

Support your Cathedral

We are deeply grateful for the donations we receive from our congregation and our community. Now, more than ever, we need your support.

Please visit www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/support-us or text **METROCATHEDRAL** to **70460** to donate £5*.

*Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message. If you do not wish to opt-in to hear more about our work and fundraising via text, but would still like to donate £5, text METROCATHEDRALNOINFO instead.



Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Christmas Message

Christmas is a special time, and at the heart of our celebrations is the fact that God became man for us. Two thousand years ago there wasn't a feast of Christmas yet there was still expectation as people longed for the coming of the Messiah to transform their lives. We don't always get what we expect at Christmas and two thousand years ago people didn't expect that the Messiah would be born in poverty, to a refugee family forced to leave their home to take part in a census for an occupying power. Homeless, with nowhere to stay they found refuge in a cold, dark stable with only the farm animals for company. Yet lives were about to be transformed. I am sure celebrations were far from the minds of shepherds on a cold, bleak hillside and yet suddenly the angel of the Lord appeared to them, there was light, and glory shone around them – no wonder they were terrified. The first words of the angel to them were 'Do not be afraid...' as they went full of joy to Bethlehem to greet the new born king. So many of us need those words of the angel today: 'Do not be afraid...' Weighed down with the cares of life we fear for the future, but Christmas gives us hope as we know that Christ is with us. The Prince of Peace comes to us to bring his peace and healing and to give us hope. Christmas is a time for precious memories too. Memories of Christmases past - maybe recent or long ago. Memories of loved ones, just by thinking of them we are saying, 'we love you...you are still with us in our hearts...' There may be tears too, 'Do not be afraid' of them, they are fine because they are a sign of love. The message of peace and goodwill means it is a time for us to reach out to others, especially to those in need. So many people work in the weeks before Christmas to

help those in greatest need. We see people giving up their time to feed the hungry, and to provide a place of refuge for those who are lonely. Those who work in our essential services are there for us too. During the pandemic we have renewed our spirit of care and generosity – we have reached out to others and offered them hope and readily give thanks to those who care. For Christians the joy of Christmas is found in the Eucharist and the crib. We give thanks to God for the gift of his Son who cried out from the manger to remind us of the continuing plight of the homeless, refugees and those escaping terror. When we gather as far as restrictions allow us, we remember what it is to be a family no matter how few we are or how distant we are from each other. The Holy Family was only three people yet proved to be the source of a great love which has overflowed into our lives two millennia later. May our families have the child Jesus at their centre as a source of love and a true source of strength.

May this Christmas time be happy, blessed and peaceful.

The Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP
Archbishop of Liverpool

Tel: 0151 709 9222
Email: enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING 19 December 2021

Sunday 19 December Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.00am Mass
10.00am Family Mass Crypt
11.00am Solemn Choral Mass
This Mass will be streamed live on Facebook and Youtube
7.00pm Mass Crypt

Monday 20 December

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Mass

Tuesday 21 December

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Mass Crypt

Wednesday 22 December

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Sung Mass

Thursday 23 December

7.45am Morning Prayer
8.00am Mass
12.15pm Mass Crypt
5.00pm Sung Mass

Friday 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

Saturday 25 December

9.00am Mass
10.00am Family Mass Crypt
11.00am Solemn Christmas Mass
The Cathedral closes at 1.00pm

RECONCILIATION (Confession)

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

Saturday: 9.30am - 10.30am &
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 Stephen Lee
Fr Chris McCoy
Fr Peter Murphy

DEACONS:
Rev Noel Abbott
Rev Paul Mannings

Cathedral Notice Board

MASS INTENTIONS

Veronica and Michael Maxwell (Christmas Intentions), Laura Growney (Christmas Intentions), Kath Byron (Christmas Intentions), Frances and Graham Wood (Christmas Intentions), Bishop Eton SVP Conference (Christmas Intentions), Tony and Cath Coady (Christmas Intentions), Veronica, Charles and Charles Allen (Christmas Intentions), Carmel and Bill Antrobus and Family (Christmas Intentions), Josie Hyde (Intentions), Mary O'Connell (RIP), Margaret Fitzpatrick (Christmas Wishes), Timmy Fitzpatrick (In Loving Memory), Mathew Morton (RIP), Ann Cotton (RIP), Celia Holleran (RIP), Anthony Fitzpatrick (RIP), Peggy Hardacre (RIP), Leo R Nazareth (RIP Anniversary), Patricia Toale (RIP), Colin Brian Proctor (RIP), Peter and Andrew Maher (RIP), Gerard Webb (RIP), Holy Souls, Norma Dunne (RIP), Dennis Ward (RIP), Cheryl Ward and Family (Thinking of You), Mollie Donovan (RIP), Julie McCormack (Intentions), Chrissie McWalter (RIP), Cornelius (Private Intentions), Maureen Wallace, Meadow Cavanagh (RIP), Mary and Danny Walsh (Christmas Intentions), Helen Walsh and Molly Davies (Christmas Intentions), Peggy Truswell (RIP Anniversary), Sr Christine (90th Birthday).

NEWSLETTER

Please note that the next Newsletter will be issued for 8/9 January 2022.

MASS TIMES

From Monday 27 December – Friday 31 December, and on Monday 3 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 Tuesday 4 January 2022.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS

To all our children who have just received the Sacrament of First Forgiveness. They remain in our prayers.

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 26 December will be offered for all their names.

MICAH FOODBANK

Food bank weekly update: we had over 320 guests last week. We're well stocked with canned soups but are quite low on sweets! That could be jams, honey, biscuits... why not bring in your favourite? Thanks to all who've donated recently! To bolster our supplies, this week we launch our "Reverse Advent Calendar" campaign. The calendar can be downloaded from the Micah website

using this link: [Reverse-Advent-Calander-with-Gift-Aid-no-date.pdf](#)

CHANGE OF MASS VENUE

That the 5.00pm Mass on Tuesday 21 December will take place in the Crypt Chapel.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

After a period of consultation the decision has been taken to discontinue the use of the Offertory Envelopes Scheme for donations at Mass. The use of the envelopes has declined significantly as different methods of donating have become available and the demand is not sufficient to continue their use. A stock of White Gift Aid Envelopes will be available in both the Cathedral and Crypt on the donation boxes if anyone wishes to use one of these. For further information on ways to donate please get in touch with Amanda Testo our Finance Officer, you can phone 0151 709 9222 or email a.testo@metcathedral.org.uk

CATHEDRAL GUIDES AND WELCOMERS

We have been delighted with the uptake! There is one vacancy on Thursday and one on Friday, with two on a Saturday afternoon. So, if you want to be based at one of our welcome desks or move about as a guide, or both, we'd love to hear from you: Deacon Paulp.mannings@rcaol.org.uk

MIDNIGHT MASS

No passes are being given out for the Car Park – it will be first-come- first-served.

PLEASE NOTE

That the Lutyens Crypt and Treasury will be closed to visitors from Monday 10 January – Wednesday 2 February 2022. 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.

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 homes throughout this Christmas season.

Last week's collection: **£987.36**

Keep in touch



Be the first to hear about Cathedral news, services and events. Please visit liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk/sign-up

Stay Connected

Join our online community



Golden Book Office

The Golden Book office is currently closed. We are still accepting requests which will be dealt with as soon as we can. Please email us at enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk.



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

Open Monday – Saturday: First Admission: 10am, Last Admission: 3.30pm

Crypt Admission Charges: £5 Adult, £12 Family (2 adults + 2 children)