

Diocese of Manchester : United in prayer, together in mission

Arena of faith, hope and dreams

Bishop Nigel takes his Pilgrimage baton 'home'



Feeding Brunswick

Community kitchen opens with pride



Eggscited at Easter

Fresh approach to Lent for young pupils

**BISHOP NIGEL'S
THOUGHT FOR
THE MONTH**



Art at the heart of Easter

IT WAS a rare treat to view Holman Hunt's three original versions of his famous painting "The Light of the World", exhibited recently at Manchester's Art Gallery.

Probably no other picture can claim, in quite the same way, to belong to Anglicanism.

But one of his other masterpieces especially claimed my attention. Hanging amidst the collection of garish colours, and somewhat in-your-face detail that characterises much of this artist's work, was his stark portrayal of "The Scapegoat".

A white goat, symbolically carrying the sins of the Israelites, has been driven out of the community, on the Day of Atonement, to die alone in the wilderness. It is a compelling picture of a Jewish custom familiar to Jesus.

His Jewishness is fundamental to the meaning of the New Testament's message, especially during Holy Week and Easter.

The Crucifixion is to be seen as an act of reconciliation. But, in teasing out in what sense that is so, some interpreters have strayed from scripture.

Holman Hunt's haunting picture is a powerful reminder that, however nuanced our understanding of "substitution" may be, what happened to the scapegoat must surely have formed part of Jesus' own understanding of the Cross.

Vote for your favourite hymn

HAVE YOU ever wondered which of these is Manchester's favourite hymn? Help us find out by casting your vote for your favourite.

The results will be announced at the Evening Celebration hosted by the Mothers' Union at Bridgewater Hall on June 1 (*see advert on back cover of this issue*).

CHOOSE your favourite hymn from the list below, and cast your vote online at www.manchester.anglican.org by **May 1**.

**At the name of Jesus
Come on and celebrate
For the beauty of the earth
Great is thy faithfulness
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty
Let all the world
Lord of the years
O praise ye the Lord
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King
We have a gospel to proclaim
Ye servants of God**

Gifts for Bishop Stephen

BISHOP Stephen will retire as Bishop for Urban Life and Faith on August 31.

If you would like to contribute to his leaving gift, please send a cheque made payable to 'Manchester DBF' to John Beck, CEO, Church House, 90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2GH. Please write on the back of the cheque 'Bishop Stephen's gift'.

The Archbishop of York will preach at Bishop Stephen's leaving service on July 19 at 3pm at the William Temple Church in Wythenshawe.

Cash that makes a real change

THE DIOCESAN grants panel has fast-track grants available for parishes starting new work to respond to the current economic climate.

Small Parish Mission Fund (SPMF) grants of up to £500 can help your church support people who are unemployed or who have debt issues.

Applications are considered each month and a decision is usually made within two weeks.

Mustard Seed Grants

Grants of £5000 are also available from the Church Urban Fund for projects costing up to £15,000. Eligible parishes will be in the top 10% on the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

Mustard Seed Grants can pay for specific

activities but not for on-going expenditure, existing salary costs, deficit funding, or retrospective spending. The grant should typically represent at least one-third of the total funding required.

Grants have been given for:

- ☛ Initiating new work, eg. community audits/ consultations, needs assessments, pilot projects, start-up equipment, and making premises fit for new purpose.
- ☛ Improving existing projects, eg. Trustee/ staff/volunteer training and Quality Assurance.

For more information, download the Grants Handbook from www.manchester.anglican.org or contact Sue Heil on 0161 828 1445.

New resources on debt and finance management

CARE for the Family has two new resources to help people facing financial struggles:

☛ 'The Sixty Minute Debt Buster' contains a wealth of information and practical help to point people out of their debt. This is a great resource - make copies available for your congregation.

☛ 'Save Your Home - practical tips to help you avoid repossession' is a booklet full of hope and simple practical advice to help those facing this possibility. The booklet has been awarded the crystal mark for clear English and is short and to the point.

Where could you use this booklet? Maybe on a Saturday at your local supermarket (collect litter if necessary) or in your town centre, with a stand informing people of other resources in your area.

And in the arena of prevention and enabling clearer thinking about attitudes and practice with finances, Care for the Family provides:

☛ 'Quizd In - raising financially confident kids'. This is a short course designed to help parents talk about money with their children.

Over six weeks, you will be challenged and helped to face the whole issue of budgeting and money management.

This fun course would be a great resource to offer your local schools as part of their extended schools programme under the Every Child Matters agenda. (To deliver this course you need to do two days training. Care for the Family will be running training in Manchester soon.)

For more information call Joy Wright, Care for the Family's representative, on 07966 314481 or e-mail : Joy.Wright@cff.org.uk.

☛ OTHER Christian agencies which can offer hope and expertise at this time are:

Christians Against Poverty : Six local offices in Greater Manchester offering debt counselling services. Email: info@capuk.org

Stewardship Money : Committed to helping people stay in control of money, avoid money worries and find financial freedom to give generously. Visit www.stewardship.org.uk/money

Archdeacon's installation

THE NEW Archdeacon of Manchester, the Ven Mark Ashcroft will be installed on Wednesday April 22 at Manchester Cathedral at 5.30pm. All are welcome.

Revd David Thomas will be installed as an honorary canon of the cathedral at the same service

Food, glorious food at Brunswick

WITH help from a Parish Mission Fund Grant of £10,000, Brunswick Parish Church has opened its new community kitchen in the presence of the Lord Mayor.

"Food plays an important part of what we do and what we hope to continue in the future", says Revd Simon Gatenby.

"Three years ago we identified health and wholeness as a key element of our 'Life in all its fullness' strategy, and the provision of a new kitchen will bring further benefits to the whole community."

The church's vision is for the parish centre to play a key role in improving the spiritual, mental and physical health of Ardwick. The building is already open from 9am to 10pm every day, hosting a range of ministries and community groups.

The new kitchen will enable the church to run a luncheon club for pensioners, cookery and food hygiene classes in an area that is within the top 5 percent for health deprivation and disability.

Nick Carr-Brown, Community Resource Manager, explains that the church listened to



ANN FLEAR serves up lunch at the monthly "Bring and Share"

what people wanted from the regeneration of the area. "The church joined forces with partners such as 'Healthy Ardwick' to deliver health benefits such as exercise and dance classes, a job club for the long-term unemployed, school activities and English classes.

"The church contributed £10,000 itself and also secured funding from Healthy Ardwick and the Church Urban Fund. The kitchen is now a fully commercial facility, with new electrics, boiler and air extraction, cookers, griddles, dishwashers, and a hot cupboard."

The opening marked the first 'Proud of ...' event supported by Manchester City Council. 400 delicious meals were dished up to mark the occasion and put the new equipment through its paces.

Simon said, "Food is a great way of getting people together! We are recognised by the multi-ethnic, multi-faith population as being the best community resource in the area, and we pray this development will serve our community well into the future."



CHILDREN try their hand at making cakes for the menu

Elliot's charity bus ride - just the ticket!

ELLIOT Watson from Horwich spent a whole day on a bus to raise awareness for Christian Aid!

From early morning to late evening, Elliot travelled from Bolton to Preston and back again and back again... and again and again.

It's not what Elliot might normally choose to do on his half term holiday, but having spent a week on a Christian Aid barge holiday last year, he was inspired to raise some money for them.

Elliot was sponsored to take the journey between Preston and Bolton and back again all day long and in the process raised a fine sum of money for Christian Aid. Later in the day he was joined by the Bishop of Middleton (*above*), plus Dave Hardman from Christian Aid and Susie Mapledoram, Youth Officer for Manchester Diocese who travelled with him during his final leg.

Elliot is determined to continue to raise awareness in his church and school of the important work of Christian Aid and, after causing some interesting questions and inquisitive looks on the bus, hopefully more people will be inspired to think globally.

Christian Aid Week is May 10-16.



Annual Report and Calendar available

The Annual Report for 2008 is printed in a colourful calendar format which has been sent to clergy and PCCs.

The Annual Report/calendar is a tool for parishes to use throughout the year. It features articles on the key diocesan priorities of serving communities, growing congregations and increasing giving.

Running from Easter 2009 to Easter 2010, it contains resources and reminders of important times during the liturgical year for the parish and the diocese.

Some additional copies are available by contacting Church House on 0161 828 1400.

Diocese of Manchester 2009/10

Calendar & Annual Report

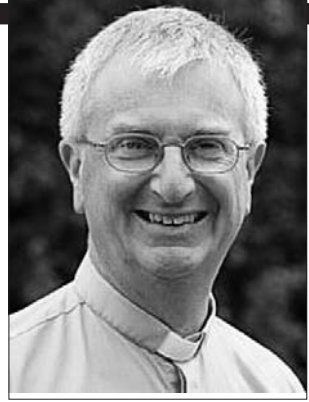
1.9 million people
418 square miles
700 licensed ministers
248 churches
24,200 adults listed as members
200 church schools
82,000 pupils
317 clergy houses

One Diocese of Manchester

RUN THE RACE
Look to Jesus

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

www.manchester.anglican.org

CRUX MEETS ...**David Bailey, the new Archdeacon of Bolton****'The church mustn't lose confidence, and must grasp new ideas'**

THE VEN David Bailey joins the diocese after 21 years of ministry the other side of the Pennines in the Diocese of York.

He was vicar of Beverley Minster for eleven years, a prominent church with major parish and civic responsibilities. The Minster is one of five churches in the parish, and between them they offer many different styles of worship, including a café church attracting a community of younger families from an area of new housing.

David said: "It's a great joy to be Archdeacon of Bolton. I've been enjoying getting to know the area and have been encouraged by the mission focus here.

"I identify strongly with the three key goals for our churches of growing congregations, increasing giving and serving communities, and I have seen the imaginative ways in which this works in practice in Bolton Archdeaconry and beyond."

David is keen to maintain a mission focus and encourage congregations to be outward looking and welcoming. He said: "The church has to reshape itself for the challenges of mission in the 21st century. It mustn't lose confidence in the gospel and must grasp new ideas.

"On my travels around the archdeaconry I have seen small places doing really interesting things, such as running after-school clubs, doing excellent work with children. We have strong links with our church schools and the Child Friendly Church Award scheme is a great opportunity to serve them."

DAVID BAILEY :

Like his namesake, he is a keen photographer

David is finding the work of an archdeacon stimulating and challenging. He said: "Every day is different. There are difficulties to sort out, but there is satisfaction in finding Godly solutions to them."

He is keen to see how Experience Easter goes down across the diocese, and loves the bold approach to communicating diocesan events with professional publicity material.

David is married to Kathryn and has three grown-up children. He enjoys his sport - football and cricket - and confesses to remaining a loyal Leeds and Yorkshire supporter despite moving west.

He said: "Kathryn and I miss regular contact with our own congregation, but that is made up for by meeting new congregations and people every week.

"I enjoy encouraging and supporting clergy and helping them use the resources available to them. Facilitating pastoral re-organisation is a challenge. It is important to get it right and to look for mission opportunities through the process."

David joins a new staff team with two new bishops and the Archdeacons of Rochdale and Manchester appointed within the last 12 months. He said: "Being part of a new team is exciting. I feel I am in at the beginning of a new stage in diocesan life."

David is a keen photographer and enjoys listening to music.



TEACHING assistant Diane Clare making palm crosses with Jessica and Sumaiyah at Moorgate Primary School

An eggsciting eggventure!

REVD SUE FORREST-REDFERN explores the fun of using the Eggventure Beads in Bolton schools this Easter.

MANY of us know how rewarding it can be when we build positive relationships with local schools, the most important places in our parishes to reach out to the community.

Finding interesting and acceptable ways to develop our relationship with schools can be a challenge, and I am always looking for good ideas. So when the Evangelism task team looked at 'Experience Easter' and 'Eggventure' with a view to using these resources, they had my full attention!

In Bolton, Easter is on the RE syllabus for every year except Year 6. The schools warmly welcomed the idea of using a new resource developed with them in mind. Two schools ordered the Experience Easter packs, and one showed real interest in running a lunchtime session to do 'Eggventure' throughout Lent.

The fact that I offered to provide 25 eggs at £2 each for free probably helped, but I don't think the cost would be prohibitive for most children.

There are lots of good reasons for trying to

involve a member of staff : they are covered from a safeguarding perspective, it ensures a better ratio of adults to children, and it means the activity is more 'owned' by the school.

Currently we meet twice a week, and so far, we have talked about Ash Wednesday, and the idea of getting ourselves into 'God pleasing' behaviour. We have talked about trying to do something extra for someone each day in Lent.

One child helped her dad make the tea, one made her mum a cup of tea 'while she was relaxing', another fed the dog, and one is trying extra hard to make her writing smaller!

We have made palm crosses and we had a bowl of water in which to wash our hands - to remind us that Lent is about getting clean 'on the inside'.

Near the end of term we will put on a little service in the school, where we will share our experiences with parents, brothers and sisters. Our church music group will play, and the school choir is busy preparing.

The sessions are fun and give fabulous opportunities to interact with children. We are already talking about next year's Eggventure.

Bishop's baton returns home

MORE THAN HALF-WAY THROUGH HIS PILGRIMAGE, BISHOP NIGEL STOPS OFF AT THE GAMES STADIUM

THE Commonwealth Games baton returned to the stadium where it began its journey seven years ago when the Bishop of Manchester visited Eastlands as part of his parish pilgrimage.

Bishop Nigel is more than half-way through his pilgrimage to visit each of the 350 churches in the diocese. He carries with him on each visit the Commonwealth Games baton, a symbol of the journey of faith and the passing on of that faith from one generation to the next.

As well as touring the Manchester Stadium, which hosted the 2002 Commonwealth Games and is now home to Manchester City Football Club, Bishop

Nigel visited the parish of the Good Shepherd and St Barnabas, Eastlands and presided over the closing service of the Church of the Resurrection.

This church will soon be demolished to make way for the new East Manchester Academy High School and a new church centre is planned.

The Rector of the Parish of the Good Shepherd, Revd Roy Chow, said : "Bishop Nigel's visit was a time of giving thanks for the past and looking in hope towards the future. The Bishop led the congregation to the site of the new church centre to emphasise the journey of faith of which we are all part."



Revd Chris Howitz, chaplain to Manchester City FC; Graham James, the club historian, and Roy Chow, Vicar of The Resurrection, Eastlands join Bishop Nigel inside the stadium



City chaplain lends a listening ear

REVD Chris Howitz is the club chaplain for MCFC. A regular at the ground, he offers support for players, staff and fans.

He says "I'm here for people no matter what their beliefs. If they want a chat or a listening ear, if they have questions or worries, I ask them to get in touch.

"Players are constantly in the public eye, and can find it hard to find someone to confide in. I'm here for them too, and have time to talk confidentially about anything that's on their mind."

Chris is also available to help staff deal with day-to-day stress and personal matters. For the fans he has conducted services at the adjacent Memorial Gardens, where he can arrange for people to scatter the ashes of their loved ones.

Chris, who is also vicar of St Clements, Higher Openshaw, avoids high-profile games, preferring to keep a low profile and be seen as a support rather than a supporter.



He has occasional opportunities to write a page in the match programme. Here is an extract from a piece on football and faith that he wrote for a Manchester 'derby game' :

"The rivalry between City and United is a good thing when kept on the pitch in an attitude of honourable competitiveness. Too often, though, our differences move on to disrespect, to bitterness and hatred.

"The challenge for us, on the pitch and off, is to find a different way to division and destruction. One man's life and death, more than anyone else, demonstrated this different way: he spoke of "loving your enemies" and of "turning the other cheek".

"Long may rivalry between us continue, but let's discover how to love our enemies and to be generous in our forgiveness: overcoming evil with good. If both sides are able to walk out of here, jubilant or deflated, and still extend the hand of friendship, then there is hope for our lives."

Education Sunday: Caring for God's creation

THE Bishop of Bolton preached at St Michael's, Howe Bridge and St Philip's, Atherton on Education Sunday on an environmental theme, and in response the youth group, called 6:8, took up the challenge by pledging, throughout Lent, to:

- ☛ Clean their teeth using a cup or mug, not under a running tap
- ☛ Recycle plastic, glass, paper and veg waste
- ☛ Not leave a light on in unoccupied rooms
- ☛ Shower instead of taking a bath
- ☛ Use re-usable bags when shopping, and
- ☛ Not leave the computer or TV on standby to help reduce their carbon footprint.

At St Peter's, Bury staff and pupils from St Peter's and St Luke's primary schools led the worship on Education Sunday.

The church was decorated with pupils' artwork on the seven days of creation. Each child from St Luke's made a butterfly to symbolise renewal and rebirth, and more than



400 butterflies made a fantastic display of light and colour and everyone in the congregation received a bookmark on the theme of celebrating and caring for God's creation.

At the service, Maurice Smith, Director of Education for the diocese (*above right*, with *Dave White, Children's Work Co-ordinator*, a member of the Keyfolk Sunday School, and *Sharon Chester, Children's Worker*) presented the Child Friendly Church Award to St Peter's, which becomes the fifth church in the diocese to gain the Award.

Treasurer for L'Arche Manchester

L'Arche is an international faith-based organisation that runs communities where people with learning disabilities live in association with others who support them in whatever needs they have.

It is a registered charity
no. 2466 (England and Wales)
no. SCO38493 (Scotland).

L'Arche Manchester is a new project and seeks a treasurer to assist the committee in developing a new community. This is an honorary post. We would prefer someone with FCA/FCCA and PI insurance.

Would anyone interested or wishing to find out more please contact

Ruth Thompson on 07876 175330 or
e-mail : r-e-thompson@yahoo.co.uk
or **Peter Harrison** on 0161 427 6542

Walsingham

Youth Pilgrimage 2009

for those aged 11-18 and their leaders



"The week was more than simply growing together and enjoying the fun. There was also a very profound and spiritual aspect to the pilgrimage"

Fish out your tent, pack your sunglasses and join us for the week on the Youth Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham...

3-7 August, 2009

Varied worship and prayer - Daily mass - Barbecue / Discos - Sport - Holy Mile Walk Workshops



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

To book, and for more info, contact **Susie Mapledoram**,
Diocesan Youth Officer on
0161 828 1435 or at
susiemapledoram@manchester.anglican.org

The empty promises of Easter

by BISHOP CHRIS



ONE OF the many leadership books on my study shelves is by Rudi Giuliani, who was the Mayor of New York City at the time of 9/11.

When I first read the book, the chapter that stood out for me was the one entitled: 'Don't over-promise and under-deliver'. A helpful reminder to those with leadership responsibilities of any kind.

But the truth of the matter is that the world is full of empty promises. We watch TV, log on to the internet, or read magazines that tell us we can be happy, fulfilled, sexy or rich, if we would only purchase a certain product.

Victims

In this time of economic recession, many people feel they are victims of empty promises, like the person I was speaking to who was advised last year that a fixed rate mortgage would be better than a tracker - "because there's no way interest rates are going to fall in the next few years."

All of which can make it difficult to know who or what we can trust. But I want to suggest that with God things are different. Instead of promises full of emptiness, in Easter he gives us an emptiness that is full of promise.

The first 'empty promise' of Easter is the empty cross. As the women came early in the morning to the tomb, they would have probably looked up to the hill, just outside the city, to see the gruesome reminder of the events of two days before.

Still not understanding why it had to happen, but "at least Jesus us out of his suffering." Later they would come to understand that "the tree of defeat has

become the tree of glory. Where life was lost, there life has been restored."

Or, as the hymn "Praise my soul the king of heaven" expresses it, through Jesus' death, we are "ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven". The first "empty promise" filled with the promise of forgiveness.

Varied

When it comes to gospel accounts of the resurrection, we see they vary in detail and emphasis, but the second "empty promise" is found in there being no body of Jesus in the tomb.

Two things need to be said at this point. Despite what Jesus had said, the first disciples didn't expect that the tomb would be empty, or that Jesus would have been raised to life.

Secondly, whatever exactly the resurrection involved, it produced a massive fresh motivation for the first disciples.

From being a frightened group of grieving followers, they were transformed over succeeding weeks into a joyful and confident community of faith, willing to go and risk certain death in order to share with others the message that 'Jesus is alive'.

Victory

A transformation still happening today as we encounter and proclaim the risen Christ.

Much later, St Paul, writing to the church in Corinth, would state: "In him (Jesus), every one of God's promises is a yes" (2 Corinthians 1.20).

Or, to put it another way, there is no 'over-promising and under-delivering' when God is at work!

*The Rt Revd Christopher Edmondson
is Bishop of Bolton*

Serving the community by the Book



GREATER Manchester Police has an active chaplaincy service, one of the longest serving in the UK. An ecumenical chaplaincy representing all the major faiths, most chaplains are Roman Catholic, Methodist or Anglican ministers.

Revd Steve Wilkinson is a full-time serving

police officer, curate at Christ Church Pennington and a chaplain to the Police. He says: "Working in the police service is becoming increasingly challenging. Police officers need to be able to keep things in perspective and need a 'safe' person they can talk to.

"As chaplains, we operate by:


- being a familiar friend ;
- being available to anyone who needs to talk in confidence;
- being aware of the job's stresses and strains;
- being available at critical times;
- leading formal religious services required by the organisation or individuals."

The Greater Manchester Police chaplaincy service actively supports 'City Links' and the Message Trust in the faith 'Leaders Forums'.

It will be present at the Redeeming Our Communities event at Wythenshaw Forum on June 24, with Chief Constable Peter Fahy.




On Tuesday April 7, there is a service for police officers at Salford Cathedral led by the Rt Revd Terence Brain, Bishop of Salford.



This Roman Catholic Holy Mass is being offered at the request of senior police officers, for colleagues and families. Bishop Nigel will attend, and all serving and retired officers and their families are welcome at the mass to pray with, and for, their police.



A4 God
(art for God)

an exhibition about being inspired *by* God and *for* God
through the art and architecture of Manchester's churches

Get inspired!
September - October 2009

For details about how to submit a piece of work contact aim@stgeorgesrathoo.co.uk (deadline for submissions is July 24, 2009)

Manchester Cathedral

Handcuffed for justice for the Lolas

"TONY Lola, you have brought a light into our lives, how can we let you go?" Those are the words of the Didsbury CofE Primary School choir, determined not to see their fellow pupil sent back to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Tony, who is nine years old, has attended the school since he arrived in the UK in 2005. Before then he was arrested (aged six) in order to 'flush out' his politically active father. His mum, Mireille, fled the DRC in 2002 after being persecuted for her political beliefs.

Tony has amazed everyone with the progress he has made since he joined the school, and changed from a traumatised and frightened little boy to a happy, confident, polite and caring member of the community. He and his mum attend Emmanuel Church, Didsbury and Mireille sings in the church Gospel choir.

In February, Tony and Mireille were interviewed by Home Office officials. Their claim for asylum failed in 2007 and the Home Office wanted to prepare travel documents for their return to the DRC.

Tony's classmates were saddened that their friend might be taken away from them, so the school and church community began a campaign to 'Save our Lolas!' The school choir recorded a song that expresses the whole community's bewilderment and despair at what is happening to the family.

School choir director and co-author of the campaign song, Ruth Wilson said: "Tony is good friends with my son. Our whole family was devastated that he could be sent back to



ABOVE : Revd Nick Bundock, vicar of St James and Emmanuel Didsbury, and Matt Whitehead, head teacher at Didsbury CofE School, show their support for Mireille and Tony.

LEFT : Mother and son have become a valued part of their church family.

the DRC. Many people in the school felt the same way and so the song was written to show Tony just how much he means to us."

The Immigration Advisory Service is now representing Tony and Mireille and has submitted a fresh claim for asylum, based on new evidence. Until a decision is made on this claim, the government cannot remove the family.

The process is taking its toll on mother and son. Mireille is having trouble sleeping and Tony is showing signs of stress. He suffers from frequent headaches and has lost interest in activities that he used to love, like football and drama.

You can sign an online petition, asking the Home Secretary to use discretionary powers to allow Tony and Mireille to stay, and hear the song at www.stjamesandemmanuel.org

CATHEDRAL DIARY

If you have queries regarding events at the Cathedral, ring 0161 833 2220.

TIMES OF SERVICES - SUNDAY : Morning Prayer 8.45am (said); Holy Communion 9am (said); Sung Eucharist (Common Worship - sung - Cathedral Choir) 10.30am; Evensong (sung - Cathedral Voluntary Choir) 6.30pm. **WEEKDAYS :** Morning Prayer 9am (Mon-Sat); Holy Communion 1.10pm (Mon-Fri), Evensong 5.30pm (said Mon & Fri, sung Tues, Wed & Thurs), Evensong 3.30pm (sung, Sat only).



EVENTS during APRIL and MAY

APRIL 2009

During Holy Week Evensong will be sung at 5.30pm. From Mon April 13 to Sun April 18 Evening Prayer will be said at 4.30pm. On Sat April 17 it will be said at 3.30pm.

- Wed April 1** 12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
Sun April 5 10.30am Palm Sunday Eucharist
 12.30pm Lent Conversations (Library)
 4.30 pm Evening Prayer
 6.30 pm Sequence of Music & Readings for Palm Sunday (Cathedral Voluntary Choir)
Mon April 6 10.30am Blessing of the Oils and Renewal of Vows.
 Preacher: The Bishop of Bolton.
Tues April 7 12 noon Chrism Mass : President & Preacher: Bishop of Beverley.
Thur April 9 **Maundy Thursday**
 7.30 pm Sung Eucharist with Stripping of the Altars (Incense). A Watch will be kept until 10pm after this service
Fri April 10 **Good Friday**
 12 noon The Way of the Cross A Pilgrimage with the Bishop of Manchester: Veneration of the Cross, readings, poetry and music
 7.30 pm Music & Readings for Good Friday
Sat April 11 **Holy Saturday**
 7.30 pm Easter Liturgy with Baptism & Confirmation
Sun April 12 10.30am **Easter Day** Eucharist. 5.30pm Festal Evensong & Procession.
Wed April 15 12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
Thur April 16 12 noon Thursday Prayer : Mothers' Union (Lady Chapel)
Tues April 21 12.30pm Julian Prayer Group (Quire)
Wed April 22 5.30pm Evensong and Installation of Archdeacon of Manchester, Honorary Canon & Lay Canon

- Sat April 25** 7.30pm Music for Sacred Spaces performed by St George's Singers. Tickets 01663 764012 or tickets@st-georges-singers.org.uk
Sun April 26 2.30pm Royal Society of St George Service
Tues April 28 1.10pm Chetham's Concert.
Wed April 29 12.45pm Turning of the Leaves
Thur April 30 7pm Theological Society lecture: Real presences : Religion & Poetry'. Michael Schmidt.

MAY 2009

- From Fri May 22 to Fri May 29 services will be said, with the exception of : Sat May 23- Evensong will be sung by London Cantata Choir. Sun May 24- London Cantata Choir will sing at the 10.30am Eucharist and Evensong at 5.30pm*
- Sat May 2** 10.30am Be a Chorister Day. Limited places. To book contact 0161 833 2220 ext 238
Tuesd May 5 1.10pm Chetham's Concert
Sat May 9 7.30 pm Chetham's School of Music Strings Outreach Concert
Sun May 10 2pm Church Lads & Church Girls Annual Service
Tues May 12 12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group (Quire)
Wed May 13 12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves (Regiment Chapel)
Thur May 14 12 noon Thursday Prayer : Mothers' Union (Lady Chapel)
 7pm Bishop Wickham Lecture (Nave)
Sat May 16 5.15pm St Lazarus Service of Investiture
Sun May 17 3.30 pm Civic Service
Tues May 19 1.10pm Chetham's Concert
Thur May 21 **Ascension Day**
 7.30pm Sung Eucharist (Incense)
 12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
Wed May 27 **Day of Pentecost**
Sun May 31 10.30am Sung Eucharist. (Incense). Preacher: The Bishop of Bolton. 5.30pm Festal Evensong & Procession.

Small Ads

GARDENING SERVICE Phoenix Landscape Services for regular maintenance contracts and one-off garden clearances of churches, vicarages and domestic gardens. Free quote, fully insured. Contact Steve and Colin on 07961 412031.

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Design, Layout
David Stuckey

Printed by
Trafford Press Group

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