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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Bradford Cathedral Launches Events Programme for First Third of 2020**



January – April will see many new events at Bradford Cathedral including a **Singing Day**; an **Address to mark Holocaust Memorial Day**; and a new series of free coffee concerts.  
(First photo credit: Chris O'Donovan)

The new **January – April 2020 events programme** for **Bradford Cathedral** has been launched and includes a variety of events for all ages across themes of **music, arts, faith, community, family, civic and conversations, and visitors.**

Highlights of the first season of events include a **Singing Day with Professor Paul Mealor**; a candle lit concert with pianist Ben Comeau to mark **Earth Hour**; and a new series of weekly **Wednesday organ recitals** and monthly **Tuesday Coffee Concerts**, with baritone singer James Gaughan kicking things off on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

**Holocaust Memorial Day 2020**, which remembers 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-

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**HOSPITALITY. FAITHFULNESS. WHOLENESS.**

Birkenau, will be marked by an address by Lilian Black, Chair of the Trustees of the Holocaust Survivors' Friendship Association and the Holocaust Exhibition and Learning Centre at Huddersfield University, whose late father, Eugene, was deported from his home in Hungary in 1944 and sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau.

Other events between now and the end of April include **free family activities** with guided tours, quizzes and crafts; a **Fairtrade Breakfast**; and the next entry in the **Flourishing City** event series investigating what people in Bradford want from the city by 2040.



There are also events based around the national 2020 theme of **'Year of Cathedrals, Year of Pilgrimage'** with a Lent Course based around the subject; a special candle-lit pilgrimage in the cathedral on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February; and the opportunity for special routes to be followed from Halifax Minster or Dewsbury Minster back to the cathedral, created by the British Pilgrimage Trust. The monthly **'Monday Fellowship'** talks also return on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January with the Very Revd Jerry Lepine, Dean of Bradford, exploring the idea of pilgrimage for a 21<sup>st</sup> century faith.

Future talks in the same series will look at whether it's possible to be a Christian in the military, alongside Nigel Burton talking about his life as a countryside volunteer; and an exploration of the life of bell-ringer Joe Hardcastle.

January – April 2020 will also see a special open mic event entitled **'Serenity: Poetry, Song and Music'** at the end of January; a Eucharist for **Candlemas**; and a **special exhibition for Lent**,

**Easter and Pentecost** by artist Ali Thistlethwaite called 'Encounters with Jesus', one of many events as part of a busy **Lent and Holy Week** programme which will also include 'Messy Easter', a procession, and an Easter Vigil.

There will be a special service for **Mothering Sunday** in March; the **Annual Legal Service** in February; and the **Civic Service** in March. **Bishop Nick Baines** will deliver a special address in February; the next 'Hope on the Edge' event will explore how we **care for the planet**; and there'll be a chance to mark the **birthday of William Morris** by discovering his works within the cathedral.

There are many regular events each week in the cathedral including '**Places of Welcome**', 'Just A Minute' and the **toddler group**, as well as opportunities for carers to try their hands at crafts, a new project for the '**Stitching@Bradford Cathedral**' group and further '**Women of Faith Book Group**' meetings.

The popular **Bradford Faith Trail** returns on the first Saturday in March, taking you around a series of faith buildings on Leeds Road to learn more about the traditions and cultures from those who practise them. This monthly trail fills up quickly so we advise you book early.

Bradford Cathedral is **open daily** for you to visit for **services and prayer** and to explore the **history** of the building, with booklets and sheets available to help you explore both the faith and historical sides of the cathedral.

Most of the events mentioned here are free to attend and for many you can just turn up on the door, but more information about our new programme including times, tickets and guests can be found by visiting [bradfordcathedral.org/whats-on/latest-events-programme](http://bradfordcathedral.org/whats-on/latest-events-programme) or by picking up a printed copy of the programme when it is released in mid-January.

**ENDS**

## Notes for Editors

### **About Bradford Cathedral**

Bradford Cathedral has been a place of worship in Bradford since the first millennium. It is the oldest building in the city and, alongside being a place of worship, hosts events, arts projects and much more.

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