

THIS WEEK

Sunday 11 December - Third Sunday of Advent

8.00am **HOLY COMMUNION**, page no 51

President: The Canon Precentor

8.30am **Breakfast with the Bible**, led by Canon Edward Carter

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

President: The Canon Precentor

Preacher: The Vice Dean

11.15am **CHORAL MATTINS** sung by the Voluntary Choir

Preacher: Canon Edward Carter

1.30pm *Baptism of Olatokunbo and Omolara Oluwakuyide*

3.30pm **CHORAL EVENSONG** sung by the Voluntary Choir

Address: The Revd Kate Moore, Associate Priest

This morning the Dean is preaching at St Augustine of Canterbury, Romford

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 18 December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00am **HOLY COMMUNION**, page no 52

President: Canon Edward Carter

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

President: Canon Edward Carter

Preacher: The Dean

11.15am **CHORAL EUCHARIST**

President: The Vice Dean

Preacher: The Canon Precentor

3.30pm **CHORAL EVENSONG**

Address: Canon Edward Carter

6.00pm **CEREMONY OF CAROLS**

& Lighting of the Christmas Tree

Daily Prayer through the Week (Mon to Sat):

Morning Prayer: 7.45 am

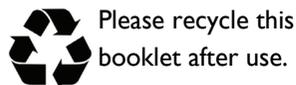
Holy Communion: 8.15 am (also Wed at 12.35 pm & Thurs at 10.00 am)

Midday Prayer in St Cedd's Chapel

Evensong/Evening Prayer: 5.15 pm (sung on Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri,
said on Wednesday & Saturday)

On certain Saturdays Evensong is sung by a choir

– please check the Music & Services list for dates



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CATHEDRAL LIFE WEEKLY

Third Sunday of Advent, 11 December 2016



Carols all the way...

At the Cathedral this Christmas tide there is a feast of music and carols as we together with thousands of worshippers celebrate the birth of the infant king.

This year there will be TWO informal lunchtime carol services, due to demand - Friday, 16 Dec and Friday, 23 Dec both at 12.30 pm - but with mulled wine and mince pies free from 11.45am.

The Ceremony of Carols - with dance and the lighting of the Christmas tree is a highlight at 6pm on Sunday, 18 December; and the classic nine lessons and carols on 23 Dec at 6.30pm and 24 Dec at 4pm. No tickets required and everyone is welcome!



The Crib Service is at 2pm on Christmas Eve - come dressed as your favourite character from the Christmas story!

And then the great climax of Midnight Mass at 11.30pm and Christmas morning at 8am, 9am and 10.30am. Let's truly celebrate God's greatest gift.

Contact us at:

Cathedral Office, New Street, Chelmsford CM1 1TY
01245 294 492 (Emergency out of hours contact: 07518 124858)

and visit our website: chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

Facebook: /chelmsfordcathedral Twitter: @CCathedral

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Diocese of
Chelmsford

Study Notes on the Sunday Gospel

Matthew 11: 2-11

Introduction & Context

John the Baptist, arrested and imprisoned, sends messengers to ask Jesus: "Are you the one ...?" (v. 3) Jesus points John (and the crowd) to the signs of the Kingdom (v. 5). Echoing Isaiah, he points out that the blind, the deaf, the lame and the lepers are being healed and good news is given to the poor. There are some who take offense at Jesus (v. 6). Jesus refers to the signs of the Kingdom in Isaiah. John is "more than a prophet" (v. 9) for he announces the coming of the Kingdom. Now Jesus validates John's ministry as a true prophet (by quoting a prophecy from Malachi, v. 10), going on even to identify John as Elijah, returned (v. 14). Jesus criticizes those who went out to see John the Baptist in the wilderness with incorrect expectations. John, as great as he was, only pointed the way to an even greater reality (v. 11). Up to and including John the Baptist was the time of prophetic promise; now this promise is starting to be fulfilled (v. 13).

Once you are settled and are ready to go:

- Read the passage slowly and reflectively
- Note anything that particularly strikes you and refer to the notes if they are helpful
- Spend a few moments in quiet reflection
- If you are a group, share your reflections in pairs or as a whole group (remembering that each person will have different perspectives and views on the passage)
- Read the passage for a final time and give thanks to God for the gift of his holy word.

Next Sunday's Readings - 18 December :Advent 4

9.30 am & 11.15 am:

Isaiah 7: 10-16

Psalms 80vs 1-8

Romans 1: 1-7

Matthew 1: 18-end

3.30 pm:

Psalm 89

2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16

Romans 16: 25-27

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 12 December

6.00 - 8.00pm Youth Group (YMCA)

Wednesday 14 December

9.30am Parent and Toddler Group (Chapter House)

11.00am - 3.00pm 24/7 Prayer (St Peters' Chapel)

12.35pm Eucharist

1.00-3.00pm Welcome on Wednesday: coffee and cake in the North Transept

Thursday 15 December

10.00am Eucharist

10.45am Faith and Fitness (North Transept)

Friday 16 December

12.30pm Carols for Everyone!

The Government's Role in Shaping Our Cities' is finally due to be published on 10 January. It addresses the moral and ethical issues involved for those making choices about our urban areas. If you would like to order a copy please go to Amazon or directly to Arena Publishers."

Thank You to everybody who came to the Christmas Market in the Cathedral last Saturday. A special thank you to the those who ran stalls, helped with refreshments and to the vergers for all the work involved. The Market made over £3000 for the Cathedral and over £2000 for other local charities and organisations.

Monday 19 December 7.00pm

St Cedd's Hall, Chapter House

Fellowship Groups pre-Christmas

Social: Members of all five Cathedral Fellowship Groups are gathering for a pre-Christmas Social evening on Monday 19 December, with light refreshments and carol singing. Anyone not yet a member of a Group but who wants to find out more is very welcome to attend. The evening will run from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. For more information contact Canon Edward Carter on 01245 294486.

Saturday 14 January 2017

7.15 for 7.45pm Cathedral Ball

Dancing with The Julie Cooper Band until 11.30pm. Four course meal and licensed bar. Tickets £35 from Yvonne Spence tel: 01245 465108, 07889 610048 or email: yvonnespence@hotmail.com

NOTICES & DATES FOR THE DIARY

A very warm welcome to Chelmsford Cathedral especially if you are a visitor or here for the first time. Everything you need for the celebration is contained in the service booklet. Please ask one of the welcome stewards on duty at the doors if you have any questions.

Junior Church meets today, starting at 9.30am in Chapter House. This week's theme is The Prophets.

Yellow Envelopes If you are a UK tax payer, please use a yellow Gift Aid envelope (available at the doors) to increase the value of your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. Remember to fill in your name, house number and postcode and the date.

Christmas Cards of the Cathedral are now available from the Bookstall.

On 24 December at 2pm the Cathedral will be holding its traditional crib service. Come dressed up as a favourite character from the Christmas story - donkeys welcome! The **Christingle Service** will take place at 3.30pm on 29 January.

The Cathedral's Visitor App was launched earlier this month. Free to download and available for both Apple and Android, the app provides information about events, concerts and services being held at the Cathedral. It is ideal for use when out and about. It can be downloaded prior to a visit or by using the free Wi-Fi in the Cathedral; there are detailed instructions available. In addition

there is an audio guided tour lasting about 20 minutes, which gives visitors information on many of the features in the Cathedral.

4th Chelmsford Cathedral Brownies

Request for used stamps: the Brownies are collecting used stamps for a charity called knitted knockers: www.fundraisingstamps.com/form-clbf So far they have collected nearly 2kg of stamps, want to collect even more. If you have used stamps, particularly once Christmas cards start arriving, please bring them to the Cathedral and leave them in the labelled glass jar by the bookstall.

Christmas Day Lunch

The annual two course Christmas Day lunch of roast turkey, a choice of desserts and a glass of wine will take place in Chapter House. Cost is £10 per head and should be paid to Malcolm Treacher by 18 December. Please do join us especially if you will be on your own. Please contact Malcolm at the 11.15am service or at 3 Havencourt, Victoria Rd, CMI IEA, tel: 250061.

The Barrell Family left England on the day of the Brexit vote and arrived in Wellington, NZ. Hamish and Jane write: "The last six months have been full of reacquainting ourselves with Kiwi life in a new setting. Hamish has been working steadily despite being left without an office for two weeks following the Kaikoura earthquake. He can also announce that his book titled 'Build Over There:

Daily Gospel Readings for this week, to use in your daily prayer:

<i>Sunday:</i>	Matthew 11: 2-11	<i>Thursday:</i>	Luke 7: 24-30
<i>Monday:</i>	Matthew 21.23-27	<i>Friday:</i>	John 5: 33-36
<i>Tuesday:</i>	Matthew 21.28-32	<i>Saturday:</i>	Matthew 1.1-17
<i>Wednesday:</i>	Luke 7.18b-23	<i>Sunday:</i>	Matthew 1: 18-end

You can find a simple 10 minute reflection at: www.pray-as-you-go.org

Thought for the day

Time is not given to us to keep a faith we once had,
but to acquire a faith we need now
Thomas Merton

Please pray for:

- Gwen Barnard, Margaret Beverley, Sue Cockett, Rosemary Duffin, Antoin Irtelli, Julie Liney, Janet Wallace; all those receiving home communion and all in need of our prayers
- the Annual Ordinands Evening at Billericay Emmanuel to be attended by Bishop Stephen on the Friday 16 December
- All those who work in radio or television, the work of Premier Radio, and all stations relating to the Diocese
- The Diocese of Kericho (Kenya)
- Meadgate Church, Great Baddow

WWI Grant - Great news!

In the latest round of grants for cathedrals from the World War I Fund, Chelmsford has been awarded £300,000 towards the urgent repairs to the Song School roof in the Cathedral.

This is fantastic news and a huge thank you to Pamela Yates and the Works Committee for all their work.

Schools Christmas Workshop 2016



Monday 14 November saw an enthusiastic Education Team welcome their first group of primary school children to the Christmas Workshops, which aim to give the children an insight into the meaning and importance of the Christmas festival and its Christian message. They provide an opportunity also, to meet children from other schools and some who may not have visited a church before and are unsure of the Christmas story and its message. By the end of November 470 children had visited the Cathedral.

Considerable planning takes place before the event to develop the activities that the children will experience and to ensure that

everything is ready on time. The days include five activities, each concentrating on one aspect of the Christmas story. A reflective time spent making a friendship bracelet is especially important, but the highlight of the day is the drama production, by the children, of the Nativity.

The beautiful setting of the Cathedral allows the Christmas story of love, joy, hope and peace to be told through story, reflection, drama, practical activity and singing a carol led by Laurence and Christopher. The day closes with prayer, while sitting around the crib that is lit by candles.

Bobby Harrington

Citizenship Day



Three secondary schools, Drapers Academy, KEGS and Moulsham High School met as part of a citizenship day to discuss the idea of 'Britishness'. After listening to a series of speakers, the students got into groups to present their own ideas and in the afternoon, there were intense discussions between the different groups. Here are some of the comments from the sixth formers:

'The 'Britishness' day exceeded my expectations by a mile; it was very informative, interesting and engaging. I learned and became aware of what Britishness means for people of all ethnic backgrounds and the way they get affected by it. I enjoyed the debates and something similar would be fun to do again.'

'In the afternoon, the debates were really interesting and we enjoyed this part as we felt that we could put across our views as a group.'

'During the Cathedral trip, I learnt that the term Britishness doesn't have a definite meaning but that there are numerous aspects that are related to Britishness, such as the cuisine and the culture of different ethnic backgrounds. Moreover, this trip exceed my expectations because I now understand that Britishness means different things for the different ethnic groups that inhabit Britain.'