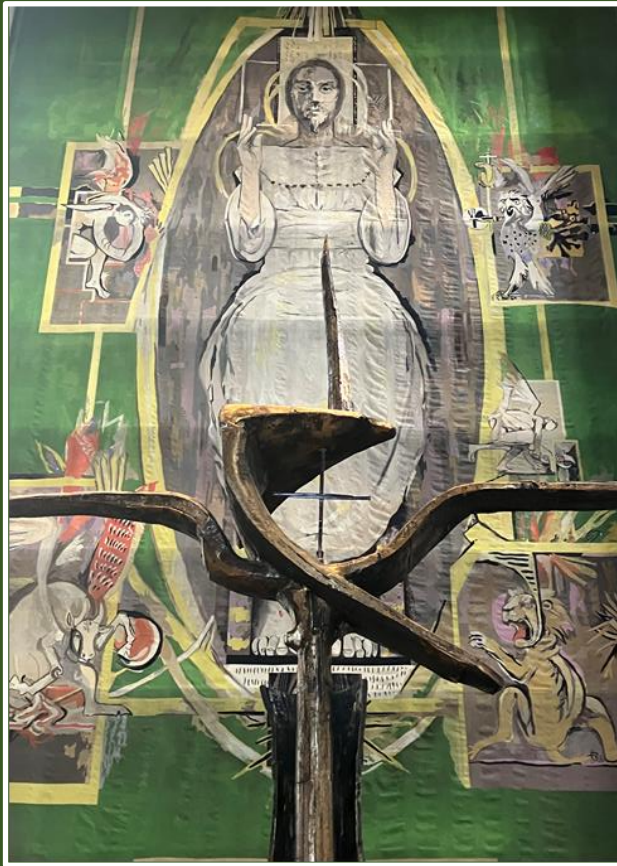




Festal Eucharist on International Community of the Cross of Nails Sunday



**The Feast of
Saint Michael and All Angels**
Sunday, 21st September 2025, 10:30am

Welcome to Coventry Cathedral

Today we celebrate **Saint Michael**, our Patronal Festival transferred from the 29th September. In Scripture the angels are God's messengers and servants, signs of God's presence, guardians of the faithful, and agents of God's justice and peace. We also mark **International Community of the Cross of Nails Sunday**, joining with partners across the world who share our commitment to reconciliation by healing the wounds of history, living with difference and celebrating diversity, and building a culture of peace.

Today we rejoice as **Bergen Cathedral** and **St John's Church, Bergen** receive their Crosses of Nails, marking their membership within the worldwide **Community of the Cross of Nails**. We extend a warm welcome to representatives of these churches and to all who have come to support them on this special occasion, especially our friends from **Southwark Cathedral**, with whom they share close ties of fellowship and mission.

Today, we also warmly welcome our new Reconciliation Interns, **Pia Schmeckenbecher** and **Sylvia Pfahl**.

The President and Preacher today is the Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry. The Deacon is The Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome, and Reverend Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation is the Sub-Deacon.

The Cathedral choir is directed by Rachel Mahon, Director of Music. The organists are Liam Condon, Assistant Director of Music and Adam Heron, Organ Scholar. The Setting is the Missa Brevis by Grayston Ives (b. 1948).

In this service we say the words in **bold** together and invite you to stand and sit as indicated – but do stay seated if you prefer. If you have brought small children, thank you! Feel free to explore the space with them and to use the toys and books provided. Do stay after the service for refreshments.

Saint Michael

Both Coventry's second and third (today's) Cathedrals have been dedicated to St Michael.

We read about St Michael in the Biblical books of Daniel, Jude and Revelation. He is described as a 'great prince, the protector of God's people' (Daniel 12:1), 'the archangel' (Jude 1:9) and as the leader of a host of angels which fight to protect God's people (Revelation 12:7). Through Michael's actions evil is overcome and the vulnerable protected.

St Michael has inspired many writers and artists, including Sir Jacob Epstein, who was commissioned by Sir Basil Spence to create the great bronze figure of St Michael conquering the devil, which now towers above the steps from University Square.

As you prepare for the service, you might like to use this prayer from the Celtic treasury, 'Carmina Gadelica':

O Michael militant,
Thou king of the angels
Shield the people with the power of the sword.
Spread thy wings over the sea and land,
East and west and shield us from the foe.
Brighten the feast from heaven above
Be with us in the pilgrimage,
and in the twistings of the fight.
Thou chief of chiefs, the chief of the needy,
Be with us on the journey, and in the gleam of the river.
Thou chief of chiefs, thou chief of angels
Spread thy wings over sea and land.
For thine is their fullness
Thine own is their fullness.

The Gathering

The Very Reverend John Witcombe, Dean of Coventry, presiding, welcomes everyone.

Introit

The choir sing;

And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. And the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not: neither was their place found any more in heaven. And I heard a loud voice, saying in heaven: now is come salvation and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of Christ. For the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. And they loved not their lives unto death.

from Revelation 12

Music by Neil Cox (b. 1955)

Commissioned by the Friends of Coventry Cathedral

Hymn

We STAND to sing.

**Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee
and confess thee Lord of might.**

**Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can see,
can it be that thou regardest
our poor hymnody?
Yea, we know that thou art near us,
and wilt hear us constantly.**

**Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure all combine.**

**In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily
hearts and minds and hands and voices
in our choicest psalmody.**

**Honour, glory, might, and merit
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
blessed Trinity.
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven render thee.**

Words by F. Pott (1832-1909)

Tune CP 377 Angel Voices E.G. Monk (1819-1900)

The Greeting

The Dean, presiding, says,

**In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

**The Lord be with you
and also with you.**

The Litany of Reconciliation

The Reverend Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation, says,

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation,
race from race, class from class,

Father, forgive.

The covetous desires of people and nations
to possess what is not their own,

Father, forgive.

The greed which exploits the work of
human hands and lays waste the earth,

Father, forgive.

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

Father, forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned,
the homeless, the refugee,

Father, forgive.

The lust which dishonours the bodies
of men, women and children,

Father, forgive.

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

Father, forgive.

The President says,

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted,
forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgives you.

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

We remain STANDING. The choir sings the Gloria.

Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra
pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi propter
magnam gloriam tuam. Domine
Deus rex cœlestis Deus Pater
omnipotens. Domine Fili
unigenite Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius
Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi
miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata
mundi, suscipe deprecationem
nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram
Patris, miserere nobis. Quoniam
tu solus sanctus, tu solus
Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu
Christe cum Sancto Spiritu in
gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*Glory be to God on high, and in
earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we
worship thee, we glorify thee, we
give thanks to thee for thy great
glory, O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty. O Lord,
the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father, that takest away the sins of
the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of
the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of
the world, receive our prayer. Thou
that sittest at the right hand of God
the Father, have mercy upon us. For
thou only art holy; thou only art the
Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the
Holy Ghost, art most high in the
glory of God the Father. Amen.*

The Collect

SILENCE is kept and then the President prays:

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed;
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all the true love of peace,
and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth;
that your kingdom may go forward in justice and peace,
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Canadian CCN Liturgical Resource, 2025

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

We SIT for the First Reading, read by Brenda Williams, representing the Cathedral Community.

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder* set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him* and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed* in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

Genesis 28:10-17

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation

We *STAND*; the choir and congregation sing:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



Bless the Lord, all you his hosts,
You ministers of his who do his will.

Psalm 103:21

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Gospel

The Reverend Nitano Muller, Canon for Worship and Welcome, says,

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' ⁵¹ And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

John 1:47 – 51

At the end, the Deacon says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

We remain STANDING as the Dean prays, and then we SIT. After the sermon, time is kept for reflection.

Affirmation of Faith

We STAND, and the President leads us as we declare our faith together:

We believe in God the Father who creates humanity in the image of God, leads us with bands of love, calls us home, and runs to meet us, even when we are still far off.

We believe in God the Son in whom humanity and divinity are perfectly reconciled; in whom all things hold together; who lived on the edges to gather the outcasts in and throws open the doors of the wedding feast to people from every tribe and language and people and nation.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, the life of God within us, Who shows us the world's brokenness, articulates our longing for its peace, equips us for its transformation, and grows in us the peace that makes this service possible.

We believe in the coming of the kingdom of God, where every tear will be wiped away, every wound healed; where diversity will be recognised as beautiful, and difference an expression of the Infinite; where every wrong will be met with justice and with grace; where everyone will be at home with one another, and face-to-face with God.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

We SIT. The President introduces the Intercessions, which are led by the Deacon.

With St Michael and all the angels, we lift our prayers to the throne of grace, confident that God hears the cries of his people and longs for the healing of the world.

Healing the wounds of history

Lord of truth and mercy,
we bring before you the conflicts of the nations,
the wounds of violence and injustice,
the memories that still divide peoples and communities.
We pray for places scarred by war,
for all who bear the pain of oppression or exile,
and for those who work to bring justice and peace.
Send your angels to guard the weak,
and strengthen all who strive to heal what is broken.

Lord of heaven and earth,

hear our prayer.

Living with difference and celebrating diversity

Lord of all peoples,
you have made us in your image to reflect your glory.
We pray for your Church throughout the world,
for its unity in truth and holiness,
and for its witness in places of division.
Bless the Community of the Cross of Nails,
and all who commit themselves to reconciliation.
Teach us to honour one another,
to listen across difference,
and to celebrate the rich diversity of your creation.

Lord of heaven and earth,

hear our prayer.

Building a culture of peace

Lord of life and hope,
we pray for leaders of nations and communities,
for peacemakers, diplomats, and all who carry the burden of
responsibility.

Guide them with wisdom,
protect them from the powers of evil,
and give them courage to act with justice and compassion.
May your Spirit inspire us all to become builders of peace
And good stewards of the creation and each other.

Lord of heaven and earth,

hear our prayer.

The suffering, the sick, and the oppressed

Lord of compassion,
you sent your angels to minister to your Son in the wilderness.
We pray for all who are weary, anxious, or in pain;
for the sick, the lonely, and those near to death.
Send your holy angels to guard and comfort them,
and surround them with your healing presence.
(We remember especially ...)

Lord of heaven and earth,

hear our prayer.

5. The departed

Lord of eternity,
we remember those who have gone before us in faith,
trusting in the victory of Christ over sin and death.
Bring us with them, and with Michael, Gabriel, Raphael,
and the whole company of heaven,
to share in your everlasting kingdom of peace.

Lord of heaven and earth,

hear our prayer.

The president says,
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

Community News

The Dean shares news and information with the congregation, including introducing our new reconciliation interns, Pia Schmeckenbecher and Sylvia Pfahl.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We STAND and the President says,

Hear again the song of the angels:
‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Deacon says:

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Everyone shares a greeting of peace.

Offertory Hymn

We remain STANDING to sing.

Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions

***All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place***

**Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.**

**Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.**

**Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.**

**Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.**

**Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.**

Words and music by Marty Haugen (1950-)

Prayer of Preparation

The President says:

Giver of life, receive all we offer you this day.

Let the Spirit you bestow on your Church continue to work in the world, through the hearts of all who believe.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Canadian CCN Liturgical Resource, 2025

The Eucharistic Prayer

The President says, and everyone responds:

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,

it is our duty and our joy,

at all times and in all places

to give you thanks and praise,

holy Father, heavenly King,

almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks, gracious Father,

for the glory of your holy name revealed in Michael and the

angels. Through them you show us your strength in the unseen

world, and in them you give us a glimpse of the worship of

heaven, where with angels and archangels and all the company

of heaven, we lift our voices to join in their unending hymn of

praise:

The choir sings the Sanctus and Benedictus.

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Dominus
Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt cœli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine

Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy
glory. Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna in the
highest.*

The President continues:

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you
thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

The Deacon says:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power

Be yours for ever and ever.

Amen.

The congregation SITS or KNEELS and SILENCE is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

Please feel free to say the Lord's Prayer in whatever language is closest to your heart. We pray, if we are able, in German.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Vater unser im Himmel,
Geheiligt werde dein Name.
Dein Reich komme.
Dein Wille geschehe,
wie im Himmel, so auf Erden.
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns
heute,
und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
wie auch wir vergeben unseren
Schuldigern.
Und führe uns nicht in
Versuchung,
sondern erlöse uns von dem
Bösen.
Denn dein ist das Reich
und die Kraft und die Herrlichkeit,
in Ewigkeit.
Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily
bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who
sin against us.
Lead us not into
temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the
power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

As angels break into the ordinary
with the extraordinary life of God,
so in the breaking and the taking of this bread
**the life of heaven is opened to us
here on earth.**

The Invitation to Communion

The President says,

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Agnus Dei

The Choir sings the Agnus Dei.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata
mundi, dona nobis pacem.

*O Lamb of God, that takest away
the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away
the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away
the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.*

The Giving of Communion

It is our custom for this part of the service to be a time of quiet reflection. Please wait in your seat to be directed by a churchwarden or steward. If you wish to receive gluten-free bread, please ask and we will be happy to accommodate. Those who do not intend to receive Communion, but who would prefer to receive a blessing, are asked to carry this booklet as an indication of your preference to the ministers.

Anthem

During the distribution of Communion the choir sings an Anthem.

Ave verum corpus, natum de
Maria Virgine, vere passum,
immolatum in cruce pro homine.
Cuius latus perforatum vero
fluxit sanguine; esto nobis
praegustatum, in mortis examine.
O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu,
Fili Mariae.

Hail, true Body, born
of the Virgin Mary,
truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for mankind,
from whose pierced side
flowed water and blood:
Be for us a foretaste of the
Heavenly banquet in the trial of
death! O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus,
O Jesus, son of Mary.

*Words attributed to Pope Innocent VI
Music by Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)*

Communion Hymn

During the hymn, the ministers and new CCM partners move to the Chancel steps.

**God of freedom, God of justice,
God whose love is strong as death,
God who saw the dark of prison,
God who knew the price of faith:
touch our world of sad oppression
with your Spirit's healing breath.**

**Rid the earth of torture's terror,
God whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
God who shed the tears and blood;
move in us the power of pity,
restless for the common good.**

**Make in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers,
of whatever race or creed:
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's need.**

Words by Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

*Tune CP 447 Rhuddlan Welsh traditional melody in Musical Relics of Welsh Bards
(1800)*

The Prayer after Communion

The congregation remains SEATED or KNEELS and silence is kept.

The President introduces:

Almighty God, Father to us all,
you call us to make peace and to love and serve our neighbour.
May our Cathedral, ruined and rebuilt,
be a sign to all peoples of the healing of old wounds.
Help us to build a kinder, more just world where those of
many races may live together in peace, and the whole human
family be one;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord of heaven,
**in this Eucharist you have brought us near to an
innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of
the saints made perfect:
as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared
their fellowship,
so may we come to share their joy in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**
Amen.

The Mission of the Community of the Cross of Nails

The Community of the Cross Of Nails (CCN) is a network of Churches and Christian organisations who, inspired by the story of Coventry Cathedral, share a common commitment to work and pray for peace, justice and reconciliation. This they do through seeking to heal the wounds of history, learning to live with difference and celebrate diversity and building a culture of justice and peace.

CCN Prayer

The Reverend Kate Massey, Canon for Arts and Reconciliation and sub-deacon introduces the CCN Prayer:

Eternal God, you have come among us in Christ to reconcile the world to yourself, and have entrusted us with the ministry of reconciliation.

Strengthen all who work for the healing of conflict and pain amongst your human family.

Bless all those in the worldwide Community of the Cross of Nails who inspired by this symbol of hope, bear witness to the grace and truth of your crucified and risen Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Blessing of a Cross of Nails

A Cross of Nails is given to new partners of the Community of the Cross of Nails as a symbol of their sharing together with us in the ministry of reconciliation, and to new ICONS schools. Today we will be blessing a new Cross of Nails before it is presented to Bergen Cathedral, who have been part of the CCN for some years already and St John's Church, Bergen, joining the CCN.

The Dean says,

Bless all those at Bergen Cathedral and St John's Church, who,
inspired by the Cross of Nails, bear witness to the grace and
truth of your crucified and risen Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

In the name of God,
who has created all people for friendship with himself;

In the name of Jesus Christ,
who commanded us to love our enemies;

In the name of our Lord the Spirit,
who rescues and restores us in peace;

We bless this Cross of Nails, to be presented to
Bergen Cathedral and St John's Church as a symbol of our
partnership in the work of reconciliation;

For the Glory of God
and the coming of His kingdom of justice and peace;
Amen.

Presentation of a Cross of Nails

The Deacon presents the Crosses of Nails.

Receive this Cross of Nails, a symbol from the ruined and
rebuilt sanctuary of our Cathedral Church of St. Michael in
Coventry.

Cherish this Cross, as a token of the merciful forgiveness of
God, declared to us in the Passion of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Watch about this Cross, in prayer for one another and for all
the partners of the Community of the Cross of Nails around
the world.

Guard this Cross as a symbol of your strength to work and
pray for peace justice and reconciliation and live at peace with
all people as far as it depends on you.

The representatives respond:

Almighty God grant that we walking in the way of the cross may find it none other than the way of life and peace. Amen

Presenting Prayer

We remain STANDING to say the following prayer together:

Almighty God, who through the life, death and Resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation through forgiveness and love; give us confidence in the eternal power to heal, of which His Cross is for us a sign.

Bless, in His name, the Community of the Cross of Nails throughout the world; enable its partners to be witnesses of your forgiveness and love at work among us.

Unite us in a sacred fellowship to further your purposes of healing, and enable all to know that we are his disciples because we love one another, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

The Blessing

The President gives the blessing:

**Christ, the Prince of Peace,
strengthen you in your calling to be ministers of reconciliation.
The holy angels guard you in truth and goodness.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.**

Amen.

Final Hymn

We STAND to sing the final hymn:

**Be in our midst, and gather us together,
and let your loving-kindness be our guide,
Help us discern your image in each other,
and walk with humble footsteps by your side.
Send us to work, O Lord, Almighty Giver,
'till all who thirst and hunger now are filled,
Let justice thunder like a mighty river,
And let the storms of strife and conflict now be stilled.**

**When all the world's great sorrows overtake us,
and we are crushed by centuries of pain,
lend us your strength, and lovingly remake us
that by your grace we may be whole again.
And when the sins of passing generations
make all the wounds of hist'ry still feel raw,
send out your healing power among the nations,
and fill this broken earth with heaven's peace once more.**

**And if the cross, the site of such destruction,
a sign of violence, suffering and sin,
can be redeemed to witness resurrection,
and be a place where life can still begin,
then iron and wood and stone can sing their stories:
'Father, forgive' these very walls have prayed,
that what was lost could birth still brighter glories,
and what was hurt can be transfigured and remade.**

**Grant us that peace beyond the mind's discerning,
Help us to live the truth that sets us free.
And may the Spirit's fire within us burning
help us become who we are called to be.
In eager longing for your new creation,
a world reshaped by love and hope and grace,
with Christ the Prince of Peace as our foundation,
we'll build your kingdom now, in this and every place.**

*Original hymn by © Ally Barrett (www.reverendally.org)
Tune: Londonderry Air*

The Dismissal

The Reverend Nitano Muller, Deacon, says,

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise
more than we can utter, more than we can conceive,
be to you, most holy and glorious Trinity,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
from all angels, and all people, all creatures
for ever and ever.

Amen.

Acclamation

The Deacon leads the acclamation from the West Screen, saying:

The Lord commands his angels
to keep you in all your ways.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels, mighty in power,
**who fulfil his command
and heed the voice of his word.**

Give thanks to the Lord, all his hosts,
his servants that do his will.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his works,
in every place where he rules,
my soul, give thanks to the Lord,
for he commands his angels,
to keep you in all your ways. Amen

Organ Voluntary

Please do stay for the organ voluntary, performed by Liam Condon.

Placare Christe Servulis
by Marcel Dupré (1886 – 1971)

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the Cathedral via your phone, or set up a recurring donation, please use the QR code below. There are also contactless donation points and collection boxes near the entrance.

Thank you for your support.



CLERGY PREACHING AWAY TODAY:

The Reverend Su McClellan- St Chad's, Woodend

DAILY SERVICES AT THE CATHEDRAL

Regular services at the Cathedral follow this pattern. For special services and up-to-date information about one-off cancellations of the services below, please check the calendar on the Cathedral website:
<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/full-calendar>

Monday - Friday

8:30 – 9:00am: *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

(followed on Thursdays by BCP Holy Communion)

4 – 4:30pm: *Evening Prayer*

(or Wednesday and Thursday during school terms: Choral Evensong, 5:15 - 6pm)

Saturday

12 – 12:10pm: *The Litany of Reconciliation*

Sunday

10:30 – 11:45am: *The Cathedral Eucharist*

4 – 5pm: *BCP Evening Prayer (Choral Evensong during term time)*

JOINING OUR CHOIRS

Do you know a child who loves to sing? Boys and girls between the ages of 7 and 10 are welcome to audition for the Cathedral Boys' and Girls' Choirs. They sing an average of four times per week during term time in recordings, services and concerts. Children receive a world-class music education completely free and even receive scholarship payments. Please get in touch with the Director of Music to learn more: rachel.mahon@coventrycathedral.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING AT COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

We are committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details, please visit www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding
You can report a concern using the same link or by contacting Jane Williams, Cathedral Safeguarding Officer, calling 024 7650 2349 or by emailing janeMLWill@aol.com
Alternatively, you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team led by Sarah Price: 024 7652 1345 or safeguarding@coventry.anglican.org

JOB OPPORTUNITY

HEAD VERGER

We are seeking to appoint an experienced individual who will enable the smooth running of the Cathedral, chiefly as a place of prayer and worship, but also as a popular tourist destination and venue for a wide variety of concerts and other events. The person will lead the verger team and form part of the middle management of the Cathedral.

This is a fulltime role and onsite accommodation is provided.

Please see the Cathedral website for more details or email Nitano.Muller@Coventry.Anglican.org if you have any questions.

Closing date for applications: Friday, 3 October.

Interviews: Thursday, 16 October.

COMING SOON

Summer Organ Recital Series

Monday, 22nd September, 12:30pm

Our 2025 summer organ recital series continues with a recital from Pavlos Triantaris.

C. Balbastre - *Prelude and Fugue in D minor*

L. Busbetzky - *Erbarm' Dich mein" BWV 721*

S. O. Barber - *Adagio in B-flat minor "Agnus Dei", Op. 11 No. 2*

E. Tinel - *Allegro con moto from the Sonata in G minor, Op. 29*

Details of the rest of the series can be found here:

<https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/worship-music/the-organ/organ-recitals>

Chorister Car Wash Fundraiser

TODAY, *between the services, from 12:30 until 2pm.*

Support the Choirs! The Choristers will be hosting a car wash to raise funds. Have a drink in the pop-up café while you wait for your car to be washed. This will be happening in the Upper Car Park just beside the Cathedral off Priory Row.

Bishop Sophie visit to the Cathedral

Monday, 22nd September

Bishop Sophie is coming to spend a day with the Cathedral on Monday September 22nd, to get to know us and what we do. If you would like to join the day, we would love to welcome volunteers and members of the Cathedral community to afternoon tea in the John Laing Centre at 4.30pm – 5.15pm (following Evening Prayer at 4.00). Please sign on the welcome table if you know you would like to join this event.

Coffee Morning

Wednesday, 24th September, 10am – 12noon

FREE

Come and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the Cathedral, with FREE refreshments.

An opportunity to gather, chat with friends and friends unknown, to help us fulfil our core value of Hospitality.

Any questions, please email events@coventrycathedral.org.uk

National Police Memorial Day Service

Sunday, 28 September, 2pm

We are privileged to host this year's National Police Memorial Service, when we gather with families and representatives from across the country to honour and remember officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. On this important occasion, ***please note there will be no Cathedral Eucharist***, but congregation members are welcome to attend the service at Holy Trinity. A limited number of spaces are available for members of the congregation to attend the NPMD service; names should be submitted to the Churchwardens by

TODAY, Sunday, 21st September.

Reconciliation in a Time of Conflict

Saturday, 18th October, 10am – 3.30pm

How can we talk about reconciliation in the midst of war? We know the Bible calls us to be reconcilers, but 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? How can we pray, act and speak in these turbulent times? Christians in Ukraine and Israel Palestine have approached this question in different ways, which will in turn help shape our understanding and action in our own contexts.

This significant day conference is hosted by the British Trust for Tantor, which supports the work of the Tantor Ecumenical institute, on the border between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. We will be welcoming their Rector, Fr. John Paul SJ, along with guests from Ukraine, to lead us in our reflection.

This conference will run from 10.00 – 3.30pm at Coventry Cathedral, a community known for its commitment to reconciliation, and as a place to reflect and respond to these difficult questions. Tickets are now £15 (or £10 for concessions, e.g. ordinands, students). For more information and to book your place visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/wh674s7c>

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

A young couple with an infant daughter are urgently in need of reasonably priced accommodation the city. If you are able to help, or suggest any possibilities, please speak to the Dean.

Image on the front cover is of the High Altar Cross by Geoffrey Clarke with 'Christ in Glory in the Tetramorph' by Graham Sutherland, Coventry Cathedral. Photographed by Matthew Giblin, the Liturgical Assistant.

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