

Cathedral News

Winter 2011

Services

Sundays

0800 Holy Communion
0930 Parish Eucharist
1100 Sung Eucharist
1800 Choral Evensong

Monday- Friday

0745 Morning Liturgy
1800 Evensong
(Wednesday
- Communion)

1200 Communion
Wednesday & Friday

Saturday

1700 Evening Prayer

More details in the
[Service List](#)



Cathedral Life

Portsmouth Cathedral has been at the heart of the community for over 800 years. It is the presence of the Cathedral in Old Portsmouth which gives this area its distinctive character, and many of the activities which the Cathedral undertakes build close links with the area.

In all walks of life communication is vital, and so we have decided to launch a new occasional newsletter to keep those who live in the Cathedral Parish informed about what is happening over the coming weeks, and we aim to deliver it to every home in the parish. We will update you on what is happening to the building, on planned events, and on the part you can play in the life of the Cathedral.

The immediate horizon is, of course, the great Christian festival of Christmas, and as I write this, the tree is being decorated in the Nave in preparation for our many carol services - the next couple of weeks will indeed be busy with choirs, concerts, bells and decorations.

Looking further ahead, we are planning a series of events in and around Lent which will focus on the economic and social climate we find ourselves in, and how we find and debate Christian values in today's world.

We would welcome feedback on this new venture - please tell us what you think!

With best wishes for a happy Christmas,

David Brindley
Dean

You are part of the Cathedral's Parish...

If you have received this Newsletter through your letter box and are resident here you have certain rights of the Cathedral and its clergy as your parish church. You may be entitled to be married here, have significant anniversaries celebrated here, be baptised, confirmed and have funerals and memorial services here.

Please keep the Canon Pastor, **Canon Michael Tristram's** contact details handy: email michael.tristram@portsmouthcathedral.org.uk and telephone 023 9273 1282. He will be pleased to respond with more information or, if you so wish, will be pleased to come and visit you if for no other reason but to tell you more about the Cathedral's life and ways you may wish to be involved.

PORTSMOUTH
CATHEDRAL

Winter Newsletter

Generous Welcome and Hospitality

There have been four meetings of this group in recent months and a plan for the delivery of the **Cathedral's welcome** is now agreed. It just needs some cabling to be installed which will then unlock the process of delivering a lot of information digitally on a **touch screen** rather than on paper. This in turn will enable the Welcome area and Cloister link to be tidied and focused with better internal signage and coordinated displays. The new **coffee machine** with Fairtrade coffee beans ground as needed is a great success and we are grateful to the donor for making this possible.



Discipleship

Each year, there is an opportunity during **Lent**, which begins on 22nd February, to be informed and challenged about the **personal, spiritual and social issues** which impact upon our lives. In successive years, through the programme of **Lent lectures**, we have addressed questions about the limits of human knowledge, about the nature of time and relativity within the cosmos, about the difficulties and opportunities faced by senior public servants who are committed to a religious faith.

In 2012 we intend to open up understanding and debate around some of the complex features of present society; the vast gap in incomes within and between nations, the ecological limits we are exceeding or approaching (climate change, loss of biodiversity), the peaking of global oil production, the deterioration of social capital, the absence of sustaining vision or ideals around which to reform and promote humanity and wholeness.

Recent protest movements represent the iceberg tip of potential discord, disillusion and decay in society, as well as the need to address fundamental questions about meaning, purpose and policy generation. In our **Lent programme** we will try to provide some opportunities to explore these issues and, hopefully, to promote some response. The core programme of Lent lectures on Sunday afternoons will be reinforced by a preaching programme, and some weekday events.

Watch for more details and the chance to be engaged with these big events.

Community

The Community Engagement Group has discussed a variety of ideas for making stronger connections with the wider community, including the possibility of setting up an Old Portsmouth **Good Neighbours** Scheme. Some research is being undertaken to assess the level of need before gathering together a wider group. There are also possibilities for engaging a wider group of people with the Lent Lectures series in 2012 which we hope will interest younger as well as older people.

Transformative Worship



Earlier this year we began to take a fresh look at the Cathedral's worshipping life. The Transformative Worship Group has recommended several **changes** and **innovations**, including a once-a-month **informal Eucharist** which focuses on families and children and takes place in the Nave.

The dates for these services in the first quarter of 2012 are: Jan 15, Feb 5 and March 18. This service always starts at 0930. We have also begun to look at how we might best use the building most effectively.

Confirmation

Canon Michael writes 'I shall be glad to hear from those **young people** (from 10 years old), **teenagers** and **adults** who would like to consider being (**baptised and**) **confirmed at Easter** so that I can draw a study group(s) together early in the new year to meet at times to suit participants.'

The Cathedral Building

Maintaining a complex historic building such as the Cathedral continues to be an interesting and demanding challenge. Following his appointment, as the new Cathedral Architect Simon Ablett's first task was to undertake the Quinquennial Inspection of the Cathedral's fabric, due in 2011. The report identified the work which he considers necessary to preserve the fabric of the



Cathedral over the next 5 years and the various recommended works are placed into priority order based on the nature of the work and the degree of urgency needed. His recommendation is that **repair of the roofs** over the **oldest and most historic** part of the Cathedral, at its eastern end, needs to be carried out in 2012 and will cost approximately £150,000. A bid has been submitted to the Joint Cathedral Repair Fund for £100,000 and we should know the result of early in 2012. Once that is known, other grant making bodies will be approached for the balance. Assuming that the necessary funding can be obtained, this project will constitute the Cathedral's major capital project next year with the intention of undertaking the work during the summer.

South Door Entrance The configuration of the current main daily entrance makes access difficult especially for those in wheelchairs or mobility scooters, individuals with mobility issues, or parents with children in prams or buggies. The project will make the **entrance simple** and easy to use, and a much more **welcoming** prospect for all concerned, by **installing semi-automated inner doors and redesigning the entrance layout**. The costs are in the region of £30,000 which is well beyond the capacity of the Cathedral's annual operating budget and so alternative sources of funding are being pursued. We have already secured a very generous donation towards half the cost and are seeking the support of grant making bodies to fund the balance.

Cathedral Property

The Cathedral Chapter instructed a small review group to consider whether the properties met the Cathedral's current and future requirements. Their report contained three principal recommendations, which were all accepted by Chapter in July 2011.

The Deanery The wooden sash windows and external paintwork needed urgent attention. Internally the need to replace the antiquated central heating system already featured in the housing maintenance plan for 2011. Both external and internal works were undertaken this autumn.

Cathedral House First Floor Offices Daniells Harrison, who valued Cathedral House for this year's audit, were consulted about the likelihood of **letting the offices** but gave the advice that it would be difficult to find a single tenant and also that only short term lets were likely. Chapter decided that it was not worth the cost and disruption of relocating the staff to the ground floor of Cathedral House in the face of this level of uncertainty. The **ground floor offices** remain available for rent.

8 Lombard Street Following the recommendation made by the Property Division of the Church Commissioners, D M Nesbits, who had valued the Cathedral's housing for the audit, were engaged to market the property which was sold in December. Chapter has agreed that the proceeds of the sale will be ring-fenced, in a restricted fund, whose sole purpose will be the purchase of a replacement property, when a suitable one becomes available.

The **Chapter Clerk, Jonathan Lloyd**, will be happy to provide more details of these and other projects.

What's On - Highlights

Special Services

Christmas Services

See our separate flyers for service details

Informal Services

9.30am 15 Jan, 5 Feb, 18 Mar

January

8 6pm Epiphany Carol Service

February

22 6pm Ash Wednesday Sung Eucharist

March

18 11am Eucharist with dedication of memorial plaque to Royal Navy Boy Seamen

Lent

Soup and Bread Lunches

Wednesdays

in aid of the Bishop's Lent Appeal

Lecture Series 4pm Sundays from 26 Feb

Exhibitions

Jon Callan

Original designs for stained glass

4-23 Feb

Coffee Mornings

10.30am 13 Jan, 24 Feb

Information

Weekly Notices - current news, services and events, **Service List** - details of music and preachers, **Events Diary** - outline. All available on the **website**, in the Cathedral or by email subscription.

The Cathedral has a **Facebook** page. Even if you are not part of Facebook you can still access it. If you are a member of Facebook please **'Like'** the page and encourage your friends to join.....

The Cathedral Shop

Open 10am-4pm daily.

Wide variety of books in stock or to order, greeting and post cards, unusual gifts and items of local interest.

Postage stamps

Coffee

Concerts

Solent Symphony Orchestra 7.30pm 25 Feb

Portsmouth Festival Choir 7.30pm 24 Mar

Social

Congregational Lunch 29 Jan in Becket Hall

Skittles Evening 7.30pm 10 Feb

Tickets from the Cathedral Shop

Cathedral Club

2.45pm alternate **Thursdays** from 12 Jan

Visitors welcome £3

Spirituality Day

17 Mar

Peals

10.30pm 31 Dec

10am 21 Jan, 25 Feb, 10 Mar

Sunday School

2nd and 4th Sundays in the month

Lunchtime Live

Organ and voice recitals

1.10pm Thursdays from 12 Jan

Refreshments on sale from 12.30pm

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