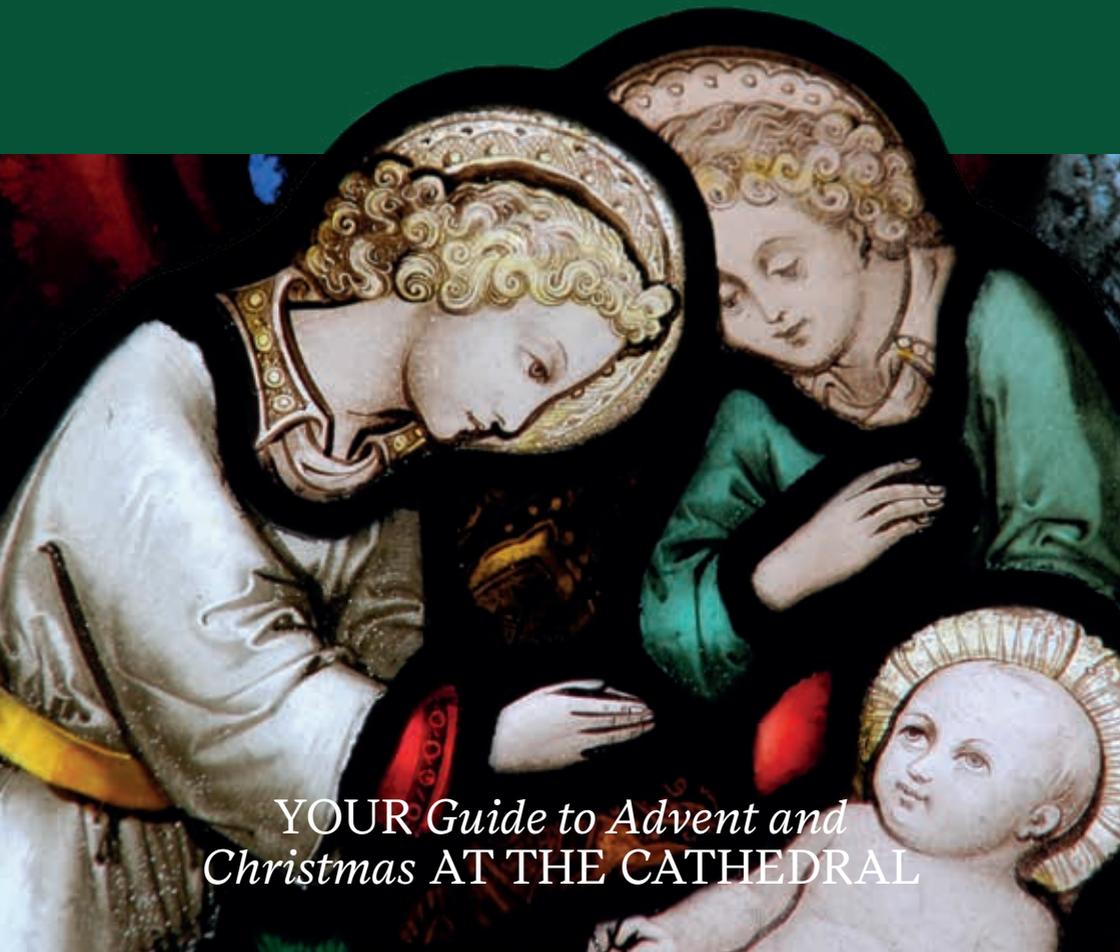


GLOUCESTER
CATHEDRAL

O COME
ALL YE
FAITHFUL



*YOUR Guide to Advent and
Christmas* AT THE CATHEDRAL



At the HEART of CHRISTMAS

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Family Event



Livestreamed



Concert



Service



Last year, it was said, that Christmas was cancelled. Like so many, many others, we were separated as a family just at the time we would always be together.

This Christmas, despite on-going concerns, we are back with as much joy as we can muster – so

‘O come all ye faithful!’

Of course, Christmas does not need to be saved as it saves us, with the good news of God here among us in the birth of Jesus Christ.

The Very Reverend Stephen Lake

DEAN OF GLOUCESTER



A PLACE *for*
WORSHIP

ADVENT *and* CHRISTMAS SERVICES

*All are welcome to the below services.
No ticket required, arrive early to secure a seat.*

SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER   

6pm Advent Procession. From Darkness to Light

A dramatic and majestic service to mark the beginning of the new Christian year

SUNDAY 5 DECEMBER  

4.15pm Britten's Ceremony of Carols

Join us in the Quire to hear Gloucester Cathedral Boy Choristers with
Harpist Daniel De-Fry

CHRISTMAS EVE   

11.30pm Midnight Mass

The moment Christmas arrives! "It came upon a midnight clear" –
You can come too (*Please arrive by 11.15pm.*)

CHRISTMAS DAY   

8am Holy Communion (said)

10.15am Sung Eucharist 

The only way to start Christmas Day, may this service be a blessing to you.

4.00pm Evening Prayer (said)

ST STEPHEN'S DAY (BOXING DAY)   

10.15am Sung Eucharist 



*Wherever you see this icon, this service will be
available to view both in person and via the live-stream*

Ticketed CHRISTMAS SERVICES

*Tickets for the services above are free but must be booked in advance. You
can book via the Cathedral website from 10am on Monday 22 November.
We look forward to welcoming you.*

WEDNESDAY 22 DECEMBER   

6pm Christmas Carol Service

The traditional service of readings and carols (please arrive by 5.45pm)

THURSDAY 23 DECEMBER   

2.30pm Family Crib Service with the Lighting of the Christmas Trees

All are welcome to join us for this informal family friendly service.

6pm Christmas Carol Service  

Another chance to attend this traditional service of readings and carols
(please arrive by 5.45pm)

CHRISTMAS EVE  

2.30pm Family Crib Service with the Lighting of the Christmas Trees

A second celebration of this informal family service

JOYFUL AND TRIUMPHANT



A PLACE *for*
FAMILIES



O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

DIGITAL ADVENT CALENDAR

Our digital Advent calendar is returning for 2021, and this year we're delighted to have partnered with Gloucestershire's Poet Laureate, Ziggy Dicks, to create 25 short poems that capture the themes at the heart of Christmas.

From Wednesday 1 December until Christmas Day, we'll share a video of one of these poems being read by a member of the Gloucester Cathedral community.

Ziggy has skilfully created poems to appeal to everyone, and we also hope that they might inspire you to come and explore your Cathedral this Christmas.

You'll be able to find our daily Advent calendar videos on our Facebook page, YouTube channel and website.



CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS

Saturday 11 December to Friday 7 January

The Christmas Story Trail

Follow the trail around the Cathedral to learn more about the Christmas story and meet the characters by hunting for the miniature displays.

The Knitivity

Visit Gloucester Cathedral's characterful Crib Scene in the spectacular surroundings of the Quire.

Christmas decorations

Inside the building

Within the building, you'll find beautiful Christmas trees, traditional garlands and greenery displays, festive lights and a magical decorated Cloister.

Outside the Cathedral

New for 2021, a gorgeous Christmas tree will be in the centre of Cathedral Green and the windows in the Cathedral Close will be lit up, adding to the festive atmosphere from Sunday 28 November.



CAROLS ON THE HOUR

Saturday 11 December

Gather your family and friends together and join us for our annual bite-sized burst of festive praise. Enjoy carols in your glorious Cathedral sung on the hour by the Choirs of Gloucester Cathedral.

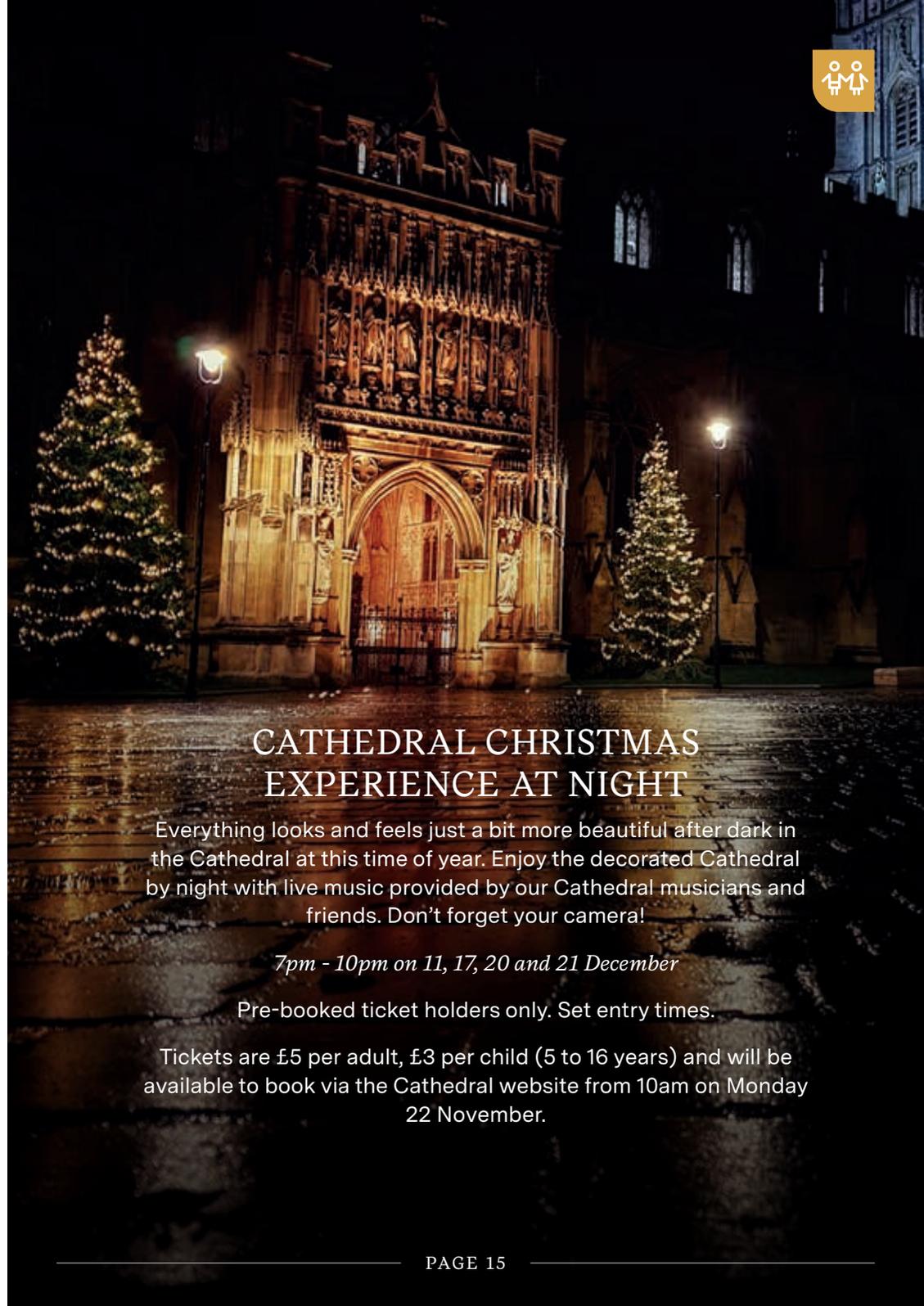
11am - Cathedral Junior Choir

12noon and 1pm - Cathedral Choir

2pm & 3pm - Cathedral Youth Choir and Middle Choir

4pm - Gloucester Choral Society

Each service lasts just 30 minutes and is the perfect way to begin the most wondrous time of the year. Suitable for all the family. The Cathedral Gift Shop and Monk's Kitchen will be open.



CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE AT NIGHT

Everything looks and feels just a bit more beautiful after dark in the Cathedral at this time of year. Enjoy the decorated Cathedral by night with live music provided by our Cathedral musicians and friends. Don't forget your camera!

7pm - 10pm on 11, 17, 20 and 21 December

Pre-booked ticket holders only. Set entry times.

Tickets are £5 per adult, £3 per child (5 to 16 years) and will be available to book via the Cathedral website from 10am on Monday 22 November.



A PLACE *for*
MUSIC



BRITTEN'S CEREMONY OF CAROLS

Sunday 5 December 4.15pm

We look forward to welcoming you to hear Britten's beautiful work, performed in the Quire by the Gloucester Cathedral Boy Choristers and Harpist Daniel De-Fry.

No ticket required. There will be a retiring collection in aid of Cathedral Music.

This service will also be live-streamed for those who wish to join from home.



CHRISTMAS COFFEE CONCERT

*Saturday 4 December 11am -
12noon*

**Gloucester Cathedral Girl and Boy
Choristers**

Emma Johnson | Clarinettist

We are delighted to welcome back Emma Johnson to Gloucester Cathedral to perform at this special coffee concert - sit back and enjoy.

£6 tickets available on the door on the day. Tickets cannot be pre-purchased.



MESSIAEN LA NATIVITÉ DU SEIGNEUR (1935)

**Jonathan Hope, Assistant Director of
Music, Gloucester Cathedral**

Sunday 12 December 6pm

Join us for Jonathan Hope's annual performance of Messiaen's kaleidoscopic 9-movement organ cycle for Christmas. This recital will also be live-streamed.

Admission to Organ Concerts/Recitals is free with a retiring collection in aid of Cathedral Music.



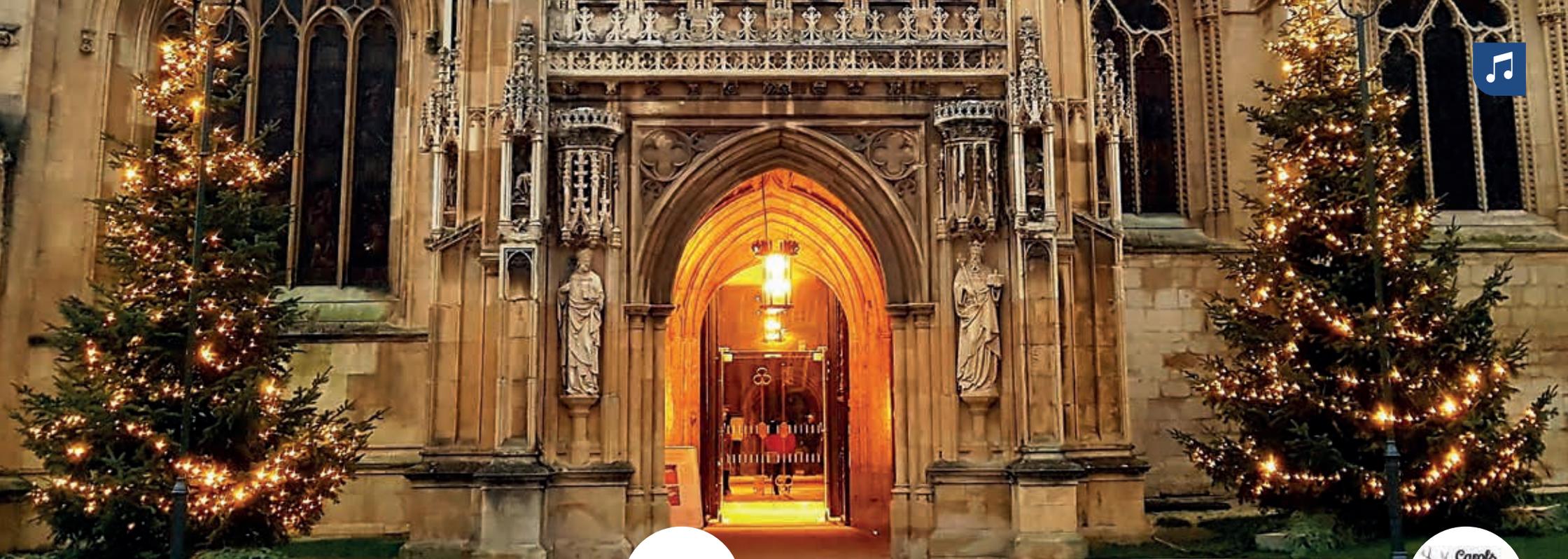
CHRISTMAS WITH THE SAINT CECILIA SINGERS

By the light of a star

Saturday 18 December 7pm

Join us for our annual concert of festive favourites in the stunning setting of Gloucester Cathedral. Let us treat you to a glass of warm Glühwein and a bite of Stollen, alongside a joyful blend of traditional German Christmas music and audience carols

Tickets and programmes available from www.saintceciliasingers.org



BACH | CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

Saturday 4 December 7pm

Gloucester Choral Society

Corelli Orchestra

Adrian Partington – conductor

Brittany King – soprano

Simon Ponsford – alto

Michael Bell – tenor

James Birchall – bass

Tickets: £25 | £18 | £10 with discounts available for U25s, students and groups of 4 or more

Gloucester Choral Society presents Bach's Christmas Oratorio, conducted by Adrian Partington. It is always our pleasure to be a part of so many people's Christmas traditions, so we advise you to book your seats early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets available from www.3choirs.org.uk or call the Three Choirs box office: 01452 768928 (lines open 10am-4pm, Monday-Friday).

CAROLS FOR ALL - GLOUCESTER CHORAL SOCIETY

Monday 27 December 3pm

Our light-hearted Christmas celebration packed with carols old and new, and plenty of opportunities for you to sing your favourites too. It's a jolly afternoon in which Christmas jumpers and headgear are wholeheartedly encouraged.

While Carols for All is a free event, it's also for good causes. Donations are welcomed in support of the Gloucester Choral Society and Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers (GARAS).

No need to book, just turn up in time to take your seats for this annual family favourite.

Lighting a candle means offering prayer, an offering
of love for a soul or memorializing a loved
one's birthday or anniversary in all kinds of ways.
For Christians, a candle represents the light of Christ
in the world. It is a symbol of love and peace, just as
it is on the light of the world. Whoever follows me will
never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Light a Candle
Light a candle for your loved one.
Light a candle for your church.
Light a candle for your community.
Light a candle for your world.

A PLACE *for* MEMORIES



HOMELESS HAMPER CAMPAIGN

Friday 3 - Saturday 11 December

Once again, we are working with Gloucester City Mission to be the main collection point for their Homeless Hamper campaign. Visitors can drop off donations such as mince pies, chocolate, pot noodles, tea, toiletries, hats, gloves and scarves to a collection point in the Cathedral Nave. The hampers will be distributed before Christmas Day.



THE MONK'S KITCHEN EATERY

Is there anything more warming than the smell of hot chocolate and mince pies at Christmas time? Be sure to pay a visit to the Monk's Kitchen Eatery during the festive season and sample some of the delicious seasonal treats on offer this year. Of course, there is also a wide range of options available for a hearty lunch too!



THE CATHEDRAL GIFT SHOP

If you are still looking for the perfect gift don't forget to browse our lovely gift shop in the Christmassy Nave where you can find candles and holders, bespoke baubles and decorations, and sparkling jewellery to pop into someone's stocking.

Please visit the Cathedral website for opening times over the Christmas and New Year period.



RUNAWAY REINDEER

From Tuesday 23 November

We are delighted that a Runaway Reindeer has danced and pranced its way into the Cathedral Cloister. Make sure you stop by and say hello over the Christmas period and get one hoof print closer to completing the trail and winning a fantastic prize. Runaway Reindeer trail maps are available from the Museum of Gloucester and the customer service desk at Gloucester Quays. Visit www.gloucesterbid.uk for full details. Happy hunting!



GLOUCESTER CITY MISSION CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Tuesday 30 November 7pm for 7.30pm

Join us for an evening of superb Christmas carols compered by Warren Moore and featuring the Gloucester District Christian Choir, Hartpury CE Primary School Choir, plus Kathryn and Tim Jeffree and find out a bit more about our work with the homeless and vulnerable in Gloucester.

Admission is Free.

Gloucester City Mission is a registered charity 115780



MENINGITIS NOW - GLOUCESTER CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION CONCERT

Thursday 2 December 7pm

We are so happy to be able to join together again at Gloucester Cathedral following such a challenging time, to reflect on our loved ones and enjoy some little 'pockets of joy'.

Join us for traditional Christmas carols and festive musical entertainment in a wonderful and moving setting. Our line-up this year includes brilliant performances from Gloucester Gangshow, Highnam Academy and Danceworks Cheltenham.

Tickets £12 for nave seats, £8 for aisle seats, with group discounts available. Visit www.meningitisnow.org or call 01453 768 000 for tickets and more details.



LONGFIELD HOSPICE - LIGHT UP A LIFE CELEBRATION

Friday 3 December 6.30pm for 7pm

Join us as we celebrate loved ones at our special celebration at Gloucester Cathedral with music, poetry and song. Why not light a candle for someone special and watch it shine brightly during the event? Please note you must have a ticket to attend this event.

Book your free place at www.longfield.org.uk





CHRISTMAS CAROL CELEBRATION - ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE

Thursday 9 December, 7.30pm

An evening of Christmas carols and readings with music from Upton St Leonard's School Choir and Ecclesiastical's Staff Choir.

Tickets £4.50 (some seats may have a restricted view) available via the Cathedral website. All proceeds go to support local Gloucestershire charities.

ST MARY DE CRYPT CHURCH, SOUTHGATE STREET

Friday 10 - Sunday 19 December 11am - 3pm (closed Monday and Tuesday)

Discover DeCrypt are hosting Christmas trees from charities, community groups and businesses across Gloucester. Come and enjoy the festive mood, see the lights and stop in at the Schoolroom for some seasonal refreshments.

Entry £2 per person (under 3s free) on the door.

CHRISTMAS@DECRIPT *Friday 17 December 1pm*

Carols and readings in St Mary de Crypt

BOOKING INFORMATION AND COVID GUIDANCE

Advent & Christmas Ticketed Services

Due to continued concerns about the coronavirus and the need to keep all those attending safe, this year our biggest services will be ticketed. The following carol services will require a booking confirmation to attend:

- *Christmas Carol Services on 22 and 23 December at 6.00pm*
- *Family Crib Services on 23 and 24 December at 2.30pm*

Tickets will be available to book via www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk from 10am on Monday 22 November. A maximum of five spaces per booking.

You will not be able to attend the services without an advance booking.

Please note that when you book you are not reserving a specific seat (or block of seats) and whilst we cannot guarantee your group will be able to sit together, we will do our best. We advise you to arrive in good time.

Non ticketed services

You do not need to book a space for any other Cathedral services, including the Advent Carols Service, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Eucharist. However, if we reach capacity, we won't be able to allow additional people inside so arriving early is recommended.

Joining Services Online

The majority of Advent and Christmas services will be live streamed via the Cathedral website, YouTube channel and Facebook page – please check the Cathedral website for more details.

Covid-19 Safety Measures

We continue to follow government guidelines. At present this means that masks are optional and NHS Covid-Passes aren't required for entry. However, if this changes we may have to adapt our policy at short notice. Bearing that in mind, we recommended that you bring a mask with you to any of the services.

Those of you attending Sunday services will note that seating is no longer socially-distanced and this policy will remain in place unless guidelines change.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

For more information about visiting us this Christmas
please go to: www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk

You can sign up for our free monthly e-newsletter for all
the latest news and events from Gloucester Cathedral sent
straight to your inbox. Visit www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk
and follow the on-screen instructions

All details in this leaflet were correct at time of press.
Gloucester Cathedral reserves the right to change or cancel
events. Please check the website or phone the Cathedral
Office for any closures or changes.



Photo credits

Inside Front – *Dale Hodgetts*

p6 – *Paul Nicholls*

p10 – *@twin_toddle_nhs*

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Dale Hodgetts, Hannah Leckebusch*

p15 – *Michael Friend Photography*

p30-31 – *Sandie Conway*

p22 – *@girlaboutgloucestershire*

p27 – *Michael Friend Photography*

Back Page – *Michael Friend Photography*



GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

A PLACE *for*
EVERYONE

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