



Services and Music List

December 2021



Belfast Cathedral Choir's debut disc with Resonus Classics is now available. It will be for sale after Sunday services and after the two Carol Services on 23 and 24 December, at a special discount price.

"The choir's tonal purity and impeccable tuning are a pleasure"
(BBC Music Magazine, five stars)

"The clarity of the choir's singing is exceptional"
(from Choir and Organ, 'pick of the festive fair')

WELCOME TO BELFAST CATHEDRAL

Belfast Cathedral, (the Cathedral Church of St Anne) is a Cathedral of the Church of Ireland, and part of the worldwide Anglican Communion (Episcopalian). It is unusual in serving two separate dioceses, the Diocese of Connor, and the Diocese of Down and Dromore; it therefore has not one but two Bishops' Seats.

The Cathedral has stood for 120 years as a place of Christian worship in the heart of the City of Belfast. Featuring the 56-metre stainless steel *Spire of Hope* (added in 2007), detailed mosaics by the sisters Gertrude and Margaret Martin, elaborately carved stonework by sculptors Rosamond Praeger, Morris Harding, and Esmond Burton, and beautiful stained-glass windows, this Hiberno-Romanesque building is one of the ecclesiastical and architectural highlights of Northern Ireland.

The splendid acoustic of the Cathedral is the setting for the 4-manual Harrison & Harrison organ, a Wells-Kennedy chamber organ, and a 2-manual organ by the renowned Dutch firm, Klop. The fully adult, professional Cathedral Choir sings for Sunday Services as well as large diocesan and civic occasions. There is also Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir, giving musical opportunities to children across Belfast and beyond, as choristers who sing regularly in cathedral services (normally once a fortnight on a Sunday morning) as well as the latest choir, Belfast Cathedral Songbirds.

Belfast Cathedral sits at the heart of The Cathedral Quarter, which is known for its unique and artisan shops, wide variety of restaurants, and buzzing nightlife, close to the Titanic Quarter, and the city centre itself.

The clergy, staff, congregation, and volunteers of Belfast Cathedral look forward to offering you a warm welcome.

INFORMATION

BIBLE TRANSLATION

Belfast Cathedral uses the New Revised Standard Version translation of the bible for all services. Reading selections are taken from the Church of Ireland Lectionary.

BELFAST CATHEDRAL CHOIR

Unless otherwise specified, all choral services are sung by Belfast Cathedral Choir, a fully adult, professional choir.

BELFAST CATHEDRAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR

There are opportunities for boys and girls aged between 7 and 14 to sing in the Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir. The Cathedral's Director of Music, Matthew Owens, is always pleased to hear from parents of prospective choristers. For further information, email music@belfastcathedral.org

BELFAST CATHEDRAL SONGBIRDS

This is a new singing club for children, aged 6-9; please see information on the next page.

COMMUNION

If it is your custom to receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive here, whatever denomination you are.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND RECORDING

No photography or recording of any kind may take place during services, concerts, or rehearsals without the express permission of the Dean.

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Visitors and worshippers are asked to wear masks and observe social distancing whilst in the cathedral.



BELFAST
CATHEDRAL
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. ANNE



Introducing a brand new singing club, for children aged 6–9, at Belfast Cathedral

Belfast Cathedral **Songbirds** will meet in a fun, relaxed environment to play musical and rhythmical games, learn new songs, and be introduced to basic theory and general musicianship.

Our Songbirds will also join Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir several times a year, such as at Christmas, to perform in Belfast Cathedral.

When? **Wednesdays at 3.30 – 5.00pm, from 15 September**
(snacks and drinks provided mid-way through each session)

Where? **Belfast Cathedral Hall, to the rear of the Cathedral building**

Cost? **£5 per session per child, payable termly**

How? **With current restrictions, places are limited, so please contact us to avoid disappointment.**

songbirds@belfastcathedral.org





BELFAST CATHEDRAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR IS RECRUITING CHORISTERS

A SUPERB OPPORTUNITY FOR
MUSICALLY TALENTED
BOYS AND GIRLS, AGED 7-14

This unique choir gives children the opportunity of a first-class musical education and the opportunity to sing as Choristers of Belfast Cathedral but with a much lighter commitment than a 'traditional' cathedral choir. The children rehearse on a Wednesday from 5.00pm – 6.30pm and sing, alongside the Cathedral Choir, during the Sung Eucharist, every fortnight, as well as other special occasions throughout the year.

For full details about auditioning for
Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir,
please contact the Cathedral's Director of Music,
Matthew Owens

Email: music@belfastcathedral.org
Telephone: 028 9032 8332

DECEMBER

5 SUNDAY: THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11.00 a.m. SUNG EUCHARIST

J.S. Bach *Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme*, BWV 645

Howells *Communion Service 'Collegium Regale'*

Stanford *Benedictus in C*

Preacher: The Very Reverend Stephen Forde, Dean

Gary Davison *The Lord's Prayer*

(sung by Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir)

Rowley *Meditation on 'Conditor Alme'*

Holst *Long ago, prophets knew*

(sung by Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir)

Widor *Marche du veilleur de Nuit*

3.30 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG

Statham *Fantasia on 'Veni Emmanuel'*

Humphrey Clucas *Preces and Responses*

Psalm 29 (chant by Attwood)

Whitlock *Fauxbourdon Service*

Vaughan Williams *This is the truth sent from above*

Andrew Carter *Toccata on 'Veni Emmanuel'*

Weekday Cathedral Prayers take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 1.00-1.15 p.m., in the Nave of the Cathedral; all are welcome.

The Healing Service takes place in the Chapel of Unity each Friday, from 1.00-1.45 p.m.

DECEMBER

12 SUNDAY: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11.00 a.m. SUNG EUCHARIST

von Herzogenberg *Nun komm, der heiden heiland*

Byrd *Mass for four voices*

Psalm 146, vv 4-10 (Tone VIII)

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Mark Niblock,

Dean's Vicar

C.S. Lang *Voluntary on 'Winchester New'*

Gibbons *This is the record of John*

J.S. Bach *Fantasia g-moll, BWV 542, i*

3.30 p.m. CHORAL EVENSONG

Reger *Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme*

Ayleward *Preces and Responses*

(with Stone Lord's Prayer)

Psalm 66 (chant by Havergal)

Stanford *Evening Service in G*

Wood *O thou, the central orb*

Francis Jackson CBE *Toccata-Prelude*

on 'Wachet Auf'

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DECEMBER

19 SUNDAY: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11.00 a.m. SUNG EUCHARIST

Vierne *Préambule (24 Pièces en Style Libre)*

Vierne *Messe Solennelle, Op. 16*

Psalm 80 vv 1-8 (Tone IV)

Preacher: The Reverend Janice Elsdon,

Non-Stipendiary Assistant Priest

Vierne *Complainte (24 Pièces en Style Libre)*

Vierne *Ave Maria*

Vierne *Allegro Maestoso (3e Symphonie)*

3.30 p.m. CRIB SERVICE

A special service for children and their families,
with Belfast Cathedral Children's Choir and Belfast
Cathedral Songbirds

DECEMBER

23 THURSDAY

- 7.30 p.m. A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
A service of traditional readings, traditional congregational Christmas carols, and music for Christmas by Bach, Darke, Matthew Owens, Poston, Praetorius, John Rutter, and Philip Stopford
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24 FRIDAY: CHRISTMAS EVE

- 7.30 p.m. A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
A service of traditional readings, traditional congregational Christmas carols, and music for Christmas by Bach, Darke, Matthew Owens, Poston, Praetorius, John Rutter CBE, and Philip Stopford
- 11.00 p.m. FIRST CHORAL COMMUNION OF CHRISTMAS
John Rutter CBE *Prelude on 'God rest you merry, gentlemen'*
Philip Stopford *Belfast Centenary Eucharist*
Preacher: Mrs Gillian McGaughey, *Diocesan Reader*
Ireland *The Holy Boy*
English traditional, arr. Ledger *Sussex Carol*
German Traditional, arr. Ledger *Still, still, still*
Willcocks *Postlude on 'Mendelssohn'*

DECEMBER

25 SATURDAY: CHRISTMAS DAY

11.00 a.m. CHRISTMAS DAY SUNG EUCHARIST

Daquin *Noël*

Mozart *Missa Brevis C-dur 'Orgel-solo Messe',
K. 259*

Preacher: The Right Reverend David McClay,
Bishop of Down and Dromore

J.S. Bach *arr Grace 'Schlafe, mein Liebster'*

Gardner *A Gallery Carol*

John Rutter CBE *Mary's Lullaby*

Vierne *Finale (6e Symphonie)*

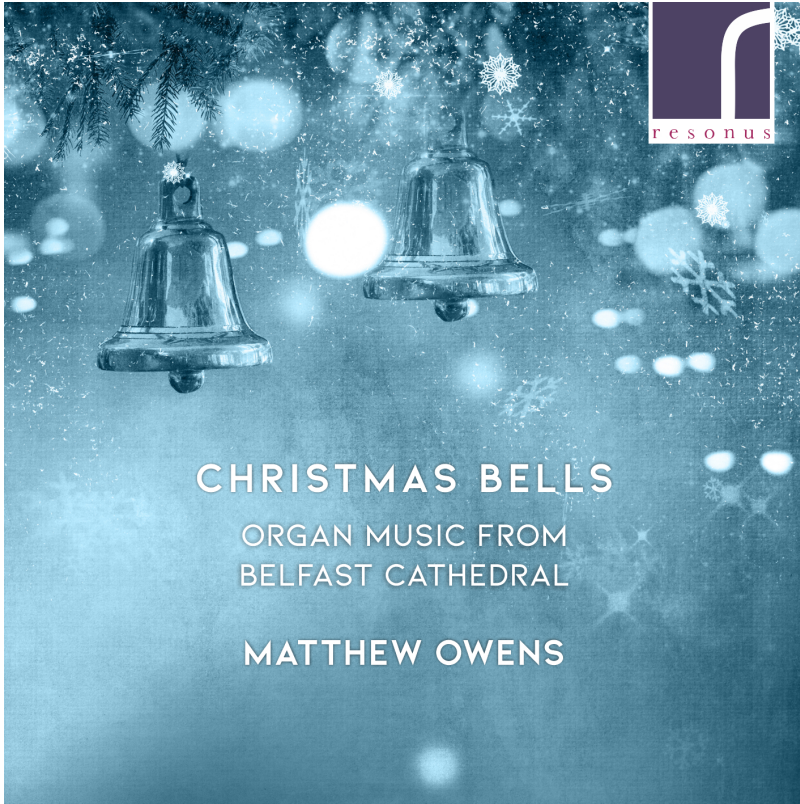
26 SUNDAY: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

11.00 a.m. MORNING WORSHIP

The service is said, with hymns

Preacher: *Reuben Johnston, Student Reader, CITI*

Please note that, following Morning Worship on Sunday 26 December, the cathedral will be closed. The Cathedral Office will reopen on Tuesday 4 January, 2022; please see the cathedral website for general opening hours. Following the Eucharist on Christmas Day, the Cathedral Choir will return to sing services on Sunday 9 January.



Festive fare on the organ of Belfast Cathedral, with world premiere recordings alongside works of Bach, Liszt, Guilmant, and many more. Available after services throughout December.

"It's beautifully articulate [...] and it creates a soothing atmosphere that totally transports you to a quiet pew in Belfast Cathedral" (BBC Music Magazine)

*"The recording perfectly frames well-judged, atmosphere-laced performances by Owens on the Harrison & Harrison of Belfast Cathedral, where he is director of music. A Christmas treat."
(Choir and Organ)*

The Very Reverend Stephen Forde, BSc, Dip. Theol
Dean of Belfast

The Reverend Canon Mark Niblock, MA (Cantab), MA
Dean's Vicar

The Reverend Janice Elsdon, BA
Non-Stipendiary Assistant Priest

The Reverend Dr Maithrie White
Non-Stipendiary Part Time Curate

Matthew Owens, MA (Oxon), MusM, FRCO, PPRNCM, HonFGCM, FRSA
Director of Music

Tristan Russcher, BA Hons (Oxon), FRCO
Associate Organist

Details of services, concerts, and events can also be found on the Cathedral's website and social media channels at



@belfastcathedral



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belfastcathedral.org

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