

Newsletter

December 2018



BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL
GOOD NEWS FOR LANCASHIRE

Diary

1st

7.00pm: Blackburn Music Society
Present **Messiah**

2nd

6.30pm: Advent Procession

3rd

6.30pm: Children for Children
Carol Service (1)

4th

6.30pm: Children for Children
Carol Service (2)

5th

7.30pm: Lancashire Fire and
Rescue Carol Service

7th

7.30pm: Derian House "Lights of
Love" Carol Service

8th

7.00pm: Blackburn Cathedral's
Christmas Spectacular

9th

4.00pm: Choral Evensong with the
Installation of Hon/Lay Canons

10th

East Lancashire Hospice "Light up
a Life" Carol Service

11th

1.45pm: The Snowman and the
Bear

4.00pm: The Snowman and the
Bear

7.00pm: The Snowman and the
Bear

Reconnecting with what is Important

As we prepare to enter the Advent season with our eyes focused on the birth of the Christ Child, I can't help but reflect on how detached our nation has become from the detail of the Christian story that frames much of our festive activity. The cards we send, the carols we sing and the story we tell are all wrapped up in the disturbing reality of a homeless family, who make the difficult decision to become political refugees, driven out by a corrupt and tyrannical regime – sound familiar?

Closer to home, we are on the brink of a decision that will reframe the future of our nation. A decision that will in many ways redefine who we are and what we believe as a people. And like the Christmas story, this story has similarly been detached from the detail and reality of what it means to be made in the image of God and part of the wider human family.

Both stories focus on the expulsion of those who are seen to be disruptive influences, agitators or people who have the potential to cause increased political instability. Fear overtakes contentment, rejection overtakes welcome and before we know it, the stories that inform and define who we are and the communities we inhabit, become diminished by a self-absorbed approach to living, that places 'me' at the centre and everyone else on the margins.

Advent challenges this world view and way of living, inviting us, instead, to respond differently. The prophet Isaiah announces 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.' The imagery of darkness and light is an important theme within the Advent story suggesting there is an alternative way of living – a way of living that draws us away from the murky realm of narcissism into the glorious freedom of the Kingdom of God.

14th

7.30pm: A Christmas Carol

15th

7.30pm: A Christmas Carol

16th

7.30pm : A Christmas Carol

17th

6.00pm: A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols for Schools

18th

3.00pm: Blackburn College Carol Service

23rd

7.30pm: A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

24th

4.00pm: Carols around the Crib

11.30pm: Midnight Mass

25th

8.00am: Holy Communion (BCP)

9.00am: Parish Eucharist

10.30am: Cathedral Eucharist

31st

7.00pm: New Year's Eve "Champagne" Concert

School Carol Concerts in the Nave

Come along and join with local schools as they celebrate Christmas here at the Cathedral.

Please check the website for details.

Newsletter

If there is anything you would like us to include in the newsletter, please get in touch either via the cathedral office or by sending an email to info@blackburncathedral.co.uk putting 'newsletter' in the subject line

Living differently is never easy. But the yearly experience of Advent places before us a fresh opportunity to think again about what is important, what we value and how we intend to live. Will we let the light of the Kingdom of God shine brightly from our lives and from our church or will we be consumed by the darkness and self-interest which increasingly dominates our fallen world.

The Very Rev'd Peter Howell-Jones

This Christmas the Cathedral has something for everyone

**Messiah by Candlelight
Saturday 1st December 7.00pm**

Blackburn Music Society presents its annual performance of Handel's great masterpiece, directed by Abi Kitching.

Tickets £12 in advance, £14 on the door, Under 19s free. Available from 01254 201978, 01254 885346, King George's Hall Booking Office or Blackburn Visitor's Centre.

For more information see: www.blackburnmusicsociety.org.uk

**The Snowman and The Bear.
Tuesday 11th December 2018**

Watch everyone's favourite Christmas animation 'The Snowman' accompanied by an orchestra made up of some of the UK's finest musicians.

You will also have the opportunity to watch a world exclusive of the animated film of David Litchfield's book 'The Bear and the Piano' with the unmistakable voice of **Joanna Lumley**.

Look out for a special guest conducting a medley of Christmas favourites!

Performances at 1.45pm, 4.00pm and 7.00pm

Tickets available via carrotproductions.com or their box office on 03448000410

**A Christmas Carol
Friday 14th, Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th December
7.30pm**

Come along and enjoy a performance of Charles Dickens' seasonal **A Christmas Carol** presented by our very own **Blackburn Cathedral Community Theatre Group**.

Tickets £10/£5 available from 07971 881 576 or via www.blackburncathedral.com

Get Your Camera(phone) Ready!

As a way of raising funds for the continued work and upkeep of the Cathedral we are looking to produce a calendar for 2020 featuring the buildings, life and work of this amazing space.

The competition is open to any amateur photographer be they staff member, congregation member or visitor to the cathedral – see the categories below. You may submit more than one entry.

Having just won the Lancashire Tourism Cultural Venue of the Year we would like the calendar to reflect the many different aspects of the Cathedral – its architecture, its community and its place in the centre of both Blackburn and the Diocese now and through history. So here are some possible topics:

- The fabric and artefacts of the building.
- The Cathedral's surroundings.
- The work of staff and volunteers.
- The Cathedral through the seasons – both liturgical and natural.

If you have a particular wish to photograph a specific aspect of the Cathedral that requires special access, please write in the first instance to the contact details below. We will try to accommodate your request if at all possible.

Deadline: 31 October 2019 – submissions accepted from 1st December 2018 onwards and will be displayed from 1st January 2019.

Categories: 12 and under; 18 and under; over 18; photography student.

Please submit a printed copy of your photographs with your name, the category in which you wish to be judged and the date the photographs were taken on the back to the address below; prints should be no bigger than A5 in size.

A full list of competition rules will be posted at the back of the cathedral, in the shop and on the website.

Submissions and Enquiries should be marked 'Calendar Competition' and sent to:

The Dean
Blackburn Cathedral
Cathedral Close
Blackburn
BB1 5AA

or
c/o: shop@blackburncathedral.co.uk (enquiries only)

Blackburn Cathedral's Christmas Spectacular Gala Concert.

Join us for our Annual Christmas Gala Concert, this year featuring 'On Christmas Night' by Bob Chilcott – a musical celebration of the Christmas Story told in eight movements.

The Choirs of Blackburn Cathedral
Local School Choirs
The Northern Chamber Orchestra
Samuel Hudson – *Conductor*

Tickets from £5 available at:

www.blackburncathedral.com

King George's Hall Box Office in person or on 08448471664

New Years' Eve Champagne Concert

Monday 31st December, 7.00pm

'A Cello-bration' for New Year's Eve with music for cello(s) and piano.

See in the New Year with an hour of music and fizz.

Tickets £10 (under 16s free) from King George's Hall Box Office in person or on 08448471664

Donate to the Work and Fabric of the Cathedral

Just Giving - to donate, go to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/blackburncathedral>

Text Giving - you can donate by texting BLAC01 followed by the amount you wish to donate, to 70070.

You can donate £1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10.

As an example, to donate £5, you would text the following to 70070: BLAC01£5

All the money you donate goes to us. You may be charged for your text message. Please refer to your network operator's standard rates.

If you have any questions about JustTextGiving, visit <https://www.justgiving.com/>

Regular Service Times

Sunday:

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.00am	Parish Communion
10.30am	Cathedral Eucharist
4.00pm	Evensong

Weekdays:

Morning Prayer - **8.40am** Monday to Friday

Holy Communion - Every day, but times may differ, please see the Cathedral website or weekly bulletin for details.

Evening Prayer/Evensong - **5.15pm** Monday to Friday please see weekly bulletin or music list for details of sung services.

Saturday:

9.00am	Morning Prayer
9.30am	Holy Communion
3.30pm	Evening Prayer

Contacts

Blackburn Cathedral
Cathedral Close
Blackburn
BB1 5AA

The Dean:	The Very Rev'd Peter Howell-Jones
Canon Sacrist:	The Rev'd Canon Andrew Hindley
Canon Missioner:	The Rev'd Canon Dr Rowena Pailing
Canon Pastor:	The Rev'd Canon Andrew Horsfall
Episcopal Canon	The Right Rev'd Philip North
Dir. of Music:	Mr Samuel Hudson
Shop Manager:	Mrs Julie Eatwell
Events:	Mr Phil Hunwick
Head Virger:	Mr Mark Pickering

Tel: 01254 277430

Email: info@blackburncathedral.com

Website: www.blackburncathedral.com

Friends of Blackburn Cathedral

Email: secretary@fobc.info

Website: www.fobc.info

Open Guided Tours

Tours are held most first Tuesdays of the month, all are welcome. Please be at the Welcome Desk for 3.00pm.

Cathedral Opening Times

The cathedral is open Monday to Saturday from 8.00am until after the last service of the day.

On Sundays we are open from 7.45am until after the last service of the day.

Christmas Shopping at the Cathedral Gift Shop

The Gift Shop will be extending its opening hours during December. If you are attending one of the many events we have on in the run up to Christmas make sure you come and visit us, we have a lovely range of cards and gifts suitable for all ages and occasions including cards from the **Cards for Good Causes** Charity.

Cathedra English Gin

Our locally distilled Gin has really taken off! With the first few deliveries selling out within hours of them arriving here at the cathedral.

It is now available in the Gift Shop and online for those of you further afield.

Blackburn Christmas Market

The Cathedral will have a presence at the Christmas Market this year to be held in Cathedral Square. The market runs from 29th November – 23rd December. To find out more or volunteer please contact Julie at shop@blackburncathedral.co.uk