

Weekly News Sheet

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Welcome, particularly if you are visiting or with us for the first time. If you are, please do introduce yourself to a steward or member of the clergy.

Sunday 21st December 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Prayer for our Life Together (St Aidan's Chapel)
10:30am	Congregational Eucharist (CW, also livestreamed) <i>President</i> Revd Duncan Milwain, Assistant Curate <i>Preacher</i> Revd Henriette Howarth, Minor Canon for Congregational Life <i>Reading</i> Isaiah 7.10-16 (OT p.646) <i>Gospel</i> Matthew 1.18-end (NT p.1) <i>Music</i> Thorne Gloria, Bach Fugue in E Minor BWV 548/ii Hymns: 32, 241, 362
6pm	Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols <i>Demessieux</i> Rorate Caeli, <i>Bach</i> Prelude and Fugue in G Major BWV 541, <i>McDowall</i> O Antiphon Sequence <i>arr Ledger</i> Sussex Carol, <i>Ord</i> Adam lay ybounden, <i>McDowall</i> In dulci jubilo, <i>Darke</i> In the bleak midwinter, <i>Mathias</i> Sir Christèmas, <i>Wilby</i> The Word made flesh, <i>arr Wilberg</i> Ding dong! merrily on high <i>Bach</i> In Dulci Jubilo BWV 729, <i>Lanquetuit</i> Toccata, Hymns: 66, 64, 61, 63, 76, 53

COLLECT God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FLOWERS The flowers in the Sanctuary have been given by the BBC for the Christmas Day service.

Weaving Jesus into the rich fabric of the city and beyond

✠ **Bradford Cathedral, 1 Stott Hill, Bradford, BD1 4EH**

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THIS WEEK

Monday-Saturday	9am	Morning Prayer (online)
	10am-4pm	Cathedral Open (unless stated)
	12noon	Midday Prayer (Lady Chapel)
	5:30pm	Evening Prayer (Mon-Sat) (online)
Monday	All Day	CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC
Tuesday	All Day	CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC
Wednesday	1pm	Annual Lunchtime Carol Recital (fully booked)
	11pm	Midnight Eucharist
Thursday	10am	Christmas Day Eucharist
Friday	All Day	CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC
Saturday	All Day	CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC
Sunday	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10:30am	Congregational Eucharist
	5.30pm	Evening Prayer (online)

NOTICES

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE Please be aware that the Cathedral will be closed to visitors on Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd December and then through to 2nd January 2026 (except for Sunday services). These closures are to prepare the Cathedral for our Christmas Day Service and then to give staff a chance to rest.

CHRISTMAS DAY ON THE BBC this year will be broadcast live from Bradford Cathedral. We'd love you to be part of our celebrations. If you would like to join us, please let us know that you are able to come so we can ensure we save you (and any guests you might bring) a space. A sign-up list is on the welcome table at the back. Doors will open at 8.45am and all congregation need to be seated and ready by 9.30am!

COME! SEE THE INFANT KING CD Bradford Cathedral Choir, in conjunction with the world famous Black Dyke Band, have just released a CD of Christmas Music, perfect as a present for your friends and family! If you'd like to buy one, priced at £15, you can order from the website <https://bradfordcathedral.org.uk/product/come-see-the-infant-king-cd/> , purchase one from the Cathedral shop, or speak to Geoffrey Woollatt, our Director of Music.

PRAYERS FOR OUR LIFE TOGETHER Prayer is at the heart of what we do both in our services and personally. During this time of change at the cathedral community, we invite you to join us in prayer weekly on Sundays at 9.30–10.15am in St Aidan's Chapel, and Thursdays 5.30–6pm online during evening prayer.

THE SEASON OF GIVING We want to say a heartfelt thank you to all who donate, helping with the Cathedral's £2,800 per day upkeep costs. Could you too make a donation this Christmas, become a Patron or a regular donor? Would you consider making a Christmas gift of Patron membership to a friend or loved one? To find out more about how to support, please contact Liz Purchase, Head of Fundraising, liz.purchase@bradfordcathedral.org

SUE PENFOLD A funeral for Sue Penfold will take place in Bradford Cathedral on Monday 5th January at 1pm, followed by a service at Shay Grange Crematorium. All are welcome to attend.

DEAN ANDY'S FAREWELL Dean Andy's final service will be on January 18th 2026. After this there will be a lunch, speeches and presentations. Lunch will start at 12noon. If you are able to bring a cake or dessert for the farewell lunch, please let Angelique Glata (angelique.glata@bradfordcathedral.org) or the office know. The churchwardens, Jenny Price and Jackie Vickers, are organising a leaving gift for him and Ali. If you wish to make a contribution, you can use this QR code to do so, or else leave your gift in a sealed envelope with a churchwarden or Julie in the Cathedral office.



JOIN US & GET INVOLVED If you would like to explore becoming more involved in our community then please complete a welcome card that are available at the back of the Cathedral. We are looking for people to serve in several ministries although our churchwardens are especially looking for people to become stewards for refreshments, Sunday and other services and also events. Find out more from a member of clergy or one of the churchwardens, Jackie and Jenny. Please be aware that you will need to be safely recruited to all volunteer roles.

FLOWER ROTA Would you like to sponsor a flower arrangement, perhaps in memory of someone, to celebrate a special day or just to say thank you for something? If so, the new Flower Rota for 2026 is available and if you would like to sponsor a display, please put your name down on the list behind the sound desk at the back of the Cathedral against the date you would like. Enquiries about how to sponsor an arrangement and the donation towards the cost of the flowers should be made to either Pat Anderson, Ann Hayward, the Cathedral Office or email to flowers@bradfordcathedral.org. Thank you.

GRACE NOTES will be returning in January. This is our children's community choir, which will meet on Wednesday evenings from 4.30-5.30pm. As part of this, your child will receive free singing & musical tuition, become a more confident singer, and most importantly, will have lots of fun. If your child is interested please do get in contact with Geoffrey Woollatt on geoffrey.woollatt@bradfordcathedral.org

FORTHCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

ANNUAL LUNCHTIME CAROL RECITAL on Wednesday 24th December is fully booked. If you have not reserved your place, it is unlikely that you will be given access.

WEDNESDAY@ONE ORGAN RECITALS SPRING 2026 From Wednesday 7th January, 1pm. This season, we are celebrating 100 years since the birth of Queen Elizabeth II, and our first recitalist will be Ed Jones. The recitals are preceded with a buffet lunch at 12:30pm (£5). See <https://bradfordcathedral.org.uk/organ-recitals> for the full line-up.

TRY ALPHA The Alpha course is for anyone who is curious about the Christian faith, and wants to explore the big questions of life with others. Bradford Cathedral is running the Alpha course for 8 weeks on Tuesday evenings, 7-8.30pm from the 20th January. Come along to the first session and see what you think. Invite a friend and bring them along too. Interested? Email alpha@bradfordcathedral.org

ECCLESIASTICAL TEXTILES' TOURS Saturday 24th January, 11am and 1pm. Tour Bradford Cathedral's stunning textiles' collection with our expert historian. Highlights include textiles by Morris & Co. and an altar frontal that was recently showcased on BBC One's Antiques Roadshow, designed by renowned Bradfordian embroiderer Louisa Pesel. Book at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bradford-cathedral-13158341111>

CATHEDRAL AFTER DARK EXPERIENCE Saturday 31st January, 4:30pm and 7pm. You are invited to explore this stunning building by candlelight, with different areas illuminated by coloured light and sound. Come along to experience the building in a new way, learn its history, and get a glimpse of how it felt in the past. Book at: <https://after-dark.eventbrite.co.uk/>

HANDEL'S MESSIAH Sunday 29th March, 7pm. Experience possibly one of the most famous pieces of music ever written, presented by Bradford Cathedral's choir. It is commonly staged during the lead up to Christmas; however, the Oratorio's narrative also covers the Lent and Easter stories. Join us for an epic performance complete with spectacular choral and orchestral music. Book at: <https://handels-messiah-bradford.eventbrite.co.uk>