WHAT’S ON IN SEPTEMBER 2016

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John Piper’s interest in churches began early. By the age of 14 he had visited by bicycle every church in Surrey. Later, working with John Betjeman on the Shell County Guides, Piper began to think about the relationship between the artist and the church. In the 1950s he began designing stained glass for a whole array of buildings including two modern cathedrals. In a secular world, dominated by science and technology, wasn’t the notion of the sacred mere superstition?

Frances Spalding is an art historian, biographer and critic. She is a specialist on twentieth-century British Art. Her books include ‘John Piper, Myfanwy Piper: Lives in Art’. Tickets: (including tea & cake) £10.00 from chairman@friendsofcoventrycathedral.org.uk Free to Members of the Friends.

Monday 19th September at 1pm: Summer Organ Recital.
Tuesday - Friday, 20th - 23rd September: CCN Pilgrimage.
Tuesday 20th September at 7pm in the Lecture Hall: first meeting of Pilgrim.
Wednesday 21st September at 10am: Cathedral Walkers at Long Itchington.
Wednesday 21st September at 2pm: Faith and Peaceful Relations Forum at Coventry University.
chris@friendsofcoventrycathedral.org.uk
Wednesday 21st September at 10am: Cathedral Walkers at Long Itchington.
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Wednesday 21st September at 7pm: Is Peace Possible? Public lecture by Terry Waite for International Day of Peace.
Thursday 22nd September at 2.30pm in the Provost’s Vestry: discussion of Sarah Moss’s new novel The Tidal Zone.
Thursday 22nd September at 7.15pm: Cathedral by Candlelight. 024 7652 1231. alice.farnhill@coventrycathedral.org.uk
Saturday 24th September from 9am: Abseil the new Cathedral for Barnardo’s! www.barnardos.org.uk/challenge_form?eid=CE_ED_2240
Monday 26th September at 2.30pm: The Joy of the Gospel
Friday 30th September at 5.30pm: Coventry Cathedral Art: re-discovering the Cathedral through its artworks and its engineering.
Friday 30th September at 7pm: The Sixteen’s 2016 Choral Pilgrimage - The Deer’s Cry: pre-concert talk and performance. www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/wpsite/blog/2016/04/19/the-sixteens-2016-choral-pilgrimage-the-deers-cry/

Dear Friends

Just one week to go till we celebrate our Patronal Festival of St Michael . . and welcome Sienna and Olivia into God’s family through Baptism . . a perfect opportunity to think about how we can better represent that family in the warmth of our relationship with one another and our welcome to newcomers. There are particular challenges in building a community with people who only get together on Sundays, and though the core of our Sunday community is very strong it’s not always easy for newcomers to feel truly included.

So next Sunday we’re trying something different. When you come through the door, you’ll be asked to write your first name on a sticky label, and wear it for the rest of the morning. Even if you don’t usually stay for coffee we would be overjoyed if you’d make this a special occasion and spend the time not only enjoying our Cathedral Birthday Cake but also talking to someone you don’t know. My challenge for us all is to go home having learned the names of two or three people (it could be the lady you spoke to in 2011 but whose name you promptly forgot – this is Amnesty Sunday too). On subsequent Sundays, St Michael’s Committee members have agreed to wear name badges so that newcomers know they’re good people to chat to, who might have the answers to questions about the mysterious practices of the Anglican Church . . but of course the onus is on all of us to make welcome a real priority as we look to strengthen and grow our community here.

I’m excited and hopeful. I trust you are too.

Love and blessings

Kathryn

The Dean, Canons and assisting Readers this week
Canon Sarah is Canon in Residence this week. The Reader assisting at the Eucharist this morning is Margaret East (Christ Church Cheylesmore).

Lunch for Kerry & Leslie Beaumont
TODAY at 12.15pm
If you have a place booked PLEASE WAIT in the Nave for Rex Satchwell to announce when it is time to go down to the Chapter House.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CANON PASTOR

John Piper's new novel
the Provost's Vestry:
Thursday 22nd September at 2.30pm
An illustrated lecture in the Chapter House

Please send items for the next edition of Cathedral Matters by end of TUESDAY 20th September for publication on Sunday 22nd September to cathedral.matters@coventrycathedral.org.uk or phone 024 7659 4916
www.coventrycathedral.org.uk

SACRED OR SUPERSTITIOUS?
John Piper and the Church
Saturday 24th September 2016 at 2.30 pm
An illustrated lecture in the Chapter House

CATHEDRAL MATTERS
Sunday 18th September
Trinity 17

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

This Week

Sunday 18th September
8.00am Holy Communion (Holy Trinity)
10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist
4.00pm Choral Evensong
6.30pm OPEN Cathedral Praise

Sunday 25th September
8.00am Holy Communion (Holy Trinity)
10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist
2.00pm German Lutheran Service
4.00pm Choral Evensong
6.30pm OPEN Table
CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

OPEN Table: Next Sunday at 6.30pm
Soup Volunteers Needed!
If you can help prepare soup for next week’s OPEN Table the Reconciliation Team will be very pleased to hear from you. This first meeting of the autumn is also the beginning of the university term and we are excited about welcoming new students into the Cathedral on that evening. OPEN Table is a wonderful opportunity for people to gather around the table for food, fellowship, and celebration in community. In the expectation that we will have a few more guests around the table at the start of the new term, we are asking volunteers to prepare soup for 45. If you are interested in volunteering and sharing your gifts, please contact me.
Haley Jones  haley.jones@coventrycathedral.org.uk  or 024 7652 1288

Presentation to Jon Simpson
Jon and Sue’s last Sunday in the Cathedral is expected to be the 2nd October. If you would like to contribute to a farewell gift there will be a box and a card on the Community Table from Sunday 18th September.
David East for the Churchwardens

Pilgrim: Tuesday 20th September at 7pm
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 plenty to keep life-long Christians engaged and learning.
Sign up on the Community table or contact me.  Canon Kathryn

Experience the Cathedral by Candlelight
Thursday 22nd September at 7.15pm
As usual on our Community of the Cross of Nails pilgrimages we will be holding Cathedral by Candlelight for our pilgrims - this year from Germany, the USA, Canada and the UK. Anyone who is in any way connected to the Cathedral and would like to experience the calm and stillness of this magical and deeply spiritual occasion is very welcome to join us. The evening starts in the Chapter House with quiet prayer as a group, and moves upstairs into the candlelit Cathedral at around 7.30. Booking your place is essential and a small donation of £2 per person on the night to help cover costs would be very much appreciated.

We would also really value 4 or 5 volunteers to help us with lighting the several hundred tealight candles on the night, and 2 or 3 volunteers to collect them up again early the next day before morning prayer. If you would like to help, we’d love to hear from you!
Alice Farnhill, Project Officer, Community of the Cross of Nails
alice.farnhill@coventrycathedral.org.uk  024 7652 1231

Foundation Course in Reconciliation
Wednesday & Thursday 12th & 13th October
The Reconciliation Ministry is again offering the foundation course in reconciliation theory, theology, and practice. The course is open to anyone who would like to deepen their understanding of peace and reconciliation. It’s a wonderful opportunity to learn what it means to live in a City of Peace and Reconciliation. The course is taught by Canon Sarah Hills. For information and bookings please email reconciliation@coventrycathedral.org.uk

Summer Organ Recital:
Monday 19th September at 1pm
This week’s programme, given by Paul Bowen (Bradford), will include music by JS Bach, Herbert Howells, Nigel Ogden, Arvo Part and William Mathias.  

Cathedral Walkers
Wednesday 21st September at 10am
This month’s walk will take us along the canal at Long Itchington, with lunch right by the canal at the Two Boots. Why not join us before Autumn sets in? Let me know by close Sunday 18th if you intend to come; 024 7646 1946 or dagoodall@hotmail.co.uk
Dave Goodall

Faith and Peaceful Relations Forum
Wednesday 21st September at 2pm
Coventry University
The aim of the Forum is to provide an opportunity for all those involved with faith and community groups in and around Coventry to come together to explore key issues and their experience of working in the community in an inclusive environment.
For more information please contact christopher.shannahan@coventry.ac.uk
To register for your free place please contact charlotte.martin@coventry.ac.uk

Pick up your Papers
A Message for members of the Friends
Members of the Friends are invited today to pick up their free copy of the Annual Report and Accounts 2015, the Minutes of the last AGM held on 27 September 2015 and (if you don’t have internet access) a hard copy of an Extra eBulletin for September.

Good Home Needed
My two beautiful cats still need a loving home, either separately or together. They are both spayed, vaccinated and chipped and would suit someone who is usually at home.
Angie Jones, PA to The Dean  07737 055 937

Is Peace Possible?
Wednesday 21st September at 7pm in the Nave
Coventry Peace Day
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.
For news of more events planned for Coventry Peace Day please look at coventrycityofpeace.uk/events/cov-day-of-peace-2016/

News and Booze
Wednesday 28th September at 6:00pm in the Castle Grounds, Little Park St
Join our Young Adults group for food, fellowship and conversation. News and Booze is an opportunity to bridge your faith with current events while enjoying the company of others. For more information, email haley.jones@coventrycathedral.org

Cathedral Wedding 8th October
On Saturday 8th October we will be getting married here in the Cathedral at 1pm! We would be delighted to see our Cathedral friends on this special day and would like the Cathedral community to know that you are very welcome to the service and for light refreshments afterwards in the nave.
Emma Norman and Thomas Beynon

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES
Imagine standing on our rooftop looking out over the impressive Coventry skyline and the breathtaking West Midlands countryside beyond. Imagine leaning back, hearing the wind, taking the strain and feeling the rush as you lower yourself over the edge . . . .this beautiful and iconic building promises to deliver an experience unlike any other and we are delighted to be able to offer it as part of Barnardo’s 150th anniversary abseil events.  

For 150 years, Barnardo’s has been helping vulnerable children overcome abuse, neglect and exploitation. We couldn’t do it without you, so please sign up now and support us with our challenge to help those young people that need it most.  

Places are limited so take advantage of this rare opportunity.  

On the day expert abseil professionals will provide you with a comprehensive safety briefing, so no previous experience is needed. All the specialist equipment required to take on a challenge of this magnitude will also be provided. You’ll also receive regular e-newsletters with tips and advice to help you smash your fundraising targets, and a free Barnardo’s t-shirt. Want to take part? Sign up now to join #TeamBarnardo's!  

www.barnardos.org.uk/challenge_form?eid=CE_ED_2240

Festival of Imagineers  
Saturday 1st October, noon – 3pm and from 7pm in the Ruins  
12 noon: Osadia  

Osadia online.com  
Part street performance, part artistic hair sculpting show, Osadia offers an original and provocative exhibition of hair art, with the active participation of the audience, as volunteers freely allow the artists to create daring and evocative makeovers, to the delight and awe of the onlookers who are amazed by the transformed characters that descend from the chair. Osadia’s transformations extend to the new way the volunteers act after the performance, for now they are the centre of attention throughout the day, provoking admiration. Their artistic hairdos will be photographed wherever they go.  

7pm: Pre-performance Talk: Addictive TV  
7.15 pm: Teatro Tascabile di Bergamo Valse  

www.teatrotsabile.org  
Beautiful, lyrical and uplifting, this large-scale outdoor performance features beautiful costumes, powerful visual imagery and a stunning waltz on stilts to the music of Johann Strauss. Set in the atmospheric Coventry Cathedral ruins as dusk falls we invite you to don your ball gowns and come and join the waltz.  

9.30pm Addictive TV: Orchesta of Samples  
www.addictivetv  
Pioneering audio/video remixers and electronic artists Addictive TV have won huge international acclaim for their latest project Orchesta of Samples. Five years in the making, the duo filmed over 200 musicians around the globe playing all manner of instruments, then sampled and seamlessly spliced them together, creating a digital supergroup of artists who never met but play together on screen: a stunning fusion of sound and vision featuring artists from Brazil to Kazakhstan, Egypt to Senegal, across Europe and even Bhutan in the Himalayas. For this special performance the duo are joined by fretless guitar specialist Alejandro de Valera. Join them on this incredible musical journey without borders!  

“Ingenious and compelling” (The Times)  
All events are free but booking for the evening performances is essential: contact jane@imagineerproductions.co.uk

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

Scale new Heights - abseil Coventry Cathedral and support Barnardo’s!  
Saturday 24th September from 9am

Imagine standing on our rooftop looking out over the impressive Coventry skyline and the breathtaking West Midlands countryside beyond. Imagine leaning back, hearing the wind, taking the strain and feeling the rush as you lower yourself over the edge . . . . this beautiful and iconic building promises to deliver an experience unlike any other and we are delighted to be able to offer it as part of Barnardo’s 150th anniversary abseil events.  

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www.barnardos.org.uk/challenge_form?eid=CE_ED_2240

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES

Cathedral Book Group: The Tidal Zone  
Thursday 22nd September at 2.30pm in the Provost’s Vestry

Come and discuss this absorbing new novel by Sarah Moss who teaches creative writing at Warwick University. It’s narrated by Adam, an underemployed academic, who is studying Basil Spence’s work on the rebuilding of Coventry Cathedral and 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 cathedral’s rebuilding.  

If you have time to read the book before Thursday it’s available from the city library.  

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

Community of the Cross of Nails Pilgrimage  
Tuesday - Friday 20th - 23rd September  
The Reconciliation Team are really looking forward to welcoming our pilgrims on Tuesday; we have a large group which is sure to make for a wonderful opportunity for varied discussion, sharing ideas, prayer and fellowship. Pilgrims are coming from Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa; Christ the King Lutheran Church, Nashua, New Hampshire; the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary here in Coventry; the Diakonissenkranchenhaus Dessau, Germany; the Evangelisch-Lutherische Innenstadtgemeinde, Rostock, Germany; and the Wirral Methodist Churches in the UK. Our sincere thanks as ever to all those from Coventry who have offered to assist with various aspects of the pilgrimage, which this year will include Terry Waite’s talk in the Nave on the Wednesday evening. On Thursday evening, there is still the opportunity for any who would like to attend (or assist in lighting candles for!) Cathedral by Candlelight; for more information please contact alice.farnhill@coventrycathedral.org.uk or call 024 7652 1231.

The Joy of the Gospel  
Monday 26th September at 2.30pm

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 it’s a prospect that 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, 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; because all group members will need a book, we do need you to commit in advance. There may also be an opportunity to join a group on Tuesday afternoons in Styvechale.

Any questions, do please speak to me.  

Canon Kathryn  
kathryn.fleming@coventrycathedral.org.uk

024 7652 1230
Building Bridges: The Art of Engineering  
Friday 30th September, 5.30-7pm  
Join the Dean, Mark Jones, (Arup Engineering) and Professor Louise Campbell to explore the visionary ideas behind the construction of the new Cathedral that resulted in an iconic and beautiful building housing some of the best 20th Century art. This unique collaboration between Sir Basil Spence and Arup created a stunning backdrop for world class artists Graham Sutherland, Jacob Epstein, John Piper and others to create some of their most powerful and evocative work. The evening will also see the launch of the new creative project Bridge. Arup, along with 1,000 Coventry children, create a 15 metre bridge from rolled paper as a prelude to an installation that will be part of the Cathedral 100 Celebrations in 2018. The 2018 installation will provide an exciting temporary structure for a series of performances and commissions by local, national and international performers.

Film Premiere - Reconciliation: Reflections on Coventry’s role  
Friday 14th October at 6.30pm  
Our series of filmed interviews with each of Coventry’s Canons for Reconciliation, past and present, is now ready! Featuring beautiful shots of both the old and new cathedrals, and full of insights from the Canons who led the various phases of reconciliation work at Coventry from the 1950s to the present day, this main film of the series is likely to be of interest to almost anyone involved with the Cathedral. Several of the Canons featured in the films will be attending the premiere, and there will be drinks and nibbles on arrival, and discussion at the end of the 50-minute film.

Please contact alice.farnhill@coventrycathedral.gov.uk to book your place. The event is free and open to all, but a £5 per person donation on the night would be very welcome to assist in covering the costs of the evening. For those who cannot attend, the full series of eight films will be available to view online shortly after this date.

Watch the short trailer video here: https://youtu.be/FBYtcFSMNIU

Yesterday’s Charity Boxing Event in the Cathedral  
As many of you know, I agreed to having a charity boxing match in the Cathedral in support of Help for Heroes. I hope you will understand that it wasn’t a straightforward decision, and I did give it very careful and prayerful consideration, but I made it for three reasons. Help for Heroes is a charity with widespread support, working amongst those who have made huge sacrifices for the cause of peace; there is a strong history of church projects to encourage boxing as a way of generating discipline and self respect, especially in poorer areas; it will bring a significant fee - and will bring people into the Cathedral who would not otherwise be here. I have asked to offer a welcome which frames the event within our commitment to Peace and Reconciliation.

I have been in touch with the Bishop about the event, who is supportive, and the Chapter were also made aware, but I take full responsibility for the decision. These are difficult days for the Cathedral, which call us to take risks for the sake of our common life – but my prayer is that this will also serve our mission and engagement with the city and farther afield.

With best wishes

John Witcombe

The Sixteen's 2016 Choral Pilgrimage - The Deer’s Cry  
Friday 30th September at 7pm  
The Sixteen's 16th Choral Pilgrimage comes to the Cathedral to celebrate the work of William Byrd and Arvo Pärt, composers from very different eras, both of whom are considered masters of sacred music despite having faced considerable persecution for their work.

Please note there will be a pre-concert talk at 7 pm. Doors will open at 6.30 pm.

Although separated by over four centuries, the music of William Byrd and Arvo Pärt makes for a perfect match. Both spent many years facing adversity and persecution and both sought solace through their sacred music.

Byrd’s later life was lived under constant threat of religious persecution – a practising Catholic in a country where only the Anglican faith could be celebrated. However, Queen Elizabeth I not only loved music but also possessed a private empathy for Catholicism and in 1575 she granted a patent to Byrd and the aged Tallis to publish music. The result was Cantiones Sacrae, a collection of 17 pieces by each of them, six of which, including the monumental Tribue, Domine, feature in this programme. The long text comes from the book of Meditations attributed to St Augustine, and Byrd treats us not only to a variety of vocal combinations, but also clear codes to his unswerving Catholic faith. Just as in Ad Dominum we hear urgent cries to be heard “I speak peace to them and they clamour for war” (Ego pacem loquebar et illi bellum conclamabon), so in Tribue, Domine he portrays the “kingdom” (imperium) with a certain triumphalism.

Pärt spent most of his life in Soviet-controlled Estonia and for most of his young life it all seemed perfectly normal. “We had what we had… it wasn’t until I was older that I began to appreciate what it was to live in the Soviet Union, everything enclosed or forbidden.” In 1979, Pärt and his family acquired exit visas to leave the Soviet Union and moved to Berlin and it was around this time that he began to experiment with tintinnabulation. As Pärt himself explains “I have discovered that it is enough when a single note is beautifully played. This one note, or a silent beat, or a moment of silence, comforts me. I work with very few elements – with one voice, with two voices. I build with the most primitive materials – with the triad. The three notes of the triad are like bells. And that is why I called it tintinnabulation.”

The result is music where the text has total clarity but is highly charged in a very specific manner. His setting of the Nunc Dimittis is at times tender and serene, but then bursts out into exhilarating joy. The Woman with the Alabaster Box is even more extraordinary, with Jesus’ words eloquently delivered and made even more powerful by the silences.

Unlike Byrd, Pärt did not write for the liturgy but that does not mean his music is any less sacred – far from it. His music will resonate around our wonderful cathedrals and abbeys just as Byrd’s has done for centuries.

Harry Christophers CBE, Founder and Conductor, The Sixteen

Tickets are available through the Cathedral website Events page: www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/wpsite/blog/2016/04/19/the-sixteens-2016-choral-pilgrimage-the-deers-cry/