



## From the Dean

So we're about to celebrate All Saints and All Souls - what, you may wonder, is the difference between the two days.

St Paul in his letters greets the newly established communities at Ephesus, Corinth and Rome as 'saints', calling them to be God's holy people. But this idea of holy people soon took on a particular significance, with many Christians suffering persecution and death. Those who died were called 'martyrs' - a martyr is a witness in a law court, and these martyrs were witnessing to their faith in Christ. About AD155, Bishop Polycarp of Smyrna (Izmir), who declined to curse Jesus Christ, was tied to the stake and burned and pierced with a sword. His followers gathered up his bones, and each year commemorated the anniversary of his martyrdom. So began the practice of recognising saints and venerating their relics.

When times became more peaceful, people did not have to die to become a martyr. Holy men and women, teachers, bishops and others who had undergone self-denial or hardship in their discipleship were acknowledged as 'confessors' and their names were entered in the martyrologies that were kept by local communities. These lists recorded the date of death of local saints - which was understood to be the date of their 'birthday' into heaven.

The Feast of All Saints or All Hallows (Old English: *haelou* = saint) is the day when the Church remembers all the martyrs, known and unknown, who in heaven enjoy a vision of God. In the West, the festival was first celebrated in Rome on 13 May, the date when in 609/610 Pope Boniface IV received from the Emperor Phocas the great temple to all gods, the Pantheon in Rome, and reconsecrated it to the Blessed Virgin and all the martyrs. Pope Gregory III changed the date in the eighth century to 1 November, when he dedicated a chapel in St Peter's, and moved there 'the relics of the holy apostles, all saints, martyrs, and all the just everywhere.'

So for over 1200 years, the Church has been celebrating All Saints' Day on 1 November with great solemnity. The following day, known as All Souls' Day, we commemorate all the faithful departed. Here at the Cathedral we do so with a Requiem Eucharist. This takes into account the fact that 'many pass out of this world without at once being admitted to the company of the blessed'. These words of Amalarius of Metz (c. 780-850) express many people's feelings that most Christians are neither bad enough to be damned nor good enough to go straight to heaven. So this is the day when we pray for all those souls who have not been celebrated on the Feast of All Saints: including of course our loved ones, and the many unknown who have kept the flame of faith alive here at Exeter Cathedral over so many centuries. The custom of doing so on 2 November was first established by Odilo, Abbot of Cluny in Burgundy, in 998.

Praying for the dead has long been a source of controversy in the Church. While the Second General Council of Lyons (1274) confirmed that the dead are prepared for heaven by a passage through purgatory and the prayers of the living, the Reformation resisted purgatory as non-biblical. So when we gather on All Souls' Day, while some will pray for the dead in order to assist their passage through purgatory, I suspect many more of us will use this as an opportunity to remember with thanksgiving and love all those who have died.

**Jonathan Greener**

## **Exeter Foodbank**

We all know how people are suffering; sick, disabled and/or deprived of income. Please give as generously as you can when you go to a supermarket which has a special box for contributions. It is easy to have an intention and realise you have forgotten when you've checked out. I've done that in the past. Please write a nutritious item on your shopping list.

Sometimes people (not from the Cathedral) ask me if the recipients deserve the help when they have made a mess of things. Jesus never asked if people deserved his help, he just helped them. Exeter Foodbank is run by the Trussell Trust and gives 3 days' worth of food to people with vouchers, supplied by schools, doctors, social services, libraries and others. It also arranges for people in trouble to receive further professional help. It is wonderful that many new foodbanks are springing up run by churches, synagogues, mosques, charities and individuals.

If you would like to donate money to Exeter Foodbank, go to their website: [www.exeter.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.exeter.foodbank.org.uk). The money will be used for expenses and to buy in food. Please, please help all you can.

Thank you very much.

**Felicity Cawthra**

## Financial Update

The Canon Treasurer is smiling for the first time in months. Thanks to the generous support of many people and the considerable efforts of Jill Taylor our Director of Development, along with the Dean, in securing a number of grants to cover many of our costs until March 2021. We also had a good August in terms of commercial income from visitors. Everything is relative. When I say a good month – it was a disaster in comparison to a normal August - but much better than we might have expected back in May. Many thanks to the many volunteers who help make visitors welcome.

The Friends were the first to offer support to us over the summer when it looked like we would run out of cash in early 2021. They very kindly agreed a grant of £250,000 for us to draw down when required in 2020/21. The generous and quick action by the Friends certainly provided some reassurance that we would survive at a time when our income had fallen off a cliff and there was no prospect of support from the Church Commissioners or others. The Government furlough scheme has contributed over £200,000, and thanks go to all our staff who had a period on 80% of their salaries.

In late August the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) made available an initial emergency grant of £250,000 to cover many of our running costs for three months. In addition the Church Commissioners provided funding for the salaries of our stonemasons for three months and the costs of the back row of the choir for four months up to Christmas.

The NLHF in conjunction with Historic England have made a second grant to us covering our running costs from January to March 2021. This is over £300,000 and covers salaries, utility bills, insurance and a variety of other day to day expenditure. It does not cover any of our worship or music costs so we are seeking help with that from other sources. They have also provided money to help us become more sustainable in the future. So we can purchase additional chairs that are easy to clean and therefore Covid complaint, buy a catering van to use outside during the major building works in the Cloisters, improve the electrical supply to the Cathedral to reduce the need for diesel generators for events and improve our website and IT equipment. As these are government grants we have to spend the money by the end of March 2021 or lose it!

As part of the Heritage Recovery grant making the government has made available more money for major repair work to ancient buildings. We have been allocated just over £200,000 to re-roof the Nave South Aisle and undertake major repair to some of our mediaeval stained glass in the East End Chapels. Again this has to be completed by the end of March. All these grants have to be applied for with long and complicated processes – Jill has missed a number of

planned holidays over the last few months, worked harder than at any time in her career, ably supported by the Dean, and has been very successful for us.

It has been an extraordinary year. We will now be having a number of contractors working on site as we spend these grants and we will be able to retain more staff than we had anticipated. However, and it is a rather large however – 2021 will be a challenge. We will have the financial reserves to see us through until early 2022 but our income will not cover our costs from April. We have worked hard to reduce costs and we are in double figures of those who have taken voluntary or compulsory redundancy - with all that that means for them and their families.

Long Covid is now a recognised medical condition. I think it is also recognised for a large number of organisations that work directly with the public – it will be a long time before we have fully recovered. Thank you to all who have and continue to support the work and ministry of this great Cathedral.

**Canon Dr Mike D Williams, Canon Treasurer**

## **Devon Historic Churches Ride and Stride Day – We Raised £600!**

Many, many thanks and congratulations to all those who sponsored the Dean, members of Chapter and of the congregation, who cycled or walked to raise funds for this important charity. I have been asked to say how very grateful the Devon Trust is for our contribution to their funds. Canon Mike Williams is also delighted as half the money has come back to the Cathedral and will be added to the Development Fund. I appreciate how pro-active you had to be in seeking out ways of contributing this year so a really huge THANK YOU to all who helped raise this amazing amount.

**Diane Coombes**

## **The December edition of *Cathedral News***

We hope to publish the next edition of the News on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The deadline for material is **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**. Please send any contributions to [hmm53@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hmm53@tiscali.co.uk) or to any member of the editorial team; Heather Morgan, Rosemary Bethell, Jenny Ellis and Sheila Atkinson.

## **From the Cathedral Flower Arrangers**

Here we are at the end of October and already thinking and planning for the festivals at the end of the year! All the arrangements will use silk or dried flowers and foliage, and definitely some gold and silver sparkle over Christmas.

Having said that, three of us were lucky enough to arrange **FRESH** flowers for a wedding a few weeks ago, for one of the Cathedral's original girl choristers, Hannah Glazier. She and Stephen were able to have 30 guests before the number reduced to fifteen, just two days later. We were so delighted to arrange for them – chairbacks and a teardrop on the lectern (fondly referred to as the budgie by arrangers) and garlands along the choir stalls – simple green and white but looking beautiful.

The pillars have now changed to more autumnal colours as we are in harvest time, using quality silks again. We are lucky to have boxes of them available to choose from. A friend, who is an arranger, came to the Eucharist last week, and couldn't believe they were silks – which was very pleasing for us!

Soon we will be into Remembrance week, and so the year goes on. After they have taken the Covid 19 induction course, we will be able to have more of our group of ladies in to prepare for Remembrance. We are hoping it will all be much easier, with more of us to share the work. We have all our silks and woody flowers in long boxes stored within a very small room that is shared with 6 huge monitor screens and candles galore. Sylvia and I have become very good at limbo dancing!!!

We are missing our regular group of arrangers, hope everyone is safe and well, and that they can re-join us as soon as it is safe to do so. Those of us able to go in are incredibly grateful to Luke, Simon and Joseph for keeping us safe, for their patience, and for always having a big smile on their faces.

Sadly, we can't have our latte and scones until the Café re-opens.

**Flick Evans, Secretary Cathedral**

## **Christianity Deanery Synod 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

Members (49) of Christianity Deanery Synod gathered on Zoom for our meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Remote meetings bring their own stresses and strains, so a time limit of an hour was imposed, which ensured that members were able to concentrate on the main business of the evening, a talk by the Archdeacon of Exeter, the Venerable Andrew Beane, followed by questions. Andrew spoke about the challenges of ministry during the lockdown, the opportunities this has provided, and the need for future partnership and co-operation between parishes and mission communities in Exeter.

**Heather Morgan**



## **Yes Coffee Mornings are still happening!!**



**Please join us for a Zoom Coffee morning**

**on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 am**

**Make a coffee or a tea and Zoom into the fun.**

**Zoom ID 853 4195 0169, Password 150023**

**or click on this link:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85341950169?pwd=UQdnNCtHTWRPQkpnNINiYiREaE5yQT09>**

**You may like to donate the money you would have spent on buying a coffee to the Melanesian Sisters' Chapel Appeal.**

**Please see the enclosed flier for information or donate as below.**

**HOW TO DONATE** There are a number of ways you can give to the UK Associates' CSM Chapel Appeal Bank Transfer: Go to [www.mmuk.net](http://www.mmuk.net), phone 01404 851656 or email [mission@mmuk.net](mailto:mission@mmuk.net) for bank details By Cheque: Payable to The Melanesian Mission. Post cheques to: The Melanesian Mission, 21 The Burlands, Feniton, Honiton, EX14 3UN Please use the reference 'CSM Chapel'. To Gift Aid your donation please email [mission@MMUK.net](mailto:mission@MMUK.net) for a Gift Aid form

## News from the Company of Tapisers



### Angels of Hope

As you probably know, 'Angels of Hope' are being knitted across Devon for a special display on the Cathedral's Christmas Tree in December.

Many Tapisers are responding to the challenge and knitting some angels – as you can see in the photograph.

The organiser, Deborah Custance Baker, is hoping

for anything between one and ten thousand angels to be made. What an inspiring sight they will be!

### No Winter Fair

Sadly, the successful, and hugely enjoyable, Winter Fair is another casualty of Covid-19. This is regrettable as it is an opportunity for us, the Tapisers, to sell some of our handiwork. This year we are very grateful to Alice, the Shop Manager, for agreeing to sell some of our goods in the Cathedral Shop instead. So, DO go along and see what we have been making during the Covid crisis: not only cushions, but face masks, face mask pouches, gift bags, jewellery bags, spectacle cases ... and much more. Come along and see for yourselves!

**Diana Symes, Chairman of The Company of Tapisers**

### Advent Sunday: 29<sup>th</sup> November

Services on Advent Sunday will be the usual 8am Holy Communion and Choral Eucharist at 10am and 12.15.

At 4pm there will be a Sequence of Lessons and Carols for Advent.

The usual arrangements for booking tickets will apply.

## Thanks to the Friends for funding major building repairs

You may think that scaffolding is a permanent feature of Exeter Cathedral – and you would be correct - but it does move from time to time. It is with delight that Camilla Finlay, our architect, took some pictures recently of the South Quire Clerestory window repairs that can now be seen.



Our team of masons have done a great job over the last year painstakingly replacing stone that was crumbling. The Friends provide an annual grant to cover the salaries for our stonemasons along with money to pay for the scaffold erection and materials used. Without their generous and ongoing support this work would not be possible nor could we invest in developing the

craft and skill of our stonemason team. We have a long-term project to work round from the south to north side of the Clerestory windows thanks to the commitment from the Friends.

During the period of lockdown, we took the opportunity, again thanks to funding from the Friends, to repair one of the stained glass windows in the south side of the Nave. Rather than being bowed and ready to fall out, we now have a flat and wonderfully clean window.

Work on the North Porch is progressing to clean and preserve the polychrome paint that was found after one of the statues was pulled off the wall by an over enthusiastic England football supporter. Funds for most of that work are coming from elsewhere, but the Friends have agreed to pay for us to install glass in the doors. This will greatly improve the appearance of this entrance and we are grateful to all our funders for making this possible.

If you are not already a member of the Exeter Cathedral Friends please do consider joining as they make a hugely positive difference to the fabric and running of the Cathedral. **Canon Dr Mike D Williams, Canon Treasurer**

## **Thank you to the Servers**

The Servers gathered in large numbers (only three were unable to be present) for the Choral Eucharist for Edward the Confessor our Founder on 13<sup>th</sup> October, during which they were blessed and thanked for the considerable work they do for the Cathedral. All we need now is a collective noun for them!



## **Cathedral Community Committee (CCC) Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> October**

The CCC met by Zoom on 14<sup>th</sup> October. Before we started the agenda, we put on record our immense gratitude and thanks to Julie and Hugh Glover as they prepare to move to Cornwall. They have contributed hugely to many areas of Cathedral life in recent years, notably Sundays@7, the pastoral care team, the team of Eucharistic assistants, and, in the case of Julie, to the CCC. Our love, best wishes and prayers go with them.

We considered a paper setting out the progress of the CCC Action Plan in the light of much-changed circumstances. The following points emerged:

- We will hold an “awayday” by Zoom on 21<sup>st</sup> November to look at the Cathedral Vision Statement in conjunction with the Chapter strategy to maintain business as usual, continue the Development programme and maintain a focus on mission and outreach
- We need to devise a way of welcoming newcomers to services within the Covid restrictions, possibly issuing the welcome postcards introduced before lockdown. Work is in hand to reach those without internet access, and those who are hard to reach for other reasons.
- It is important to maintain a sense of community between, as well as within, different groups in the Cathedral. Another Quiz evening, Zoom drinks parties and a monthly Zoom coffee morning were suggested. The Social Events Team would be asked to co-ordinate gifts of cakes and fruit to students who are self-isolating
- We agreed to set up a group, comprising members of the congregations and a member of Chapter, to support and promote Planned Giving.
- In future, the CCC will meet regularly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month for an hour, so that we can cover more business in shorter meetings. The next meeting on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November** will focus on item 14 of the Action Plan: *To assist with the development of, and advocacy for, the Wednesday Kitchen.*

**Heather Morgan, Chair CCC**

## **Happy Birthday, Peggy**

Warmest congratulations to Peggy Conway, who celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 17<sup>th</sup> October. Flowers were sent to her from the Cathedral Community and on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October, she was greeted with applause from the 10am congregation, and Happy Birthday played on the Cathedral Organ, for all of which she has asked her to pass on her warmest thanks.



## **Congratulations!**

During Evensong on 1<sup>st</sup> October, Matt Jeffrey (pictured above with Tim Noon, Director of Music) was installed as a Lay Vicar, and the Senior Boy Choristers were invested with their badges of office. Many congratulations to them all.



## **OUR SECOND CATHEDRAL QUIZ EVENING** **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.15 for 7.30pm on ZOOM**

As we enter into the second wave of Covid19, we thought that as a pre-Christmas event we would raise our spirits and have our second Cathedral Quiz Evening. Following our fun-filled St Peter's-tide quiz, we will once again gather together on the now ubiquitous ZOOM MEETINGS.

So we invite any members of the Cathedral Community, near or far, to join us for an exciting evening. You can gather a team of four who work together (you do this on Zoom without having to be physically in the same place). If you are on your own, but want us to create a team for you, we can arrange that too!

The now experienced Quiz personnel, Chris, Louise and Caroline, will help me to organise our Advent & Christmas Quiz Evening.

### **What do you need?**

- A computer or tablet (iPad or similar)
- Pencil and paper
- Boundless knowledge! (seriously, it's going to be fun not Mastermind!)
- A supply of a beverage of choice – soft drinks are permitted.

### **How do I take part?**

- Please register your interest with me as soon as possible on [ian.morter@exeter-cathedral.org.uk](mailto:ian.morter@exeter-cathedral.org.uk) giving me your email address.
- Tell me the members of your team and please give me their email addresses, or let me know if you want us to create a team for you.
- Nearer the evening I will send you the details of how to log into the ZOOM Quiz and we need to be gathering 15 minutes before the 7.30pm start so we can get the teams in their private 'break-out rooms' so they can confer.

Sadly, no prizes can be awarded because of Covid Security, but you will be heralded as the top three teams! You will see and hear your friends from the Cathedral Community, and you never know you may meet some new faces.

**Ian Morter – Priest Vicar**

