THE FRIENDS OF COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

Holiday Reading!
The August Issue of the Friends e bulletin is now available in hard copy, free from the Community Table, for those who do not have access to the Internet.

The Friends’ AGM
Saturday 24th September 12.00 noon
The AGM of the Friends of Coventry Cathedral will be held on Saturday 24th September at 12 noon in the Chapter House. It will be followed by a light lunch in the Lecture Room and a Public Lecture in the Chapter House, concluding with tea and cake.

John Piper and the Church
Saturday 24th September 2.30 pm
The Friends are proud to sponsor an important lecture on John Piper, one of England’s outstanding late 20th century artists. The lecturer is Frances Spalding, the leading authority on John Piper. She is an art historian, biographer and critic, who is also a specialist on twentieth-century British art, and the author of John Piper, Myfanwy Piper: Lives in Art. Formerly Professor of Art History at Newcastle University, she is the editor of the leading art journal Burlington Magazine.

WHAT’S ON IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2016

Monday 15th August at 1pm: Summer Organ Recital.
Wednesday 17th August at 10am: Cathedral Walkers. dagoodall@hotmail.co.uk
Thursday 18th August at 9.20pm in the Ruins: a showing of The Goonies.
Friday 19th August at 9.20pm in the Ruins: a showing of Grease.
Saturday 20th August at 9.20pm in the Ruins: a showing of The Revenant.
Saturday, Sunday & Monday 27th, 28th & 29th August at St Laurence Church Ansley: “God’s Creation” Flower Festival. www.ansleychurch.org
Sunday 28th August, 11am-6pm: Coventry Cathedral Dining Club in the ruins.
Sunday 28th August: last week of the David Marlow Cathedrals exhibition in the Chapel of Christ the Servant.
Thursday 1st September at 2pm in the Chapter House: Tourism Forum.

Sunday 4th September at 4pm: Choral Evensong and Licensing of Sarah Snyder.
Friday 9th September from 7pm in the Ruins: Coventry SleepOut 2016. www.sbasils.org.uk/help-us/sleepouts/coventry-sleepout/
Saturday 17th September: Quiet Day at Turvey Abbey.
Sunday 18th September after Eucharist: Lunch in honour of Kerry & Leslie Beaumont.
Sunday 18th September: last week of the David Marlow Cathedrals exhibition in the Chapel of Christ the Servant.
Thursday 1st September at 2pm in the Chapter House: Tourism Forum.

CATHEDRAL MATTERS
Sunday 14th August
Trinity 12

Sunday 14th August
8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist
4.00pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 21st August
8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist
4.00pm Choral Evensong

A MESSAGE FROM THE CANON PASTOR

Dear Friends,
Tell me a story! That was the constant cry of my children, and countless others – and story remains perhaps the easiest way of learning, engaging, sharing… For most of us it’s how we received our faith – and it’s the way that we can best hope to pass it on to others. Last week’s Cathedral Matters carried an appeal from Carla, our Tourism and Visits Manager, who is hoping to hear your “Coventry Cathedral stories” – and, though we’d not compared notes in advance, I said something in last Sunday morning’s sermon about the “God stories” that we all have within us. I’d like to take that a stage further in the coming weeks, and gather those stories to produce our own version of the “Gospel according to Everyone”, so please get thinking – and get in touch! It’s not about writing beautiful prose - “your story, your words” seems like a good starting point – and if you’re anxious that you might not have anything to share, let’s have a chat together and see what there might be by way of buried treasure. And yes, I’ll tell you a story in exchange. That’s only fair.

With love and blessings
Kathryn

Coventry Cathedral and St Michael’s House Associate Programme 2016-2017
A series of six evenings designed for managers in the private, public or voluntary sector in Coventry to meet and reflect on the meaning of reconciliation. If you know anybody who may be interested the contact is david.williams@coventrycathedral.org.uk 024 7652 1287.

The Dean and Canons this week
The Precentor is Canon in Residence this week. Canon Sarah is in South Africa where she is presenting Crosses of Nails to Amasango Career School and the College of Transfiguration in Grahamstown.

Readers
The Readers assisting at the Eucharist this morning are Gwyneth Hickman (St Laurence Ansley) and Sue Morton (St Mary Walsgrave).
The Joy of the Gospel
One of the themes that emerged from the Cathedral’s survey of our Eight Essential Qualities was our perceived weakness in sharing our faith, even with our fellow Christians here week by week. If the prospect of sharing your faith fills you not with joy but with panic, this six week course written by Paula Gooder and drawing on Pope Francis’s much acclaimed writing on mission and evangelism (published as “Evangelii Gaudium – the joy of the Gospel”) might just be the answer. With space to reflect on how we can share our faith with integrity as individuals and as a community, and exploring themes that include BEING good news as well as sharing it, I’m hoping this might provide the kind of springboard we need to renew our confidence as good news people. If you’re interested in being part of a group, please sign up on the Community table. The initial plan is to meet on Monday afternoons, beginning on 26th September at 2.30pm, but I’m really happy to add an evening group to the mix if there’s enough demand, so do say which time would suit you better. Because all group members will need a book, we do need you to commit in advance... any questions, do please speak to me.
Canon Kathryn  kathryn.fleming@coventrycathedral.org.uk  024 7652 1230.

Pilgrim
We resume our exploration of the Christian faith through reflective Bible reading (Lectio Divina) and discussion, considering what it means to turn to Christ. Though this unit is particularly suitable for those preparing for Confirmation, previous units have revealed quite enough to keep life-long Christians engaged and learning. Pilgrim begins on Tuesday 20th September at 7pm. Sign up on the Community table or contact me.
Canon Kathryn  kathryn.fleming@coventrycathedral.org.uk  024 7652 1230.

Heritage Open Weekend 2016
Saturday & Sunday 10th & 11th September
Heritage Open Weekend is fast approaching, and we will be participating on both the Saturday & Sunday. I know a lot of you like to get involved so I would like to start to make a list of who would like to help out – if you are able to lend a hand could you please let either me, Emma Fox or Helen Owens know, along with the dates/times you can assist. In terms of what we offer on the day, I am thinking of the following, but any other suggestions are more than welcome so please free to let me know any ideas you may have. Children’s/Family tours – we will get a lot of family groups in so it would be nice for us to offer something that will appeal to them – all credit to Martina for this idea!
The Chapels in the Ruins
Limited showings of some of the Medieval Glass
If any of that appeals to you in particular and you would like to volunteer to do something specific then please do let me know. We will also need people dotted around the building to assist/answer questions etc, so if you have a particular feature that interests you please tell me about it.
Thanks as always for all of your help, you’re all amazing! I really look forward to making this a huge success.
Carla Crawley

A Public Lecture given by Terry Waite: Is Peace Possible?
Wednesday 21st September at 7pm in the Nave
Terry Waite was the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Assistant for Anglican Communion Affairs in the 1980s. As an envoy for the Church of England, he travelled to Lebanon to try to secure the release of four hostages, including the journalist John McCarthy. He was himself kidnapped and held captive from 1987 to 1991. He will share part of his narrative and his thoughts on peace and reconciliation.
Join us for this talk offered by Coventry Cathedral and the Reconciliation Ministry on International Day of Peace. There is a £5 suggested donation for the continued work of peace and reconciliation in Coventry and around the globe.
The Joy of the Gospel – Terry Waite

A Retreat in Daily Life this Autumn
We may long to deepen our relationship with Jesus, but just can’t set aside time to retreat away from our normal life. This retreat is a tried and true way of taking time to pay attention, to pray and to reflect.
How does it work?
A gathering of pilgrims and prayer guides gets us started;
You spend half an hour privately each day reflecting on a Bible passage or with other prayer material;
Once a week you meet for 30-40 minutes with your prayer guide reflecting on what happens in your prayer;
A concluding gathering draws the ‘retreat’ to an end, as individuals and as a praying community;
Note: You choose the time and place of your private prayer, and negotiate a time and place to meet weekly with your prayer guide.
Who is a prayer guide?
A prayer guide is someone experienced in the art of listening with another to the Spirit’s direction. A prayer guide is not a counsellor, but does hold in confidence whatever they hear. Prayer guides are trained and supervised through the Diocese.
Your prayer guide will listen to you and with you as you reflect on what happens (or doesn’t happen) in your prayer and life each day. She or he may suggest Scripture passages for meditation, or tell you about an approach to prayer you might like to explore.
These six weeks of retreat in everyday life will be run from Holy Trinity Coventry this autumn and experienced prayer guides are available to offer this in your parish. The opening and closing gatherings will be on Sundays 25th September and 13th November.
For more information please look for flyers on the Community table or email RetreatinDailyLife@holytrinitycoventry.org.uk
**Pilgrimage to Coventry**
**Tuesday - Friday 23rd September**
St Michael’s House
Everyone is very warmly welcomed to this biannual international event in which we can JOIN with others from around the world; SHARE stories of reconciliation and healing; and LEARN amid the unique environment of Coventry Cathedral.

www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/ccn2/pilgrimage  smh@coventrycathedral.org.uk

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**Cathedral Walkers**
**Wednesday 17th August**
Why not join us for this month’s walk in the summer sunshine (well, I can hope!), or just for lunch afterwards? Details are on the Community Table. Please let me know if you’re coming by close Sunday 14th to dagoodall@hotmail.co.uk, 024 7646 1946, or in person.

Dave Goodall

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**Sunday 18th September**
We will be putting on a lunch to celebrate 10 years of Kerry & Leslie Beaumont’s service to the musical life of the Cathedral. We will reprise the successful ‘Desserts are Us’ recipe – a modest main course followed by a glorious array of puddings – at £15 per head to raise money for the choir. All the food and drink for the meal is being donated so that all ticket money can go to choir funds. There are 90 places: please sign the sheet on the Community Table to book yours.

The Catering Team

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**A Quiet Day at the Monastery**
**Saturday 17th September**
Do you feel the need for “time out” to think, relax, meditate, pray? Time to find yourself again? Are you just curious to try out an ancient spirituality?
I am organising a quiet day at Turvey Abbey on Saturday 17th September (departing at 8am from Bablake School carpark and returning at 6pm, or flexible if you use your own transport).

Turvey Abbey is located in the village of Turvey near Bedford. Historically, Turvey Abbey was a country house and family home. It now belongs to the ‘Priory of Our Lady of Peace,’ a Benedictine order of nuns and The ‘Monastery of Christ our Saviour’, a Benedictine order of monks.

We will start the day just before 10am with a short introduction from me and then the day is yours to spend in the retreat house, the extensive gardens, chapels, library, exploring the area or walking in silence. You are welcome to attend the Eucharist/Mass and return to silence afterwards. The cost for the day is £15. If you are interested, please sign the sheet on the community table by Sunday 11th September at the latest.

Thank-you, Fr. Sacha

For pictures : www.turveyabbey.org.uk

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**Coventry Prayer House**
The Prayer House reopens on Monday 15th August. Please pray for the Prayer House community in their bid to purchase the lease of their building in Priory Cottages. “We have been here for six years now and we’d like to stay for at least the next 150! Please join us in praying for the future of the Prayer House and Retreat centre - may God’s will for us prevail.”

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**What does Coventry Cathedral mean to you?**
We are looking for tales about how Coventry Cathedral impacts people, and we would love to hear from you! If you would like to share a few words about what the Cathedral means to you, why you choose to volunteer here, or even if you have a tale of how you have witnessed it impact our visitors we would love to hear from you.
There is no limit on the length or content; all submissions will be welcome. Please email your contributions to me or hand them in to me or one of the Welcome Team in person.

Carla Crawley  carla.crawley@coventrycathedral.org.uk

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**The Bishop’s Certificate in Discipleship and Mission**
The first year of the revamped BCDM has been a great success; sessions are now open to everyone who would like to learn about one or more of the topics and more than 150 people have taken part in at least one of the many interactive modules that have been held in various parishes across the diocese.  www.dioceseeofcoventry.org/BCDM

These modules are being offered in September, weekly at 7pm, for five sessions each:

- A: Mission-Shaped God (at Westwood, 13th Sept - 11th Oct)
- B: Jesus and the Gospels (St Nicolas Nuneaton, 12th Sept - 10th Oct)
- C: Understanding Loss (Claverdon, 13th Sept - 11th Oct)
- D: The Bible in Five Acts (Harbury, 14th Sept - 12th Oct)

Modules planned for November include Paul’s Life, Mission and Letters (at St Mary’s Leamington), Music (Holy Trinity Stratford), and Advent (St Mary’s Walsgrave).

What participants have said about BCDM modules:

“Found the module totally absorbing and inspiring. Gained so much from discussions with other participants as well.”

“One of the best courses I’ve attended. It has more than met my expectations and has been a revelation. I will continue to read the gospels differently and learn much more than I already had learned. Wonderful!”

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**Reflections from a Reconciliation Intern**
It is unbelievable that I am already in my final two weeks in Coventry. My goal was always being able to look back and smile at the thought of my various adventures during my internship in Coventry Cathedral. I can say with good conscience that I fulfilled it!

There were busy times and also more quiet times, but what never changed was the knowledge that I was working in a great team. I am very grateful for every laugh I had with other participants as well.”

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**Carla Crawley**

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**Ricarda Fillhardt**
Holiday Reading? – The Tidal Zone

You may have heard or seen this reviewed in the Observer and on Radio 4; it’s a new novel by Sarah Moss which is partly about the story of the rebuilding of our Cathedral. Here’s a review from Canon Margaret Sedgwick:

‘THE TIDAL ZONE’ by Sarah Moss

This absorbing novel has recently been reviewed in the press and on Radio 4 and Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers and I have both read it. The narrator is Adam, an underemployed academic, who has been charged with writing a script for a “geolocative media app” for Coventry Cathedral. He is also the chief carer for his chronically stressed GP wife and their two daughters. Turmoil for the family begins when 15 year old Miriam's heart stops while she is at school and although she recovers the doctors struggle to find the cause and the family is left in limbo. Three narratives run in parallel – Miriam’s condition, Adam’s father’s unconventional background and the history of the rebuilding of the cathedral. Despite the uncertainty over Miriam’s future there are some amusing and recognisable pictures of family life. I was somewhat taken aback by the author’s description of the cathedral as an Arts and Crafts building but later in the book she justifies this as she describes Basil Spence’s vision of the new cathedral. It would be a good book to discuss for a reading group, in particular the relationship between the three narratives.’

Canon Kathryn has suggested a meeting to discuss The Tidal Zone on Thursday 22nd September at 2.30pm – a day when the girls’ choir are singing Evensong later – which gives us all plenty of time to buy and read it.

www.abebooks.co.uk/servlet/SearchResults?an=sarah+moss&sts=t&tn=the+tidal+zone

Coventry SleepOut 2016
Friday 9th September from 7pm in the Ruins

This event in support of St Basil’s work with young people in Coventry will be taking place in one of the most atmospheric venues possible for a sleepout under the stars! It is free to take part, all we ask is that participants try to raise as much as possible in sponsorship to make it all worthwhile.

The sleepout is a sponsored challenge to sleep in just a cardboard box and plastic sheeting overnight. Participants are required to wear warm weatherproof clothes and bring outdoor sleeping bags and there are toilets on site as well as security throughout the event. It will also be possible to purchase hot food and drinks at the event. Groups can take part in our ‘Creative Cardboard Competition’ if they wish, bringing extra cardboard or materials to do something a bit more creative with their cardboard ration for the night.

All the money raised from this event will go towards supporting our services in Coventry. We work in partnership with Coventry City Council operating five services aimed at helping young people in crisis with advice, assessments, practical assistance and temporary accommodation, supporting them throughout.

So if you want to ensure young people aged 16-25 in Coventry get the support they need to avoid losing their homes or to find safe haven when they do, please consider taking part in this event. It’s a great opportunity to meet other local people like you!

To take part in this event please register at www.stbasils.org.uk/help-us/sleepouts/coventry-sleepout/. We will then post you our SleepOut pack which contains a booklet of information about the event, a sponsorship form and your ticket.

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

Outdoor Cinema in the Ruins
Thursday, Friday and Saturday 18th, 19th & 20th August at 9.20pm

Thursday 18th August - The Goonies

In order to save their home from foreclosure, a group of misfits set out to find a pirate’s ancient treasure.

Friday 19th August - The Revenant

A frontiersman on a fur trading expedition in the 1820s fights for survival after being mauled by a bear and left for dead by members of his own hunting team.

Saturday 20th August - Grease

Good girl Sandy and greaser Danny fell in love over the summer. But when they unexpectedly discover they’re now in the same high school, will they be able to rekindle their romance?

Prices from £12 (concessions from £9.50). 10-17 year olds permitted if accompanied by an adult. cultscreens.co.uk/whats-on-coventry/

Coventry Food Bank

Last week I took 159 packets and tins of food to the Food Bank warehouse. These included items bought with cash gifts from 13 people of £150. In July the figures were 132 items and cash gifts from 11 people amounting to £110. We have now delivered 13089 items to the Food Bank, thanks to the generosity of a group of regular supporters. The next Food Bank Sundays are 4th September, 2nd October and 6th November.

Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers

Thank you!

I can’t quite believe it, but the 3rd of August marked a whole year since I started here at the Cathedral! I wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to each and every one of the Cathedral volunteers for all of your help and support during my first twelve months. I have been amazed and humbled by the commitment you all show towards our beautiful building, and feel very lucky to work with such a great bunch of people. We could not do what we do in the Tourism team without such great volunteers, it’s you lot that really bring this place to life!

I would also like to thank publicly the Welcome Team – Alex, Amy, Chelsea, Emma, Helen and Ruby – for their hard work during this year; you’ve certainly made my life a lot easier! Thank you to all of you for your patience and support whilst I learnt the ropes (although I’ve still got many more to learn).

Carla Crawley

A happy ending – and a fresh challenge!

If you noticed the request some weeks ago for a foster-family to host Wenyu-Ming, and thus enable her to continue her education in this country, you’ll be happy to know that she is currently living with one of her fellow choristers. Wenyu-Ming’s mum has been given a place on a PGCE course at University College London, which will increase her chances of obtaining work in the UK and so being close to her daughter – but is anxious about the visa application process. She has asked if we know of an immigration lawyer who would be willing to help her with her application – and also for the continued prayers of the cathedral family as she tries to give her daughter the very best opportunities that she can.

Canon Kathryn