

The **purple** frontal is entitled “Hope”. Purple is the colour of penitence and preparation. As we weave around a dense cityscape, at the centre we find hope in the shape of the broken cross. The presence of God in this place and the activity of the Holy Spirit are shown by the lines of silver thread weaving in and out of the City.

The **red** frontal announces “Transformation”, when change occurs through the activity and grace of God. The design captures the moment with energy and power, though the pain and suffering are also present. It develops from darkness, divided and rigid, to become delicate, radiant and alive as it rises gradually to the top of the altar.

The fourth frontal is **gold** and announces “Arrival”. It rejoices in the gifts of grace we receive from God, celebrating the love sustaining us for life in the world. The design draws out elements present in the other frontals to highlight motifs of joy and celebration.

The kneelers are wool on canvas and reflect all four of the church’s seasons at once and were to be completed as a community project. The Friends of Bradford Cathedral formed a group to complete the kneelers. Beginning in January 2016, a core group of about twenty people (supplemented by some eighty others) has put in thousands of hours of work.

We hope that what you see provides work which both reflects and celebrates Bradford’s rich heritage and seeks to offer something of that back to God in worship. We hope too, that the work demonstrates that Bradford Cathedral can hold twenty-first century craftsmanship within an ancient context, reflecting our place in this twenty-first century world.

Polly Meynell



Polly Meynell lives in West Sussex and makes bespoke textile art works for individuals, public buildings, and sacred spaces.

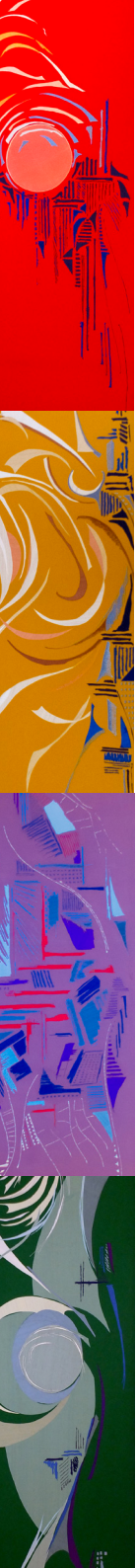
She has created large scale banners, wall hangings and panels in addition to bespoke robes and costumes for special events, theatre and public buildings. She has designed for red carpet actors, theatrical productions, Bishops and Cathedrals, the Drapers’ Company and the Lutheran Church in New York, to name a few.

Group visits to view the Polly Meynell textiles can be arranged by contacting the office on 01274 77 77 20. The visit includes an informative presentation on the textiles by a member of the cathedral team.

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Contemporary Textiles



In 2013 Bradford Cathedral celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Edward Maufe's extension which marked its elevation from Parish Church to the Cathedral Church of St Peter, Bradford.

The Cathedral Chapter wanted to have a visible and vibrant marking of this chapter of the building's life and Polly Meynell was asked to produce a set of textiles which would both reflect and celebrate Bradford's rich heritage and seek to offer something of that back to God in worship.

Several visits to Bradford and two significant images (a map from 1889 and a modern landscape photograph) provided her inspiration and the materials for the project were sourced from the local area, mirroring the way in which different cultures live alongside each other in the City today.

The project provided four altar frontals, together with matching pulpit falls and stoles. There are also three gold coloured copes, displaying elements taken from the main designs. The final elements are the kneelers surrounding the high altar. The altar frontals are the largest pieces and were designed first. The other pieces all draw inspiration from these.

The **green** frontal is entitled "Journey"; it tells the story of our journey from darkness to light, from desolation to salvation. Both cityscape and rolling hillsides can be seen: we move through highs and lows before we reach a glorious, bright conclusion.

