

cathedral news

november 2017

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Cathedral

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www.manchestercathedral.org

Image credit: High Altar by Tony Davies, winner of Capture the Cathedral: Architecture and Stained Glass



Our Traumatised World and City

On 25 September I had the immense privilege to chair the first Survivor's Conference at the Etihad Stadium. This event was for those injured in the Manchester Arena terrorist attack. Friends and family were invited as well, in total numbering over one hundred people. Various presentations were made by those involved in the investigation, funding, the NHS, Victim Support and other charities. It was a very moving five hours and especially poignant as some shared their experiences on that fateful night when the Ariana Grande concert attendees were attacked by a terrorist living in our city. The scale of the psychological pain is immeasurable for many. It became clear to me that the trauma will remain for a very long time for those affected including the family and friends of those injured or killed. We are indeed a traumatised city.

In the preceding week, and continuing as I write, we have witnessed the large scale destruction of various parts of our world through natural disasters. Hurricane Irma inflicted huge loss of life in the Caribbean, and in Florida and Texas in the USA. Hundreds were killed in the mud slide in Sierra Leone. Thousands lost lives and possessions through flooding in India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

We are clearly seeing the effects of climate change as the earth's temperature continues to rise.

Furthermore, the immature rhetoric of political leaders in the USA and North Korea is causing huge tensions and fears of another war in our world. This will traumatise the earth and its inhabitants even further.

The common denominator in these traumas is that all are caused by human beings. We inflict such pain and suffering on our fellow human beings. Our actions and, in some cases, our inactions, are causing much pain and death in our world. We have the power to stop this madness. Perhaps we can begin by changing our thinking and maybe this will change our behaviour into more positive and life-giving ways. Jesus called this repentance. We have to change course to stop the trauma and begin to allow people and the rest of creation to 'breathe' again the life-giving power of the Spirit of God. Perhaps this could begin with us?

In Christ's love and peace.

Rogers Govender

Remembering

Marcia Wall, Canon Pastor and Acting Precentor

The 1st, the 2nd and the 11th of November are special days, days when we are called to remember: to remember those we love and see no longer, to remember those who loved God and their neighbours above all else, and to remember those who lost their lives in wars and conflicts so that we can live in freedom.

On the 1st I shall pray for my dad who died 4 years ago. I was travelling from Galilee to Jerusalem when I received the news. I never made it to the funeral. In Brazil funerals take place within 24 hours of death. Different cultures have different traditions. I'm forever grateful for all the sacrifices he made for me and my siblings, the things he had to give up so that we could have a good education and live in a nice house.



On the 2nd I shall pray for All the Saints, giving thanks for the life and example of those people, who, though not perfect, were prepared to make sacrifices – looking after the sick, the refugees and asylum seekers and going to dangerous places to help others, all because they followed Jesus' commandment that we should love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

On the 11th I shall pray for all men and women, young and old, who made the ultimate sacrifice and died for their country and people, for me and you.

.....
I invite you, on these special days, to stop for five minutes to remember, pray and perhaps light a candle in memory of those people who touched your life in one way or another and made you what you are today.
.....

Blessings,
Marcia

Cash for Kids Mission Christmas



For the third year running, Manchester Cathedral will take part in Cash for Kids Mission Christmas Appeal. Gifts can be dropped off at Manchester Cathedral until Wednesday 13 December.

The organisers write: Sadly, one in three children still live in severe poverty in Greater Manchester. This means that they go to bed without a hot meal in a house without central heating. Statistically, this also means that 192,336 children in our city will not have a present to open on Christmas Day.

Key 103's Cash for Kids Mission Christmas aims to brighten Christmas for these children by asking you to buy an extra

present when doing your Christmas shopping. Last year, through the support and generosity of the people of Manchester, we were able to distribute toys worth £2,897,259 to 61,873 children.

As we are even more determined to help local children and ensure as many of them as possible in Greater Manchester wake up to a present this Christmas, we are asking for your help again this year. Mission Christmas will not change the poverty statistics for our city, but it will make a difference to many families on Christmas Day.

For more information, visit: <http://www.key103.co.uk/mission/>

Was it for This the Clay Grew Tall



Stephen Raw, Artist in Residence

From 2-12 November 2017, Manchester Cathedral will be exhibiting five artworks from Stephen Raw's 'Was It for This the Clay Grew Tall' collection, each inspired by a poem by Wilfred Owen.

The Parable of the Old Men & the Young

One purpose of this artwork is to open a debate about the use of words such as 'victory, glory, heroes'. This 'sarcophagus-cum-altar' is essentially at variance to war memorials which can, to my mind, avoid the reality of war's consequences. Further, there were some voices that seemed to legitimise the slaughter in the trenches only in simple terms of 'sacrifice'.

There is horror here in the poem where Owen's powerful words depart from the original Hebrew rejection of child-sacrifice in the story of Abraham and his son Isaac.

But the old man would not so, but slew his son, And half the seed of Europe, one by one.

At a Calvary Near the Ancre

In WW1 crucifixes were often placed at crossroads in France, which is why my approach with this poem is sculptural: a 'raised-up' document. Owen sees the Church sending priests to the trenches, where they watched 'the common soldier being, as it were, crucified'.



The priests, however, gladly received minor wounds from 'the beast' – enemy troops or the Devil – and so had a 'trophy' to return with.

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Strange Meeting

The way I have structured this poem looks at Owen's words in an unfamiliar way and at an altered scale. Unconstrained by the narrow confines of an upright page, sentences here are seen as complete lines when given as much space as they require. In addition, a book's sterile page is replaced with one here that sabotages its conventional, pristine surface through a painterly 'defacement'.

Sonnet (On seeing a piece of our heavy artillery being brought into action)

The cracked tiles serve as a metaphor for the damage, disfigurement and destruction wrought in war and mostly visited on human flesh – lovingly created, carefully nurtured, yet easily harmed. (Their raw material also refers to the title of the exhibition.) I talk about the tiles in a two minute video on my website page 'Was It For This. . .' (www.stephenraw.com)

The Next War

During my time in Ors, I gathered soil from the canal-side where the Wilfred Owen and his comrades from the Manchester Regiment were killed. I brought the soil back to my studio in Manchester and mixed it in with the acrylic paint used in the painting. I encourage people to touch the surface to feel a connection with Owen and Ors. Owen described this poem and 'Anthem for Doomed Youth' as his two best war poems.



Manchester Cathedral Poetry Competition Results

Andrew Rudd, Poet in Residence



The results are out! We are delighted to announce that Sharon Black is 'Manchester Cathedral Poet of the Year 2017'. Sharon is originally from Glasgow. She has plenty of experience as a writer – first a journalist but now a widely published poet with two collections to her name. She lives in the Cévennes mountains of France where she organizes writing retreats.

can almost feel the warm feathers. The hen has a slightly comical surprise at seeing her own eggs, but the egg-collector has a surprise verging on awe at the everyday miracle in her hands. This is what good poetry does – it takes a close attentive look at things until they astonish us. A deeply spiritual moment. Congratulations, Sharon!

And here is her winning poem! It's a precise story of a moment in the henhouse. The words Sharon uses for the hen are exactly right – 'puffed out, muttering, shifting' - you



Eggs

This morning when I fetched the eggs,
our Sussex was still huddled
in the nesting box. As my hand slid under,
she puffed out, muttering,
shifting as if to leave –
but gently, slowly does it

She looked surprised to see them,
her wattle jerking to and fro, so I
lowered the roof, flicked the catch
and left her there to contemplate
all the miracles a day might offer up
in handfuls, at a stoop.

and from between her silken chest
and the bed of flattened straw
I coaxed first one egg then another –
milk white, butterscotch, umber, blond –
each unmarked despite the box's mottling of
shit, each warm and gleaming in my hand.

Sharon Black

Family Carols
Saturday 16 December 2017
7.30pm
Manchester Cathedral Voluntary Choir
Christopher Stokes, Organ
Geoffrey Woollatt, Director
Tickets £10 (£8)
available from
www.familycarols2017.eventbrite.co.uk
includes a glass of wine & mince pie

Dispatches from the Home Front, 1917

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Bishop Frank Sargeant

These are extracts from Canon Peter Green's comment on the progress of the First World War in 1917, writing in the Manchester Guardian as 'Artifex'.



Imperial War Museum image E(AUS)941

On 18th January, Green quoted a soldier who was protesting at the press' description of the "Tommy" as being excited at killing, but kind to captives. Rather, he regarded the Germans as victims of a common catastrophe.

Green told how one of his 'lads' had blossomed during the war on 15th February, declaring he was not afraid of life or death. However, he had no pity for those whom he shot as it was an animal existence on the front line.

Green condemned bishops who regarded the working class as 'loafers' and the war as 'a regenerator, a purifier.' That was libel against all the working men who had volunteered to fight.

On 15th March Green accused conscientious objectors of sitting on the fence because he could not say personally, 'I will not fight but will let others fight for me.'

A correspondent wrote that the violation of Belgium was not the motive for war, but that the motive was rather commercial supremacy. On 19th April Green stated that it was moral blindness to confuse the motives of the Allies with those of Germany which had torpedoed hospital ships and used poisonous gas.



On 2nd August he opposed Bishop Knox of Manchester for ruling that prayers for the dead should not be said in church. Green warned that the instinct to pray for those who had died in war was so strong that, if prohibited, the bereaved would go to the Roman Catholic Church or Spiritualist meetings.

On 25th October Green raised the matter of child criminals, intelligent youngsters left to their own devices with fathers at war and mothers at work. He suggested on 8th November that responsible adults might adopt them, acting as amateur probation officers.

When it was announced that 'eternal Father strong to save' was the soldiers' favourite hymn, Green concluded that that this proved the ingrained English reserve in matters of religion.

He ended the year with Robert Louis Stevenson's statement that diplomacy is a state of grace. Britain's threatening diplomacy had lacked grace. Green thought it 'bad Christianity and bad for business.'

.....

The third battle of Ypres, Passchendaele, commenced on 31st July. The Allies lost 325,000 troops. Pope Benedict XV issued a seven point peace plan on 1st August, which was rejected by both the Central Powers and the Allies, including the United States, which had joined the war in April.

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Volition News



Tony Maunder, Volunteer Programme Manager

Over the past 12 months Volition has helped tend to the five beehives on the south roof of the Cathedral. At the start of autumn, we extracted the honey from the hives and produced over two hundred pounds of liquid gold, resulting in around four hundred jars of our 'Heavenly Honey'. This was a good exercise for our volunteers and showed them how a range of skills such as pricing the jars and designing the labels results in the end product.



We converted the training room into a mobile bottling facility for the day and worked as part of a production line team, with one person pouring the honey into a jar and measuring the weight, another wiping the excess honey from the jar and still another putting the lid and label onto each jar. Finally, the jars were numbered and boxed to meet orders throughout Greater Manchester.

Heavenly Honey can be purchased from the Cathedral's online shop: www.manchestercathedralonlineshop.co.uk or from St Denys' Bookshop.

Dedication of the Stoller Organ

Anthony O'Connor, Director of Fundraising and Development



Back in October 2009, Bishop Nigel McCulloch launched the Manchester Cathedral Development Project (MCDP). One of the aims was to raise the funds to re-establish an organ on the medieval Pulpitum in the Nave. At that stage, we had no idea that this organ project would end up costing £2.6m, nor of the long journey to secure permissions and funding.

Finally, however, on Thursday 14 September 2017, over 800 people gathered in the Cathedral to dedicate our new organ and to hear a great recital from Thomas Trotter. Before the recital Sir Norman Stoller unveiled a plaque naming the organ as the Stoller Organ. In tribute to Sir Norman, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, Warren Smith said,

"This organ will play a vital role for many generations to come by using this world class instrument reach out to all the communities we serve. The Cathedral stands as one of the city's great historical buildings, but it is far from being a museum; it is a living entity, a community's focus and a symbol of unity. I am glad to be a part of its future and very grateful to Sir Norman, Lady Stoller and all the Trustees of the Stoller Charitable for making a difference to this cathedral which will be in place for many generations to come."



The Dean's Pilgrimage to **THE HOLY LAND ISRAEL**

12th - 19th February 2018

Led by the Dean
of Manchester
the Very Revd
Rogers Govender

Manchester
Cathedral
Development Project



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New Members of the Manchester Cathedral Community Lunch



Marcia Wall, Canon Pastor

We held our second new members' lunch after the 10.30 Sunday service on the 24 September. It's wonderful to see how our community is growing.

The lunch was a nice and comfortable opportunity to meet other recent attendees. Aside from the lovely light buffet lunch provided by the Cathedral, my wife and I enjoyed conversing with the other new members and making new acquaintances. Sometimes we are hesitant to introduce ourselves in new places, but this lunch provided the perfect environment for us to speak a little bit about ourselves and to hear from others. We were able to chat with some members of the clergy in this

less formal setting, allowing us to get to know them more personally as well. Dean Rogers Govender discussed various opportunities for volunteering or serving within the cathedral for anyone who might be so inclined, now or in the future. We learned about the many areas for involvement and about what other members are currently doing for the church and for the community. The lunch was a terrific 'ice-breaker' for us and other new members. We want to especially thank Canon Márcia Wall and others for organising and providing this splendid lunch and the opportunities it provided!

Justin and Janette

Correction – Apologies to Roger Clegg for the mix-up in the caption to his photo on last month's community page.

Looking ahead November

Wednesday 1 November - All Saint's Day

2.00 pm Manchester's Religious Sites and Symbolisms: Talk by Ed Glinert
5.30 pm Festal Evensong (with procession)

Thursday 2 November - All Souls' Day

1.10 pm Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert
4.30 pm Evening Prayer
5.30 pm Duruflé Requiem Eucharist

Saturday 4 November

10.30 am Christian Meditation session
12.00 pm Iconography Workshop

Monday 6 November

6.00 pm 'Our Faith, Our Planet, Our Community' – Interactive workshop (refreshments from 5.30 pm)

Wednesday 8 November

12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves

Thursday 9 November

12.00 noon Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer

Friday 10 November

7.30 pm The Manchester Sleepout

Saturday 11 November

10.45 am Armistice Day Service
3.00 pm Be A Chorister For A Day

Tuesday 14 November

12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group

Friday 17 November

10.00 am Christmas Arts & Craft Market

Saturday 18 November

10.00 am Christmas Arts & Craft Market

Sunday 19 November

5.30 pm Evensong sung by Manchester Cathedral Voluntary Choir & Chester Cathedral Nave Choir

Monday 20 November

5.30 pm Book Launch: 'Theology Reforming Society'

Wednesday 22 November

12.45 pm 'Turning of the Leaves

Thursday 23 November

1.10 pm Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert

Friday 24 November

7.30 pm Evensong of thanksgiving for DBE Governors

Saturday 25 November

11.00 am Coffee Concert; the Carnelian Saxophone Quartet

Sunday 26 November

10.30 am Sung Eucharist to commemorate 170th Anniversary of the Cathedral
5.30 pm Evensong for the Feast of Christ the King & Farewell Service for Archdeacon David Bailey

Exhibitions

Admission to all our exhibitions is free.

WWI Exhibition by Stephen Raw
4-13 November

Icon Exhibition
21-30 November

Advent Labyrinth
4-9 December

Service Times Midweek Services

| | | |
|----------------|--------|-------------|
| Morning Prayer | 9.00am | Mon-Fri |
| Holy Communion | 1.10pm | Mon-Fri |
| Evensong | 5.30pm | Tues-Thurs* |
| Evening Prayer | 4.30pm | Mon & Fri |

Saturday Services

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Morning Prayer & Holy Communion | 9.00am |
| Evensong | 5.30pm* |

Sunday Services

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

*Please note: during the below school holidays evening services are said.
All said services are at 4.30 pm (unless stated as being sung by a visiting choir on these pages)
26 December 2017- 7 January 2018 - Chorister Christmas Holidays

Looking ahead December

Friday 1 December

6.30 pm Prevent Breast Cancer Christmas Celebrations

Saturday 2 December

10.30 am Cathedral Journaling Group—Growing your spirituality
7.30 pm Henshaws Carols by Candlelight (doors open 7pm)

Sunday 3 December

1.00 pm, 2.30 pm & 4.00 pm St Ann's Hospice 'Light up a Life' Services
5.30 pm Advent Procession

Monday 4 December

7.30 pm MedEquip4Kids Christmas Singalong

Tuesday 5 December

12.30 pm Julian Prayer Group
6.15 pm Christmas Tree Light Switch-On
7.30 pm Children's Society 'Sing for Christmas'

Wednesday 6 December

12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves

Thursday 7 December

1.10 pm Chetham's School of Music Lunchtime Concert

Saturday 9 December

10.30 am Christian Meditation session
7.00 pm Messiah Concert

Sunday 10 December

5.30 pm Evensong with Installation of new Honorary Canons

Tuesday 12 December

7.30 pm The Manchester Sleepout

Saturday 11 November

11.30 am Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce Carol Concert
7.00 pm The Christie Charity Christmas Concert

Wednesday 13 December

7.00 pm Alzheimer's Society Carol Concert (doors open 6.30 pm)

Thursday 14 December

12.00 noon Mothers' Union Thursday Prayer

Saturday 16 December

12.00 noon Cathedral Christmas Sing-along
7.30 pm Family Carols Concert

Sunday 17 December

1.00 pm Shelter Charity Carol Concert

Monday 18 December

7.30 pm Trinity High School Carol Service

Tuesday 19 December

7.00 pm Singing for Syrians Carol Concert

Wednesday 20 December

12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves

Wednesday 20 December

12.45 pm Turning of the Leaves
7.30 pm Royal Manchester Children's Hospital Charity-Christmas Carols in the City

Friday 22 December

2.30 pm Booth Centre Christmas Carol Service
7.30 pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday 24 December

2.00 pm Blessing of the Crib
11.30 pm Midnight Mass Eucharist

Monday 25 December

10.30 am Christmas Day Eucharist
12.00 noon Evening Prayer (no 1.10 pm Holy Eucharist)

Tuesday 26 December

9.00 am Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist (please note change of time) (no 1.10 pm Holy Eucharist)
4.30 pm Evening Prayer

26 December 2017 - 6 January 2018

Chorister Christmas Holidays
Please note: during the school holidays evening services are said. All said services are at 4.30 pm.



Staff member for November

Stuart Shepherd,
Cathedral Administrator

What is your favourite film?
Anything sci-fi related or a film that gives a fright!

What music do you like?
I'll listen to most stuff really, including classical, chant, choral, cheesy pop, dance, hip-hop and even trance.

Do you have any hobbies?
Running and photography.

What was the last book you enjoyed? 'According to Yes' by Dawn French. Made me chuckle.

Do you play an instrument?
Yes, I passed my grade eight trumpet when I was 18 years old and grew up playing for Knowsley Youth Orchestra.

What was the last place you visited/went on holiday?
The Canary Islands.

Do you have any pets?
I used to have a black miniature poodle, Rufus, until he passed away in December 2016.... Now I only have a few goldfish and a frog in my garden pond.

Which area do you live in?
Dukinfield, in Tameside

Clergy

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Sub-Dean and Canon for Theology & Mission
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The Revd Canon Adrian Rhodes
The Revd Peter Bellamy-Knights

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Manchester Baroque
presents

Manchester
Cathedral

Messiah

G F Handel

Featuring the new Stoller Organ
built by Kenneth Tickell & Co.
Manchester Cathedral Choir
Nicola Howard, Soprano
Geoffrey Woollatt, Conductor
Christopher Stokes, Organ

Tickets £25 and £15

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Saturday 9 December 2017
7.00 pm *Please note the
early start time*

Manchester Cathedral
Victoria Street / M3 1SX / 0161 833 2220

Cathedral Visitor & Conference Centre
/ Cateaton Street / M3 1SQ / 0161 817 4817