you do goes unnoticed. You make a real difference and deserve a big Thank You.

COME AND BE A CATHEDRAL GUIDE

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. Help us to increase our guiding groups to four. 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! Our aim is to take on twelve. Give us a call and we shall arrange for you to Come and See. Contact Dcn Paul: p.mannings@rcaol.co.uk

SYNOD TALK Monday 13 January

Faith in the Family

Dr Dominika Kurek-Chomycz & Prof John Sullivan.

What does scripture teach about Faith and family?

What does it mean to call home 'the domestic Church'?

What foundations for Faith can be laid in the family?

Dominika Kurek-Chomycz is Senior Lecturer in New Testament Studies at Liverpool Hope University. She is married to Taras, a Greek Catholic priest, and is a mother of two wonderful boys. John Sullivan is Emeritus Professor (Christian Education) at Liverpool Hope University and a parishioner in Ainsdale. John has been married to Jean for 48 years, has four (adult) children and six grandchildren.

LACE Conference Centre (Croxtheth Drive L17 1AA). Lecture begins at 7:30pm and concludes at 8:45pm. Full details at synod2020.co.uk/lectures

THEME 3

How we pray together.

Following on our Synod journey and having looked at the first and second theme we now need to engage on the third theme, to reflect on how it challenges and inspires us. Meeting will be on Saturday 8 February 2020 straight after the 9.00am Mass. All welcome.

Last week's collection: **£836.00**



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)

GIFT SHOP

Inspirational Gifts and Souvenirs to choose from.

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Fine Food, Speciality Coffees,
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Monday – Saturday
9.00am – 5.30pm
Sunday
10.00am – 4.00pm

Located in the
Cathedral Visitor Centre



GOLDEN BOOK OFFICE

0151 707 2107

a.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

