Ecumenical Evening Prayer for the Reception of a Relic of St Chad

Tuesday 8 November 2022 at 14:00

Feast of the Saints and Martyrs of England
(In the calendar of the Church of England)
Introduction and Welcome from the Dean of Lichfield

This is a day of great rejoicing. Today, Lichfield Cathedral receives a relic of its co-patron, Saint Chad. It will be housed in a new Shrine Altar. The relic and the reliquary are the generous gift of the Archdiocese and Saint Chad’s Cathedral, Birmingham. We celebrate the esteem and affection we have for one another and our companionship in the inheritance of faith and godliness left to us by Saint Chad.

For our Cathedral this is a day of healing and rediscovery: all of us here acknowledge with sorrow and repentance the bitter and violent history that arose from the religious controversies of the sixteenth century and divided the church in this nation and throughout Europe. Many who contended for their beliefs, both Catholic and Protestant were martyred. We pay them homage today, in the Church of England calendar, the feast of the Saints and Martyrs of England. We meet today conscious of that history, but also aware that the Holy Spirit has led all our churches in an earnest quest for unity, taking to heart Our Saviour’s prayer that his followers may be one as He and the Father are one. We give thanks for the decades of patient theological dialogue between our churches and the fruitful blessings it has brought forth in better understanding, trust, friendship and deep respect for one another. We delight in those personal and institutional friendships that have blossomed at every level, especially those made by successive Popes and Archbishops of Canterbury.

For Lichfield Cathedral we retrieve, and set forth in a new way, the devotional focus of this Cathedral. Shortly after Saint Chad’s burial in the Church of Saint Peter pilgrims came to seek healing and forgiveness at Saint Chad’s tomb. Although the mediaeval shrine was destroyed the memory of what it meant has lived on. The Cathedral was configured to lead people to the place where the shrine was sited. Today, we reinstate that spiritual focus. We pray for a share in Saint Chad’s Christ-likeness. We recall his humility in helping to bring a divided church together, his approachability and his love for people, his compassion, zeal and prayerfulness. We ask Our Lord to use this space to draw people to Himself where each may find healing and renewal. We pray that this space may be a waymark in our search for Christian unity and that compassion and mercy may well up in the hearts of all who come here.

We also pray that just as Saint Chad served the Lord with joy and obedience, so this Shrine may remind us of our calling and task to teach, preach, heal and reconcile and that those ministries may find a focus here.

The Saints of God belong to us all because they witness to Christ who is Lord of us all. Let us worship in the joy of their fellowship and in the light and peace of Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, ascended, our morning star, our one true light.
Processional Order

The Choir Procession

Verger
The Cathedral Choirs
of Lichfield and St Chad’s, Birmingham.
The Directors of Music

The Bishop’s Procession

The Cross and Lights

Verger
The Visiting Clergy
Visiting Ecumenical Dignitaries
Area and Assistant Bishops
The Archbishop of Jerusalem
The Archbishop’s Chaplain

Verger
The Ecumenical Canons
The Lay Canons
The Prebendaries
The Archdeacon
The Executive Director
Members of Chapter
The Residentiary Canons
The Dean

Cross and Lights

Verger
The Archbishop of Birmingham and the Bishop of Lichfield
The Dean and Chapter of St Chad’s Cathedral Birmingham
bearing the Relic of Saint Chad

Organ Music

Before the service Nigel Morris, the Assistant Director of Music at St Chad’s Cathedral, will play

Theme & Variations – Hendrik Andriessen (1892-1981)
Cathedrales (Pièces de Fantasie) – Louis Vierne (1870-1937)
Prelude – Sir William Harris (1883-1973)
Order of Service

Introit Anthem

Please stand as the choir sings the St Chad Antiphon by Richard Lloyd

Let thy priests, O Lord, be clothed with righteousness, serve the Lord with gladness and sing with joyful hearts. Let the congregation of saints praise him, serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: serve the Lord and be joyful.

Processional Hymn - NEH 199 t. Westminster Abbey

1. God, whose city's sure foundation
   Stands upon his holy hill,
   By his mighty inspiration
   Chose of old and chooseth still
   Folk of every race and nation
   His good pleasure to fulfil.

2. Here in England through the ages,
   While the Christian years went by,
   Saints, confessors, martyrs, sages,
   Strong to live and strong to die,
   Wrote their names upon the pages
   Of God's blessed company.

3. Some there were like Chad our patron
   Shining in a faithless night,
   He on fire with love, and burning
   With a flaming zeal for right,
   He by simple goodness turning
   Souls from darkness into light.

4. As we now with high thanksgiving
   Their triumphant names record,
   Grant that we, like them, believing
   In the promise of thy word,
   May, like them, in all good living,
   Praise and magnify the Lord.

C. A. Alington (1872-1955)
The Dean of Lichfield welcomes the congregation and introduces the service:

Dear Friends in Christ, you are welcome in this Cathedral Church dedicated to St Mary, the mother of Jesus, Theotokos, the God bearer, and to St Chad, first Bishop of Lichfield, whose zeal and devotion won many hearts for Jesus Christ. His example inspires and challenges us to follow in his footsteps and bring many to know and love our Saviour. Today we give thanks for the gifts of the Holy Spirit which have brought divided Christians into a recognition of what we have in common and the grace to discern the face of Christ in each others’ faith and discipleship.

Above all, as Jesus called his disciples “friends”, so we give thanks that his spirit of charity and love enables us to enjoy that gift of friendship, that movement of the heart which draws God’s people together and renews our quest to be one.

We give thanks that the path to the unity we all seek brings us here, the place where St Chad was buried and where devotion to him was first established. We pray that here and in St Chad’s Cathedral and Basilica in Birmingham our common legacy in the life of a humble, courageous and Christ-like Bishop may encourage us on our pilgrimage as we seek God’s kingdom and his righteous will on earth.

Remain standing as the combined choirs of Lichfield and St Chad’s Cathedrals sing

The Opening Responses - sung to a setting by Bernard Rose (1916-1996)

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Cantor O God, make speed to save us.
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Choir Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Cantor Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord’s name be praised.

Sit as the choirs sing the proper psalms, standing as the choirs sing the final Glory be.
The Psalms

Psalm 48. 1,2,8-13 - Magnus Dominus

1. Great is the Lord and highly to be praised: in the city of our God even upon his holy hill.
2. The hill of Sion is a fair place and the joy of the whole earth: upon the north-side lieth the city of the great King; God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge.
8. We wait for thy loving-kindness O God: in the midst of thy temple.
9. O God according to thy Name so is thy praise unto the world’s end: thy right hand is full of righteousness.
10. Let the mount Sion rejoice and the daughters of Judah be glad: because of thy judgements.
11. Walk about Sion and go round about her: and tell the towers thereof.
12. Mark well her bulwarks set up her houses: that ye may tell them that come after.
13. For this God is our God for ever and ever: he shall be our guide unto death.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Psalm 150 - Laudate Dominum

1. O praise God in his holiness: praise him in the firmament of his power.
2. Praise him in his noble acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.
3. Praise him in the sound of the trumpet: praise him upon the lute and harp.
4. Praise him in the cymbals and dances: praise him upon the strings and pipe.
5. Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals: praise him upon the loud cymbals.
6. Let every thing that hath breath: praise the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Sit
The First Reading

Read by Professor Dame Judith Champ, PhD, Dame of St Sylvester

A reading from Ecclesiasticus.

My child, perform your tasks with humility; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; but by the humble he is glorified. Neither seek what is too difficult for you, nor investigate what is beyond your power. Reflect upon what you have been commanded, for what is hidden is not your concern. Do not meddle in matters that are beyond you, for more than you can understand has been shown to you. For their conceit has led many astray, and wrong opinion has impaired their judgement.

Ecclesiasticus 3: 17-24

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated as the Choirs sing

The Canticle - A Song of the Blessed

Antiphon:
Rejoice and be glad for you are the light of the world, and great is your reward in heaven.

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
3. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
6. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.
8. Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5.3-10

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon:
Rejoice and be glad for you are the light of the world, and great is your reward in heaven.
The Second Reading
Read by The Revd Yin-An Chen


When Jesus noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, “Give this person your place”, and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, “Friend, move up higher”; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.’

Saint Luke 14: 7-11

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Motet - sung by the combined choirs

Sacerdos et Pontifex et virtutum opifex, pastor bone in populo, ora pro nobis Dominum.

Priest and Bishop and worker of mighty things, good shepherd among the people, pray for us to the Lord.

Andrea Gabrieli (d. 1585)

This text is inscribed upon the Pugin casket containing the relics of Saint Chad at Saint Chad’s Cathedral, Birmingham.

The Revd Canon Gregory Platten, Canon Chancellor, Mrs Susan Hannam, Head Teacher of Lichfield Cathedral School and Dr Margaret Masson, Principal of Saint Chad’s College, University of Durham, read

The death and early devotion to Saint Chad according to Bede.

“Chad established his episcopal seat in the town of Lichfield, where he also died and was buried, and where the succeeding bishops of the province have their see to this day. There he built himself a house near the church, where he used to retire privately with seven or eight brethren in order to pray or study whenever his work and preaching permitted. When he had ruled the church of the province with great success for two and a half years, divine providence ordained a time such as is spoken of in Ecclesiastes:
“There is a time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones together”. For heaven sent a plague which, bringing bodily death, bore away the living stones of the Church from their earthly stations to the temple in heaven.

...Owini was working outside and the other brethren had departed to the church, the bishop was reading and praying alone in his oratory. Suddenly, as he used afterwards to relate, he heard the sound of sweet and joyful singing coming down from heaven to earth...Owini stood astonished for a while, turning over in his mind what this might portend...“Father, I beg you to let me ask you a question.” “Ask what you wish,” Chad replied. “Tell me, I pray,” he asked, “what was the glad song that I heard of singers coming down from heaven upon this oratory and later returning to heaven?” “Since you heard the singing and were aware of the coming of the heavenly company,” Chad answered, “I command you in the name of our Lord not to tell anyone of this before my death. The truth is that they were angelic spirits, who came to summon me to the heavenly reward that I have always hoped and longed for, and they promised to return in seven days and take me with them.” All took place as he had been told: for Chad was quickly attacked by a disease which steadily grew worse until the seventh day. Then he prepared for death by receiving the Body and Blood of our Lord, his holy soul was released from the prison-house of the body and, one may rightly believe, was taken by the angels to the joys of heaven. Nor is it strange that he regarded death with joy as the Day of the Lord; for he had always been careful to prepare for his coming.

...Chad died on the second of March (672) and was first buried close by Saint Mary’s church; but when a church of the most blessed Peter, Prince of the Apostles, was built there later, his body was transferred to it. In both of these places, frequent miracles of healing attested to his virtues. More recently, a madman wandering at large arrived there one evening, and passed the night in church unnoticed and unheeded by the watchmen. And in the morning, to the amazement and delight of all, he left the place in his right mind, showing clearly what healing he had been granted there by the goodness of God. Chad’s burial place is covered by a wooden tomb made in the form of a little house with an aperture in the wall through which those who visit it out of devotion may insert their hand and take out some of the dust. They mix this in water and give it to sick men or beasts to drink, by which means their ailment is quickly relieved and they are restored to the longed for joys of health.”

The Address
Given by The Most Reverend Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham and The Right Reverend Dr Michael Ipgrave OBE, Bishop of Lichfield.

The Reception of the Relic

As the combined choirs sing the anthem ‘Christ is the Morning Star’ by Arvo Pärt, the Dean of Saint Chad's Cathedral, accompanied by cross and lights, carries the reliquary from its place of rest to the new Altar. He is met by the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield Cathedral.

Christ is the morning star, who, when the night of this world is past, gives to his saints the promise of the light of life and opens everlasting day.

The Venerable Bede. Commentary on the Apocalypse.
These words are inscribed on the new Shrine Altar.

When the Dean of Saint Chad's Cathedral arrives at the Shrine Altar, the corona is illuminated.

The Dean of Saint Chad's says

Receive this relic of Saint Chad which we bring to the place of his burial, the site of the earliest devotion to his memory.

Pray for us as we pray for you, that the Lord may give us all joy and hope in believing and give us the gift of the unity he wills.

The Dean of Lichfield, receiving the reliquary, says

We accept this gracious gift. May it ever move our hearts and minds to dwell on the many signs of God's mercy, and help us to follow the way of devotion and faith that Saint Chad lived. May it draw us into steadfast prayer to live and work to God's praise and glory, and walk together the path that leads to the unity and peace of all God’s people.

He passes the reliquary to the Bishop of Lichfield, who places it in the Shrine Altar.
An organ fanfare is sounded.

Stand as the Choirs sing the Song of Mary - The Magnificat, during which the Shrine Altar is censed, together with the clergy and people. Children from Birmingham and Lichfield lay flowers around the Shrine Altar.

Magnificat

Antiphon
Amavit eum dominus et ornavit eum: The Lord loved him and adorned him.
stolam gloriae induit eum, et He clothed him with a robe of glory and
ad portas paradisi coronavit eum. crowned him at the gates of paradise.

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded:
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth:
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm:
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy
hath holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

The antiphon is repeated.
Please be seated as people from Birmingham and Lichfield pray

THE INTERCESSIONS

During the prayers, the following sung response is led by the choir

Words: Canon Clare MacLaren
Tune: “Waters of Tyne”: Trad NE England
Arr Ian Roberts, DoM, Newcastle Cathedral

The prayers conclude with

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.
The officiant prays

The Collect

Almighty God,
from the first fruits of the English nation who turned to Christ,
you called your servant Chad to be an evangelist
and bishop of this people:
give us grace so to follow his peaceable nature,
humble spirit and prayerful life,
that we may truly commend to others the faith
which we ourselves profess;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Deacon takes a light from a Shrine Altar candle and the Paschal Candle is lit.
The Deacon and other ministers then share the light around the Cathedral as all stand to sing the hymn

AHON 432

All are welcome,
all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
1. Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
   All are welcome, all are welcome,
   All are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God’s children dare to seek
to dream God’s reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and a symbol of God’s grace;
here as one, we claim the faith of Jesus:
   All are welcome, all are welcome,
   All are welcome in this place.

3. Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine, and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
   All are welcome, all are welcome,
   All are welcome in this place.

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they’ve known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God’s face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
   All are welcome, all are welcome,
   All are welcome in this place.
Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, pray’rs of faith and songs of grace, let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.

Marty Haugen (b.1952)
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All hold their candles aloft

Deacon Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
All a light no darkness can quench!

Deacon standing in the company of St Chad and all Christ’s faithful ones, we proclaim:
All Jesus Christ is Lord!

Deacon Let every knee bow before him and every tongue proclaim:
All Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father!

Please sit

The Dean of Lichfield presents the Dean of Saint Chad’s Cathedral, Birmingham and a representative of Saint Chad’s School, Birmingham with the maquette of the statue of Saint Chad which stands in the Close.

Dear Friends, accept this gift as a token of our affection and regard, and with our profound gratitude for your generosity and friendship. May it be a blessing to you and all who see it.

Please Stand
The Bishop of Lichfield and the Archbishop of Birmingham pronounce

The Blessing

The Lord be with you
And also with you

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints, pour upon you the riches of his grace. Amen.

May he give you joy in their fellowship and a share in their praises. Amen.

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness and to come to the full radiance of glory. Amen.

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Members of the congregation follow the choirs in procession to the shrine singing the Hymn ‘For all the Saints’. Each may exchange a sign of peace with servants of the Anglican and Catholic Churches stationed around the shrine platform.

V Peace be with you
R The Lord bless you.

At the shrine each person is invited to place a sprig of herbs around the altar platform.

Hymn 232 Sine Nomine

1. For all the saints who from their labours rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest. Alleluia!

2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might; thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight; thou in the darkness, still their one true Light. Alleluia!

3. O may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold, fight as the saints who nobly fought of old, and win, with them, the victor’s crown of gold. Alleluia!
4. O blest communion! fellowship divine!
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia!

5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia!

6. The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest:
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia!

7. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array:
the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia!

8. From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

W Walsham How 1823-1897

Organ Voluntary
Martin Rawles, the Assistant Director of Music and Cathedral Organist will play
Incantation pour un jour saint by Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

As the congregation leaves the Cathedral, parishes, institutions and communities dedicated to Saint Chad are presented with a Verdun Oak sapling for planting in their grounds – a link with Lichfield Cathedral and a memorial of this special day.

Each person is presented with a commemorative candle. Everyone is welcome to remain for refreshments served in the South Transept.

You are also invited to contribute to the Cathedral’s mission and ministry as you leave. Please give as generously as you can.
The Cathedral Chapter is immensely grateful to many people who have contributed to the reinstatement of the Shrine of St Chad, among them

Gail Cherry
The Friends of Lichfield Cathedral
Helen Rosetta Glover
Eric and Margaret Harding
Revd David and Mrs Jane Hare
Andrew Millward and Family
Donald and Ellen Minor
Owen Family Trust
Miss Anne Parkhill
Sheila Parsons
Mrs Rosemary Prentis
Miss Enid Rees
Patricia Scaife
Dr Richard Stephenson
EUR ING John Yarnall
and those who choose to remain anonymous.

Gifts are made in memory of

David and Gill Ashton
Helen Evans
Tom and Gwen Giblin
Ann Millward
Mr and Mrs Samuel L Minor
Alan and Marjorie Parsons
Revd James Potts
Glyn and Emily Rees
Pauline Round
Howard Scaife
Dr and Mrs E Frederick Taschenberg
The entire Cathedral community extends its appreciation and thanks to all who have, through their skill, artistry and craft, enabled the Shrine to take shape.

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<td><strong>Gospel Book Binder</strong></td>
<td>Beverley Munnerley, Philip James, Nigel Tarr, Kishan Singh</td>
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<td><strong>Cabinet Maker</strong></td>
<td>Jonathan Lockley</td>
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<td><strong>Curtain Makers</strong></td>
<td>Watts &amp; Co</td>
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<td><strong>Iconographer</strong></td>
<td>Nicola Juha</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Architect</strong></td>
<td>Robert Kilgour, Robert Kilgour Architects Ltd</td>
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<td><strong>QS</strong></td>
<td>Alex Anderson, Greenwood Projects</td>
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<td><strong>Structural Engineer</strong></td>
<td>Clive Haywood, Frank W Haywood &amp; Associates Ltd</td>
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<td><strong>Archaeologist</strong></td>
<td>Kevin Blockley, Cambrian Archaeological Projects</td>
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<td><strong>Pricket Stands</strong></td>
<td>Mark Antrobus, Gabriel &amp; Company</td>
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<td>Alexandra Kosinova <em>(Our Lady and Child)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Midland Stonemasonry Ltd</strong></td>
<td>Derek Park, Bruce Park, Steve Ripley, Jamie Watson, Jarred Williamson</td>
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<td><strong>Frank W Haywood &amp; Associates</strong></td>
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<td><strong>AK Designs</strong></td>
<td>Archie Kennedy</td>
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<td><strong>Barr &amp; Grosvenor</strong></td>
<td>Dominic Grosvenor, Mark Taylor, Steve Palmer, Julian Bell.</td>
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<td>All of the team at Barr &amp; Grosvenor foundry</td>
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<td>Manufacture of the corona, curtain rails and other metalwork for the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Star Polishing and Plating</strong></td>
<td>Vic <em>(Polishing of the circular suspension plate)</em></td>
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<td><strong>Steel Rods for Corona</strong></td>
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