

We have all been preparing for Christmas for weeks. But of course, Christmas is a beginning not an end. We get it the wrong way around. All the celebrating, the joy and the looking forward should be a result of the birth of the Christ child, not an anticipation of it.

For the birth of Jesus is in a real sense a fresh beginning. He comes to earth – as a human – in order to offer us an insight into God. He shows that God is fully involved in human life – its joys and sorrows, its struggles and achievements. Jesus' birth shows us something about ourselves too, for the life and the teaching of Jesus is a mirror to us in which we can find ourselves reflected and uncovered. We can make sense of our lives through the life of Jesus, but we must travel on from Christmas – through his life to his death and resurrection.

Christmas is a good beginning, and singing, celebrating, reflecting are all appropriate responses to the good news which is offered to us at this season. As always, you will be welcome at the wide range of Christmas services in the Cathedral this year. Worshipping at Christmas is more popular year by year – if you have not been for a while, come and share with us in the real meaning of Christmas.

David Brindley
Dean of Portsmouth



All details are correct at the time of going to print (November 2010).

Christmas 2010

and the New Year



Portsmouth Cathedral
High Street
Old Portsmouth

023 9282 3300
www.portsmouthcathedral.org.uk
enquiries@portsmouthcathedral.org.uk

Christmas 2010

Sunday 28 November

Advent Carol Service at 6.00pm
sung by the Cathedral Choir and Cantate

Friday 3 December

Handel's Messiah at 7.30pm
Performed by the Cathedral Choir & The 18th Century Orchestra
Tickets (reserved seats): £16, £12.50, £9 (£2 concession on each price)
available from: 023 9289 2962 or boxoffice@portsmouthcathedral.org.uk

Sunday 19 December

Evensong followed by Britten's Ceremony of Carols at 6.00pm
sung by the Cathedral Choristers

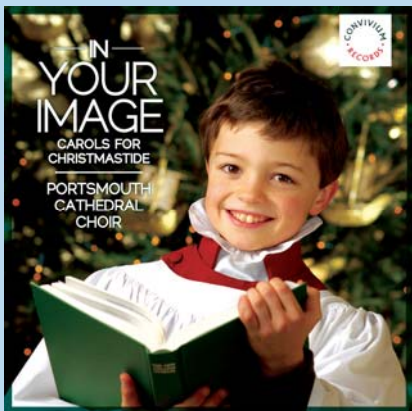
Wednesday 22 December

Cathedral Carol Service I at 7.30pm
sung by the Cathedral Choir

Thursday 23 December

Cathedral Carol Service II at 7.30pm
sung by the Cathedral Choir

PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL



Take the choir home for Christmas...!

This new disc of Carols for Christmas features music recorded over the past two years by **Portsmouth Cathedral Choir**. From well known hymns to new arrangements of popular carols, 'In Your Image' has something for everybody. It's available in Portsmouth Cathedral Bookshop (**£5.99**), and online through **iTunes**, **Amazon**, **Spotify**, and **Convivium Records**.

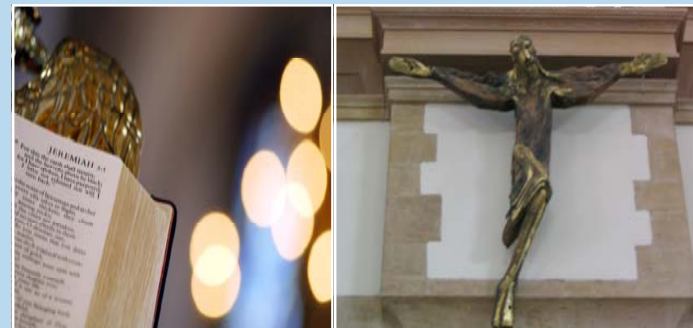
For more information, to listen and buy, please visit: www.conviviumrecords.co.uk

Christmas Eve *Friday 24 December*

Crib Service for families I at 3.00pm
Crib Service for families II at 4.30pm
Evensong and Blessing of the Crib at 6.00pm
sung by Cantate
Midnight Eucharist at 11.30pm
Haydn Mass of St Nicholas with trumpets and drums
sung by the Cathedral Choir

Christmas Day *Saturday 25 December*

Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer) at 8.00am
Parish Eucharist with Carols at 9.30am
sung by the Parish Choir
Sung Eucharist with Carols at 11.15am
sung by the Cathedral Choir



New Year 2011

Thursday 6 January

Eucharist for the Epiphany at 6.00pm
sung by Cantate

Sunday 9 January

Epiphany Carol Service at 6.00pm
sung by the Cathedral Choir

Information
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