



Welcome to both the new Bishop of Coventry and our new Canon for Arts and Reconciliation!

We're so very pleased that both Bishop Sophie Jelley and Rev Canon Kate Massey have now begun working with us, following their respective installations on 7th and 15th June.

Canon Kate will be leading the CCN, with Alice Farnhill as Co-ordinator, as now.

Both were able to meet and have discussions with representatives on our CCN International Board in their first few weeks - see next page. Read more about both [here](#).

Coventry Cathedral statement on the situation in Gaza

Please see the Cathedral statement released in late July [here](#).

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 Tuesday of the month 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](#).

CCN Newsletter

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Healing the Wounds of History
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Our recent CCN international Board meeting in Coventry

In early July we welcomed Bishop Oliver Schuegraf from Germany, Canon Delene Mark from South Africa, Rev Bert Kuipers from the Netherlands, Rev Michael Shapcott from Canada, Mark Simmons from the UK and Rev Canon Walter Brownridge from the USA for 2-3 days to evaluate activity and make plans for the years ahead.



The group joined the Friday Zoom Litany around several laptops at 11am on Friday 4th July. In the Cathedral an hour later, we remembered the USA in our prayers.

The governing body for the CCN, we meet in person every couple of years, and several times a year on Zoom in between. This year it was especially helpful for the Board to meet Canon Kate and Bishop Sophie so early in their new roles.



Many congratulations to Bishop Shane Parker!

We're immensely proud that Bishop Shane, former Chair of the CCN Canada Board, has been elected Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada! Enormous congratulations, Shane - we remember your time with us here in Coventry fondly! Read more [here](#).



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May CCN pilgrimage

A very full and inspiring few days in May with our CCN pilgrims, from Kassel, Stade, Hanau, Darmstadt and Pforzheim in Germany, from Los Angeles, USA and Brisbane, Australia, and from various parts of the UK.

We look forward to our next pilgrimage from 11-14 November, just ahead of the 85th anniversary of the bombing of the old Cathedral. Some places remain: do contact alice.farnhill@coventry.anglican.org if you would like to attend.

New partner: the Gastkirche und Gasthaus Recklinghausen

Welcome to our newest partner, on June 7th! A joyous service on the Feast of Pentecost for this historic church and small residential refuge for the poor and needy, still faithfully serving its community in the Ruhr region 600 years on from its foundation. Alice Farnhill presented the Cross of Nails from Coventry and Niels Fassbender from the German CCN Board also attended.

We have three further new partners joining us this year from Germany this October, as well as more from the USA, Canada and the UK, in addition to those from Germany and New Zealand who joined us earlier in 2025. This is a wonderfully busy year!



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Good News from Together for Hope!



We are so looking forward to welcoming our newest partner to Together for Hope, the sister network to the Cross of Nails! On **August 15th**, which is also **Partition Commemoration Day**, a short joining ceremony in the Chapel of Unity at Coventry Cathedral at 6pm will welcome **South Asian Heritage Month**, the annual UK-wide celebration of South Asian cultures, histories, and communities, to the network, followed by a special evening of poetry, memory and reflection. More information and to book: [here](#).



CCN Sunday, 21st / 28th September

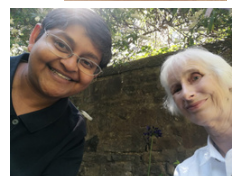
Our annual day of focus on our network and its role in our community life takes place on 21st/28th September. At Coventry Cathedral on 21st September, which is also **UN Peace Sunday**, we look forward to welcoming friends from Bergen Cathedral in Norway to our morning Eucharist, where they will receive a large Cross of Nails to act in tandem with the one they received in 2020. Partners are very welcome to come along and join us on the day, which is also of course **UN Peace Sunday**.

Church partners are very much encouraged to embrace the day in their services where they can: a suggested liturgy for this year's service, kindly created by our Canadian partners, can be found [here](#).

Congratulations!

A historic moment for the community around CCN partner Church of the Good Shepherd, Protea Village in Capetown, South Africa, since our last newsletter: following a 30-year battle, the ground was ceremonially turned in a historic first phase of the community's return to their land from which they were displaced in the 1960s, a truly significant development in this community. Read more here: <https://proteavillage.co.za/>

Canon Delene Mark, Chair of the South Africa CCN Board, visited our CCN partners in York and in Edinburgh while she was in the UK following our International Board meeting. Contacts that have been made largely via the Zoom litany (see front page) have evolved into active friendships! Pictured: Delene with Kingsley and Ruth at St Martin's, Coney Street, York, and with Mary Taylor at Morningside United Church, in the Eric Liddell Peace Garden.



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Lord Mayor of Coventry's Committee for Peace and Reconciliation

HIROSHIMA

DAY 80th

Coventry Cathedral

Wednesday
6th August 2025
6pm - 7pm
Doors open 5.30pm

The Lord Mayor of Coventry Councillor Rachel Lancaster and a representative of the Embassy of Japan, will lead the commemoration.

There will be reflection given by Sophie Bolt General Secretary of CND and also music, poetry, making cranes of peace and an exhibition.

For further information please contact David Fish on 07779 784 786 or email: davidfishcf@msn.com
<https://CoventryHiroshimaRemembrance.eventbrite.co.uk>



Events coming up

August 6th at 8pm UK time: Online Vigil on the 80th Anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, with contributions from Revd. Patrick Comerford, retired Church of Ireland priest and former President of Irish CND. Pre-register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/qKRv40NwQaycy6R6fozGfw>

Hope Will Bloom From These Ashes, at Coventry Cathedral until 24th August, created from origami prayer cranes by Leah Hislop and commissioned by Christian CND to mark the 80th anniversary (right)




Reconciliation in a Time of Conflict

10.00am-3.30pm
Saturday 18th October

John Laing Centre
Coventry Cathedral

Photo by Mathew Viana on Unplash

Drawing upon experiences from the Holy Land and Ukraine, what does the Christian ministry of reconciliation look like in a time of conflict? What are the challenges faced by those in the context of war, and what might we learn about being reconcilers in a society increasingly characterised by cultural division and conflict?

Tickets are £25 (£15 concessions, e.g. ordinands). For more information and to book: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reconciliation-in-a-time-of-conflict-tickets-1334100403219>

Looking ahead to 2026:

Two UK events for your diaries; more information to follow:

- **Practical Peacemaking: from Global to Local**, at Coventry Cathedral on 22-23 April 2026, organised jointly by the CCN and TSSF
- **Healing from Conflict**, in Milton Keynes, 24-26 April 2026, organised by the APF, Chips, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and Pax Christi.