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Manchester Cathedral News

Dec/Jan
2010/11

Free

70th anniversary of the
Manchester & Salford blitz



Christmas 2010





Dean's Corner

Peace- local c



WWW

The Cathedral's new website is now live. Designed with the help of the Cathedral community, under the supervision of our Director of Communications, the new site includes a search box, easy menus and the facility for congregation members to sign up for the new Cathedral e-news.

More features will be added in the months ahead so keep checking and sign-up for e-news as soon as you can.

www.manchestercathedral.org



Christmas Carol Sing-Along

Make sure you pop in to the Christmas carol Sing-Along, you can stay as long as you want and it's a great chance to sing carols. 20th December 12.15-1.45

www.manchestercathedral.org



By The Dean

WE ARE IN the season of celebrating the coming of Jesus the Prince of Peace at Christmas. The Lord is God of justice, mercy and peace.

The apostle Paul calls on the followers of Christ to live at peace with one another and to work for peace in our world. The mysterious priest of God Most High is first King of Righteousness and then King of Peace, implying that working for righteousness and justice is the way to build peace in our world.

Without justice and fairness in our society and global situation between the nations there will be no peace that lasts. So as Christians we are called by God to work for a world that is just, fair, compassionate and inclusive. We are called to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, care for the victims of disease and poverty, as we prepare for the acceptable year of the Lord's favour to come. Christmas is not simply about shopping for gifts for our loved ones and friends and a splendid



-making in communities

meal around the table. It is about God who comes among us in a state of vulnerability, identifying with those who are lost and alienated, and to invite all people to a different path in this life – towards a relationship of peace with God, and into a new way of relating to our fellow men and women in the world.

Over the past year I have been convening a small group of religious and civic leaders including representatives from the police, fire service and the city council to address the serious issue of hate crimes in Manchester.

⊕ *“...we need to learn about different communities and faiths...”*

In 2009 two thousand incidents of hate crime were reported to the police. These included crimes based on race, sexuality, disability, gender, and religion. Our task is to be educated about these matters which affect all the people of our city and boroughs, to help educate our communities, and to encourage people to report these crimes to the police.

We also need to be alert to the experiences of people who are members of religions or communities other than our own. If we are to build peace in our local communities then we must ensure that all our people, regardless of race, culture, religion, etc. are not harmed in any way. We must also ensure that our religious institutions and buildings are not damaged by people because they have issues with a particular religion.

We are well aware that conflicts in other parts of the world affect relationships in our local communities. This does not mean that we stop campaigning for justice over these world issues. We should campaign for justice whilst at the same time ensuring that particular communities are not alienated because of race or religion. Each time a conflict takes place a mosque or synagogue gets attacked somewhere in this country and in Manchester. Or a church in Pakistan or Iraq gets attacked. We must support each other by speaking out against such attacks based on hate.

You will be aware that our Cathedral was at the receiving end of vocal protest by far right groups during the recent elections to the European Parliament. Recently serious violence occurred in Leicester when far right groups marched in the city. This also happened in Manchester and Bradford. I suspect these will continue, thereby disturbing the relationships in our multi-religious, multi-racial communities.

I want to suggest to you that we need to learn about different communities and faiths – knowledge and friendships build understanding and combats ignorance on which most hate crimes are based. I also want to ask that should you, or someone you know, experience an attack on their personal property or their religious establishment, that you have these reported to the police. Also, continue to campaign for more effective ways of addressing hate crimes in our local communities. In this way we will be building community cohesion and building understanding, acceptance of difference, and peace as Jesus teaches us.

May God richly bless you and your loved ones during the holy season of Christ’s birth.



Christmas in Vietnam

AS MY FLIGHT with Singapore Airlines landed in Hanoi Airport, capital of Vietnam, in December 2008, I wondered what kind of Christmas I was about to experience in the officially Communist Republic of Vietnam, whose main religion is Buddhism.

I was going to spend Christmas with my family who had just moved to Hanoi from Cairo to take up new teaching posts at the United Nations' International School. They could not afford to fly home for Christmas as was usual due to expenses incurred in the removal.

During the journey from the airport I noticed many red silk banners hanging from posts along the main roads advertising an exhibition of the "Sacraments". That is strange, I thought. I didn't know that Buddhists had sacraments.

When I arrived at my daughter and son-in-law's home the Christmas tree was up and Alicia (aged 5) and Emily (aged 3) were of course very excited about Santa's visit. My daughter's colleagues had taken her shopping to a 'Christmas Street' where anything to do with the Christmas festival could be purchased. She had even found religious Advent calendars.

"I noticed many red silk banners hanging from posts along the main roads..."

When we were out and about, it was very amusing to see Christmas trees, fully decorated, being delivered on the back of motorbikes, with decorations dangling in the breeze.

The Vietnamese celebrate their New Year, 'Tet', in late January or early February when all employees have to be given double salaries and six days holiday. For this, too, they have a Tree in their homes. (The 'Tet' tree is a peach tree.) And again, at the time of this festival, decorated trees are delivered on motor bikes.

By Pauline Dimond

On Christmas Day, my son-in-law had booked lunch at a French hotel. Father Christmas arrived and gave all the children a gift, and then to our surprise a Vietnamese girls' choir, dressed in white silk dresses with red cloaks trimmed with fur, sang a selection of Christmas carols and songs.

On Boxing Day we went sightseeing to the recently opened 'Museum of Ethnology' where I discovered that the exhibition advertising the Sacraments was in fact an informative display about Roman Catholicism.

As you will gather from this article, Vietnamese people are very tolerant towards other faiths. It is wonderful that our two countries have this same tolerance and welcome to other faiths and even share a decorated Tree to celebrate one of their main festivals.



Ethical Reflection

Shared values that bind us together

Jennifer Murray

AS A PAGAN I do not often feel comfortable sitting in a church, but recently in my new role as 'aunt' to my best friend's son, I watched in awe as he was christened.

The contentment I felt seeing this child I care for so dearly, welcomed into a loving community reminded me that this day was about the values that bind people together, and not about the beliefs that might sometimes divide them.

The trust my friends put in the godparents and in me as Izaak's chosen aunt, to guide him through life, comes from their faith that religion is not necessarily what makes us morally good.

“Unfaltering faith in our convictions takes great strength...”

Our moral beliefs begin with gut feelings of right and wrong, and they grow as we develop the ability to see the grey that lies between black and white.

Unfaltering faith in our convictions takes great strength, but we can only experience true compassion if we celebrate our shared values regardless of our religious beliefs. I am a practising witch, but still find solace in many Buddhist and Christian concepts. Maybe this makes me less of a pagan, but I hope that it also makes me a better and more moral person.

When she wrote this reflection, Jennifer Murray was a Graduate Management Trainee at Leeds Metropolitan University, which first published this reflection.

The Demonic in Modern Literature and Culture

Ewan Fernie
Shakespeare Institute,
Stratford,
University of Birmingham



7pm 18th January, 2011
Manchester Cathedral.

For more details contact Canon Andrew Shanks
canon.shanks@manchestercathedral.org
0161 833 2220 for more details

A FESTIVAL OF

Brass

1ST JANUARY 2011
7pm
Manchester Cathedral

TICKETS
£12.50
& £19.50



For tickets call

Bridgewater Hall Box Office on 0161 907 9000
Manchester Cathedral Visitor Centre on 0161 835 4030

www.brighthouseandrastrickband.com



Be a Part of It

I AM PLEASED to be able to report that in October we secured £133,701.31 in funding. We currently have over 100 one-to-one approaches being made to individuals, together with eight further applications to trusts and foundations.

Dinner

We held a fundraising dinner in the Cathedral during October which was hosted by the Dean and Bishop of Manchester. Following this event, the Stoller Charitable Trust has committed £100,000 towards the new Organ, and I hope to be able to announce more positive outcomes in the coming weeks.

Christmas Market

The Cathedral will once again participate in the Manchester Christmas Markets. See page 10.

Organ

In the coming weeks we will soon have a recommendation on the design and costs of the new organ (see concept drawings to the right). Once the design is agreed, planning permission will be sought from the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England.

Lighting

The Lighting Task Group has now been established which will have an impact on the internal and external lighting, light fabric, and enhance the Cathedral. We are also working closely with partners and stakeholders regarding the planned closure of Victoria Street and taking forward representations for vehicle and disabled access through the pedestrian area, especially for large services.

Website

The Bishop of Manchester will launch a new Website at a meeting of the Diocesan Synod on Saturday 20th November, see page 2.

Campaign Finance Group

We welcome Philip Deakin, who will Chair the Campaign Finance Group. He will be identifying further financial expertise for the Development Project and developing financial procedures related to the income generation and spend of the Development Project.

By Anthony O'Connor



Total raised **598,004.51**

(cash, pledges and declared legacies)

Unrestricted Income	Raised	£ 25,999.65
Restricted Income		
Organ	Raised	£ 381,282.81
Roof	Raised	£ 512.82
CVC	Raised	£ 40,886.40
Choir Stalls	Raised	£ 14,110.01
Lighting	Raised	£ 2,712.82
Chorister Funding	Raised	£ 102,500.00
Music endowment/legacies	Raised	£ 30,000.00



A concept drawing for our new organ which, after 70 years, will reinstate the cathedral organ to its former glory (See page 7 article for an image of the pre-Blitz organ).



Blitz feature

THE BLITZ

By Michael
Powell

As we mark the 70th anniversary of the Manchester blitz, it's a good time to note that a new unpublished account of the bombing of Manchester and of the Cathedral has recently come to light.

The account of the blitz of 23 December 1940 appears in a diary of the Second World War compiled by Ernest Bosdin Leech (1875-1950), a Manchester medic and Hon. Physician at the Infirmary.

Leech, a resident of Victoria Park, was nearly seventy when the war began. A consummate family historian and diarist – his diary of his service as a medical officer during the First World War runs to 7 volumes – Leech, like so many others who had survived the horrors of the First World War, began the diary with almost disbelief that another was had started so soon: 'Little did I think, when the "Great War" ended, that I should live to see another.'

His diary records news of military defeats and advances as well as the minutiae of daily life in Manchester. His account of the night of 23 December reads as follows...

"It has been a terrible night for Manchester, and it is only just come to us what has been done. The Free Trade hall is a shell, and the big warehouse behind it across Windmill Street is the same. It was smoking as I passed it and they were pouring water into it.

The Royal Exchange has also gone; I am told also the Victoria Hotel and parts of the Cathedral. Deansgate is badly hit, I'm told. The building between Lewis's and the Piccadilly garden is also a shell; also a big warehouse in Portland Street near Princes Street (left side looking down).

The building across Mosley Street from the Art gallery, that was the place one paid taxes is also burnt out. Lots of the streets have water pipes along



Right: images of the pre-Blitz Cathedral interior



Appeal poster

them. So much for the town. The big bang last night was an explosion at the Longsight entrance of the Park, some 250 yards away, which knocked down about half the large house on the left near the entrance. The part behind is desolation and the street, Plymouth Grove, full of debris.

They are demolishing the big house just to the left along Plymouth Grove. About half the windows in Stockport Road are broken and, all along, there are heaps of broken glass. In lots of places main roads are blocked and one has to go by devious ways. Oxford Road and Stockport Road are both blocked. Of the hospitals, the Jewish and Hope have been knocked out. We have a lot of the Jewish patients at Crumpsall.

I hear that Giles, the head of Hope Hospital, his wife and the Matron are under the debris, also that McCrea, his wife and two children are killed. Livingstone Street, near the Infirmary is knocked

“...It has been a night for Me

out and our Verger, the new one, is killed. It's hard to think it's not a dream; our Free Trade Hall, our Royal Exchange, and our Cathedral. Pray God we may win this war.”

The horror revealed

The following day, Leech drove through the town surveying the damage. The round trip from Victoria Park to Victoria Station took over three hours.

“My chief view was of broken windows, occasional burnt out shops and heaps, for I had to keep my eyes on the preceding car and on the glass in the road. The whole way along it was the same; but what glimpses I did get of the bigger buildings was sad; huge buildings all burnt out, some of them still smouldering and occasionally flames rising out of them. I saw the Cathedral which has been knocked about, but I could not see the damage, the outline was not so bad...”

As a mainstay of the Parish Register Society, Leech was worried that the parish registers had been destroyed. In fact the registers survived partly because many of them had been removed from their home above the West Porch and had been dispersed and stored in the suburban homes of various parish officials and members of congregation. Almost two months after the bombing Leech paid a visit to the Cathedral as part of a group of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, to see the damage for himself. The visit was led by Canon Woolnough, on behalf of the Cathedral...



Some of those who worked to restore the cathedral

een a terrible Manchester...”

“February 19th, Wednesday. [1941] The chief excitement today has been a visit I made with the Antiquarian Society to the Cathedral ruins. The Derby Chapel (Regimental Chapel) and the Lady Chapel have been blown all to bits. All the glass is gone throughout the whole building. The bomb fell some ten yards away in the street at the North East corner.

The registers were not damaged. The woodwork, which is the glory of the place, is damaged but repairable. The old Father Smith organ is shattered to fragments. The big organ is badly damaged, but can be put right after the war. Some of the roof has been shifted bodily a few inches.

“...pieces of the
organ scattered all
over the place...”

The inside roof is very damaged. Our family brass is not touched. The inside is now very light with absent windows and this shows up the beauty of the Gothic arches. Woolnough who showed us round was especially pleased that the marble pulpit and reredos are damaged, for he was already plotting to get rid of them. The inside looked very desolate with pieces of the organ scattered all over the place, but Woolnough said they will hold service there next Wednesday at 11.0 a.m. It will be a big push to do so.”

continued on page 12



Blitz feature





Devotional

Saint of the month

By Canon Albert Radcliffe

NO ONE IN the early church had the faintest idea when Jesus was born and occasionally resorted to a variety of educated guesses. In any case, it wasn't important. The important feast was Easter which is still the most important day in the Christian year, though in popular culture it has long been overtaken by December 25th, the date first mentioned in a calendar of 354 AD as Jesus' birth day.

In ancient Rome the calendar as it had been reformed by Julius Caesar gave 25th December as the conventional date of the winter solstice. It was three days out!

“Old pagan associations of Christmas caused it to be banned in 1646 by the Puritan Parliament...”

In 274 AD, the Emperor Aurelian declared that the day *Natalis Solis Invicti*, the birthday of the Unconquerable Sun, the great god who guaranteed the survival of the Empire. They paid little attention to this pagan feast, until the heretical Christians known as Arians declared that in the Holy Trinity, the Son was inferior to the Father. In response, Orthodox Christians declared that as the Sun of Righteousness, a reference to Malachi 4:2, Jesus' birthday could be most appropriately kept on December 25th.

This made it possible for pagan sun worshippers, like the Emperor Constantine, to convert more easily to Christianity. The new festival did not spread rapidly and many old pagan connections remained; for example the writer Godfridus, in his *Knowledge of things unknown*, said that if Christmas fell on a Saturday, which it does in 2010, then, 'Winter shall be dark, snow great, fruit

plenteous, the spring windy, summer evil...oats shall be dear, men wax sick and bees die!'

Old pagan associations of Christmas caused it to be banned in 1646 by the Puritan Parliament. John Evelyn, the diarist records that in 1657 he was arrested in church on Christmas Day and questioned. As he went up to receive his communion, 'these wretched miscreants, held their muskets against us as we came up to receive the sacred elements, as if they would have shot us at the Altar.'

There was great rejoicing therefore when in 1660, Charles II returned and with him Christmas.



Christmas stall

The Cathedral is once again participating in the Manchester Christmas Markets. If you are visiting the Markets this year, pop in and say hello. The markets are open from 18 November to 21 December.

Christmas tree lights

The Cathedral's Christmas tree will have its lights switched on following evensong at 6.30pm on 1 December. Why not combine your visit to the Manchester Christmas Markets with the event?



Cathedral News

If you would like to contribute an article or notice or if you would like to receive Cathedral News by post or please email to karen.scott@manchestercathedral.org or call her on 0161 833 2220. Cathedral News is printed by Design 2 Print, designed by the Cathedral Communications Office, editorial by the Cathedral News Group.

Issues

Any member of the congregation wishing to raise any issue regarding the Cathedral or Cathedral life, except that of a spiritual, pastoral or personal nature, should in the first instance contact the Cathedral Community Committee. A letter can be handed to the Cathedral Office, any of the Vergers or Community Committee Members. Email to: cathedralinfo@talktalk.net

Calls can be made to the Cathedral Office 0161 833 2220, or a personal visit can be arranged. Details of the Community Committee members and minutes from Community Committee meetings are displayed on the notice board in the welcome area.

The Office

Manchester Cathedral, Victoria Street,
Manchester M3 1SX Tel:0161 833 2220
Fax:0161 839 6218
Email:office@manchestercathedral.org
www.manchestercathedral.org

Visitor Centre

10 Cateaton Street, Manchester, M3 1SQ.
Tel: 0161 835 4030-Fax: 0161 834 5397
peter.mellor@manchestercathedral.org
Gift Shop: 9am to 4.30pm, (Mon-Sat)
Restaurant: 9.30am to 4pm. (Mon-Sat)
Conference facilities available, contact the Visitor Centre Manager, Peter Mellor.

The Booth Centre

The Booth Centre is a drop-in and activity centre for homeless people which is based in Manchester Cathedral. The Booth Centre Co-ordinator is Amanda Croome: amanda.croome@ntlworld.com Tel: 0161 835 2499 www.boothcentre.org.uk

Mary and Joseph

By Rachel Mann

And they are coming
not footsore, cursing a lazy donkey
but hidden, stifled and breathless
in the jack-hammer hold of a container truck.

And their memories writhing
the memories of fists and shouting and running
and the eyes of soldiers the veins of their eyes
the crack of rifle butt on bone and the screaming
memories writhing like eels in a bucket.

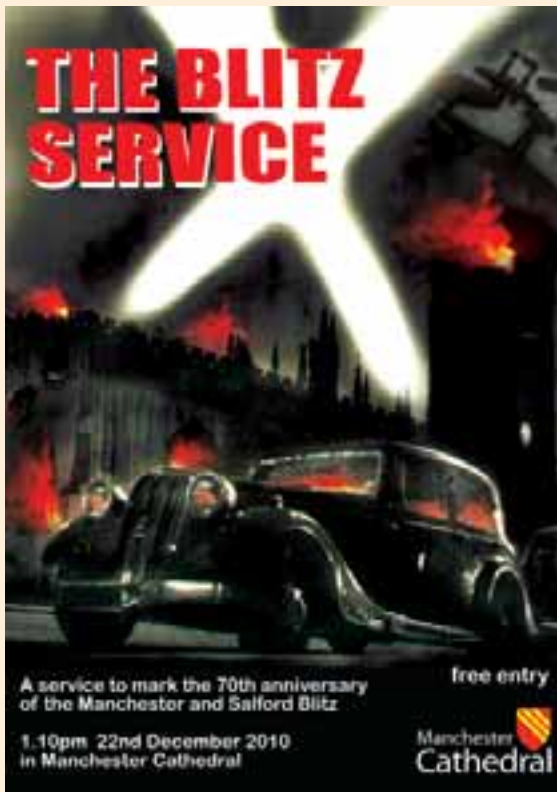
And they are coming
clasping each other, soothing and rocking
and chattering prayers
hot as fingers forced into a fire.

And the child within kicking and bloating
scratching her insides and wanting out
and her wanting it out and wanting out
of the pitch and roll of the steel belly
her soft insides aching for the promised land to come.

Cathedral history: a talk

An interesting talk, in the programme of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18th, 18.45 at the Friends Meeting House, on Mount Street, by the Town Hall: Dr. Lucy Wooding on Manchester Cathedral: From Foundation to Reformation, 1421—1558.

Dr. Wooding is writing the chapter covering that period in the definitive new history of the Cathedral that is currently underway.



Your invitation to The Blitz Service

By Canon Andrew Shanks

We will be commemorating the Manchester and Salford Blitz with a special service at 1.10 pm on Wednesday 22nd December, which will be attended by representatives of many of the organisations and families that were affected.

All are welcome (see advert on the right).

An Appeal

After Coventry, Manchester Cathedral was the most badly hit of all English cathedrals, and it required extensive restoration work, extending well into the 1950s. So we are putting out an appeal to see if there are any people still around who were part of the team that accomplished the restoration work; or their descendants. Because we would like to honour them, at a little reception after the service.

Page 12 Cathedral News

Blitz feature

continued from page 9

Immediately after the bombing, Herbert Worthington, the Cathedral architect, took the decision that the Cathedral could be rebuilt and the statue of Chetham was moved from its place at the east end of the north aisle of the choir to its new home in the North West corner.

Though some repairs were carried out to the damaged statue, it still shows the marks of the blitz, notably a sizeable hole to Chetham's left knee, and serves as an obscure yet permanent memorial and reminder of the damage that the Cathedral suffered some seventy years ago.





Christmas

at Manchester Cathedral

Sunday 28th November

Advent Procession, 5.30pm

Saturday 18th December

Family Carols Concert, 7.30pm

(tickets £8/£6 - call 0161 833 2220)

Monday 20th December

Christmas Carol Sing-along, 12.15 to 1.45pm

(Informal - just turn up - stay as long as you like)

Wednesday 22nd December

Service of Nine Lessons & Carols, 7.30pm

Christmas Eve

Blessing of the Crib
with Children's Nativity, 12noon

First Communion of
Christmas, 11.30pm

Christmas Day

Sung Eucharist, 10.30am

(Incense will be used)

For other services & events see oveleaf

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The Diary

December

Wednesday 1st December
6.30 pm Christmas Tree Lights Switch on
Thursday 2nd December
7.30 pm Children's Society Service
Friday 3rd December
7.00 pm 'I Am Klood' Concert (Sold out)
Saturday 4th December
7.30 pm Manchester University Choir Concert
Sunday 5th December
1.00 pm / 2.30 pm / 4.00 pm
St Ann's Hospice Services
Tuesday 7th December
12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group (Quire)
7.30 pm Medequip4Kids Concert
Wednesday 8th December
12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
7.30 pm Action for Children Concert
Thursday 9th December
12 noon Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer
7.00 pm NSPCC Concert
Friday 10th December
7.00 pm Henshaw's Society for Blind
People Concert
Sunday 12th December
3.00 pm St John Ambulance Service
Monday 13th December
11.00 am / 2.15 pm / 7.00 pm
MEN Carol Concerts
Tuesday 14th December
7.30 pm Addiction Dependency Solutions
Carol Concert
Wednesday 15th December
7.30 pm Trinity High School Service
Thursday 16th December
7.30 pm Greater Manchester Police Force
Carol Concert
Friday 17th December
7.00 pm Chethams' School of Music
Christmas Music
Saturday 18th December
7.30 pm Family Carols Concert with the Cathedral's
Voluntary Choir
Sunday 19th December
1.30 pm Star for Christmas (Age Concern)
7.30 pm 'Christmas on Broadway'
with the Manchester Show Choir in aid of Christies'

Monday 20th December
12.15 pm Cathedral 'Sing Along' -informal, just
stay as long as you like
7.15 pm SSAFA Service
Wednesday 22nd December
12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
1.10 pm Service to mark the 70th Anniversary of
the Manchester & Salford Blitz (see page 12)
7.30 pm Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve
12 noon Blessing of the Crib with Children's
Nativity
11.30 pm First Communion of Christmas
Saturday 25th December - Christmas Day
10.30 am Christmas Day Sung Eucharist
(Incense will be used).

January

Saturday 1st January
7.00pm Brighouse and Rastrick Band Concert
Wednesday 5th January
12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
Thursday 6th January - Epiphany
5.30 pm Sung Eucharist (Incense will be used)
Sunday 9th January
4.00 pm Epiphany Procession (begins at St Ann's)
Tuesday 11th January
12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group (Quire)
1.10 pm Chethams' School of Music, concert
Tuesday 18th January
7.00 pm Theological Society: 'The Demonic in
Modern Literature and Culture'
Wednesday 19th January
12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
Tuesday 25th January
1.10 pm Chethams' School of Music, concert
Sunday 30th January
10.30 am Sung Eucharist celebrating the 25th
Anniversary of Bishop Nigel's Consecration
2.00 pm ATC Service

*Changes to regular midweek services

Monday 27th Dec to Monday 3rd Jan-Matins &
Holy Communion will be said at 11 & 11.15 am.
Monday 27th Dec to Friday 7th Jan-Evening
Prayer will be said at 4.30 pm.



Contacts

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 Canon Adrian Rhodes, office@manchestercathedral.org

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Midweek services*

Midweek services		
Morning Prayer	9.00am	Monday-Saturday
Holy Communion	1.10pm	Monday - Friday
Holy Communion	9.15am	Saturday
Evening Prayer	5.30pm	Monday & Friday
Evensong	5.30pm	Tues/ Wed/ Thurs
	3.30pm	Saturday
Sunday Services		
Matins	8.45am	
Holy Communion (1662)	9.00am	
Sung Eucharist	10.30am	
Evensong	5.30pm	

Congregation

The following people can be contacted via the Cathedral Office on 0161 833 2220:
Churchwardens & Stewards: (Church Wardens and Stewards details are posted in the welcome area, or by email, cathedralinfo@talktalk.net)
Flowers: Helen Bamping; Friends of Manchester Cathedral: Pauline Dimond ; Captain of the Bell Tower: Roland Eccles.
Also-Chetham's School of Music 0161 834 9644
National Rail Enquiries (24 hour) 08457 48 49
50 (Nearest station is Victoria), Mantax (Taxi Service) 0161 230 3333, Taxifone (Taxi Service) 0161 236 2322



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