



SAINT
PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL
DUBLIN

CLOSE NEWS

MARCH 2021



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SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

09.15	Eucharist (said)
11.15	Choral Eucharist / Choral Matins
15.15	Choral Evensong

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

09:00	Sung Matins (during school term)
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Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

17.30	Choral Evensong / Evening Prayer
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Wednesday

17:30	Evening Prayer
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MARCH PREACHERS

March 7	The Revd W. P. Houston	<i>Prebendary of Castleknock</i>
March 14	The Revd P. M. Willoughby	<i>Prebendary of Tymothan</i>
March 21	The Revd C. W. Mullen	<i>Prebendary of Rathmichael</i>
March 28	The Ven. C. W. L. McCauley	<i>Prebendary of Mulhuddart</i>

A SHOT FROM THE CANON

I recently saw a photograph of a dog carved into the Cathedral roof parapet, invisible from the ground and concealed even from somebody on the roof. It's puzzling that a stonemason would've created an almost-invisible masterpiece. On seeing the hidden dog we're surprised by joy: he's like a buried treasure unearthed, a truth revealed, a lesson learned. Lent is the time for us to look closer, to look deeper, to see things we can't normally see. Created in God's image we bring joy to God, for to him our life is always fully visible, and he surprises us by joy.

CM



Can you see the dog in the parapet?

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are expressed from the Dean and members of the Cathedral Chapter to the Prebendary of Tipper, The Reverend John Clarke, Rector of Navan, and his wife, Sandra, and family, on the death of his mother, from Virginia, County Cavan, in her 100th year. We assure Canon Clarke of our thoughts and prayers.

THE MARCH PRAYER

Am I a God nearby, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. (Jeremiah 23: 24)

Almighty God, you search us out and know us,
for from you no secrets are hidden;
Open our hearts to your love,
and our minds to your wisdom,
that we may confess our sins to you,
and know your perfect remission and forgiveness;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CM

CONDOLENCES

The Cathedral community was saddened to learn of the death of Canon Enda McDonagh, D.D., D.C.L., Prebendary of Clondalkin 2007-12. The Chapter elected Fr McDonagh and the Very Reverend Kenneth Newell as ecumenical canons to the reinstated Prebendal stalls of Clondalkin and Finglas respectively, following a General Synod Bill in 2007 to establish two ecumenical canonries at the National Cathedral. Canon McDonagh immersed himself quickly in his preaching and pastoral duties; his learning and his knowledge of ecumenical matters made him a first-rate choice. His gentle good humour won him many friends at the Cathedral and we remember him with affection. He rests in peace.

Canon Charles Mullen, Chapter Clerk

SAINT PATRICK'S FESTIVAL

To mark Saint Patrick's festival which, this year, will take place virtually, the Cathedral is to be externally flood-lit in green light every night from 15th to 19th March. This is now an annual event and we receive many favourable remarks about it. Many buildings around the world will be illuminated to honour Saint Patrick.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Eucharist will be Said in Irish at 09:15 on Saint Patrick's Day by Canon Oxley.

Patronal Choral Eucharist will be at 11:15 on Saint Patrick's Day at which the Dean will preside.

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

"No man is an island, Entire of itself. Every man is a piece of the continent, A part of the main." - English poet and Church of England priest John Donne.

The website of the Anglican Communion is fascinating: full of information, facts, stories and, I surmise, would take many hours to read and digest all the information written, should one try. Perhaps this is an idea for all of those who are struggling through this current lockdown and finding it a challenge to keep a positive attitude. Despite all of the doom and gloom, a look through this website really does invigorate the soul and channels a feeling of positiveness, all too necessary in the current climate.

Why not have a look? With categories such as Mission; Community; Theology; Ecumenism; Resources and more, you will discover the vast movement that is the Anglican Communion, of which the Church of Ireland is a part, and how it reaches out to the world, and not just within the islands of Ireland and United Kingdom.

<https://www.anglicancommunion.org>



SERVICES ON-LINE

Owing to the continuation of Level 5 restrictions, all services are currently being live streamed from the Cathedral website:

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship/video-stream.

We are sorry that we are unable to welcome you to the Cathedral in person but do hope you will join with us on-line.

EASTER LILIES

Remember a loved one with flowers

At Easter we are again planning a display in the Cathedral of individual lilies in memory of family members and friends. The names will be read during the Prayers on Easter Sunday; and again on All Souls' Day.

Cards with the name of the person remembered and the sponsor will be placed with the lilies.

If you would like to participate please send your name, and the name of the person you wish to remember, and €5 per lily to:

'Easter Flowers', c/o Saint Patrick's Cathedral Office, The Deanery Basement, Upper Kevin Street, Dublin 8.

I would like to remember a loved one with flowers this Easter.

My Name: _____

I enclose € _____ (€5 per lily) to sponsor a lily/lilies in memory of

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Please have the information and payment with us by 23 March 2021.



THE ADMINISTRATOR WRITES



The North Nave roof looking west.

Our patience with level 5 lock down may be wearing a bit thin by now but for the first time during this pandemic there is real hope that we are moving towards a sustainable release from the current onerous restrictions on our lives. We here at the Cathedral look forward to a time in the not too distant future when staff and volunteers can resume what they love doing best; informing and enthralling our visitors with all the Cathedral and its rich history has to offer whilst supporting the Dean, clergy and musicians as they deliver 'live' worship once again. As some certainty emerges over the weeks ahead, we will be in touch directly with volunteers to plan a resumption of activities for when the doors finally open.

In the meantime, other work continues. Strange as it may seem we are busy engaging with tour operators and other organisations who will be central to our success as we rebuild business and income in the years ahead. Though we know it will come, we harbour no illusions about the path to financial recovery. The future holds some very definite challenges for us, and we will make every effort to put the Cathedral in the best possible position to meet them.

Elements of the roof project continue, though all aspects of the work not directly relating to securing the Cathedral from the elements have been put on hold until general construction can recommence next month. This has created a headache for the contractor as there remain many weeks of internal work to be completed which should be undertaken in tandem with the slating and lead work. Despite this I can report progress is good and that the slating of the crossing and transepts should be fully completed towards the end of the month.

Once again thanks go to those who continue to support this project. Your contributions have helped make this most important of projects a reality. When the work is finally completed in just a matter of months, you will have left our Cathedral secure and safe for many years to come.

GHW



*Choir roof cross
awaiting repair*



Choir and organ roofs ready for de-slating (Phase 3)



North transept (left) meets north nave

THE DEAN WRITES

When invited to join Gavan, and George Good, Chairman of the Fabric Committee, on a visit to the cathedral roof, I jumped at the chance. Viewing the work from the Close, or from the Deanery garden, is one thing, but seeing the progress up close is fascinating. Our guides, Lorcan and Ian, from Clancy, welcomed us warmly, gave a comprehensive and lucid account of all the recent developments with the project, and, as they do always, related anything unusual or interesting – and there is usually something!

Lorcan had been telling me on the walkway about a couple of most unusual stone carvings discovered on both sides of the Choir. There they were! None of us could believe it as we had not any idea whatsoever that they were there! Lorcan explained that it was initially thought this may have been a carving of a dog when discovered on the south side of the Choir. However, when compared with the more detailed version on the north side, it's clear that the carvings are of two dragons instead! Lorcan mentioned that he had discussed this with the architect, Mr John Beauchamp, who is also very curious and is making some enquiries as to their meaning.

Just inside the entrance to the roof space closeby, my attention was drawn to some names carved into the wood, names of those who, not only in generations gone by, but in previous centuries, had been working on the roof, perhaps during the time of the Guinness restoration of the 1860s, or since, and had left their mark.

It really makes one think. It is impossible to know or learn everything about the cathedral, or about anything for that matter. Now and again, something can be discovered, quite unexpectedly, which stirs thought patterns, and leaves us curious and desirous of finding out more information, and of trying to fit together the pieces of the jigsaw so to speak.

When one stops to think about it, it's not all that different to the Christian life. There is a certain amount we have been taught, and we believe, about God, and the life and ministry of his Son Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, but it is impossible to glimpse, learn, and know everything, not even in a long lifetime. The whole of life is about keeping our eyes open, both physically and spiritually, and discerning, finding out, and fitting together. And even, at the end of the journey, we have a lot still to learn!

William





HOLY WEEK & EASTER

at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin

Holy Week and Easter take us on a journey through darkness and despair to victory and hope. During the Covid-19 restrictions and the Cathedral closure we invite you to worship on-line at the Cathedral and journey with Jesus from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday, when he shared supper with his disciples, to his death on a cross on Good Friday; and on to Easter Day when he rose from the dead to open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

PALM SUNDAY · 28 March

09.15 Said Eucharist | 11.15 Sung Eucharist | 15.15 Choral Evensong

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK · 29 March

13.00 Organ Recital | 17.30 Evening Prayer with Holy Week Reflection

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK · 30 March

17.30 Evening Prayer with Holy Week Reflection

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK · 31 March

17.30 Evening Prayer with Holy Week Reflection

MAUNDY THURSDAY · 1 April

17.30 Choral Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY · 2 April

11.15 Choral Matins | 14.00 Le chemin de Croix

EASTER SUNDAY · 4 April

09.15 Said Eucharist | 11.15 Choral Eucharist | 15.15 Choral Evensong

Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin
www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/easter

ORGAN RECITALS

Organ recitals, performed by Mr David Leigh, Organist and Assistant Master of the Music, are currently available on live stream on Mondays and Fridays at 13:00. The aim of the series, during the closure of the Cathedral to worshippers and visitors, is not only to provide some music for listeners' enjoyment, but also that God's presence and peace may be found, and one's spiritual life uplifted and enhanced through the music. Our sincere thanks are given to Mr Leigh.

MONDAY 15/03

Henry Purcell
1659-1695

Voluntary for a Double Organ

Voluntary in G

John Stanley
1712-1786

Voluntary VIII in D minor

Allegro – Adagio - Allegro

S S Wesley
1810-1876

Introduction and Fugue in C sharp minor

Charles Macpherson
1870 – 1927

Fantasy Prelude

John Stainer
1840-1901

Five Pieces

*Allegretto – Andante – Fantasia – Adagio -
Prelude and Fuggetta*

FRIDAY 19/03

Sigfrid Karg-Elert
1877-1933

Partita in E Op 100
*i. Entrada, ii. Canzona, iii. Corrente e Siciliano,
iv. Rigaudon (alla burla) v. Sarabande,
vi. Gavotte e Carillon vii. Finale quasi ritorno*

MONDAY 22/03

Jesus Guridi
1886-1961

Triptych of the Good Shepherd
The flock -The Lost Sheep – The Good Shepherd

Jean Langlais
1907-1991

Suite Brève
*Gands Jeux – Cantilène – Plainte –
Dialogue sur les Mixtures*

FRIDAY 26/03

(Annunciation on 25)

Jean Titelouze
1563-1633

Ave Maris Stella
4 Versets

Marcel Dupré
1886-1971

Ave Maris Stella from *Le Tombeau de Titelouze*
Variations on *Ave Maris Stella* (from Op 18)
Three Preludes and Fugues Op 7
B major – F minor – G minor

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The following article is written by David Baker, Courtesy of Organists Review publication which is a review of the latest CD recorded by the choir before lockdown, last March. It is a very impressive review and many congratulations are conveyed to everyone involved, especially to Mr Stuart Nicholson, Master of the Music.

Hark! What a Sound – Advent from Dublin



Weir *Drop down ye heavens (The Advent Prose)*; Fr. 15th century arr. Rutter *O come, O come Emmanuel*;

Ledger *Adam lay ybounden*; Antiphon: *O Sapientia*; Stanford *A Song of Wisdom*; Antiphon: *O Adonai*; trad. arr. Vaughan Williams *Hail to the Lord's anointed*; Goldschmidt *A tender shoot*; Antiphon: *O Radix Jesse*; Ger. 14th century arr. Blackwell *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*; Poston *Jesus Christ the apple tree*; Antiphon: *O Clavis David*; David Cooper *Come my way*; Shephard *Never weather beaten sail*; Antiphon: *O Oriens*; Terry *Hark what a sound*; Antiphon: *O Rex Gentium*; trad. arr. Nicholson *Tomorrow shall be my dancing day*; Antiphon: *O Emmanuel*; Jack Oades *There is no rose**; Antiphon: *O Virgo virginum*;

Howells *Magnificat (Gloucester Service)*; Antiphon: *O Virgo virginum*; Thomas Olivers, intro by Stuart Nicholson, v4 arr. Martin J.R. How *Lo! He comes with clouds descending*

This CD is a real delight. The recording 'was made in the radiant acoustic of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, close to the choir's home'. The wide range of Advent pieces are interspersed with the traditional *O Antiphons*. The recording begins with Judith Weir's setting of the Advent Prose (*Drop down, ye heavens*) and the traditional *Veni Emmanuel* in a setting by John Rutter. Philip Ledger's *Adam lay ybounden* and Stanford's *A Song of Wisdom* contrast well with the lesser known *A tender shoot* by Otto Goldschmidt and a wonderful arrangement by David Blackwell of *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*. One of the many highlights for me of this

disc was the choir's performance of Poston's *Jesu Christ, the apple tree*. But there are many other gems: David Cooper's *Come my way* and Richard Shephard's *Never weather beaten sail* – both new to me, and excellent advent pieces – alongside Terry's *Hark what a sound*. The organ accompaniment is excellent throughout, but nowhere more so than in Stuart Nicholson's arrangement of *Tomorrow shall be my dancing day*, the final *Lo! He comes with clouds descending* and a superb performance of the *Magnificat* from Howells's *Gloucester Service*. Special mention must be made of Jack Oades' *There is no rose*, receiving its première on this disc.

The choir is very impressive indeed: excellent tone, diction and interpretation throughout. What a way to celebrate Advent! Very highly recommended.

David Baker

Daily Worship Webcasts:

Weekdays at 5.30pm Evening Prayer/Choral Evensong

Sundays at 3.15pm Choral Evensong

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/worship/video-stream

Online Recitals (Monday & Friday at 1pm)

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/recitals2021

Stars & Stripes Forever (July 4 at 6.15pm)

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/july4

Saint Patrick's Cathedral: After Dark (October 31 at 6.15pm)

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/after-dark

SPONSOR A CHORISTER 2021

In previous years we have run these schemes to help fund the choristers' tours, and thanks to your generosity we've enjoyed some fabulous trips to sing in Edinburgh, Gloucester, Chester, Chichester, St Alban's & Durham Cathedrals as well as our most "recent" tour to Sweden back in 2019. This year, we are asking for donations to help continue funding the choristers' instrumental and vocal tuition. In any normal year, the Choristers enjoy access to free tuition with our visiting music staff as well as generous bursaries for those studying privately. Sadly, we've had to limit this due to financial restraints. Your donation will help us keep this vital training going until such time as a little normality returns.

Please make your cheques payable to Saint Patrick's Cathedral, marking the reverse "Sponsor a Chorister". *Thank you for all your generosity over the years, it is always very much appreciated!*

SN

CAN YOUR CHILD SING?

Is your child starting 3rd or 4th class this September? Do they enjoy singing?

Would you like to open up a world of amazing opportunities and experiences for them?

A Choristership could be just the thing...

My experience at Saint Patrick's gave my life as a musician a positive sense of direction and purpose it could not otherwise have had. I'd do it all again in a flash!"

Peter McMahon, chorister (1979-82),

Theatre director, Hamburg, Germany.

Becoming a Cathedral Chorister opens a world of exciting performing opportunities including regular broadcasts, concerts, recordings & tours.

The choristers are educated at the Cathedral Choir School (a Co-educational National School) which is renowned for the excellence of its teaching staff, and for its friendliness: small classes mean a real focus and care for each child. It is also unique in being the only choir school in the country, as well as being the oldest school in Ireland.

Saint Patrick's Cathedral Choir School was founded in 1432 by Archbishop Richard Talbot to provide for the education of the choristers and was originally housed in what is now the robing room of the Cathedral.

The Cathedral Choir School has had an almost continuous history since its foundation, the two interruptions being the Reformation and Cromwell's Commonwealth.

Nearly 600 years on, the choir school continues to educate the choristers and is now a two-teacher, co-educational school under the patronage of the Church of Ireland providing education to pupils from third to sixth class.

Admission into the school is via a voice trial – for details, please email

music@stpatrickscathedral.ie

Becoming a Cathedral Chorister opens a world of exciting performing opportunities including regular broadcasts, concerts, recordings & tours. Want to learn more? Visit the cathedral website: www.stpatrickscathedral.ie



SN

Admission into the Choir School is via a voice trial/audition (a very simple one to determine vocal potential, we normally get them to sing something very simple like ‘Twinkle little star’) and an informal chat with the parents and Principal if they show the potential to be a Cathedral Chorister and these are open to boys & girls currently in the 2nd year. Whilst they would usually start in the Choir in the September of 3rd class, it is possible to start at other times depending on places available. Auditions are available throughout the year, and the staff are always happy to meet prospective parents informally, especially if they would like guidance about their child’s potential for a Choristership.

During the last few years, the choristers have performed regularly live on TV and Radio, in front of VIPs including the President and His Holiness The Pope, on the stage of Gaiety Theatre and the National Concert Hall with both the RTÉ Symphony and Concert Orchestras, have toured extensively and recorded 5 critically acclaimed commercial CDs the most recent of which was released in 2020. Would you like to organise a voice trial? – Fill out a [REGISTER OF INTEREST FORM](#) and email it back to us at music@stpatrickscathedral.ie and we’ll contact you to arrange an audition.

Useful contacts:

Jennifer McCormack, Principal, Saint Patrick’s Cathedral Choir School, Saint Patrick’s Close, Dublin 8.

Email: admin@saintpatrickschoirschool.com

Stuart Nicholson, Master of the Music, Saint Patrick’s Cathedral, Saint Patrick’s Close, Dublin, D08 H6X3

Email: music@stpatrickscathedral.ie

THE CATHEDRAL'S CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The Safeguarding Handbook, as well as Safeguarding Trust, may be viewed on the Cathedral website. If you have a general enquiry or any concern relating to safeguarding at Saint Patrick's Cathedral please telephone the office on 01-453 9472. The temporary Dedicated Liaison Person is Mr Gavan Woods and the temporary Deputy Dedicated Liaison person is Mrs Rowena Janota. If you recognise a safeguarding emergency in which a child or vulnerable adult is in danger, Tusla Child and Family Agency can be contacted on 01 856 6856.

WILL US WELL

When making, or amending, your Will please consider including a legacy bequest to the Cathedral. If you are interested in supporting us in this way, let your solicitor or Will-writer know that you wish to make provision for the Cathedral in your Will. For more information please contact the Cathedral Administrator, Mr Gavan Woods.

DATA PROTECTION POLICY

The Cathedral's Data Privacy policy has been updated to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations. The updated policy is available to view on the Cathedral's website at www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/privacy-policy.

To exercise all relevant rights, queries or complaints please, in the first instance, contact the Cathedral Office Manager by phone at 01 4539472, or by email at officemanager@stpatrickscathedral.ie.

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Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/stpatsdub>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/stpatrickscathedral1>

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