



CCN Newsletter

June 2026

Healing the Wounds of History
Learning to live with Difference and Celebrate Diversity
Building a Culture of Justice and Peace

Farewell Dean John!



Thirteen years of leading Coventry Cathedral and the CCN drew to a close in May with Dean John's retirement, and we will miss him greatly! We created him a small memento of the sheer breadth of the visits he has made around the world for our reconciliation ministry in his time with us (below), mostly undertaken to present Crosses of Nails to new partners.

We wish both him and Ricarda a very happy retirement in Oxford, and look forward to keeping in touch! Read John's final sermon on 17/5/26 [here](#) and listen to his interview on the eve of his departure with Rev Canon Kate Massey, new Acting Dean, [here](#).

John with one of the final two Crosses of Nails he presented, in April, to new partner the **Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole**, Massachusetts, together with Rev Peter Feltman-Mahan (centre) and Rev Robert Childers, President of the CCN USA Board (right).



Opportunities to connect with others monthly on Zoom to pray the Litany of Reconciliation: all welcome!

On the first Friday of the month at midday Central European Time, led by our UK & Ireland partners:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88484456943?pwd=ZJNsti3fZPa4Qk3sbHrgKR3dbt4A2f.1>
 Meeting ID: 884 8445 6943 Passcode: 688379

On the third Wednesday of the month (note recent day change) at midday US EST, led by our North American partners:
<https://zoom.us/j/91751768631?pwd=9gQO2FYvie0HiWMqgeB6enWeFt68Vs.1>
 Meeting ID: 917 5176 8631 Passcode: 896595

Contact us at:

alice.farnhill@coventry.anglican.org <https://www.facebook.com/CCNCoventry/>
<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/reconciliation/community-of-the-cross-of-nails>

Read this and earlier newsletters [here](#)

Access the Cathedral's recent sermons [here](#).



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New partners in 2026!

2026 is proving an incredibly busy year for new partners, with at least 14, potentially 16, joining the CCN this year!

Pictured left are, from top left clockwise: **Utrecht Cathedral**, the **Evangelical Church Community in Hanau**, the **Diocese of St Asaph Mother's Union**, and **Llandaff Cathedral**, location for the **Diocese of Llandaff Mothers' Union** Cross presentation in the early new year.

The Church of the Messiah, Woods Hole, Massachusetts followed in April (see p1), as well as the **Coptic Orthodox Cathedral of St George** in Stevenage, UK: our first Coptic Orthodox partner (see photo on p5). We look forward to welcoming later this summer and autumn the remainder of our Mother's Union Wales partners (see below), as well as new church partners in **Berlin, Stade, Bremen and Hanover**, and, all being well, **Grace Cathedral, San Francisco** and **Limerick Cathedral, Ireland** if we possibly can.

Welcome to all these new partners!

Mothers' Union branches across Wales join the CCN

No fewer than six of our new partners this year spring from the Mothers' Union in Wales: every one of the Welsh diocesan regions of the Mothers' Union are to join the CCN in the Mothers' Union's 150th year. **Llandaff, St Asaph** and **Swansea & Brecon** Diocesan branches have already received their Crosses of Nails, with the remainder of the presentations taking place from through the summer for **St David's, Bangor** and **Monmouth** diocesan branches. Each Cross will be presented in, and remain primarily located within, the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral in each area.

We enormously welcome increased partnership with the Mothers' Union, following those existing with the Coventry and Warwickshire branch and with Mary Sumner House, the Central Office of the charity. Enormous thanks to **Sue Rivers, Mothers' Union Provincial President** (pictured right) whose vision has driven these brand new partnerships in Wales.





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CALLING ALL YOUNG CHRISTIANS!

Book
now!

Young Reconcilers' International Gathering at Coventry Cathedral 4-7 August 2026

Worship, learning and discussion
with others from across Europe

All 18s-25s welcome!

Cost £120 per person (non-residential)

Change yourself, change the world

More information / sign up at:

<https://tinyurl.com/Young-Reconcilers>

Gain a
foundation
certificate in
reconciliation!

Sessions include
examining the
Coventry story in
today's world, facing
our unconscious bias,
encountering and
navigating difference,
and how to further
reconciliation in our
own contexts



Questions? Contact alice.farnhill@coventry.anglican.org



This August – book now!

Aged 18-25 and based in Europe? Interested in how you and your faith can make a difference in today's world? Join us, and others from around Europe, in Coventry from 4-7th August for prayer, worship, song, learning, discussion and much more!

The gathering is non-residential, but limited funding is available to help cover some accommodation and travel costs for those from mainland Europe.

Some assisted places available also - contact us!

More information and to sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/young-reconcilers>



COMMUNITY OF THE
CROSS OF NAILS
AT COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

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Calling all CCN partners!

Cathedrals + Churches + Charities
Retreat centres + Memorials + Seminaries + Chaplaincies

Join us online up to 4 times a year to hear and share news, meet with other similar partner organisations internationally, hear an extended update from one of those partners, and help us shape the resources specific to your type of organisation.

Quarterly 75-90 minute online meetings on the first Monday in each month at 7pm UK time - starting September 2026

Cathedral partners meetings:
September, January, May

Charity partners meetings:
October, February, June

**Retreat centres, seminaries, chaplaincies
& memorials partners meetings:**
November, March, July

Church partners meetings:
December, April and August

Sign up to attend here!:
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Crosses of Nails for two St George's Cathedrals in Dean John's final months: the warmest of welcomes to both!

Dean John and Associate Minister Rev Su McClellan visited a number of our partners in Israel Palestine in February. Left: at **St George's Cathedral, Jerusalem**

Below: presenting a new Cross of Nails in the UK, to the **Coptic Orthodox Cathedral of St George** in Stevenage, our first such partner!



And finally ... save the date!

Community of the Cross of Nails International Gathering at Coventry Cathedral 2-6 June 2027

All partners welcome! More information to follow later this summer