



What's on

at Blackburn Cathedral

September-December 2026

blackburncathedral.com/events



**BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL**

Welcome to Blackburn Cathedral



As we look ahead to the culmination of a remarkable year in the life of Blackburn Cathedral, we warmly welcome you to join us for what promises to be a memorable season.

Over the coming months we will celebrate one hundred years as a Cathedral with special services, concerts, exhibitions and community events, before entering the seasons of Advent and Christmas with a programme of worship and festivities for all.

For whatever reason you choose to spend time with us, we thank you for being part of all that makes Blackburn Cathedral such a special place.

Andrew Horsfall
The Revd. Canon Andrew Horsfall
Interim Dean of Blackburn

Safeguarding

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults at Blackburn Cathedral is of singular importance.

The Chapter of Blackburn Cathedral adopts the House of Bishops Safeguarding Policies and Practice Guidance and is committed to providing a safe and caring environment for all and especially those who may be at risk of abuse or harm.

The welfare of everyone we welcome, including children, young people and vulnerable adults, is our overriding priority and safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to providing a safe environment for those who wish to worship, visit or contribute to any of the Cathedral's activities.

To view our policies and commitments and for details of how to report a concern, please visit:

blackburncathedral.com/safeguarding

Promoting
a safer church

What's on this Season?

From special celebratory worship and live music, to concerts and two major exhibitions, our centenary year climaxes with something for everyone at Blackburn Cathedral.

There's the Table For The Nation and Tyndale 500, a Ten Day Centenary Festival, candlelight concerts, our first Christmas Tree Festival and a full festive programme including lots of carol services too!

Within this guide you'll find details of all that's happening and we hope that there is something that interests you from our diverse range of events.

Get in touch

Call us on: 01254 277430
Email: info@blackburncathedral.com
Blackburn Cathedral, Cathedral Close, Blackburn, BB1 5AA

Newsletter

Sign up to receive our email newsletters at:
blackburncathedral.com/newsletter

Connect

Join us online for the latest news and updates:

 @BlackburnCathedral  @BlackburnCathedral
 @BlackburnCathedralTV  @blackburncathedral.com

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Look out for the icon highlighting special, flagship Centenary events 

Regular services at Blackburn Cathedral

Worship is at the centre of Cathedral life and services take place each day of the year

You are invited to join us - we're open to all - and you will receive a warm welcome at any of our regular services:

			WORSHIP
Sunday	9am	Parish Eucharist	
	10.30am	Cathedral Eucharist	
	4pm	Choral Evensong	
Monday	8.30am	Morning Prayer ⁺	
	5pm	Evening Prayer ⁺	
Tuesday	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Eucharist	
	5pm	Choral Evensong [*]	
Wednesday	8.30am	Morning Prayer	
	11.30am	BCP Eucharist	
	5pm	Choral Evensong [*]	
Thursday	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Eucharist	
	5pm	Choral Evensong [*]	
Friday	8.30am	Morning Prayer	
	12.30pm	Common Worship Eucharist	
	5pm	Evening Prayer	
Saturday	9am	Morning Prayer and Eucharist	
	4pm	Evening Prayer	

⁺ On Bank Holiday Mondays, Morning Prayer is at 9am and Evening Prayer is at 4pm.

^{*} Choral Evensong is term time only and is replaced by Evening Prayer during the holidays.

Special services at Blackburn Cathedral

The Cathedral hosts a number of special services throughout the year and you are welcome to join us.

Highlights this season include:

			WORSHIP
September			
Sun 13th Sept	Diocese Centenary Mission Day	10.30am	
October			
Sun 4th Oct	Harvest Festival	10.30am	
November			
Sun 1st Nov	Cathedral Eucharist on All Saints Day	10.30am	
Sun 1st Nov	Requiem Mass for All Souls	4pm	
Sun 8th Nov	Civic Remembrance Service	9.30am	
Sun 8th Nov	Remembrance Day	10.50am	
Thu 12th Nov	Diocese Centenary Celebration Service	7.30pm	
Sun 15th Nov	Safeguarding Sunday	10.30am	
Wed 18th Nov	Choral Evensong Live on BBC Radio 3	3pm	
Sun 22nd Nov	Christ the King	10.30am	
Sun 22nd Nov	Cathedral Centenary Thanksgiving Service	4pm	
Sun 29th Nov	Advent Service of Light	7pm	
December			
Wed 23rd Dec	Nine Lessons and Carols	7.30pm	
Thu 24th Dec	Carols Around the Crib	4pm	
Thu 24th Dec	Midnight Mass	11.30pm	
Fri 25th Dec	Parish Eucharist on Christmas Day	9am	
Fri 25th Dec	Cathedral Eucharist on Christmas Day	10.30am	

AFTERNOON TEA AT THE TABLE FOR THE NATION

Indulge in a delicious afternoon tea in the stunning surroundings of Blackburn Cathedral, seated at the spectacular, 5,000 year old, 13m Fenland Black Oak Table.



Various
Dates / Times

Learn more & book:

blackburncathedral.com/tea

CHECKS & GREYS

BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL

Concerts at Blackburn Cathedral

Our popular Wednesday lunchtime concerts are a wonderful opportunity to experience music at Blackburn Cathedral.

Starting at 12.15pm, there is no entry charge and no ticket is required. A donation of £5 per person is suggested and all are welcome to join us.

September	16th September	John Robinson
	23rd September	David Hardie
	30th September	Julian Collings
October	7th October	William Campbell
	14th October	Anthony Gray
	21st October	Nigel Spooner
November	4th November	Shanna Hart
	11th November	Salvatore Pronesti
	25th November	Laura Robinson
December	2nd December	RCO Young Performers

The latest concert schedule is at blackburncathedral.com/concerts
Lunchtime concerts resume on Wednesday 20th January 2027.

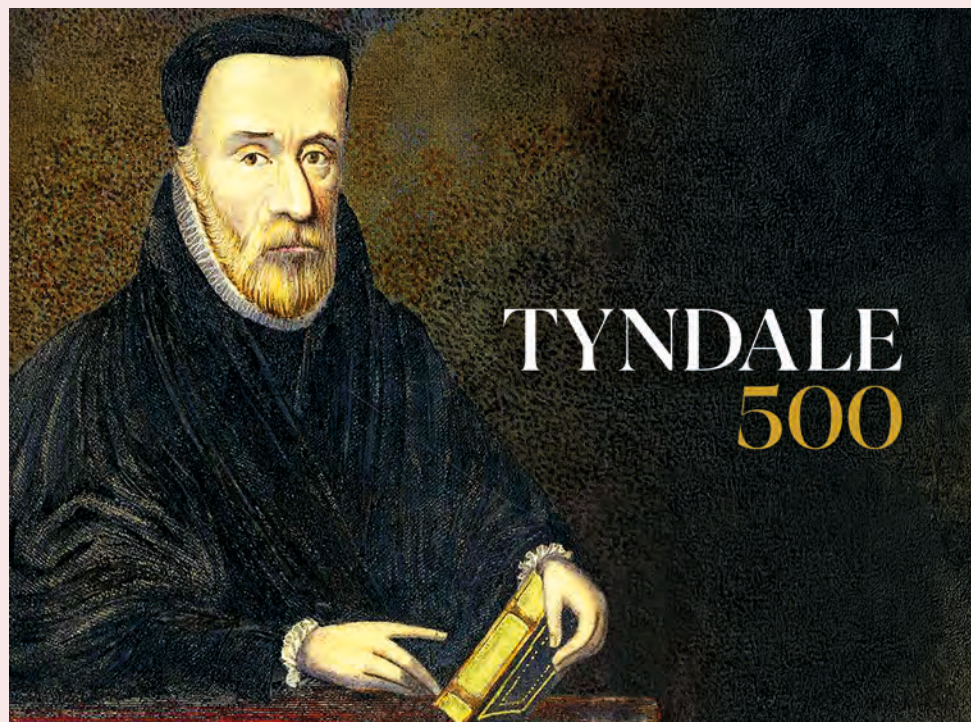
Blackburn Cathedral Organ Appeal



Our Walker organ is famous across the world for its remarkable sound, innovative design and unique appearance.

Please help secure the future of our iconic musical treasure by donating or sponsoring a pipe from just £1.

Learn more and show your support:
organappeal.com



'Tyndale 500': Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Tyndale Bible

EXHIBITION

1st September - 18th November 2026 | See website for times | All welcome | Donations encouraged

As part of our centenary celebrations, we will mark 500 years since William Tyndale's English New Testament was first printed, with a fascinating exhibition. Tyndale 500 brings together the story of translation, the turbulent world of Tudor England, and the extraordinary technology of the early printing press.

At the heart of this exhibition will be a rare, original 1535 edition of Tyndale's English New Testament (on loan from the British Library) - a witness to the moment Scripture began to travel widely in the language of the people. First printed in 1526, it was a decisive moment in the story of English Christianity, public worship, and the English language itself. This exhibition focuses on translation and Tyndale's use of technology and will feature the display of a number of other notable Bibles and children's activities too.

Whether you're visiting as a pilgrim, a history-lover, a reader of Scripture, or simply curious, guests are welcome to view the exhibition during the Cathedral's normal opening hours (*some entry restrictions may apply on certain days*). There is no charge to visit, however as a charity, we rely on donations to support the costs and visitor generosity enables us to continue hosting important events like this in the future.

blackburncathedral.com/tyndale



Cathedral Community BBQ

COMMUNITY

Sun 6th Sept 2026 | 12pm | All welcome

Come and join in the fun at the annual Blackburn Cathedral Community summer barbecue.

Taking place in the glorious surroundings of the Cloister Garth at the Cathedral, everyone is invited to this free, friendly community event, offering a relaxed afternoon to meet friends old and new.

blackburncathedral.com/bbq



Cathedral Craft Club: Crochet Poppy Workshop

CRAFT

Sun 6th Sept 2026 | 1pm | Book online

Gather round the Table For The Nation for a special Crochet Poppy workshop.

All are welcome - from beginners to experts - to create crochet poppies to form a powerful Remembrance Sunday tribute. Come and learn simple techniques (or build on your existing skills) and contribute to this special community artwork.

blackburncathedral.com/poppies



The Music of Queen by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 18th Sept 2026 | 7.30pm | Book online

Experience Queen as you have never heard them before.

Sing along to classics including 'Bohemian Rhapsody', 'It's a Kind of Magic', 'We Are The Champions', 'Who Wants to Live Forever' and many more! Grab tickets to this spectacular celebration of Queen's biggest hits, guaranteed to 'Rock You'!

blackburncathedral.com/queen





The Music of Eagles by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Sat 19th Sept 2026 | 7.30pm | | Book online

'Take It Easy' and join us for an unforgettable evening of Eagles hits.

Featuring 'New Kid In Town', 'Life in the Fast Lane', 'Tequila Sunrise' and 'How Long'. This promises to be a real feast for your 'Lyin' Eyes' and will 'Take It to the Limit'. Book tickets now for 'One of These Nights' and avoid 'Heartache Tonight'!


blackburncathedral.com/eagles

Cathedral Appeal Trust Charity Golf Day

FUNDRAISING

Wed 23rd Sept 2026 | 11.30am | | Book online

Join Blackburn Cathedral Appeal Trust at Clitheroe Golf Club and play on one of the North West's finest courses.

Teams of four are invited to enjoy an afternoon golfing in the scenic Ribbles Valley. There'll be great hospitality and a friendly atmosphere as you support the important work of the Trust.


blackburncathedral.com/golf


Sponsored Centenary Bell Peal

FUNDRAISING

Wed 23rd Sept 2026 | 6pm | | All welcome

In September 1926, our famous bells pealed to mark Blackburn Parish Church becoming a Cathedral.

Exactly one hundred years later, we will mark that historic moment with a sponsored Centenary Peal, raising much-needed funds to protect the bells' heritage and restore the Bell Tower.


blackburncathedral.com/peal

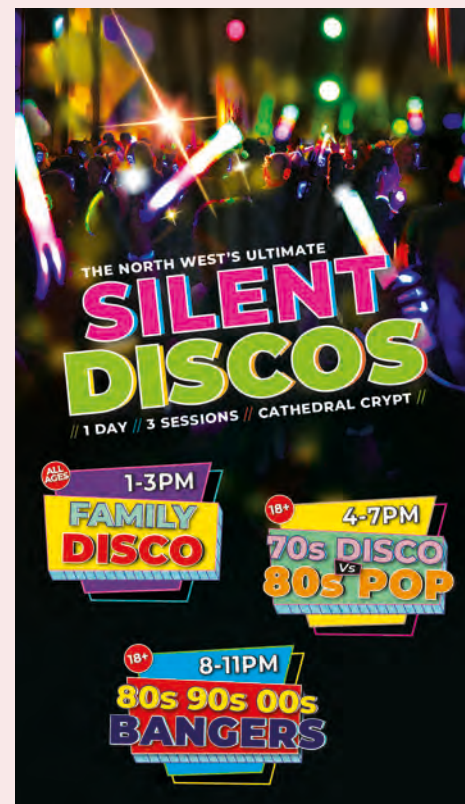

Richard Durrant 'The Art of Elevation'

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 25th Sept 2026 | 7.30pm | | Book online

Live music for acoustic and classical guitar lovers and the musically curious, featuring acclaimed concert guitarist and composer Richard Durrant.

Including works by Scarlatti, Bach, Purcell, Renbourn, Jansch, Barrios, Turina and Durrant, this concert showcases Durrant's intriguingly unpretentious style of delivery. Witness the persona of an informative, friendly stand-up and the playing of one of the world's most inventive, guitar virtuosos!


blackburncathedral.com/durrant


Silent Discos

DISCO

Sat 26th Sept 2026 | Various | | Book online

The famous Blackburn Cathedral Silent Discos return and we're bringing back the nightclub experience! It's one day, three sessions and it's all happening in the atmospheric Cathedral Crypt.

Join us for an unforgettable experience - choose from:

Family Silent Disco, 1pm-3pm: all the latest pop hits and family-friendly party anthem favourites.

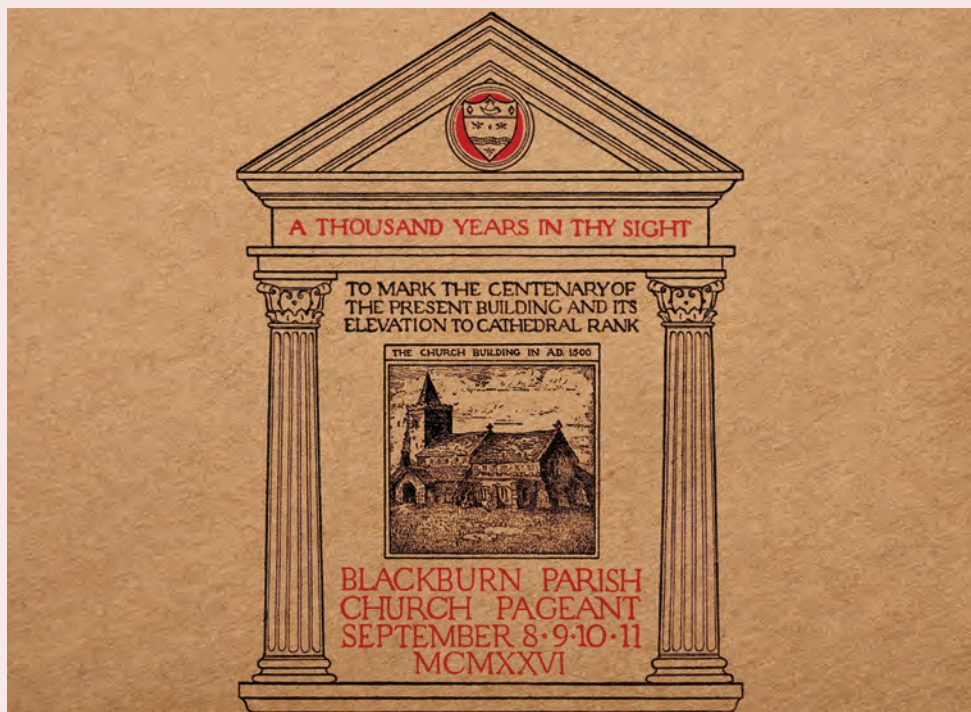
Early Adults Silent Disco, 4pm-7pm - get your groove on, with platforms at the ready as 70's Dance goes up against spandex, leg warmers and 80's Pop.

Late Adults Silent Disco, 8pm-11pm: to finish it's the big one - join us for a late night silent disco as we turn the clock back to the best decades featuring all your favourite bangers from the 80's, 90's and 00's.

Our Silent Discos are filled with laughter, great music and a whole lot of fun. With glow sticks at the ready, it's time to dance the night away as you choose your favourite music - there's something for everyone's taste.

Don't miss out - tickets are strictly limited.


blackburncathedral.com/discos



'A Thousand Years In Thy Sight': The Blackburn Cathedral 1926 Pageant Uncovered

PRESENTATION

Wed 30th Sept 2026 | 7.30pm |  | [Book online](#)

Exactly 100 years ago, Blackburn witnessed a theatrical phenomenon like no other. Step back in time to September 1926, when an astonishing cast of over 2,000 local people took to the stage in a massive, breathtaking production.

It was a soaring triumph that captivated the entire town, celebrating both the power of Christianity and the grit and determination of the people of Blackburn. But behind the grand spectacle lay a whirlwind of human drama and during this special interactive presentation, you'll discover:

The Behind-the-Scenes Battle: The legendary rivalry between the formidable director, Miss Ida Shaw, and the Reverend John Wallis. **The Backstage Chaos:** Hilarious, untold stories and mishaps from the frantic rehearsal weeks. **Four Days of Glory:** How sheer local determination turned a logistical mountain into a roaring, highly successful four-day triumph.

Presented as part of the Cathedral's centenary celebrations, this one-night-only event provides a unique opportunity to experience the laughter, rivalry, and community spirit that defined Blackburn a century ago. Don't miss this incredible journey into our town and Cathedral's vibrant history!

blackburncathedral.com/pageant

Script Players: 'Who Killed The Headmaster?'

THEATRE

Fri 2nd & Sat 3rd Oct 2026 | 7.30pm |  | [Book online](#)

The Script Players make their highly anticipated return as they team up with The Houghton Players to deliver a thrilling, chilling, hilarious new production.

It's 1937 at 'Berrigan Tuft School for Young Gentlemen' and despite the school's leafy appearance, when Monty - the prestigious school's Headmaster - is brutally murdered, a detective is dispatched from Scotland Yard to conduct the most rigorous of school inspections. With a cast of eccentric characters, expect sharp wit, brilliant twists, and theatrical mayhem!

Play by yourself, come as a team or join in with others to work out the culprits and their accomplices. Prizes awarded to the top detectives!

blackburncathedral.com/headmaster

'Cover to Cover' Bible Reading

WORSHIP

Sun 4th - Wed 7th Oct 2026 |  | All welcome

From Sunday 4th until Wednesday 7th October we will continuously read the entire Bible aloud, cover to cover.

This major community undertaking will feature hundreds of voices from across the diocese and all are welcome to sign up and take part.

Each participant will deliver a 15 minute passage during this non-stop Bible reading which forms part of our centenary celebrations.

The activity will take place in the Nave and guests are most welcome to come and listen at any point during normal opening hours. It will also be livestreamed via our website and on our YouTube channel.

blackburncathedral.com/cover



Cathedral Craft Club: Fused Glass Workshop

CRAFT

Sun 4th Oct 2026 | 1.30pm | £ | Book online

Join us for a unique creative experience with our Fused Glass Candle Curve workshop.

Create your own candle curve using a selection of coloured glasses, glass rods, frits and stringers to create a beautiful piece. Let creativity and craftsmanship come together in a friendly, hands-on session.


blackburncathedral.com/glass

The Music of Céline Dion by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 9th Oct 2026 | 7.30pm | £ | Book online

Enjoy the UK's leading Céline tribute, January Butler and her awesome live band.

You'll hear anthems like 'My Heart Will Go On', 'Because You Loved Me', 'All By Myself', 'Falling Into You', 'The Power of Love' and many more. Don't 'Think Twice', book tickets and get ready to 'Surrender' to the music, and experience Céline Dion like never before!


blackburncathedral.com/celine


The Music of Coldplay by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Sat 10th Oct 2026 | 7.30pm | £ | Book online

Prepare for total 'Paradise', You've been waiting for 'Something Just Like This'!

Experience Coldplay's biggest hits, like never before as this concert takes you on the 'Adventure of a Lifetime', with a 'Sky Full of Stars'. Get ready to hear 'Viva La Vida' and 'Hymn For The Weekend', to 'The Scientist', 'Yellow', 'Fix You' and more.


blackburncathedral.com/coldplay


'The Bible Changes Lives'

TALK

Wed 14th Oct 2026 | 7pm | £ | All welcome

A special evening with Bishop Graham Tomlin and people whose lives have been changed by the Bible.

This relaxed and informal gathering will feature an inspiring talk by Bishop Tomlin, a performance by the Cathedral Youth Choir, and testimonies from those whose lives have been changed by the Bible.


blackburncathedral.com/changes

'100 Voices for 100 Years' Centenary Concert

CONCERT

Sat 17th Oct 2026 | 7.30pm | £ | Book online

A spectacular concert celebrating the Cathedral's centenary through an evening of live music and entertainment.

Featuring over 100 choir members from one of the North West's fastest-growing choirs, Local Vocals, along with guest performers - showcasing the breadth of musical talent from our local community.


blackburncathedral.com/100voices


Kathleen Ferrier Bursary Competition

LIVE MUSIC

Sat 24th Oct 2026 | Various | £ | Book online

Blackburn contralto Kathleen Ferrier was and still is one of the world's great singers.

Her voice is still heard and loved by millions around the world. This one day Bursary Competition will feature short recitals by outstanding undergraduates, before the finalists are chosen with prizes presented to the winners at the end of the evening.


blackburncathedral.com/ferrier



Requiem Mass for All Souls

WORSHIP

Sun 1st Nov 2026 | 4pm | 🙏 | All welcome

All are welcome to join us for a Requiem Mass for All Souls - The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed.

At this beautiful, reflective choral service with timeless music by Gabriel Fauré, we read the names of loved ones who have gone before us, and remember them as we share in Holy Communion.


blackburncathedral.com/allsouls


Blackburn Chamber Choir: 'Eternal Light'

CONCERT

Sat 7th Nov 2026 | 7.30pm | 🎫 | Book online

Join Blackburn Chamber Choir for their first concert of the season - 'Eternal Light'.

Featuring Tomás Luis de Victoria's breathtaking Officium Defunctorum (1605) - one of the greatest choral masterpieces of Renaissance sacred music, alongside a selection of his exquisite motets.


blackburncathedral.com/eternal

Cathedral Craft Club: Beginners Crochet Part 1

CRAFT

Sun 1st Nov 2026 | 12.30pm | 🎫 | Book online

Have you always wanted to learn how to crochet but never known where to start?

Join us for a friendly and relaxed workshop, designed especially for beginners or those with little experience. This fun crafting session offers the perfect opportunity to learn a new skill in a welcoming and supportive environment.


blackburncathedral.com/crochet1


Civic Service of Remembrance

WORSHIP

Sun 8th Nov 2026 | 9.30am | 🙏 | All welcome

The annual Service of Remembrance brings together civic representatives, members of the Armed Forces, veterans and the wider community.

We will honour those who have served and made the ultimate sacrifice, and together give thanks for their courage and pray for lasting peace.


blackburncathedral.com/remembrance


'David Live': Bowie by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 6th Nov 2026 | 7.30pm | 🎫 | Book online

Join us for an incredible night of Bowie anthems including 'Let's Dance', 'Starman' and 'Life on Mars', performed by 'David Live', The David Bowie Tribute Show.

'David Live' is one of the best ever tribute shows and is a respectful and charming homage, attracting praise from all corners of the Bowie community.


blackburncathedral.com/bowie


Cathedral Craft Club: Beginners Crochet Part 2

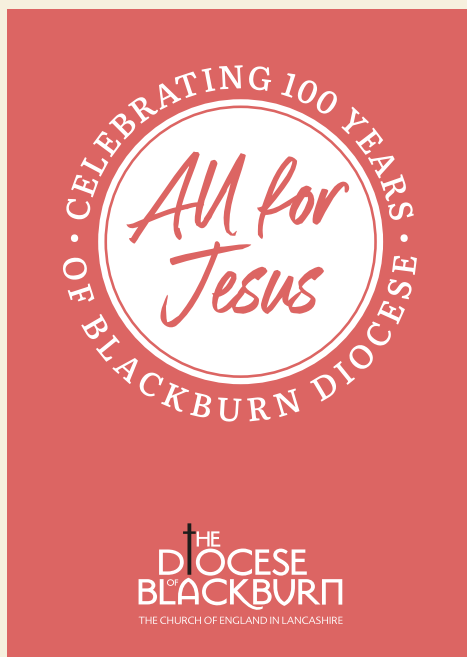
CRAFT

Sun 8th Oct 2026 | 12.30pm | 🎫 | Book online

This is the second part of the two-part Beginners Crochet workshop.

Expertly guided by Rachael from Crochet Crazy Creations, at this session, you'll complete the crochet project you started in week one. With plenty of support and time to practise, you'll quickly build confidence while enjoying the creative process.


blackburncathedral.com/crochet2



Blackburn Diocese Centenary Celebration Service

WORSHIP

Thu 12th Nov 2026 | 7.30pm | 🙏 | Ticketed event

November 12th 1926 was the day the Diocese of Blackburn came into being and the moment Blackburn Parish Church was elevated to cathedral status.

Exactly one hundred years later the diocese will gather in Blackburn Cathedral with friends and guests from across Lancashire to celebrate this joyous milestone.

Clergy and representatives from every parish and school will be invited to join civic leaders, community representatives and special guests to mark this historic occasion. This ticketed service, which will be livestreamed, will signal the start the **Ten Day Cathedral Centenary Festival** (see right for details).



blackburncathedral.com/centenary-service

Bell Ringing Open Day

COMMUNITY

Sat 14th Nov 2026 | 10am-3.30pm | 🙏 | All welcome

Come along and meet our bellringers to learn more about the famous bells at Blackburn Cathedral.

Take advantage of a rare opportunity to see and hear the bells in action by climbing the steps of the Bell Tower (open to those aged 8+ and under 16's must be accompanied by an adult).

Try ringing handbells and listen to an introductory talk about the bells, learn what's involved in ringing and take the first steps in learning how to ring a bell yourself - and perhaps see if you could join the team.

Please note:

Access to the Bell Tower includes steep steps and confined spaces. Restrictions may apply.



blackburncathedral.com/bells



CENTENARY FESTIVAL

Join us for a memorable
ten day finale to our
centenary celebrations.

There's something happening every day including youth and children's activities, live music, archive exhibits, and community thanksgiving services.

Leave your mark by signing a special Book of Hope, take part in a live BBC Radio 3 recording, attend our Community Wellbeing Day, climb the bell tower, join our Songs of Praise service, and witness the sealing of a centenary time capsule.

Everyone's invited to help mark this milestone moment in the life of your Cathedral.



Fri 13th to
Sun 22nd Nov

Learn more at:

blackburncathedral.com/festival





Cathedral Eucharist on Safeguarding Sunday

WORSHIP

Sun 15th Nov 2026 | 10.30am | 🙏 | All welcome

On Safeguarding Sunday, we reflect on God's vision of a safe and just household, praying for the dignity and protection of every child of God.

We will do this whilst renewing our commitment to build healthy environments by protecting children, young people, and vulnerable adults.

blackburncathedral.com/sgsunday


Candlelit SoundBath With Good Vibrations Wellbeing

SOUNDBATH

Sun 15th Nov 2026 | 6pm | 🙏 | Book online

Experience the power of a soundbath and enjoy an evening of candlelit relaxation, meditation and peaceful vibrations.

Taking place in the atmospheric Cathedral Crypt this experience is inspired by the harmony of nature using acoustic instruments from across the world.

blackburncathedral.com/soundbath


Choral Evensong Broadcast Live on BBC Radio 3

WORSHIP

Wed 18th Nov 2026 | 3pm | 🙏 | All welcome

All are welcome to join us for a special Choral Evensong to be broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 from Blackburn Cathedral.

Please note that the time of the service is 3pm and all guests must be seated by 2:45pm at the latest.

blackburncathedral.com/radio3


Cathedral Centenary Songs of Praise Celebration Service

1926-2026

WORSHIP

Sun 22nd Nov 2026 | 4pm | 🙏 | All welcome

Our ten day Centenary Festival culminates with a special thanksgiving service.

Whether you hold a lifelong connection to the Cathedral or will be visiting for the first time, everyone is warmly invited to share in this historic milestone as we celebrate our centenary together in worship.

This relaxed and joyful Songs of Praise celebration will bring together favourite hymns chosen by members of our congregations, a guest preacher and memorable moments to mark this once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

Come together with friends old and new as we conclude ten special days of centenary celebrations.

blackburncathedral.com/centenary-thanksgiving


Cathedral Craft Club: Festive Wreath Making

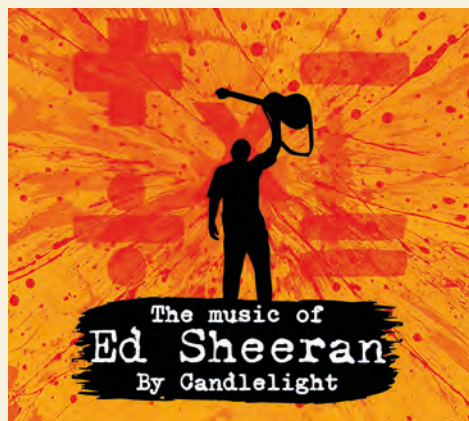
CRAFT

Thu 26th Nov 2026 | 7.30pm | 🙏 | Book online

Kickstart your Christmas celebrations and create a stunning festive wreath.

Soak up the seasonal atmosphere around the Table For The Nation, and get creative as you make a wreath ready to display throughout the festive season. You'll be guided each step of the way as you make wonderful memories with a group of likeminded people.

blackburncathedral.com/wreath

The Music of Ed Sheeran by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 27th Nov 2026 | 7.30pm | | [Book online](#)

This is the 'Perfect' night you've been 'Thinking Out Loud' about.

Join us at the 'Castle On The Hill', and get ready to 'Sing' the night away, as you're taken on a journey through Ed Sheeran's biggest bangers – from 'Shape of You' and 'Thinking Out Loud' to 'I Don't Care', 'Galway Girl' and so many more, all performed live.


blackburncathedral.com/sheeran

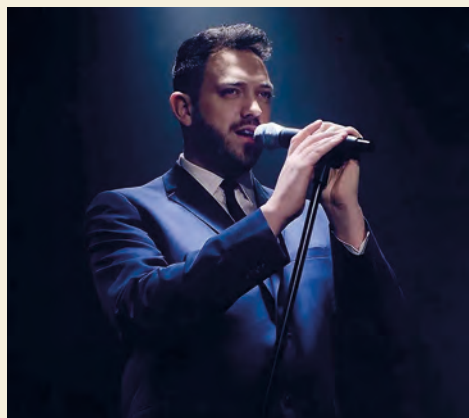
The Best of Bublé: Home For Christmas

LIVE MUSIC

Sat 28th Nov 2026 | 7.30pm | | [Book online](#)

The Best of Bublé presents a spectacular Christmas show, featuring Josh Hindle and his sensational live band.

With soaring vocals and a powerful live band, this show celebrates Michael Bublé's greatest Christmas hits alongside a selection of his timeless classics, creating the perfect soundtrack to the festive season.


blackburncathedral.com/buble


Advent Service of Light

WORSHIP

Sun 29th Nov 2026 | 7pm | | [All welcome](#)

This reflective Advent Carol Service, with readings, hymns and music, expresses themes of hope, expectation and longing for God to come among us.

The service is sung by the Cathedral Choir and is a special moment to pause and recognise our need of God in our lives and in our world.


blackburncathedral.com/advent


LANCASHIRE'S LARGEST

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Image © Chester Cathedral

Our first Christmas Tree Festival will see the Cathedral transformed into a magical, festive wonderland, filled with trees - each beautifully decorated by local schools, businesses, charities, and community groups.

Everyone's invited to come and enjoy this festive, family-friendly experience.

Entry by Donation



**Mon 30th Nov
to Sun 20th Dec**

Learn more at:

blackburncathedral.com/treefestival


**BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL**

Carol services at Blackburn Cathedral

We welcome a number of schools, charities and community groups to celebrate the festive season with us and carol services this year include:

CAROL SERVICES			
November & December			
Mon 30th	Bolton Music Services Schools Christmas Concert	6.30pm	
Tue 1st	Bolton Music Services Schools Christmas Concert	6.30pm	
Wed 2nd	NSPCC 'Carols by Candlelight' Concert	7pm	
Mon 7th	St Andrew's C of E Primary School Carol Concert	1pm	
Tue 8th	Balderstone, Mellor and Samlesbury Schools Carol Concert	1pm	
Wed 9th	Lancashire Fire & Rescue Carol Service	7.30pm	
Thu 10th	St Wilfrid's CofE Academy Nine Lessons and Carols Service	7pm	
Fri 11th	Westholme Prep and Infant School Carol Service	2pm	
Mon 14th	Girlguiding (Blackburn with Darwen Division) Carol Service	6.30pm	
Tue 15th	Blackburn College Carol Service	3pm	
Wed 16th	Westholme Senior School Carol Service	6pm	
Thu 17th	St John's C of E Primary, Cliviger Carol Concert	1pm	
Thu 17th	Blackburn Cathedral Community Carol Service	7pm	
Fri 18th	Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Carol Service	1.45pm	
Fri 18th	The Wish Centre Carol Concert	7pm	
Wed 23rd	Blackburn Cathedral Worship: Nine Lessons and Carols	7.30pm	
Thu 24th	Blackburn Cathedral Worship: Carols Around the Crib	4pm	

PLEASE NOTE:
In accordance with our Safeguarding Policy, photography or filming during any service involving children is not permitted without the expressed permission of event organisers.

CAROL SERVICE KEY:



School carol service, free entry, all welcome



Ticketed event, contact organiser for details



Community event, free entry, all welcome

For latest details, please see the carol service schedule at:
blackburncathedral.com/carols



Abba Christmas by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 4th Dec 2026 | 7.30pm |  | [Book online](https://blackburncathedral.com/abbachristmas)

Deck the halls with disco and join us for the ultimate ABBA celebration.

Featuring the UK's leading ABBA Tribute 'ABBA Reunion', this feel-good, sing-along Christmas concert is packed with legendary hits, guaranteed to leave you dancing in the aisles! What better way to kick off the festivities?



blackburncathedral.com/abbachristmas

Handel's Messiah Blackburn Music Society

CONCERT

Sat 5th Dec 2026 | 7pm |  | [Book online](https://blackburncathedral.com/messiah)

We welcome Blackburn Music Society as they give their ever-popular annual performance of Handel's 'Messiah'.

Enjoy this choral masterpiece in the incredible setting of Blackburn Cathedral. Featuring the full choir under the musical direction of John Robinson.



blackburncathedral.com/messiah



Cathedral Craft Club: Festive Paint and Sip

CRAFT

Sun 6th Dec 2026 | 12.30pm |  | [Book online](https://blackburncathedral.com/paint)

Join us for a Festive Paint and Sip workshop around the Table For The Nation.

This friendly workshop is designed for all abilities and all equipment is provided. You will be guided through the painting process to enable you to leave with your very own masterpiece.



blackburncathedral.com/paint



The Christmas Orchestra

CONCERT

Fri 11th Dec 2026 | 7pm & 9pm |  | Book online

The Christmas Orchestra returns for 2026, after a fantastic run of sold-out shows in 2024 and 2025!

Experience uplifting nostalgia with compositions and sing-along classics from all your favourite Christmas films including: 'Home Alone', 'Love Actually', 'Muppet Christmas Carol', 'The Nutcracker', 'Die Hard 2', 'Polar Express', 'Bridget Jones Diary', 'Elf', 'White Christmas' and 'Harry Potter', plus traditional classics to spark your festive spirit.

Performed by a 16 piece chamber orchestra and backed by a full sound production and lighting show, this promises to be a magical and energising journey, featuring some of the best festive films and timeless Christmas classics.



blackburncathedral.com/orchestra



Christmas Spectacular

CONCERT

Sat 12th Dec 2026 | 7pm |  | Book online

Don't miss the famous Blackburn Cathedral Christmas Spectacular concert.

This cherished Christmas performance brings together favourite family carols, the timeless brilliance of John Rutter, glorious soaring choruses from Handel's Messiah, and sparkling movements from Bach's Christmas Oratorio.

Be captivated by the angelic voices of the acclaimed Cathedral Choristers and whether you're continuing a treasured tradition or discovering it for the first time, this spectacular concert promises an unforgettable evening of music, joy, and festive wonder.

Begin your Christmas celebrations in magnificent style, as the Cathedral Celebrates its 100th Christmas.



blackburncathedral.com/spectacular

Community Carol Service

COMMUNITY

Thu 17th Dec 2026 | 7pm |  | All welcome

Following the success of last year's return, our Community Carol Service is back for 2026 - and it's going to be even bigger and better than ever before!

In partnership with Blackburn with Darwen Council, we warmly invite you to gather your friends and family and celebrate the joy of the festive season.

Expect more carols, more singing and even more festive cheer as we bring our community together for a great big festive sing-along.

There is no charge to attend but please register for free tickets via the link below:



blackburncathedral.com/community-carols



A Ceremony of Carols

CONCERT

Sat 19th Dec 2026 | 7pm |  | Book online

Combining two of the best-loved classical Christmas works of all time, this promises to be a very special concert.

The first half features 'La Nativité du Seigneur' by Olivier Messiaen - one of the 20th Century's most famous and colourful Christmas organ pieces - performed by Director of Music, John Robinson.

Following the interval, the Cathedral will come alive to Benjamin Britten's captivating masterpiece 'A Ceremony of Carols' which combines harp and the sensational voices of the junior Cathedral choristers.

This concert is the perfect antidote to the stresses of the festive period.



blackburncathedral.com/ceremony





Nine Lessons and Carols

WORSHIP

Wed 23rd Dec 2026 | 7.30pm | 🙏 | All welcome

This service features readings and carols in the company of the Cathedral choir.

Featuring congregational carols and a series of Bible readings that retell the Christmas story, this service - which to many traditionally signals the start of the Christmas period - lasts around an hour and all will be made most welcome.



blackburncathedral.com/nine-lessons

Carols Around the Crib

WORSHIP

Thu 24th Dec 2026 | 4pm | 🙏 | All welcome

Everybody is welcome to join the Cathedral's family friendly Carol service.

Get into the Christmas spirit by lighting a candle and singing carols in the company of the junior choristers of the Cathedral Choir. This service is always popular so come early to secure your seat.



blackburncathedral.com/crib



Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve

WORSHIP

Thu 24th Dec 2026 | 11.30pm | 🙏 | All welcome

All are warmly invited to attend our popular Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

As midnight approaches, we gather to welcome the birth of Christ. This traditional service features carols, prayers and Holy Communion as we join together in the first celebration of Christmas.



blackburncathedral.com/midnight-mass



Christmas Day at Blackburn Cathedral

WORSHIP

Fri 25th Dec 2026 | 10.30am | 🙏 | All welcome

We gather with great joy on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Please join us as we combine the Cathedral Eucharist with Christmas carols and time for reflection and celebration. Everyone is most welcome at this special festal service.



blackburncathedral.com/christmas-day



G4 Christmas: Live in Concert

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 30th Dec 2026 | 7.30pm | 🎫 | [Book online](#)

Come together and celebrate the most wonderful time of the year with G4 as their beautifully-blended voices bring glad tidings of great joy this festive season.

Ignite your Christmas spirit with a sprinkling of G4's yuletide magic. Nourish your soul with their extraordinary and unique renditions of traditional carols, sacred contemplations, classical favourites and modern festive hits including 'Silent Night', 'O Holy Night', 'All I Want for Christmas', 'Walking in the Air', 'When a Child is Born', their iconic 'Twelve Days of Christmas' and many more.

With mesmerising harmonies and impeccable showmanship, it's no wonder this hotly-anticipated tour sells out every year, where the guys leave you with a heart full of Christmas cheer.



blackburncathedral.com/g4

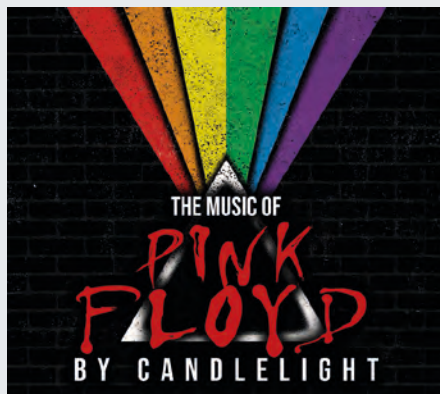
Coming in 2027 to Blackburn Cathedral

The Music of Pink Floyd by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 29th Jan 2027 | 7.30pm |  | Book online

Join us on the Dark Side of the Moon for the ultimate tribute to Pink Floyd, performed by 'What The Floyd'. Featuring some of the most iconic music of all time including 'Another Brick in the Wall', 'Comfortably Numb', 'Wish You Were Here', 'Us and Them', 'Shine On You Crazy Diamond' and more! 'No Time' to waste! Book tickets now and join us for 'The Great Gig in the Sky'!


blackburncathedral.com/pinkfloyd


The Music of Luther Vandross by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Sat 30th Jan 2027 | 7.30pm |  | Book online

The Music of Luther Vandross is here and guaranteed to be So Amazing! Featuring the UK's leading Luther Vandross tribute and his epic live band, get ready to experience Luther's greatest hits like never before. From 'Never Too Much', 'Here and Now' and 'So Amazing' to 'Dance With My Father', 'Stop to Love', 'Give Me the Reason', and many more, this is the ultimate Luther Vandross celebration.


blackburncathedral.com/luther


The Ultimate 80s/90s Flashback Party

PARTY NIGHT

Sat 6th Feb 2027 | 6pm |  | Book online

For one night only, the atmospheric Crypt will become a nightclub, completed with dancefloor, nightclub lighting, a licensed bar and a soundtrack of classic 80s and 90s hits. It'll be a night of timeless pop, legendary dance tracks and a set from one of the country's leading Pet Shop Boys tribute shows - this flashback party is one night you won't want to miss.


blackburncathedral.com/flashback


Coming in 2027 to Blackburn Cathedral

Voices of Valjean by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Fri 12th Feb 2027 | 7.30pm |  | Book online

An unforgettable evening of powerhouse vocals and iconic musical theatre. This spellbinding show brings together three extraordinary West End stars, backed by a full live band. Featuring showstopping numbers from 'Les Misérables' and some of the greatest musicals including 'Miss Saigon', 'Chess', 'The Phantom of the Opera', 'West Side Story', 'Jesus Christ Superstar' and more!


blackburncathedral.com/valjean


The Music of George Michael by Candlelight

LIVE MUSIC

Sat 13th Feb 2027 | 7.30pm |  | Book online

We Knew You Were Waiting for this incredible night of George Michael Hits, performed by the UK's leading tribute, his phenomenal backing singers and an epic live band! Performing over 25 years of smash-hit songs such as 'Faith', 'Club Tropicana', 'Fast Love', 'Amazing', 'Freedom' and 'Wake Me Up Before You Go Go'; this spectacular show will take you to the 'Edge of Heaven'!


blackburncathedral.com/george


'SPACE' by Luxmuralis

ART

Mon 15th - Sat 20th Feb 2027 | Evenings |  | Book online

SPACE will transform the entire Cathedral into a fully immersive artwork taking you on an unforgettable journey through the wonders of the cosmos using stunning visuals and powerful soundscapes. The captivating installations allow you to explore the vastness of the universe, from the explosive energy of the Big Bang to the formation of galaxies, planets and stars. Perfect for guests of all ages.


blackburncathedral.com/space


What's on at a glance

September

TABLE FOR THE NATION: The Table and accompanying exhibition will be on display until Easter 2027 and can be viewed whenever the Cathedral is open.

1st Sept-18th Nov	Tyndale 500 Exhibition		p8
Sun 6th Sept	Cathedral Community BBQ		p9
Sun 6th Sept	Cathedral Craft Club: Crochet Poppies		p9
Sun 13th Sept	Diocese Centenary Mission Day		p5
Wed 16th Sept	Organ Concert: John Robinson		p7
Fri 18th Sept	The Music of Queen by Candlelight		p9
Sat 19th Sept	The Music of Eagles by Candlelight		p10
Wed 23rd Sept	Appeal Trust Charity Golf Day		p10
Wed 23rd Sept	Centenary Bell Peal		p10
Wed 23rd Sept	Organ Concert: David Hardie		p7
Fri 25th Sept	Richard Durrant 'The Art of Elevation'		p11
Sat 26th Sept	Family Silent Disco		p11
Sat 26th Sept	Early Adults Only Silent Disco		p11
Sat 26th Sept	Late Adults Only Silent Disco		p11
Wed 30th Sept	Organ Concert: Julian Collings		p7
Wed 30th Sept	Pageant: 'A Thousand Years In Thy Sight'		p12

October

Fri 2nd Oct	'Who Killed The Headmaster?'		p13
Sat 3rd Oct	'Who Killed The Headmaster?'		p13
Sun 4th Oct	Harvest Festival		p5
4th-7th Oct	'Cover to Cover' Bible Reading		p13
Sun 4th Oct	Cathedral Craft Club: Fused Glass		p14
Wed 7th Oct	Organ Concert: William Campbell		p7
Fri 9th Oct	The Music of Céline Dion by Candlelight		p14
Sat 10th Oct	The Music of Coldplay by Candlelight		p14
Wed 14th Oct	Organ Concert: Anthony Gray		p7
Wed 14th Oct	'The Bible Changes Lives'		p15
Sat 17th Oct	'100 Voices for 100 Years' Concert		p15
Wed 21st Oct	Organ Concert: Nigel Spooner		p7
Sat 24th Oct	Kathleen Ferrier Bursary Competition		p15

EVENT LISTING KEY:

Special worship event, free entry, all welcome

Ticketed event, available via blackburncathedral.com/events

Lunchtime concert, no ticket required, all welcome

Community event, free entry, all welcome

November

Sun 1st Nov	All Saints Day		p5
Sun 1st Nov	Requiem Mass for All Souls		p16
Sun 1st Nov	Cathedral Craft Club: Beginners Crochet		p16
Wed 4th Nov	Organ Concert: Shanna Hart		p7
Fri 6th Nov	The Music of Bowie by Candlelight		p16
Sat 7th Nov	Blackburn Chamber Choir Concert		p17
Sun 8th Nov	Remembrance Sunday		p5
Sun 8th Nov	Cathedral Craft Club: Beginners Crochet		p17
Wed 11th Nov	Organ Concert: Salvatore Pronesti		p7
Thu 12th Nov	Diocese Centenary Service		p18
12th - 22nd Nov	Cathedral Centenary 10 Day Festival		p19
Sat 14th Nov	Bellringing Open Day		p18
Sun 15th Nov	Safeguarding Sunday		p20
Sun 15th Nov	Candlelit SoundBath		p20
Wed 18th Nov	Choral Evensong Live on BBC Radio 3		p20
Sun 22nd Nov	Christ The King		p5
Sun 22nd Nov	Centenary Thanksgiving Service		p21
Wed 25th Nov	Organ Concert: Laura Robinson		p7
Thu 26th Nov	Cathedral Craft Club: Wreath Making		p21
Fri 27th Nov	The Music of Ed Sheeran by Candlelight		p22
Fri 28th Nov	Best of Bubl�: Home for Christmas		p22
Sun 29th Nov	Advent Service of Light		p22

December

CAROL SERVICES: For details of all carol services see p24 or visit the website.

Until 20th Dec	Christmas Tree Festival		p23
Wed 2nd Dec	Organ Concert: RCO Young Performers		p7
Fri 4th Dec	Abba Christmas by Candlelight		p25
Sat 5th Dec	Blackburn Music Society: Messiah		p25
Sun 6th Dec	Cathedral Craft Club: Festive Sip & Paint		p25
Fri 11th Dec	The Christmas Orchestra		p26
Sat 12th Dec	Christmas Spectacular		p26
Thu 17th Dec	Community Carol Service		p27
Sat 19th Dec	A Ceremony of Carols		p27
Wed 23rd Dec	Nine Lessons and Carols		p28
Thu 24th Dec	Carols Around the Crib		p28
Thu 24th Dec	Midnight Mass		p5
Fri 25th Dec	Christmas Day at Blackburn Cathedral		p29
Fri 30th Dec	G4 Live in Concert		p29

The events calendar, which is updated daily, can be found at blackburncathedral.com/events or by scanning the code:



Plan your visit to Blackburn Cathedral

You are warmly invited to visit us - we're open to all.

Whatever the reason for your visit - be it worship or sightseeing, a special event, exhibition, concert or theatre production, there is much to see and we hope that you enjoy your time with us.

Here's some useful information to help you plan and make the most of your next visit to Blackburn Cathedral:



Checks & Greys Café

The popular Cathedral café is open seven days a week. Situated in the delightful setting of Cathedral Square, it's a modern and relaxing space - perfect whether meeting for business or pleasure.

If you're in the area, on a visit to the Cathedral, a shopping trip or out for lunch, it's ideal for a quick bite or long relaxing afternoon.

Catch up with friends and enjoy delicious hot and cold food and refreshing drinks. For opening times, to view menus and to book a table, please visit:

checksandgreys.co.uk



School visits

Our Education Team offer a wide variety of workshops, tours and experiences, all of which link to the National Curriculum.

Learning is brought to life, providing fun and informative experiences for all learners who come through our doors.

Pupils are offered an experience of a sacred and awe inspiring space which speaks of the journey of Christian faith in our region. Our exciting programmes are designed to inform, educate and enrich pupils' learning.

blackburncathedral.com/school-visits



Opening times

Blackburn Cathedral is open every day of the year, there is no charge for entry and opening times are:

Mon - Fri: 8.15am - 5.30pm
Sat & Sun: 8.30am - 4.30pm

Please check our website for the latest information, as opening times may vary due to special services or events taking place.

blackburncathedral.com/events



Find us

Finding us is easy - we're in the heart of Blackburn town centre.

The Cathedral is located within a stone's throw of the bus interchange and railway station and it is less than a minute's walk from The Mall shopping centre and Blackburn Market. There are a number of public car parks close by.

blackburncathedral.com/plan



Toilets

Toilets are located next to Checks & Greys Café.

We have standard and disabled access toilets as well as a registered Changing Places toilet. Please ask a member of staff for access. We also offer baby-changing facilities.



Accessibility

We aim to ensure everyone gets the most out of their visit.

Although there are some old, uneven surfaces and care should be taken, the Cathedral is fully accessible and wheelchair friendly.

There is level access into and around the building and there is a lift available to all floors. We also have a Changing Places toilet.

blackburncathedral.com/accessibility



Pre-booked tours

Our guided tours take you on a journey through our rich history.

Knowledgeable and friendly guides will share fascinating insights into the Cathedral's past and present, bringing history to life through its most interesting features. You'll gain an appreciation of the rich history, stunning architecture and the stories that have shaped Cathedral life over the last century.

blackburncathedral.com/tours



Photography

We actively encourage photography in our beautiful building.

Photography is allowed within our buildings and at events for personal use, however we do not allow commercial photography or the use of tripods or flash without prior agreement.

Please note that the only time we request that you don't take photographs or film is during a service or any activities involving children.

SPACE

BY LUXMURALIS

Experience a
spectacular light
and sound journey
through space.

Explore the wonders
of the cosmos and the
formation of galaxies,
planets and stars.

Tickets
On Sale
Now



15th - 20th
Feb 2027

Learn more & book tickets:

blackburncathedral.com/space



**BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL**