

November 2011

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Manchester
Cathedral

News

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'The Church exists for mission'

By The Dean



'We exist to worship God in Christ and to reach out to the world with the good news of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit'

The German theologian Hans Küng wrote a book many years ago entitled 'The Church'. His basic premise was that 'The Church exists for mission'. By this he meant that we exist to worship God in Christ and to reach out to the world with the good news of Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. Of course, our Lord said this in his earthly ministry. And the disciples, who include you and me, are called to go out and teach and proclaim the good news to all humankind.

A bit of good news from Manchester Cathedral is that we shall be engaging in some serious mission outreach of our own in May 2012. A team from the Scargill Community in Yorkshire led by Bishop Chris Edmondson will be working with us to share the good news of Christ in creative engagement with others.

We hope to go out to some of our schools, work with the business community in the city, and have an evening with Adrian Plass who is a well known and internationally renowned speaker, comedian and missionary. In fact, I first heard Adrian Plass in South Africa many years ago when he spoke to a packed audience. I look forward to hearing him in our own Cathedral next year and I am sure we will pack the Cathedral with people from all over the diocese.

The mission will take place from 8 – 13 May 2012. It takes lots of time to plan. Do get these dates into your diary and please remember the mission in your prayers as we continue to seek the Lord's guidance and blessing.

In his love,
Rogers Govender

An enigmatic sculpture

By Andrew Shanks



A rather mysterious object is currently on display under the Cathedral tower.

This is a piece entitled 'Drained 2011', by Adeela Suleman, an artist who lives in Karachi, Pakistan, the city where she was born in 1970. It has been commissioned as part of the 'Asia Triennial Manchester 11', an exhibition of art from South Asia in 17 different venues across the city, from October 1st – November 27th.

Adeela makes enigmatic sculptures from ordinary everyday objects, utensils that she buys in the seething bazaars of her city: in this case, stainless steel drain covers, and large screws.

She made this work back home, but with Manchester Cathedral in mind. And she was thinking, she says, partly of the circular mazes to be found in some churches: a symbol of humanity's quest for spiritual meaning in life. One might read the work as a melancholy symbol, representing a society in which the quest for meaning has become impenetrable, scrunched up, and bristling; with life forever draining away from it. Much of her work is an oblique commentary on the violent turmoil of contemporary Pakistan.

And Karachi is an especially tormented city, full of social and religious conflict.

At the same time, though, to me it looks like a strange, bright sea creature; a play of glittering light; full of mystery. As if the whole cathedral was an underwater world: a place in which to be utterly immersed in a history of prayer. It's a physical metaphor for experiences of fear and anxiety, the significance of which is however potentially transformed by being brought into this prayerful context – so that the drain covers then start to speak of washing, and spiritual purification.

Art in a gallery means one thing, art in a church means something else. (How sad it is to see religious icons displayed in museums!). The church context ideally points beyond the commercialism of the 'art world'. Prayer is all about being present: attending to the sheer presence of God. Art re-presents. It represents things, ideas, or emotional states. But put it in a place that's all about an intensified sense of simply being-present, and it may, so to speak, shine in a new way: drawing fresh energy from its sacred surroundings.

Andrew Shanks

Farewell to Michael and Karen

We are very sorry to lose Michael Scott, our head verger, and his wife Karen, who also did a great job in the Cathedral Office. They had always been intending to end up back in Nottingham, where they were before coming to Manchester. And (sadly for us) the ideal job came up for Michael at the city centre, St. Peter's, there – a splendid medieval pile, as you see.

We wish them both all the best

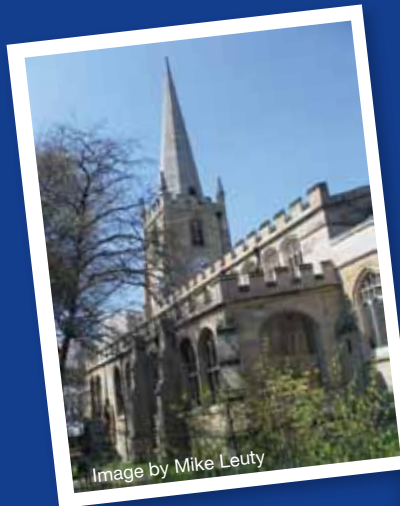


Image by Mike Leuty

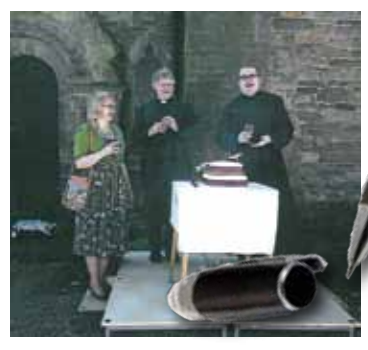
Greetings from Nottingham

Michael, Karen, Felicity & Philippa Scott would like to say a huge 'Thank You' to you all for the good wishes, cards and generous gifts received when we left Manchester Cathedral to return to live in Nottingham.

After a hectic few weeks Michael has started his new job and is settling in well. Felicity & Philippa have returned for their 2nd year at University and Karen continues to work in the position she has held for many years.

Despite the house being full of packing boxes, we already feel very settled in our new home. We will miss our friends and colleagues in Manchester very much and hope to keep in touch and visit from time to time.

With our Love and Best Wishes



Here, also, is a little snap, by Barbara Evans, of Nick and Liz Munday, at Nick's ordination.

St Denys spotted near the Cathedral!



If you've been downstairs in the Cathedral Visitors' Centre recently, you're sure to have noticed a few changes. The basement is now home to St Denys Bookshop, an independent store providing theological books and church supplies run by Penny Glover and Sue Usher.

They started the bookshop in 1982 in the old Corn Exchange. Damage inflicted on that building after the 1996 IRA bombing forced Penny and Sue to relocate to Oak Street, on what they anticipated to be a temporary basis. Now, 15 years later, the "God Shop" (as Oak Street residents affectionately called it) will be more at the heart of the Christian community – and a lot easier for people to find!

So what has been involved in the move? Packing up and transporting stock; gutting and painting the new location; moving in fittings and shelves; displaying stock in an accessible and attractive manner; ensuring that customers and suppliers know about the change of location – all to be done at one of the busiest times of the year whilst trying to maintain a service for as long as logistically possible. Change inevitably brings its own challenges; being identified with a larger entity may involve some adjustment after years of being a small, independent outlet. However, massive upheaval aside, Penny and Sue feel positive about the move. They are glad to be wanted, and are excited about becoming part of the wider mission of the Cathedral and of churches across the city.



Sadly, there are fewer and fewer bookshops in the city so Penny and Sue aim to stick around for as long as possible. Their vision for the bookshop is to serve the needs of the community of people who have been coming regularly to the shop over the years, and to introduce incidental browsers to the brave new world of theology! As far as stock is concerned, Penny and Sue hope to offer everything that people need to support their ministry. Unfortunately, there aren't endless amounts of space in the basement but they will endeavour to find all the stock that people require and to meet any need as best they can.

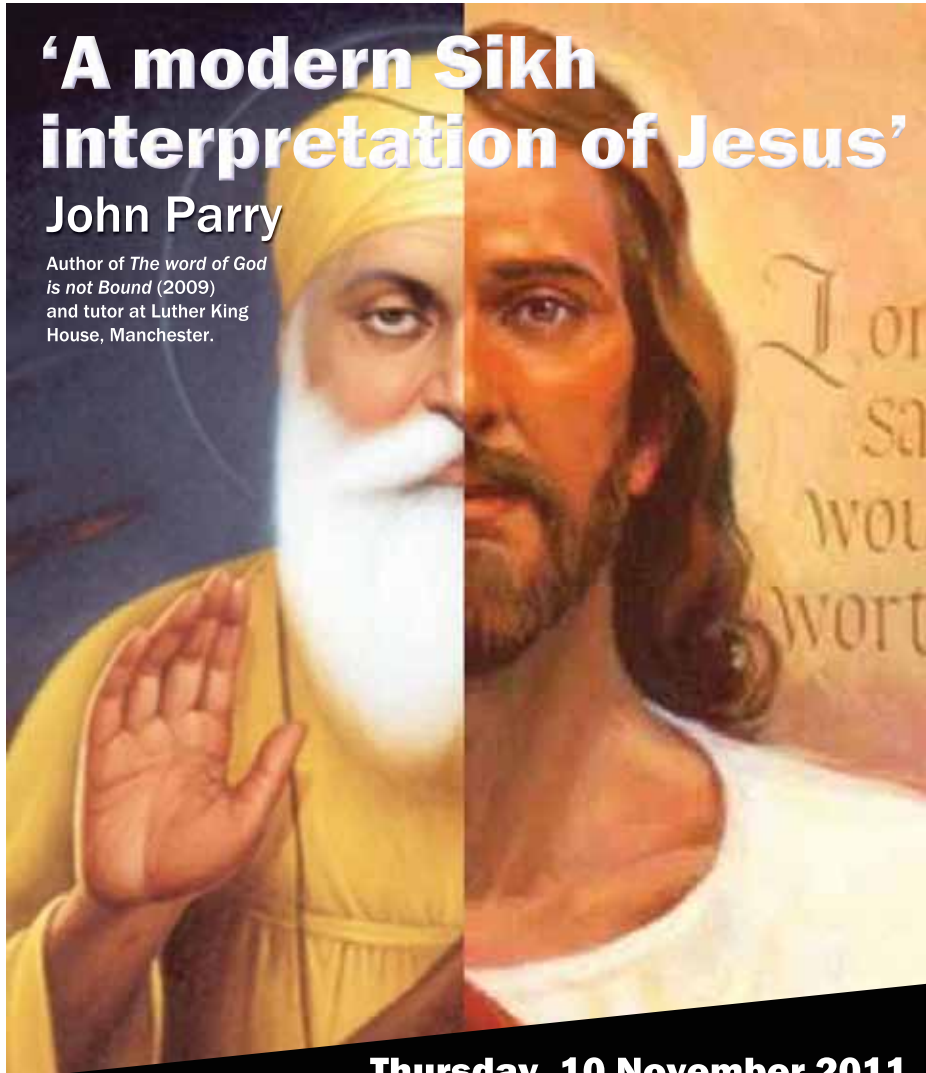
So next time you're in the visitors' centre, why not nip down to welcome our new neighbours and browse the excellent stock that St Denys' has to offer? It could be the start of a wonderful new relationship!

Rhiannon Jones

'A modern Sikh interpretation of Jesus'

John Parry

Author of *The word of God is not Bound* (2009) and tutor at Luther King House, Manchester.



Thursday, 10 November 2011
7pm

**Manchester Cathedral
Refreshments and Bookstall**

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

Book Review

A Complete Parish Priest

Peter Green (1871—1961)

This is the title of a new book, written for the Anglo-Catholic History Society, by Bishop Frank Sargeant, former Bishop of Stockport and now an assistant bishop in the Diocese of Manchester. It's an investigation and commemoration of the life and writings of Canon Peter Green, once described as 'the greatest parish priest of the Twentieth Century', who died 50 years ago, on 17th November 1961. Peter Green was a Prayer Book Catholic who ministered at Sacred Trinity and then for many years at St. Philip, Salford, whilst also, at the same time, serving for 50 years as a residentiary canon of Manchester Cathedral.

The social conditions have changed considerably in those parishes in Trinity Ward where poverty, drinking and gambling were then rife. However, as Green asserted, the Christian Faith is a constant to be applied to everyday life. So the book endeavours to trace what Green said in his 38 books about Catholic doctrine, the devotional life, and Christian living, in the hope that readers will find a source to deepen their own spirituality.

The author draws on Green's *Artifex* articles published in the *Manchester Guardian* for over 40 years and his deposited papers in Manchester Cathedral archives.

The Bishop of Manchester writes:

'Peter Green is a legend in the Diocese of Manchester, and a figure, held up as an example, whose writings featured in my confirmation preparation long ago. So I welcome this investigation into his integrated approach to faith and life in his 38 books and his *Artifex* articles in the *Manchester Guardian*.

His writings emphasise the need for the Anglo-Catholic faith and devotion to go hand in hand with evangelism, resulting in personal commitment to Our Lord.

I believe that despite the change in social conditions Green's advice about the importance of the parish ministry is relevant today, as is his warning of the danger of secularisation to both Church and Nation. I commend this book as a spiritual resource'.

Nigel Manchester.



The book is available at £15+£3 p&p from The Anglo-Catholic History Society, G.B. Skelly, 24 Cloudesley Square, London N1 0HN
skelly785@btinternet.com and St Denys Bookshop.

Launch event

On Thursday November 17th, the 50th anniversary of Peter Green's death, the Cathedral Choir will be off to St. Philip's Salford to sing evensong at 5.30pm: so linking the two churches that figured so largely in his life. Bishop Frank will preach. And this occasion will also be the launch of his book.

A week in the life of a Chorister



You don't have to attend the Cathedral on a regular basis to have seen and heard our Chorister. Singing at services five times a week, the Choristers cause many visitors to stand and listen in awe as they rehearse in the Quire before a service and the contribution they make to the life and worship of the Cathedral is immense. But what is life really like as a Chorister at Manchester Cathedral? They tell us, in their own words.

"I wake up early to get a train at 7.30am to go to school at Chetham's School of Music. We have mostly academic lessons in the morning, but before that we have a practice session. The practice sessions are for our instruments; everybody has to play the piano but some people play other instruments as well. We also have practice sessions in the middle of the day.

We have to walk up and down Long Millgate a lot! The Chorister rehearsals always take place at the Cathedral; we wait on the school yard and members of staff come over from the Cathedral to collect us. At lunchtime we have an hour for Cathedral practice then we go back to school for more academic lessons.

In the evening at 3.30pm or 4.30pm (when everyone else goes home from school) we go back to the Cathedral to rehearse for evensong.

For most of us, when we got home we practice our instruments. After that we get to relax. Then the whole thing starts again! Our week doesn't stop on Friday though! We have yet another rehearsal and evensong on Saturday and then a sung Sunday service.

As a chorister you have a chance to do many things that you can't do at other schools, for instance there is an evensong which is broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and earlier this year we sang for the Duchess of Kent. For me, though, the most important evensong is when you get surpliced. Everybody gets to wear a cassock from the start, unlike surplices which you have to earn. We also sing at the big services like Christmas and Easter; these are tiring but fun.

Being a chorister is hard work but very rewarding; it's an amazing experience and you learn a lot from it. You get to sing lots of beautiful music and I enjoy being able to do the thing that I love so often. It feels like we are one big family because we spend so much time together".

Campaign Corner - Be a Part of it

Manchester Cathedral Volunteer Programme

We are very grateful to Salford City Council for the generous gift of £10,000 to support Lauren Bailey in the development of the new Manchester Cathedral Volunteer Programme.

Friends of Cathedral Music

Our deepest thanks go to the Friends of Cathedral Music for their recent donation of £25,000 towards the training of our choristers.

Medieval Manchester Project

As part of the Medieval Manchester project, the planned closure of Victoria Street will now take place from 29th January 2012 onwards and not from 1st November as initially indicated, in order to accommodate Christmas and January sales shopping.

Manchester Christmas Market

The Cathedral will once again operate a stall in Manchester's annual Christmas Market running from the 17th to the 21st of December.

Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Diane Johnston: 0161 881 7442 or email diane.johnston9@ntlworld.com

Cathedral Quiz Night

Another legendary Cathedral Quiz Night will take place on Thursday 1st of March at 7.00pm. Tickets cost £8.50 (hot-pot supper included).

Tickets are available from Edwin: 07867 595285 or email revrob8@aol.com

The Christmas Jethro Tull

Rock flautist Ian Anderson from Jethro Tull will be performing "The Christmas Jethro Tull" on the 19th of December 2011 at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available from www.musicglue.net/iananderson



Manchester Cathedral International Religious Poetry Competition

By Rachel Mann

The best poetry is precise, considered and without an idling word. At the same time, it is suggestive and capable of effects which draw us into the transcendent. As David Constantine notes, poetry is 'a widening of consciousness, an extension of humanity' and it invites us into both mystery and revelation.

It is a thrill then to discover in both the prize-winning and runner-up poems the qualities of mystery and revelation in high measure. The winning poem, 'Finbarr and the Serpent of Gougane Barra' in particular holds the search for truth and sense in brilliant tension with discovery and possibility.

We have been privileged to have the distinguished poet and critic Jeffrey Wainwright as our judge this year. He is a former professor of English at Manchester Metropolitan University and has an international reputation as a poet. He notes, 'As I read through the entries for the competition I found myself more and more attracted to those poems that contain an element of the mysterious, something not readily graspable'. He suggests that the winning poem, 'Finbarr and the Serpent of Gougane Barra', has that quality from the moment it asks its opening question, 'Did it exist?' He notes, 'It is unresolved till the last, perhaps not even then.'

It also contains narrative drama in its short spell, twisting first one way and then that. Moreover the poem is vivid throughout with the 'presence of the lake' simply but powerfully placed in the reader's eye. Finally the poem's sustained paradox maintains that mystery: 'I could not bear the certainty / of absence, emptiness' and the closing prayer for 'god // to coil around me' leaves the reader impressed but uncertain in that Finbarr's search for 'god' is described by an image that is at least in part negative, even hideous.'

The competition continues to attract entries from every part of the world and people from a wide variety of faith traditions and none. At a time when faith is liable to be stereotyped as small-minded and prosaic, the Cathedral Poetry Competition continues to demonstrate the poverty of that stereotype. Equally it consistently demonstrates that the best in 'religious poetry' sits comfortably alongside the best in poetic craft.

The Winning Poem:

Finbarr and the Serpent of Gougane Barra

*Did it exist?
For hours I'd scan the surface
Hope for a splash, a shadow in the water,
Anything
to puncture the mysterious.*

*At night I'd set the traps with squeaking bait.
But nothing came
except a badger and an otter.
Yet still I felt its presence by the lake.*

*At last, I snapped: I drove the serpent out
With curses shouts - I exorcised the beast
Along with every slithering scaly thought.*

*But soon ... I could not bear the certainty
Of absence, emptiness.
I headed east
To settle where the plains of marshes lie*

*And built a trap, a cave-like oratory;
And here I pray for god
to coil around me.*

James Harpur

Second Prize:

In Joel's Ward

*The male nurse comes in again, the faintest
pink of a new morning
catches his white tunic; his shoes squeak on
the polished floor.*

*'There, there, Mr Cohen. It's alright.
It's only another dream. Now you swallow this.
That's it. Take another sip of water -
Well done, man!'*

*I hear the snore of the fat man two beds away,
Mr Kaul lost his wife last week;
he'd collapsed in a heap, now sedated for the
night,
in a deep sleep, dreaming of her wearing those
silver earrings.*

*In the corner Mr Singh moans and turns,
rattles the bedrails, calling on some unknown
god
to bring a dagger and kill the demons.
I watch my drip, the relentless descent into my
arm.*

*My febrile head explodes and the lava bubbles.
I can clearly see Jesus on the lampshade now,
mopping the woman's brow. Simon Peter looks
on,
amazed at his own unbelief.*

*Wonders play on the ceiling, blood and fire,
pillars of smoke waft towards the nurses' desk,
covering their banter. Flames leap from their
notes.*

*There's a shadow on the sun now:
the curtains flutter, Pentecostal banners
ushering in the morning wind, the rattle of
trolleys,
the bleeps of machines, the call of the
breakfast lady,
as shrill as her childhood muezzin,
'Do you want a cup of drink? tea? coffee?'
The old men awake from the visions of the
night.*

*young Joel changes my sodden sheets.
whistling the same tune
- dreaming of that Jamaican beach
again.*

Martin Eggleton

An icon exhibition

Since the fall of Communism, the art of icon 'writing' in Eastern Europe has significantly revived. (In the case of icons, the proper term is 'writing' rather than 'painting'. The oddness of this serves to highlight the sharp contrast in attitude to religious art between the Western and the Eastern churches. They are still practising an ancient prayerful craft that predates both the glamour and the kitsch of the Renaissance.)

In countries such as Bulgaria and Romania new schools of young icon 'writers' have developed.

Last year, before Christmas, we hosted an exhibition of new Bulgarian and Romanian icons in the Cathedral Chapter House.

And this year we will be doing the same. The exhibition will run from November 19th – 30th.

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The Diary - November

Wednesday 2nd November

5.30pm *Requiem Eucharist of All Souls' Day.*

Friday 4th November

12noon *Memorial Service for Jimmy Gregor, former Chairman of Central Manchester Development Corporation*

Sunday 6th November

2.30pm *Church Lads' and Church Girls' Brigade 120th Anniversary Service and Regimental Parade*

Tuesday 8th November

12.30pm *Julian Prayer Group*

Wednesday 9th November

12.45pm *Turning of the Leaves*

Thursday 10th November

12noon *Mother's Union - Thursday Prayer*
7.00pm *John Parry, 'A modern Sikh interpretation of Jesus'. Manchester Theological Society Lecture*

Friday 11th November

10.45am *Duke of Lancaster's Regimental Remembrance Service*

Saturday 12th November

12noon *'Be a Chorister for a Day'. For boys and girls aged 7+ Places are limited and need to be booked in advance. Contact Katy Leese on Tel: 0161 833 2220 ext. 238 or email katy.leese@manchestercathedral.org*

Sunday 13th November

Services as usual

Monday 14th November

7.00pm *Anna Calvi concert. Tickets available from www.artistticket.com*

Tuesday 15th November

1.10pm *Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert*
1.30pm *Retired Clergy Association Meeting*
7.30pm *Diocesan celebration of the National Society bi-centenary*

Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th November

7.00pm *Wild Beasts concert. Tickets available from www.alt-tickets.co.uk. Please note: 16th has sold out.*

Friday 18th November

7.00pm *Turin Brakes - Perform The Optimist with Jersey Budd. Tickets from seetickets.com*

Saturday 19th November

11.00am *Coffee Concert by The Torelli String Quartet*
12noon *'Be a Chorister for a Day'. For boys and girls aged 7+. Places are limited and need to be booked in advance. Contact Katy Leese on Tel: 0161 833 2220 ext. 238 or email katy.leese@manchestercathedral.org*

Sunday 20th November

Services as usual

Wednesday 23rd November

12.45pm *Turning of the Leaves*

Thursday 24th November

10.00am *Mothers' Union Quiet Day*

Friday 25th November

10.30am & 1.30pm *St James' CE High School Anniversary Service* 8.00pm *Booth Centre Sleepout*

Saturday 26th November

10.30am *Come and Sing Haydn Maria Theresa Mass. To book contact Katy Leese on Tel: 0161 833 2220 ext. 238 or email katy.leese@manchestercathedral.org* 4.30pm *Come and Sing Concert*

Sunday 27th November

5.30pm *Candlelit Advent Procession*

Tuesday 29th November

12.30pm *Julian Prayer Group*
1.10pm *Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert*

Midweek services

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|-------------|
| Morning Prayer | 9.00am | Mon-Sat |
| Holy Communion* | 1.10pm | Mon-Fri |
| Holy Communion | 9.15am | Sat |
| Evening Prayer | 5.30pm | Mon & Fri |
| Evensong | 5.30pm | Tue/Wed/Thu |
| | 3.30pm | Sat |

* 27th Dec – 2nd Jan Matins & Holy Communion will be said at 8.45am and 9.00am
27th – 6th Jan Evening Prayer will be said at 4.30pm.

Sunday services

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Matins | 8.45am |
| Holy Communion (1662) | 9.00am |
| Sung Eucharist | 10.30am |
| Evensong | 5.30pm |

EXHIBITIONS

7th Oct - 21st Nov

Exhibition on the 400th anniversary of the King James translation of the Bible

29th Sep - 26th Nov

Asia Triennial

Looking ahead - December 2011

Thursday 1st December
7.30pm Children's Society Service

Friday 2nd December
7.30pm North West Air
Ambulance Carol Concert

Saturday 3rd December
7.30pm Manchester University
Choir & Orchestra Society Concert

Sunday 4th December
1.00pm / 2.30pm / 4.00pm St Ann's
Hospice 'Tree of Lights' Service
7.30pm RBS Chorus Tour Concert

Tuesday 6th December
6.15pm The Lord Mayor of
Manchester will switch on the
Cathedral Christmas Tree Lights
7.30pm MedEquip4Kids
Concert. Tickets are available
by calling 0161 798 1600 or
info@medequip4kids.org.uk

Wednesday 7th December
10.00am Manchester Music Service
Christmas Sing
12.45pm Turning of the Leaves
7.30pm Action for Children Concert

Thursday 8th December
12noon Mother's Union Thursday
Prayer
7.30pm Greater Manchester
Police Concert

Friday 9th December
7.30pm NSPCC Concert

Saturday 10th December
7.00pm Handel's Messiah with
the Manchester Baroque and
Manchester Cathedral Choir.
Tickets £20, £15, £11 available
from 0161 833 2220

Sunday 11th December
3.00pm St John Ambulance
Carol Service

Monday 12th December
11.00am / 3.00pm Manchester
Evening News Carol Concert. Details
on how to apply for tickets will
appear in the Manchester Evening
News paper, in mid November.

Tuesday 13th December
12.30pm Julian Prayer Group
1.10pm Chetham's School of
Music Lunchtime Concert
7.00pm Addiction Dependency
Solutions Concert

Wednesday 14th December
7.00pm Henshaw's Society
for the Blind Concert

Friday 16th December
7.00pm Chetham's Christmas Music
Concert; Due to the large number
of people expected to attend from
Chetham's School of Music, there
will not be places available for
members of the general public.

Saturday 17th December
7.30pm Family Carols Concert
with Manchester Cathedral
Voluntary Choir. Tickets
available from Manchester
Cathedral, 0161 833 2220

Sunday 18th December
7.00pm Manchester Show
Choir Carol Concert

Monday 19th December
12.15pm Cathedral Christmas
Carol Sing-along. For shoppers and
workers in the city-centre. Come and
go at any point during the carols.
7.00pm Ian Anderson plays festive
Jethro Tull. Tickets are available at
www.musicglue.net.iananderson

Tuesday 20th December
12.30pm Julian Prayer Group

Wednesday 21st December
12.45pm Turning of the Leaves
7.30pm Prospects for People with
Learning Disabilities Service

Thursday 22nd December
7.30pm A Festival of Nine
Lessons & Carols with
Manchester Cathedral Choir

Saturday 24th December
12.00noon Carols with Blessing of
the Crib and Children's Nativity
11.30pm Midnight Eucharist

Sunday 25th December
10.30am Christmas Day Eucharist

Monday 26th December
11.00am Morning Prayer
& Holy Communion

Looking further ahead - 2012

Sunday 8th January
4.00pm Epiphany Procession.
Begins at St Ann's Church at 4.00pm

Tuesday 24th January
7.00pm Manchester Theological
Society Lecture: Wendy Tyndale,
Protestants in Communist East
Germany: In the Storm of the World.

Thursday 2nd February
12noon 'Forward in Faith, Reform
and Women's Chapter Vigil'
7.45pm Organ recital: La
Nativite du Seigneur

Sunday 5th February
3.30pm Greater Manchester
Lieutenancy Service in the year of
the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Sunday 12th—Sunday

19th February
24/7 Prayer week

Sunday 12th February
7.30pm Start the Week Service

Sunday 19th February
7.30pm End of the Week Service

Tuesday 1st March
7.00pm Quiz Night and Pie & Peas
Supper. Tickets £8.50 available from
Edwyn Pym: 07867 595 285, Revd
Robert Whyborn: revrob8@aol.
com or by emailing beingpartofit@
manchestercathedral.org

Sunday 25th March
7.30pm St John Passion.
Ticket information will be
available nearer the time.

Saturday 31st March
11.00am Chetham's School of
Music Founder's Day Service

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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 (24hr): 0845 748 4950

(Nearest station is Victoria)

Mantax (Taxi Service): 0161 230 3333

Taxifone (Taxi Service): 0161 236 2322



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