**CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Community Christmas Card**

Coventry Open Christmas is a voluntary organisation that has provided shelter and food to Coventry homeless and alone over the Christmas holiday for the last 25 years. It is open at Queens Road Baptist Church for 24 hours a day during Christmas week. Contributions from the Cathedral Community Christmas Card were £137.50 and the proceeds of sale of goods at the back of the Cathedral raised a further £266.25, so we have been able to donate £403.75 to the charity. Many thanks to all who helped to achieve this target. *Martin Williams*

**Coventry Foodbank**

Last week I took 230 items to the Foodbank warehouse, including items bought with cash donations of £20 from 11 people: most of these were basic toiletries which the Foodbank had particularly asked for. The next Foodbank Sundays will be January 1st, February 5th and March 5th. Since April 2012 we have contributed 14,059 items, so a very big thank-you to all who have supported our efforts and a very Happy Christmas! *Richard Chamberlaine-Brothers*

**Holiday Opening Times**

The Cathedral, Shop and Rising Café Open Christmas and the New Year the Cathedral will be open from 10am to 3pm most days. The shop is open during December and January from 11am to 3pm, Monday to Saturday except Bank Holidays. Rising Café is now closed and will re-open on Wednesday 4th January.

**Cathedral Walkers Monday 2nd January**

Even if you can’t normally join us, the New Year Bank Holiday is the ideal time for a short walk in local countryside and lunch afterwards. Details are on the Community Table; please let me know if you intend to come for either or both. *Dove Goodall*

dagoodall@hotmail.co.uk 024 7646 1946

**Cathedral Prayer Circle**

In an emergency, a group of us are ready to pray for you and those for whom you are concerned. Contact Meg Bowen on 01926 856928 – brief details would guide our prayers for God's grace and healing.

**Monday 9th January at 6pm in St Michael's House**

**Proclaiming the Word**

A short talk by Haley Jones, part of her interview preparation for commissioning to the order of the Deacon in the United Methodist Church. 'Our work here at the Cathedral and in the city of Coventry holds a great vision of bridging people across difference, worshipping fully, living openly, and giving freely which are at the heart of reconciliation. It would be wonderful to share in this evening with you and your presence would be a great support.'

**Tuesday 10th January at 7pm in St Michael's House**

**A Cathedral Lecture Series: Reconciliation Reimagined**

Our first lecturer in this new series is the Revd Dr Cornelia Kulawik of the Berlin Evangelische Kirchengemeinde. The theme of her talk will be the first line of the Martin Niemöller poem that begins with ‘First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out...’ Please sign up on the community table.

**THE CHRISTMAS EVE**

*John Gordon*

**Christmas Communion Service**

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**Sunday 25th December**

Christmas Day

**10.30am** The Christmas Eucharist

**4.00pm** Choral Evensong

**OPEN** resumes at its new time of 6pm on Sunday January 15th.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN**

Happy Christmas from Coventry Cathedral!

Jesus Christ came as Prince of Peace, to be present both in the celebrations and in the fractures of this world – may you know his presence in your life whatever your experience this Christmas, and may our broken world know the healing that only he can bring, through the love and the hope of God. We pray that through all our worship and wonder in these special days we will be able to share with one another the joy of Jesus’ birth, and set our faces upon him for the coming year.

With love from all      John

While the Cathedral offices are closed between Christmas and New Year, community members in need of a priest should phone the duty verger on 07527 565969 and he will get in touch with the Canon on call.

There is a prayer station near to the Global Candlestand, at the top of the Chapel of Unity steps, for anyone wishing to pray for the people of Aleppo and for displaced people all round the world this Christmas. The Global Candlestand is always our particular focus for peace.

**The Dean, Canons and assisting Readers this week**

The Dean is Canon in Residence this week. The Reader assisting at the Eucharist this morning is Donald Parr.

**Calling all VOLUNTEERS!**

While Christmas cards and invitations are winging their way in your direction, and might even have arrived safely, we know we are fallible people living in a broken world - so this is simply to remind EVERYONE who gives of their time to the Cathedral as a volunteer in ANY way whatsoever that you are warmly invited to our celebration Evensong on Sunday 8th January at 4pm followed by festive tea. We do so hope to see you – we’ve so much to say thank you for. *Canon Kathryn*

Don’t forget that next Sunday is Foodbank Sunday: gifts in cash or kind are very much needed and always very welcome!