

Birmingham Cathedral
300 YEARS AT THE HEART

2015

Come & See





Christian Hope

The Archbishop of Canterbury will be taking part in the 300th anniversary celebrations 22 – 24 February. *Leading worship and shaping conversation about contemporary Christian living. Includes the 'Birmingham Prayer Breakfast', 7.30am Mon 23 Feb, hosted by the cathedral and ChaplaincyPlus.*



I am delighted to join the
Dean and Chapter of
Birmingham Cathedral
in celebrating our
church building's 300th
anniversary.

St Philip's, a jewel at the heart of a busy, vibrant city, invites the people of Birmingham and beyond to 'come and see' during 2015.

Cathedrals are oases of prayer and peace. They stand as places where anyone and everyone can come and rediscover wonder and awe, and meet with Jesus Christ, both through art and music, and, simply, through the power of prayer:

As the novelist Susan Hill has written 'Where else in the heart of a city is such a place, where the sense of all past, all present, is distilled into the eternal moment at the still point of the turning world?' Alongside this 'still point', Birmingham Cathedral's Tercentenary year promises many dynamic and lively points – of celebration, of culture and history and of welcome. Please do 'come and see' – I look forward to seeing you.

The Right Reverend David Urquhart
The Bishop of Birmingham



Welcome to Birmingham Cathedral and to a great year of celebration throughout 2015. ‘Come and see’.

Our beautiful building was completed in 1715 to be the parish church of St Philip. In 1905 it became the Anglican Cathedral of Birmingham. The story of how a church became a cathedral is part of the story of how a West Midlands town became a great city. This is a story to share and to celebrate. I am hoping that whatever your faith background, you will want to be part of this great celebration.

Our patron saint, St Philip, invited his friend to ‘Come and see’. We are planning many different activities and events throughout the year. I am hoping that you will want to come and see – and join in!

The Dean of Birmingham

The Very Revd Catherine Ogle



A detailed stained glass artwork depicting Jesus Christ on the left and the Virgin Mary on the right. Jesus is shown with long brown hair, a beard, and a crown, wearing a red robe over a blue garment. He has his eyes closed and a serene expression. Mary is shown with long blonde hair, wearing a green robe over a blue garment, with her hands clasped in prayer. The background is filled with intricate patterns of red, blue, and gold. The entire image is framed by a dark border.

Day of Prayer

9.00am Sat 24 – 9.00am Sun 25 Jan 2015
'Prayer from the heart.
One Christ: many voices '

St Philip's has been a place of Christian prayer and worship for 300 years in the heart of our city.

At the start of our special year, we're inviting all the churches in our city and region to join us in 24 hours of prayer, to be a blessing to one another and to our city and region. Church communities are gathering at the cathedral to lead worship in different traditions and Christians are praying in their homes and local churches. Please join us!


Celebrating our heritage



The church that became a cathedral...
For the town that became a city

“I thought it then, as I do
now and what others will
in future, the pride of the
place.”

*William Hutton
The History of Birmingham, 1819.*



Built in 1715 as the new parish church “on the hill”, St Philip’s is a rare and fine example of elegant English Baroque architecture. It is Grade I listed and one of the oldest buildings in the city still used for its original purpose. Fascinating both inside and out, the cathedral is home to some remarkable treasures (not least the inspiring stained-glass windows designed by Edward Burne-Jones) and amazing stories, all set amongst the daily rhythm of people criss-crossing this unique part of the city.

2015 is an opportunity to uncover and highlight significant aspects of cathedral life over the past 300 years. We will be sharing this heritage through an exciting programme of exhibitions, tours, talks, guided walks and new publications. There will be family events, trails, schools workshops, study days and partnerships with cultural organisations, universities and businesses in the city. A specially commissioned film will consider the cathedral’s role within our vibrant, diverse city today.

We invite you to get involved in the celebrations and discover the wealth of heritage connected with the cathedral as well as its strong links to the history and development of Birmingham. Share your thoughts and memories, explore more of the building’s past through archive research at the Library of Birmingham or help provide a warm and informed welcome.

2015 is an ideal opportunity to come and see an artistic masterpiece, witness architectural brilliance, meet compelling people or, quite simply, share a timeless peace that this place has been offering visitors and worshippers for 300 years.

The cathedral intends its 300th birthday to be a blessing for the whole community.

The cathedral is a place for celebration and festivals. During 2015 we'll be marking our 300th birthday with special events and activities as well as the festivals of the Christian and civic year. 'Come and see' your cathedral in 2015.

New Year's Eve

11.45pm a peal of bells and Watch-Night service to welcome in 2015 with a 'switch-on' of the cathedral roof flood-light.

Film premiere

New documentary film about Birmingham Cathedral launched in 2015.

Day of Prayer: 24 – 25 Jan 2015

'Prayer from the heart. One Christ: many voices'.

The Archbishop of Canterbury: 23 February

and many special guests throughout 2015.

Passion Play in a pub: 24 Mar – 4 Apr

Another chance to see the promenade passion play performed at the Old Joint Stock Theatre and other venues, including the cathedral.

Cathedral Community Spring Fair: Friday 10 April

Cathedral Community Spring Fair in the grounds of the cathedral.

National Commemorations of WW1 and WW2: Friday 8 May

Including a Thanksgiving Evensong for the 70th anniversary of VE Day.

The Chelsea Flower Show: 26 – 20 May

The Birmingham display at Chelsea takes our cathedral as inspiration, featuring the architecture, stories and people of this iconic building.

October Civic Service: Sunday 4 October

Marks the 300th anniversary of the opening of the new 'church on the hill'.

Schools visits

We welcome hundreds of Birmingham school children from all backgrounds to their cathedral; enabling children and young people to understand the Christian faith and heritage of their city and foster respect between all faiths.

2015: A year of celebration



A statue of the first Bishop of Birmingham, Charles Gore, stands in front of the cathedral. He is raising his hand in a blessing for everyone who passes by.



Festival of music



Epiphany
Ceremony of Carols
Candlemas
Ash Wednesday
Mothering Sunday
Palm Sunday
Maundy Thursday
Good Friday
Easter Day
St Philip's Day
Ascension Day
Pentecost
Trinity Sunday
Corpus Christi
Harvest
All Saints
All Souls
Advent Procession
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day



The cathedral music is the 'jewel in the crown'. The wonderful musicians of the cathedral choir perform the unique music of the English choral tradition to the highest standard.

During 2015 'come and hear' the cathedral choir and our two cathedral voluntary choirs sing the Christian year in the cathedral and churches of Birmingham diocese.

Festival of Voices

300 years of Birmingham past, and present

A series of three evenings of music and drama from the three centuries, at different venues, compered by Chris Upton. The first concert is performed where the church in Birmingham began, St Martin in the Bullring, the second is at the Town Hall, built in the 19th century with funds raised from concerts held at St Philip's church and the third at our own Birmingham Cathedral.

Fauré Requiem

Monday 30 March 1.00pm

Come and Sing

led by John Rutter

Saturday 30 May 11.00 – 4.45pm.

Your chance to join in as the well-loved composer comes to Birmingham to lead a workshop of his music.

Summer Organ Festival

Mondays during June 1 – 2.00pm.

Our cathedral 'church on the hill' is mother church in the diocese, serving all communities and welcoming clergy and parishes during 2015 for special services and festival events.

Ordination of new deacons and priests to serve God and the people.

Licensing of Readers.

Readers are lay people, trained and licensed by the church to preach, teach, lead worship and assist in pastoral, evangelistic and liturgical work.



'3 D' Worship events for the Birmingham Lay Discipleship study course. Our 'mass mobilisation' of lay people growing in faith and understanding.

Bishop of Birmingham's Clergy Study Days in the cathedral. Equipping the clergy with the best theological education.

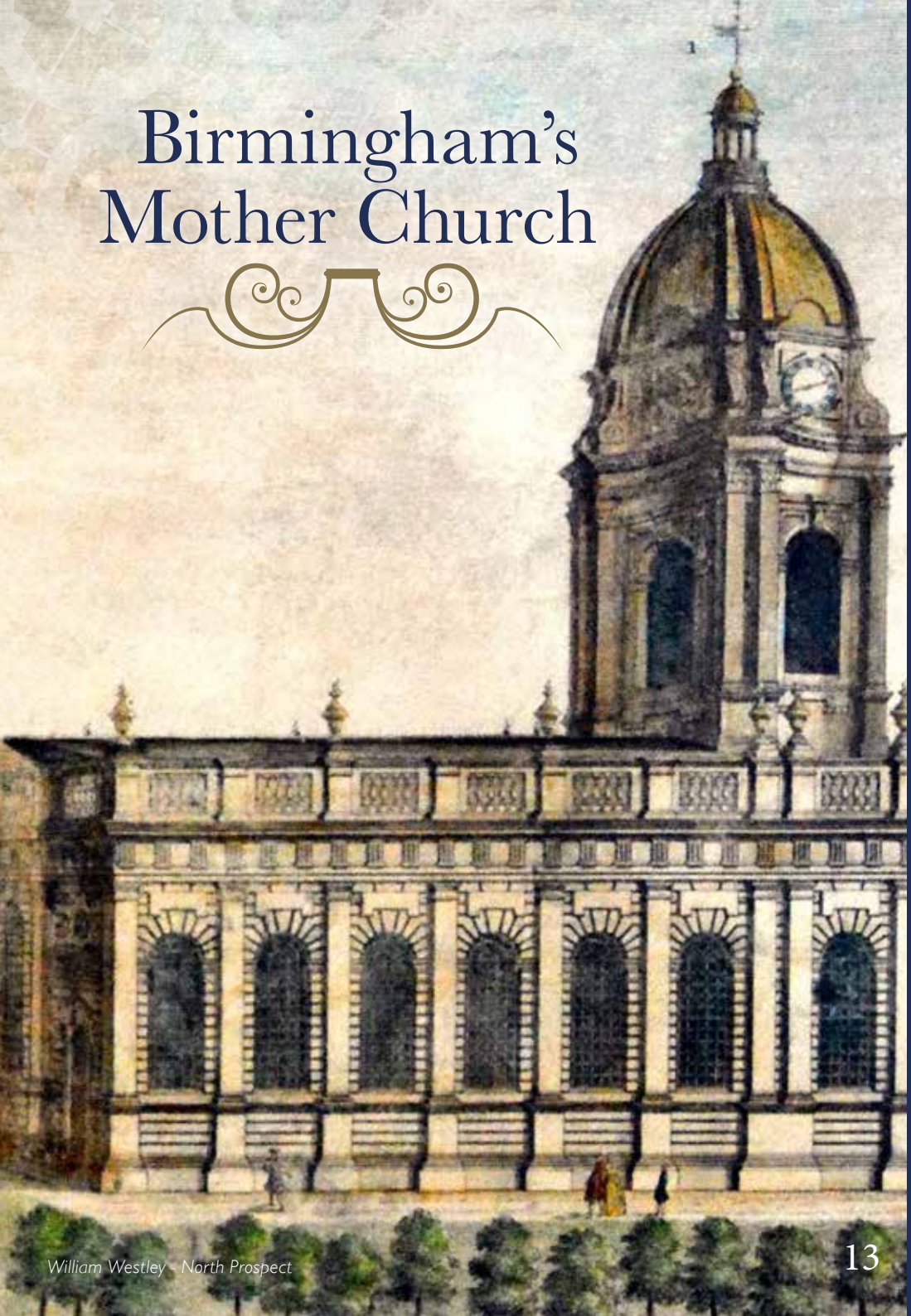
Retired clergy meetings equipping and supporting older clergy who wish to remain in active ministry.

Mothers' Union Festival Service celebrating the work of the largest Anglican missionary organisation, the world-wide Mothers' Union.

School Leavers' Services for all of the children making the transition from local C of E schools to the next stage of their education.



Birmingham's Mother Church




Tercentenary Diary

We are planning a wonderful series of special events, pilgrimages, heritage education and mass participation arts events. These will be updated and added to throughout 2015. Please see birminghamcathedral.com for more details.



December 2014

13 Dec	Christingle Service	3.30pm
16 Dec	ChaplaincyPlus Carols for the Business Community	5.45pm
17 Dec	ChaplaincyPlus Carols for the Business Community	1.00pm
18 Dec	Queen Elizabeth Hospital Carol Concert	7.30pm
19 Dec	Christmas meditation (Reading, some music) with Schola Phillippi	1.00pm – 2.00pm
22 Dec	BBC WM Carol Service	1.00pm – 2.10pm
23-24 Dec	Nine Lessons and Carols	5.00pm – 6.15pm
24 Dec	First Eucharist of Christmas and Blessing of the Crib	11.00pm
25 Dec	Christmas Holy Communion	11.00am
	Evening Prayer	3.30pm
31 Dec	Peal of bells and Watch Night Service with “lights switch on”	11.45pm – 12.15am

January 2015

06 Jan	Choral Eucharist for Epiphany	7.45pm
24 Jan	Day of Prayer in the cathedral. ‘Prayer from the heart. ‘One Christ, Many Voices’, during Week of Prayer for Christian Unity	9.00am on 24 Jan to 9.00am on 25 Jan
24 Jan	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Dr Mike Hodder ‘People in the Past’ 8th Floor Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
30 Jan	Ceremony of Carols	7.45pm

February 2015

01 Feb	Choral Eucharist for Candlemas	11.00am
01 Feb	Cathedral choir performing Compline and Ceremony of Carols at Curdworth.	p.m. times tbc
01 Feb	Festal Evensong with RSCM Choirs from the region	3.30pm - 4.45pm
07 Feb	Pilgrimage – Warley Deanery	12.00 - 2.00pm
14 Feb	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Martin Perkins ‘Music in 18th Century Birmingham. 8th floor, Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
18 Feb	Choral Eucharist for Ash Wednesday	7.45pm
22-24 Feb	‘Christian Hope’ visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury	Times tbc
23 Feb	Birmingham Prayer Breakfast with Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury (ICC)	7.00am
28 Feb	 “Festival of Voices” 18th century concert at St Martin in the Bull Ring	5.00pm

Location key

 Christian Festivals


 Birmingham Cathedral

 Offsite


 Event bookable via eventbrite.co.uk, Booking essential and are chargeable



March 2015

01 Mar	Choir singing compline at St Anne's Church, West Heath	p.m.
05 Mar	Birmingham Cathedral Documentary Film Premiere	6.00pm – tbc
14 Mar	Pilgrimage – Handsworth Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
21 Mar	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Dr Connie Wan 'Samuel Lines' 8th floor Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
21 Mar	Flatpack Festival event	7.30pm
24-04 Apr	Provisional bookings for the Passion Plays	7.00pm
28 Mar	Birmingham Bach Choir Concert	7.30pm
29 Mar	Palm Sunday. Special service to replace evensong. More details to follow.	4.00pm
30 Mar	Fauré Requiem	1.00pm

April 2015






02 Apr	Chrism Mass – <i>Preacher: The Dean</i>	11.00am
02 Apr	Maundy Thursday Choral Eucharist and watch of silent prayer with washing of the feet	7.45pm
03 Apr	The Three Hours	12.00noon
03 Apr	Tenebrae	7.00pm
04 Apr	Easter Liturgy	7.45pm
05 Apr	Easter Day – <i>Preacher: The Bishop of Birmingham</i>	11.00am
10 Apr	Spring Fair and Children's Treasure Trail in the cathedral grounds	Timings tbc
25 Apr	Pilgrimage – Central Birmingham Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
25 Apr	Martin Ellis talk for the Pre-Raphaelite Society	Time tbc
25 Apr	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Oliver Buckley 'The Development of the Jewellery Quarter' 8th floor, Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm

May 2015

03 May	Patronal Festival <i>Preacher: The Canon Professor David Ford</i>	TBC
08 May	VE Service	6.00pm (TBC)
09 May	Pilgrimage – Sutton Coldfield Deanery	12.00-2.00pm
14 May	Choral Eucharist for Ascension Day	7.45pm
16 May	Pilgrimage – Solihull Deanery	12.00-2.00pm
23 May	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Henrietta Lockhart 'Joseph Chamberlain's Birmingham' 8th floor, Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
24 May	Pentecost	
26-30 May	Chelsea Flower Show – Birmingham City Council entry takes Birmingham Cathedral as its inspiration	9.00am-5.00pm
31 May	Trinity Sunday	

Tercentenary Diary

June 2015

04 Jun	Choral Eucharist for Corpus Christi	7.45pm
06 Jun	All Cathedral Ministries Eucharist <i>Speaker: The Rt Revd Gordon Mursell</i>	11.00am – 12.30pm
08 & 22 Jun	Summer Organ Festival	1.00pm
10 Jun	 Evening Walking Tour – City Connections	6.30pm
13 Jun	Pilgrimage – Polesworth Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
17 Jun	 Evening Walking Tour – Baskerville's Sphere	6.30pm
20 Jun	 "Festival of Voices" 19th century concert at the Town Hall	5.00pm
24 Jun	 Evening Walking Tour – Birmingham's Civic Gospel	6.30pm
27 Jun	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Dr Jonathan Atherton – The Priestley Riots 8th floor, 1 Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm



July 2015

Date tbc	Photography competition judging over the summer	-
04 Jul	Ordination of Priests	11.00am
05 Jul	Ordination of Deacons	11.00am
18 Jul	Pilgrimage – Kings Norton Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
28 Jul	 Cathedral Treasure Series Judith Piggot and Judith Walley talk about flower arranging	10.00am
30 Jul	Pilgrimage – Coleshill Deanery	5.00pm onwards

August 2015

22 Aug	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Sarah Hayes – Medieval Birmingham. 8th floor, 1 Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
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Sept 2015

03 Sept	Pilgrimage – Yardley and Bordesley Deanery	5.00pm onwards
12 Sept	Heritage Open Day – Churchyard tours to Coffin Works	11.00am – 3.00pm
26 Sept	Pilgrimage – Shirley Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
26 Sept	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Dr Malcolm Dick 18th Century Birmingham 8th floor, 1 Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
27 Sept	Harvest Festival	11.00am
29 Sept	 Cathedral Treasure Series Canon Marcus Huxley talks about the organ 8th floor, 1 Colmore Row	10.00am

Location key



Christian Festivals



Birmingham Cathedral




Offsite



Event bookable via eventbrite.co.uk, Booking essential and are chargeable



October 2015

Autumn	Photographic competition exhibition at the New Library	Dates tbc
October	Birthday Service for Schools	Date and time tbc
04 Oct	Major Civic Service with guests from across the region and its diverse communities.	11.00am
10 Oct	History of Christianity Study Day at the University of Birmingham "Christianity and Society in the West Midlands: Anglo-Saxon Mercia to the Present"	10.00am – 4.00pm
24 Oct	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Dr Kate Iles – Women in 18 th Century Birmingham. 8th floor Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
26 Oct	Big Draw family event	1.00pm – 4.00pm

November 2015

Dates tbc	Interfaith celebrations and events.	-
01 Nov	All Saints' Day	
02 Nov	All Souls' Service	7.45pm
07 Nov	Pilgrimage – Aston Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
12 Nov	Possible pilgrimage	5.00pm onwards
14 Nov	 "Festival of Voices" 20th century concert at Birmingham Cathedral	5.00pm
21 Nov	Pilgrimage – Edgbaston Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
21 Nov	 Tercentenary Lecture Series Dr Terry Slater: Thomas Archer – his first church building 8th floor, Colmore Row	2.00pm – 3.30pm
28 Nov	Burne-Jones Study Day (Birmingham Museum)	Times tbc
29 Nov	Advent Sunday	
29 Nov	Advent Procession by Candlelight	4.00pm

December 2015

12 Dec	Pilgrimage – Moseley Deanery	12.00 – 2.00pm
24 Dec	First Eucharist of Christmas and Blessing of the Crib	11.00pm
25 Dec	Christmas Holy Communion	11.00am
	Evening Prayer	3.30pm

We have planned a wonderful series of special events, pilgrimages, heritage education and participative arts events. These will be updated and added to throughout 2015. Please see birminghamcathedral.com for more details.

Making a pilgrimage



Gracious God,

you are faithful throughout all generations.

We give thanks for our cathedral church,

for its prayer, hospitality and witness.

May the light of your love shine through your people today


that with confident faith and humble service

we may, with St Philip, invite others to 'Come and See'

the truth and beauty of Jesus Christ,

our living Lord and Saviour,

Amen.



From ancient times Christians
have made pilgrimages to sacred
places, growing in faith as they
travel together.

In 2015 the Bishop of Birmingham is inviting the parishes of his diocese to travel with him to his cathedral. In a series of 13 'deanery pilgrimages' we will be travelling on foot, by bus, train and canal boat as people 'of the Way'. At the cathedral we'll enjoy worship, food and fellowship and a renewal of Christian commitment.

'Treasures of the church': when the early Christian Church in Rome was being persecuted, the enemies of the church, seeking gold and jewels, demanded the treasure of the church be given to them. St Laurence, a deacon, promptly did as he was ordered and assembled all the poor people of the city. 'These are the treasures of the church'. We make pilgrimage to Birmingham Cathedral together to see one another afresh, as the treasures of the church.

How do you see the cathedral
and faith in our city and in
your community?

Here is your chance to come up
with a new iconic image.
You can be part of an enormous
photography project and
documentary archive of the
300th anniversary of
Birmingham Cathedral.

The competition, Faith in Focus, supported by the Birmingham
Post and Mail, runs from Autumn 2014 – Summer 2015, entry
details on the cathedral web-site.

www.birminghamcathedral.com

Winning photos will be exhibited at the New Library.
The four categories invite your creative response:

A Crossing Place
The people of God
Faith in the City
Growing Younger

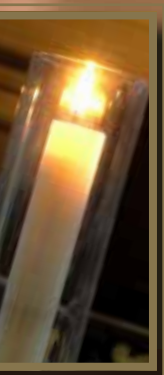


Birmingham Cathedral | 2015
300 YEARS AT THE HEART





Photography competition



Every day 20,000 pedestrians cross Cathedral Square. Each day thousands of passengers aboard hundreds of buses travel past the cathedral.

During 2015 artists will be creating extraordinary work in Cathedral Square to engage with passers-by and bring moments of wonder and reflection in the busy heart of the city.

The Christian imagination, nourished by Holy Scripture with hope and promise, leads us to ask 'why can't things be better?'

Artistic activity is an excellent way for the cathedral to reach out, engage and challenge. We want to find new and winsome ways of marrying science, faith and art, to offer new perspectives and make a difference through acts of humanity, humility and grace.

The art-work '**In the Marvellous Moment**' was a defining moment in the life of the cathedral. For four nights in December 2013, Geoff Broadway's work lit up the north and west sides of the cathedral. We watched the faces of individual people projected in grand scale onto the cathedral and read their profound reflections about festival in the depth of winter. We saw our cathedral transformed and interactive, itself a performer in the city.



Arts



Arts



During 2015 we will continue to collaborate with artists and arts organisations.

A Summer Season 'Birthday Picnic' with roaming artists will inspire and delight visitors to Cathedral Square.


Throughout the year parish pilgrims will be invited to take part in a developing large scale art-work 'Soul Boats' in the cathedral itself. Led by artist Jake Lever, taking inspiration in the visual symbol of the boat, pilgrims can join in creating boats to represent their lives and journeys of faith. The beautiful and inspirational work will celebrate the connection between parishes and mother church and the infinite number of souls in God's kingdom.



'The boat image is universal, timeless, bold and inclusive. It is also a fitting image for a city with such an elaborate and famous system of canals.'

Jake Lever.

During Autumn 2015 the Square will be animated with audio work 'Sound is Half of Vision'. Sound has the potential to transform our experience of public space. We've always wanted to 'open up' the walls of the cathedral to share the beautiful voices and music of our choir. This piece will also enable us to create new collaborations between artists and communities through song, stories and sounds exploring values.



In 2015/16 we are embarking on an ambitious internal refurbishment project which will enable Birmingham Cathedral to fulfil its phenomenal potential as a community hub for the city.

We like to consider the cathedral as a 'bridging place' – a safe space where we can facilitate bridging the divide between different communities in our diverse city. Our current lighting system is no longer fit for purpose, now being in its 4th decade of service. It is vital and urgent for the safe functioning of the building that we update the lighting and wired services.

Our intention is that the internal changes and restoration will be an agreeable surprise to all who visit the cathedral. Furthermore, a well-resourced and fully operational building is integral to the strategic plans for the coming years of the cathedral; enabling us to respond to any opportunities to serve the community and local population.

This beautiful space will be enhanced by sensitive lighting, creating a warm, welcoming, uplifting place for the people of Birmingham.

Should you wish to support this exciting project of works, please contact us on:
lightup@birminghamcathedral.com.

You can donate directly by texting BULB01 and your donation amount to 70070.



A cathedral for our city



*"You are the light of the world
A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, **let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven.**"*

Matthew 5:14-16



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Something
to share



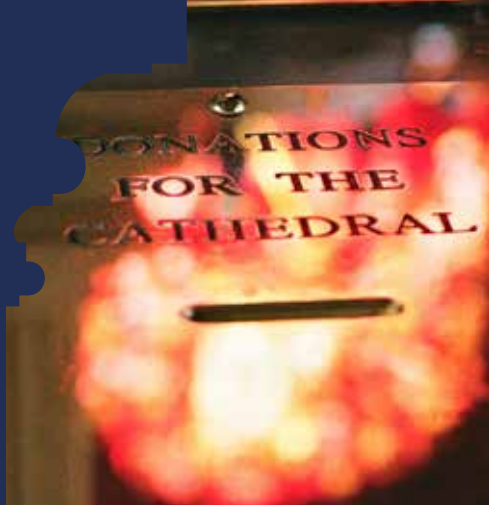
As part of our mission within the community, we seek to support many of the worthwhile activities taking place throughout the city.

Each year we have around 100 charitable events hosted in the cathedral building and outside in Cathedral Square. We seek to share the blessings of our location and prominence for the benefit of all.

During our Tercentenary celebrations we are delighted to introduce a new initiative for 2015: 'Something to Share...' is a scheme which brings the cathedral together with 3 other organisations to share the benefits of your support throughout the city and overseas.

- Birmingham Cathedral
- Malawi Partnership
- St Basils
- 'Growing Younger'

So if you want to say 'Happy Tercentenary' to the cathedral with a donation in 2015, please consider supporting this fantastic new initiative, knowing that **your support will be felt within and far beyond these cathedral walls.**



My Something to Share

£

Ways to donate

Please make cheques payable to 'Birmingham Cathedral'

You can donate directly by texting SOME15 and your donation amount to 70070

Title

First name (in full)

Surname

Address

.....

Postcode

Email

I'd like my donation to work even harder

At no extra cost to you, Birmingham Cathedral can claim an extra 25% of your donation from HM Revenue and Customs.

Tick here to increase the value of your donation. To qualify for Gift Aid you must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that all charities will reclaim on your donations in the tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. (Currently 25p for each £1 you give).

giftaid it

Date:

Tick here if you are not a UK taxpayer/you are unable to Gift Aid.



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Something to Share
The Church of England
1 Colmore Row
Birmingham
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