Christmas card sale
There are a few packs left of the acclaimed Friends' 80th Anniversary Christmas Card. You can buy packs of eight cards (four of each of the two designs), for the bargain price of £2.50 today, from the Friends' table after the Eucharist.

The two cards feature, respectively, the spire of the old Cathedral Church of St. Michael in the snow, and the Choir in front of the Christmas tree in the Nave. A real Christmas bargain and you will be supporting the Friends!

Blitz Bucket Shake
Last week, Members of the Friends Council had the opportunity to hold a 'bucket shake' at the conclusion of the performance of 'Spirit of the Blitz' at the Belgrade Theatre, and raised a staggering £350 for the Cathedral.

A crib for our time
On Monday, 30th November, Sarah Hosking, daughter of the sculptor Alma Ramsey-Hosking, who was commissioned by Sir Basil Spence to create a Crib for his new Cathedral, will share some of the secrets behind the design of the Crib, and explain how it was restored in 2007. To attend this 'Friendly Monday', please sign the sheet on the Community Table today – 10.30am coffee and tea, followed by the talk at 11am in the Undercroft Lecture Room.

Andrew Paine, Chairman of the Friends of Coventry Cathedral

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Saturday 12th December
- 6pm: 'Joy to the World' NSPCC Christmas Concert with Saint Michael's Singers.

Saturday 19th December
- 2pm: BBC Coventry and Warwickshire Carol Service.

Sunday 20th December
- 6.30pm: Carols by Candlelight.

Wednesday 23rd December
- 6pm: Kerry Beaumont plays Messiaen's 'La Nativité du Seigneur'.

Thursday 24th December
- 3pm: 'Journey to Bethlehem'
- 7pm: 'Form of a Servant'
- 11pm: Midnight Christmas Eucharist (at Holy Trinity)

Friday 25th December
- 10.30am: Christmas Eucharist

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2015

Sunday 15th November
- 8.00am Holy Communion (Holy Trinity)
- 10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist
- 7.00pm Civic Service of Commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Coventry

Sunday 22nd November
- 8.00am Holy Communion (Holy Trinity)
- 10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist
- 4.00pm Evensong
- 6.30pm City Praise and Prayer at the Welcome Centre (CV1 2HG)

Dear Friends
The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Silence in Coventry, as I stood with my colleagues from the university chaplaincy team looking out across the square to where the ruined Cathedral continues to dominate the skyline, drawing the eye on a journey from old to new, from past to present. The future is represented by the students in front of us, coming from all over the world, from places that were "allies" and from places that were "enemies" 75 years ago. Together we stood and reflected, not remembering exactly, for none of us was alive when the bombs fell, but each of us, I'm certain, experiencing in some way that bewildering cocktail of sadness and gratitude which is part of Remembrance tide.

For Coventry, of course, this year has a special resonance – and it was an extraordinary privilege, when the silence ended, to lead the Litany –words we know so well in this Cathedral, which speak into the shared guilt of a broken world but carry always the promise of transformation. Sometimes we might take those words and their promise for granted – but when you stand between the ruins of yesterday and the hope of tomorrow it's impossible not to be moved to a fresh commitment, and to pray from the heart "Father, forgive".

With love and blessings
Canon Kathryn

A MESSAGE FROM THE CANON PASTOR

Please send items for inclusion in the next edition of Cathedral Matters by end of TUESDAY 17th November 2015.
Tel: 02476 521200 or email: cathedral.matters@coventrycathedral.org.uk
Website address: www.coventrycathedral.org.uk

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The Diocesan Reader assisting at the Eucharist today is Sue Morton from St Mary’s Walsgrave.

**Flowers Today**
The flowers at the pulpits are to remember David Pearce who was loved and loved us.

**Coming soon: Grave Talk**
The Four Last Things – Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell – have long been part of the Advent journey, so on the eve of Advent Sunday it seems appropriate to offer a chance to engage with this.

Wherever you are in your faith, it can be very hard to think about your own funeral – or indeed any of the other questions around death and dying that we all need to face at some point. Grave Talk is a café space that offers the opportunity to explore these big questions, with the help of specially designed conversation cards…

Why not join us at 10.30am on Saturday 28th November in the Lecture Hall for coffee, cake and conversation? In addition to the “Grave Talk” discussions, there will be an opportunity to fill in a funeral plan and to talk through any other matters around death and dying that are important to you.

If you’d like to talk more at any time, do please contact Canon Kathryn.

**Bob Tucker**
Community members will be sad to hear that Bob Tucker died last week at home. He was a devoted server, both here at the Cathedral and in his home parish of St Mary Magdalen, Chapelfields. His funeral will take place there at 2pm on Thursday 26th November followed by a short service of committal at Canley crematorium, to which all Cathedral friends are most welcome. **Canon Kathryn**

**Cake Sale and Chorister Christmas Fayre - Today**
After the morning service on Sunday 15th November, there will be a cake sale and the Chorister Christmas Fayre which will include homemade cakes, a raffle and jewellery. **Clare Coopey**

**Mothers Union**
The Mothers Union will be holding their annual Cake and Gift Sale after the 10.30am service on Sunday 22nd November. This is to raise funds for our vital work. Your support is greatly appreciated. **Evelyn Warwick**

**Cathedral Walkers**
**Wednesday 18th November**
Why not join us for our last walk of 2015, or just come for lunch? Details are on the Community Table; please let me know if you are coming. **Dave Goodall**

**CCN Evening**
**Monday 23rd November at 7pm**
All are welcome to join us at Saint Michael’s House on Monday 23rd November at 7pm for an informal evening to discover more about our German partners in the Community of the Cross of Nails. **Ricarda Fillhardt**

**Celebrating 90 years!**
Gwyneth Darby will be celebrating her 90th birthday on Sunday 29th November and Pam Rossiter on Wednesday 9th December. There is a birthday card for each of them on the Community Table. **Canon Margaret Sedgwick**

**A letter from Bishop John and a note from Canon Kathryn**
Dear Friends,
I am writing to let you know about an event that Friends of the Holy Land are holding in the diocese later this month.

Many of you will have seen the reports and photographs of the current difficulties in the Holy Land. Our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land already faced particular challenges and the latest situation is having an impact on the poorest communities there.

It is against this background that Friends of the Holy Land (FHL), a locally based national charity established to help Christians in the Holy Land, is holding an event:

‘Room at the Inn? - Maintaining a Christian Presence in the Holy Land.’
10am - 12.15pm on Saturday 28th November at St John’s Church Main Hall, 205 Warwick Road, Kenilworth CV8 1HY

I have agreed to host the event and would like to encourage you to bring it to the attention of your people and to consider attending yourself.

It will provide an opportunity to hear about the reality of life for a small but resilient Christian population in the Holy Land, their daily challenges and the support FHL provide to the neediest families. There will be an opportunity to view the 20 minute DVD made in the Holy Land last year, to hear from the Vice Chairman Peter Rand who is planning to visit Israel and Palestine in mid-November and to meet the recently appointed FHL Diocesan Coordinators for the Diocese, Andrew and Chris Haines.

For more details email friendsoftheholyland@btconnect.com or telephone 01926 512980
Yours in Christ, +John

**Responding to our generous God**
The start of the Church Year, Advent, is an excellent opportunity for each of us to re-evaluate our level of giving. How much does it reflect any change in our financial circumstances, whether for better or for worse? How much does it reflect our increase in faith in a God who has promised to care for us whatever the circumstances and who longs for us to reflect his generosity in the world?

If you do not do so already and if you are a member of the Cathedral community, please may I encourage you to plan your giving for the coming year, ideally by setting up a Standing Order or by reviewing and renewing it. If you are a Taxpayer, Gift Aid can increase the value of your gift. Do take an appropriate form from the Community Table or speak to me after the service. **Goeffrey Armitage, Churchwardens’ Stewardship Programme**