Vacancies at Jesus Hospital Almshouse

Jesus Hospital Almshouse was founded in 1595 to provide homes for older people in need. Today accommodation is offered in one- or two-bedroom flats at modest cost for those over 55 years old who have lived or worked in Canterbury and who can live independently. This is a small community of up to 17 residents, with an on-site Warden, who meet occasionally for social events and the weekly chapel service. Each flat is equipped with a kitchen and shower room and is centrally heated. Currently we have two vacancies; a ground floor flat suitable for one person and a 1st floor flat which could accommodate a couple. Initial expressions of interest should be made through the Warden at jhcwarden@outlook.com or phone 07579026176 who will be happy to provide more details and offer an informal visit.

New Canon in Residence Arrangements

From 1 January 2014, we will instigate a new pattern where each of the clergy will share being in residence for two-week long blocks. For now there will no longer be a Vice Dean. The emergency Canon in Residence contact number is 01227862773. Pastoral Care is the responsibility of all of us but sometimes a priest is required. It does not belong to one clergy person who is the pastor but to all clergy who are called to pray and to pastor. When someone rings the phone number it will go through to the Canon in Residence who will do their best to answer or they will be back in touch asap. Please note this cannot be a 24/7 ‘on call’ function for everything to do with the cathedral. Requests about pastoral offices (baptisms, confirmations, weddings, blessings & funerals) should also go to the duty Canon in Residence and that will then be taken on by them or others. Alternatively you can email: OccasionalOffices@canterbury-cathedral.org

Dean David

Cathedral Worshipping Roll

We are now have the forms and technology to update the Cathedral Worshipping Roll. This is for those who habitually worship at the Cathedral and is in line with the new Cathedrals Measure which is coming into force now. You need to apply even if you have been on the previous Cathedral Roll. You can do so online by going to: https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/worshipping-community-roll-application-form/ or by filling in a form that can be collected from Reception in Cathedral House.

If you would like to make a donation to the Cathedral, please use the following link: https://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/get-involved/donate/online-form/

Please send submissions for the Pew Sheet to: tobin.wallace-sims@canterbury-cathedral.org by Wednesday please
Dates for your diary at the Cathedral and across the city:

Friday 29 December, 17:30-18:30
Memorial Service for the Martyrdom of St Thomas
853 years after his murder in the Cathedral, we recall the story of Archbishop Thomas Becket, reflecting on martyrdom then and now. The preacher will be Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford. Born in Iran, Bishop Guli was just 13 when, in the wake of the Iranian Revolution, she and her family were forced to leave the country following an assassination attempt on her parents, and the murder of her older brother, Bahram, by Iranian government agents in 1980. Bahram is one of the martyrs remembered in the Cathedral’s Book of Modern Day Martyrs in our Corona Chapel. Bishop Guli has served as Bishop of Chelmsford since April 2021, and prior to that served as the first Bishop of Loughborough in the Diocese of Leicester. In January 2021, Bishop Guli was also appointed as the lead Bishop for Housing for the Church of England and she has served as a member of the Lords Spiritual in the House of Lords since November 2021. Bishop Guli is currently Vice-President of the Conference of European Churches, Vice Chair of the Board of the Church Army, and a contributor to BBC Radio 4s Thought for the Day. She is also the author of ‘Cries for a Lost Homeland: Reflections on Jesus’ sayings from the cross’.

Sunday 7 January 2024, 17:30-18:30 - Epiphany Carol Service
A beautiful carol service to celebrate the Feast of Epiphany. The music and readings reflect on the three signs of Christ’s ‘Epiphan’ (his manifestation to the world): the visit of the wise men, the Baptism of Christ, and the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana. The service lasts about 50 minutes. Everyone is welcome, and the service is free to attend.

Martin Luther King Day (Mon 15 January) & Presidents’ Day (Monday 19 February), 11:15-12:30 - American Connections Tour
Discover the strong bond that the Cathedral has with the United States. Hear stories of the people who have shaped the history of the US, and learn how glass and stone from Canterbury Cathedral adorns American churches. £5 per person, plus admission charge.

Tuesday 16 January 2024, 10:30
TALK: Canterbury Cathedral’s Gardens Through the Centuries
There is an astonishing 23 acres of gardens including the 16th Century Herb Garden, the Friends’ Garden, Memorial Garden, and more. Thomas Goodall, Head Gardener, and his colleagues will talk about the varied gardens of The Precincts, both private and public. Discover more about the history of some of the spaces as well as the work of our current gardening team and their plans for future projects. Tickets: £8 Friends of Canterbury Cathedral, £10 non-members, includes tea and coffee on arrival.

Gaza: Archbishops of Jerusalem & Canterbury in Emergency Appeal for Diocese of Jerusalem
The Archbishops of Canterbury and Jerusalem, Hosam Naoum and Justin Welby, have issued a joint emergency appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. The international appeal calls for prayers and donations not only for the work of the Anglican-run al-Ahli Arab Hospital’s vital work in Gaza, but also for the Diocese of Jerusalem’s ministries throughout the Holy Land which are also being greatly affected by the Israel-Hamas war. Responding to the appeal, a spokesperson for the Diocese of Jerusalem said: “Thank you again for all your prayers and support during this time of great calamity! Continue to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, and for security for all who dwell in its lands.” To give please go to: cafdonate.cafoonline.org/24666

Gregory Gargoyle’s Angel Trail *
1st December 2023 – Early January 2024
Look for clues in the stained-glass windows, statues, stone, and wall paintings to find some of our many angels across the Cathedral and learn about their history and importance. Return your completed trail to the Cathedral Shop and claim your prize! Children (aged 17 and under) go FREE to the Cathedral, when accompanied by a paying adult.
*This event is included with visitor entry.

Wednesday 17 January: Christian Ministry Today: Theological Reflections on Ministry in Contemporary British Society - Speaker: Dean David
The Canterbury Contemporary Theology Group is an ecumenical gathering that meets on the third Wednesday of each month from January to June at St Peter’s Methodist Church, Canterbury. Meetings start at 7.30 p.m. and finish promptly at 9.00 p.m. Most talks are available afterwards on Youtube. Our meetings are open to all who are interested in honest, lively discussion on contemporary themes in theology and religion. Whatever your interests or viewpoint, you will be most welcome to join us. There is a charge of £5 at the door for each talk to cover costs (people in full-time education free).

Saturday 3 February, 10:00-16:00 'The Joyous Mysteries' Quiet Prayer Day
Led by Canon Emma and Alexander Muir, this Epiphany Season Quiet Day will be held in the Jesus Chapel and All Saints’ Chapel of the Cathedral. This will be an opportunity to contemplate the life of Christ, through scripture and the ancient devotional practice of the rosary. Whether this form of prayer is familiar or new to you, do join us for a day set aside to deepening our walk with God. This day follows on from our successful Lenten and Trinity Quiet Days, which focused on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary; however, this session can also stand alone for those who were unable to join us before. There will be a lunch break during the event; you are welcome to bring your own refreshments to enjoy in the grounds of the Cathedral, or there are many local cafes and eateries to choose from just outside the Christ Church Gate. This event is free to attend.