



ELY
CATHEDRAL

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OCTAGON MAGAZINE

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

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**ELY CATHEDRAL FLOWER
FESTIVAL 2018**

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VOLUNTEERING AT ELY

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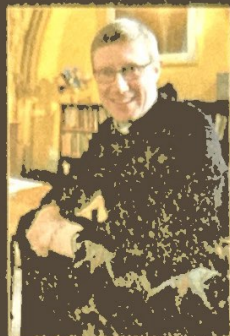
**FOCUS ON
CANON JAMES GARRARD**

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Issue 3 - Spring 2018

Welcome from The Dean

This edition of *Octagon* covers the most exciting part of the Church's year which is why you will find Canon Johnson describing at greater length all that we will be celebrating as we move through the remainder of Lent, Holy Week, Easter and into the great fifty days of Eastertide that culminate in the feast of Pentecost. And if that is not enough there is our patronal festival on Trinity Sunday followed by the great celebration of Corpus Christi.



We have assembled some very special preachers during this period, and most notably Bishop Rowan Williams who will be preaching during Holy Week. I do encourage you to come and hear him; I can assure you that you will not be disappointed.

There are many other exciting concerts and events over the next few weeks, but the richness of the liturgical provision during these three months is central. Our primary task is what St Benedict called the *opus dei* – the work of God, and that is prayer and worship. As always it begins and ends every day and the special services of the coming months engage us in the core elements of the Christian message, the hope for the present and the future given us in the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Mark Bonney".

The Very Reverend
Mark Bonney,
Dean of Ely

Regular Service Times

Sundays:

8.15am: Holy Communion

10.30am: Sung Eucharist

4pm: Evensong

Daily Services:

7.30am: Morning Prayer

8am: Holy Communion

12.10pm: Holy Communion
(Thursdays and Saints' Days)

5.30pm: Evensong

New Octagon Furnishings



The consecration of a new altar is an important event in the life of any church, and especially the Cathedral. It is not an overstatement to say that a church building is there, first of all, to house the altar. We have the High Altar in the Presbytery but the main altar around which we gather is that situated under the Octagon. The altar is the main focus of our liturgical life, it is a sign of Christ himself, the place at which the holy mysteries of our salvation are celebrated. We are therefore delighted that on Sunday 28 January, the new altar, along with other items of liturgical furnishings, were consecrated by the Bishop and the altar was made sacred by the Eucharist being celebrated upon it.

The feedback has been very encouraging and positive and it has been a joy to eventually see the new furniture installed and in use. Our thanks to Luke Hughes (pictured above) who designed the new altar and Octagon furnishings and members of his team who have built it. We are equally grateful to the members of the Cathedral's Fabric Advisory Committee who assisted in the development of the project and, alongside the Cathedral's Fabric Commission for England, were the formal body which approved the design.

This new altar and Octagon furnishings present a marked contribution to both the liturgy and beauty of our magnificent Cathedral and we are enormously grateful to the late Mrs Jean Walker whose generous legacy with Bishop Peter Walker has funded such a significant project alongside a substantial donation from the Friends of Ely Cathedral.

Octagon Magazine

Copies are available in the Cathedral and from the Cathedral Gift Shops, Refectory Café and Almonry Restaurant. Electronic copies can be viewed at www.elycathedral.org. Comments or suggestions for Octagon are welcome. Please direct them to Maddie Cox, 01353 660375 | news@elycathedral.org

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