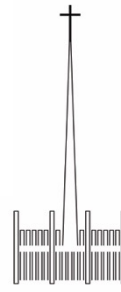


Newsletter

May 2019



BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL
GOOD NEWS FOR LANCASHIRE

Diary

1st – 15th

“By the Hand of ...” Icons, Traditional and Contemporary.

Exhibition in the South Transept. See below for more details.

1st

**1.00pm Lunchtime Organ
Recital Hannah Gibson**
(Worcestershire)

6th – 11th

**Conservation: An Exhibition by
Matilde Tomat. With Opening
event at 8.00pm on the 6th.** See
below for further information.

8th

**1.00pm Lunchtime Organ
Recital Tamsin Brown (Newcastle
Upon Tyne)**

9th

**2.00pm Mother’s Union Meeting
in Hilda.**

14th

**7.00pm Service to Celebrate the
25th Anniversary of Women’s
Ordination**

15th

**1.00pm Lunchtime Organ
Recital Peter Litman (Peel
Cathedral, IOM)**

18th

**11.00am Prayer Book Society
Eucharist**

**3.30pm Prayer Book Society
Evensong, sung by Octavius**

19th

**Please Note Service Times
today:**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.00am Parish Communion

The Power of Welcome.

“Accept one another, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.”

A church or cathedral can be both awe inspiring and intimidating; this is perhaps brought more sharply into focus at our service times when worship is in full flow.

My happy observation is that we welcome people very well at Blackburn Cathedral and our team of wardens and stewards do a marvellous job week by week. But we mustn’t underestimate how much of a hurdle it is emotionally and psychologically to walk through the west doors for someone who is not used to doing so.

People come for a variety of reasons; some will have planned to come, others will have just decided to pop in. Many will have been in a church building before, but a good number will not. Some will be looking for a safe place to be still, to pray, to simply ‘be’; others will want to be anonymous and still others might be looking for help, in a difficult place personally, emotionally or practically. For some people it will be the music and liturgy that draws them in and for others they may be asking themselves ‘why on earth am I here?!’

It is said that when making a great first impression, the first five seconds are key. This miniscule amount of time will create a lasting impact and forge the direction of any relationships we make, however fleetingly, with our visitors. A warm and sincere welcome gives a sense of caring and makes people feel appreciated; even if we never see them again they deserve our particular attention. It is not just a welcoming smile, though that it is a good start, we need to give our full attention to what is being said to us. Knowing more about a visitor (without it being an interrogation!) will help us to anticipate their needs.

Every congregation member has a responsibility to create a welcoming cathedral. People need to be greeted but not smothered! Very importantly resist the urge to see every visitor as a potential new cathedral member but see them as a person to whom you have the privilege to show kindness and

11.15am Civic Service

4.00pm Choral Evensong attended by School Governors

22nd

1.00pm Lunchtime Recital Peter Morris (Organ and Piano) & Jane Eminson (Flute).

23rd

9.30am Faith & Neighbourhoods Event. See below for more information.

24th

7.00pm The Choristers Entertain

30th

7.00pm Ascension Day Service sung by the Renaissance Singers.

Christian Aid Week 12th – 18th May

Look out for more information about the work of Christian Aid around the Cathedral along with opportunities donate to the work of this important charity.

The Choristers Entertain!

Come along and be entertained by our wonderful choristers. Besides singing a range of choral pieces they will also be showing off their other musical talents – but you will have to come along to find out what they are!

Bible Study Groups

The Lent Bible study groups will continue to meeting monthly. All are welcome, and for more details contact:

missioner@blackburncathedral.co.uk

The Friday lunchtime group will meet on the **second Friday** of each month at 1pm, so the next session will be 10th May.

concern. After all, it may just be that God has brought them here. And if you see them the following week, why not introduce them to a few more people and I'm sure before too long they will be confident enough to go for a cup of coffee after the service and start getting to know the cathedral family.

We all have a deep desire to belong. That belonging will start with the welcome we receive. As the Rule of St. Benedict says: "All who arrive as guests are to be welcomed like Christ, for he is going to say, 'I was a stranger and you welcomed me.'"

The power of welcome cannot be underestimated, how we go about it is a window into our mind-set and whether we are inward-looking or outward-focussed. Remember our visitors in your prayers, expect them to come and be there to meet them when they do.

Perhaps you could consider becoming a welcome steward at our services and events. Become a part of the welcome offered at the cathedral – we need you!

Andrew
Canon Pastor

Faith Communities and Neighbourhood Care Conference at the Cathedral

Thursday, 23rd May

Healing and care are fundamental to all religions: a big question for today is how this tradition connects with the work of the National Health Service and other care agencies.

The NHS is increasingly aware that it needs to better understand how exactly a person's faith, and the church, (or mosque, synagogue, gurdwara...) to which they belong contributes to health and well being. Conversely, we need to understand better, and indeed influence, imminent changes in the way the NHS works at the neighbourhood level.

A galaxy of speakers from both 'sides' (including our very own Canon Pailing) will be contributing to a day conference at the Cathedral from 9.30am to 3.30pm on Thursday 23rd of May on the theme 'Faith Communities and Neighbourhood Care.'

We especially want to hear about the experience of those who give informal care or who have experienced the work of the NHS (and who hasn't?).

So it is more than ever true that 'all are welcome'.

For more information, please speak to Canon Michael Wedgeworth, in person, on the phone (07449 927618) or by e-mail Michael_wedgeworth@hotmail.com

Pastoral Care Team

The purpose of the Pastoral Care Team is to ensure that we, as a congregation, take care of those amongst us who are unwell or in need of a little extra support, encouragement, sacramental ministry or practical help. This may be through prayer, a visit, a phone call, a greetings card and so on. Members of the Team will also be able to take holy communion to those unable to attend worship.

At a recent meeting of the group, discussions were had about the most appropriate and efficient way for the congregation to communicate with the group. One way is to email the Canon Pastor at:

andrew.horsfall@blackburncatheral.co.uk or phone the cathedral office and leave a message. It was also decided that 'postcards' where details of the person in need of care, a visit, holy communion, prayers etc can be recorded and then posted confidentially into the locked box in the Welcome Desk. Please look out for blank cards and signage appearing shortly. Do use this method to let us know of anyone who you feel may benefit from pastoral care.

Where a prayer request is left, the person or situation will be added to the intercession list and remembered in prayers during the mid-week services in particular. We will keep the request on the appropriate intersessions list for approximately four weeks.

The Pastoral Care Team will be meeting on a monthly basis, please do keep us informed of those who might appreciate a visit or other appropriate contact.

With all good wishes,

Andrew

Canon Pastor

Donate to the Work and Fabric of the Church

If you would like to make a donation to the Cathedral using contactless payments, please ask the duty wardens for the contactless machine.

“By the Hand of ...” Icons, Traditional and Contemporary.

“Iconography is the original tradition of Christian sacred art and has been an integral part of the worship and mystical life of Christians since apostolic times. Referred to in the Eastern Christian tradition as "windows into heaven", they have inspired and uplifted millions of the faithful, and have at times been the instruments for demonstrating God's miraculous intercession in the life of mankind.”

Christine Czainski is a full-time artist living in Yorkshire. For the last two years she has been principally concentrating on the painting of icons and has been receiving training in the traditional techniques of icon painting and is continually studying the history and theology of icons.

In this exhibition there will be examples of both types of her work, some very traditional using the ancient medium of egg tempera on board with gilding, and others painted in acrylic and decorated with jewellery and fabric.

Chris's iconography is grounded in her Christian faith. Icons have given her a way of exploring, expressing and sharing her faith in Christ.

Conservation: An Exhibition by Matilde Tomat.

Held in the North Transept.

This exhibition was to be hosted by the Bureau Centre for the Arts in the Community in the St John's Church building which was recently destroyed by fire. We are pleased to be able to host it here.

Matilde Tomat is a survivor of the Friuli earthquake in North east Italy which on May 6th 1976 killed over 1000 people and affected 5,500 square kilometres. Her exhibition is a memorial to that tragic event and has also taken on added significance in the light of the St John's fire.

It is housed in the North Transept and will be opened at 8.00pm on May 6th with a minute's silence at 9.00pm (the time when the earthquake struck).

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
5.15pm	Evening Prayer (Except when Evensong is scheduled which will be at 3.30pm – please see Weekly Bulletin or Website for details)

Contacts

Blackburn Cathedral
Cathedral Close
Blackburn
BBI 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

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Friends of Blackburn Cathedral

Email: secretary@fobc.info

Website: www.fobc.info

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.

Flowers at the Cathedral

Flowers at the Cathedral contribute to our offering of praise to God.

We have a team of seven arrangers who give their time freely, and often find themselves talking to visitors and explaining what the Cathedral is all about. Thus we feel ourselves to be sharing in its welcoming and pastoral ministry : provided we are given the time to get the job done!

It is the Cathedral's custom not to have flowers during the solemn seasons of Advent and Lent, and then to burst out at Christmas and Easter, when we are always glad of extra help.

We are grateful to those who contribute to the cost of flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.

The price of flowers is every increasing , although we buy at a discounted price from a local florist. We provide our own greenery, which is sometimes in short supply, so do let us know if you can offer us some and bring it to the Cathedral. If you would like to join our team, or want any more information about our plans, please don't hesitate to have a word with me.

Pat Wedgeworth (Flower Co-ordinator)