

# ENG Welcome to ChristChurch Cathedral

## A PLACE OF WORSHIP

Over 700,000 people come here each year to worship and enjoy the beauty of this place and to share its stories. Many of them worship God, pray for others and themselves, and hear the Christian message of justice, love and peace that God demonstrates in Jesus Christ.

## A NOTABLE BUILDING

The Cathedral is in the centre of Christchurch because the city was established as an Anglican settlement and its leaders wished to have a Cathedral at its heart. Work began in 1864, only 14 years after the city was founded.

## THE VISITORS' CENTRE

More detailed material on the Cathedral is on sale at the Visitors' Centre, along with postcards, souvenirs, books, clothing and distinctive gifts.

The Cathedral Café serves coffee, tea and light meals.

## YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

Sundays:

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Choral Eucharist

Evening Services

5.15pm all year round:

Choral Evensong

Choral Night Prayer

7.00pm when advertised:

No Ordinary Sunday

Cathedral Jazz

Holy Communion is held daily at 12.05pm, prayers for healing on Tuesday, Celtic service on Wednesday, and Thursday in Maori. All baptised Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion at these services.

Choral Evensong:

5.15pm Tuesdays and Wednesdays: full choir

Thursdays: gentlemen of the choir

4.30pm Fridays: boy choristers only

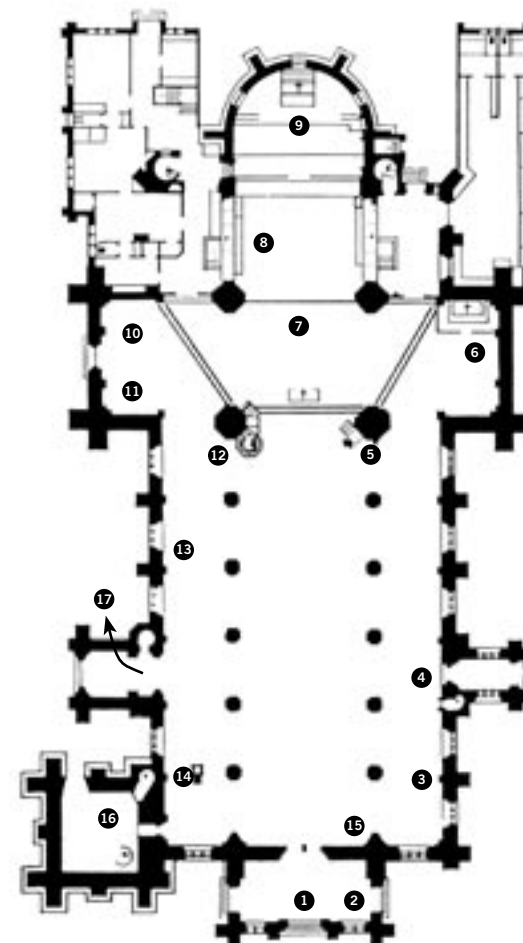
> **THE SELWYN MEMORIAL PULPIT** honours George Augustus Selwyn, first Bishop of New Zealand; carved panels depict the story of founding the Anglican Church here.

>> **THE POET LAURENCE BINYON'S LINES**, read at every Anzac Day service, promise that "age shall not weary" those who died in their country's service.



## A CATHEDRAL PRAYER

*For all who come in and all who pass by  
let this building speak today  
not of our pride but of your glory, God.  
Let its height speak of your grace,  
its space speak of your embrace.  
May the beauty of this place  
remind us of your love  
for all people in all the world.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*



- 1 The West Porch** : Four panels tell the story of the foundation of Christchurch, from the Canterbury Association in England, to its designation as the first city in New Zealand.
- Below the fourth panel is the bench mark from which all levels in Christchurch are still taken. It gives Christchurch as 20.314 feet above mean sea level at Lyttelton Harbour.
- 3 The Votive Candle Stand** : With its Judeo Christian symbols and gilded screen designed by Quentin Roake is a memorial to choir member Hamish Roake.
- 4 Pacific Chapel** : Originally located in the north porch in 1971 to mark the centenary of the martyrdom of John Patteson, first bishop of Melanesia, it now embraces the whole Pacific, especially our partner Diocese of Polynesia, which provided the design, tapa cloth, mats, carving and kava bowl altar.
- 5 The Oak Lectern** : Given by Emily Harper, wife of the first bishop, it features the eagle symbol of John the Evangelist. The Bible has been read from here since 1881.
- 6 The Memorial Chapel of St Michael and St George** : Was opened in 1949 by Sir Bernard Freyberg VC. The altar was carved by Dean Carrington, in memory of his soldier son Christopher, killed in France in 1916. The carved reredos features native birds and plants. Local regimental colours hang above.
- 7 The Chancel** : Was completed in 1904 and recently re-modelled with new moveable choir stalls, providing flexible space for smaller services. It features mosaic tiles depicting the first four settlers' ships and the diocesan coat of arms.
- 8 The Organ Pipes** : Are housed on the north side above the chancel and the main console is opposite. Another console can be seen at floor level beside the Memorial Chapel. The pipe organ, first installed in 1882, was last re-built in 1977.
- 9 The High Altar** : Was given by Dr James Irving in gratitude for a safe voyage from England in 1879. The reredos was carved by Christchurch woodworkers Jake Vivian and Robert Guernsey in kauri from the old Hurunui River Bridge. Six Anglican pioneers are represented: (left from top) Samuel Marsden, Henry Williams and Tamihana te Rauparaha; (right from top) Bishops Selwyn, Harper and Patteson.

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Without your support the Cathedral cannot be maintained. It costs us over \$1.3 million per annum to run the Cathedral with 350 volunteers working in it each month. Please give generously. Donation boxes are located in the Cathedral.

- 10 The Harper Effigy** : Depicts Christchurch's first Bishop, Henry Harper. It was carved by FJ Williamson, personal sculptor to Queen Victoria.
- 11 The Scott Windows** : Were given by Archibald Scott as a centenary gift. They were designed by Canterbury artist William Sutton and made by Miller Studios in Dunedin. They depict Christ transfigured, with Moses and Elias and a variety of native ferns and trees.
- 12 The Selwyn Memorial Pulpit** : This is a memorial to the first (and only) Bishop of New Zealand. The four panels show Selwyn preaching to the Maori, welcoming Bishop Harper, signing the NZ Anglican Church's first constitution, and at Bishop Patteson's consecration.
- 13 The Tukutuku Panels** : These are a traditional Maori artwork made of Kie Kie (flax), leather and rimu. Local prisoners wove the flaxwork under Canon Mae Taurua's guidance. The panels are a memorial to Bishop Pyatt, fifth Bishop of Christchurch.
- 14 The Font** : Was designed for the Dean of Westminster Abbey, who gave it to this Cathedral in memory of his brother Captain Owen Stanley who reached Akaroa in 1840.
- 15 The Rose Window and Mosaic Panels** : Are best viewed from the middle of the Cathedral. The stonework of the window was presented by the Cathedral Guild and the stained glass by Leonard Harper, son of the first Bishop. The panels are the work of Salvati & Co of Venice, Italy, and represent Christ's six classic acts of mercy.
- 16 Tower Entrance and Historic Display** : Tickets to climb the tower are available at the Visitors' Centre (17) souvenir shop. Further information, particularly about columns, windows, organ, pulpit, font and bells is available on request from the shop.
- 17 Visitors' Centre.**

If you would like to become a Friend of ChristChurch Cathedral, information is available at the Visitors' Centre.

The Cathedral belongs to the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Te Hahi Mihinare ki Aotearoa ki Nui Tireni, ki Nga Moutere o te Moana Nui A Kiwa).

**This brochure entitles the bearer to:**

- | *guided tour group entry*
- | *permission to use camera or video*
- | *10% discount on purchases from the Visitors' Centre shop*
- | *discount on tower climb ticket*

**Other activities:**

- | *climb the 134 tower steps to the viewing platforms that give panoramic views of the city*
- | *make brass rubbings of memorable Cathedral carvings*
- | *enjoy refreshments and meals at the Cathedral Café*
- | *collect free literature from our stand at the main door*
- | *choose from a wide range of Cathedral souvenirs, cards and booklets*

ChristChurch Cathedral opened in 1881 after 23 difficult years of planning and building.

The foundation stone was laid in 1864, shortly after the first English settler ships arrived. Noted English Gothic designer George Gilbert Scott drew the plans but local architect Benjamin Mountfort, whose work dominates the central city, supervised the completion and added his own influence. Final completion was not until 1904, at an overall cost of £64,000. The Cathedral is 60 metres long, 30 metres high (to the roof) and seats 1000 people. The Visitors' Centre next door was opened in 1995.

The building takes its name from the Oxford University college of Christ Church in the UK and links into the European cathedral tradition. But it was conceived and crafted to belong in New Zealand. Ceiling timbers of matai and totara come from Banks Peninsula and stone from nearby quarries.

Art work around the walls express the different cultures – Maori, Polynesian and Pakeha – that make up the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

Carvings around the high altar and pulpit depict the history of the Church from 1814 and the story of the Canterbury settlement through war and peace is told in the Memorial Chapel, windows and the wall plaques honouring leading men and women. Flags and colours



in the transepts mark Christchurch's connections with Antarctic exploration, military campaigns and youth organisations. Many New Zealand birds, flowers and plants are depicted in carving and stained glass.

Over half a million visitors annually make this the most visited Cathedral in New Zealand. It is open every day of the year.

The present pipe organ that accompanies the choir, with its 3938 pipes and 64 stops, dates back to 1927 and is famous as a romantic instrument.

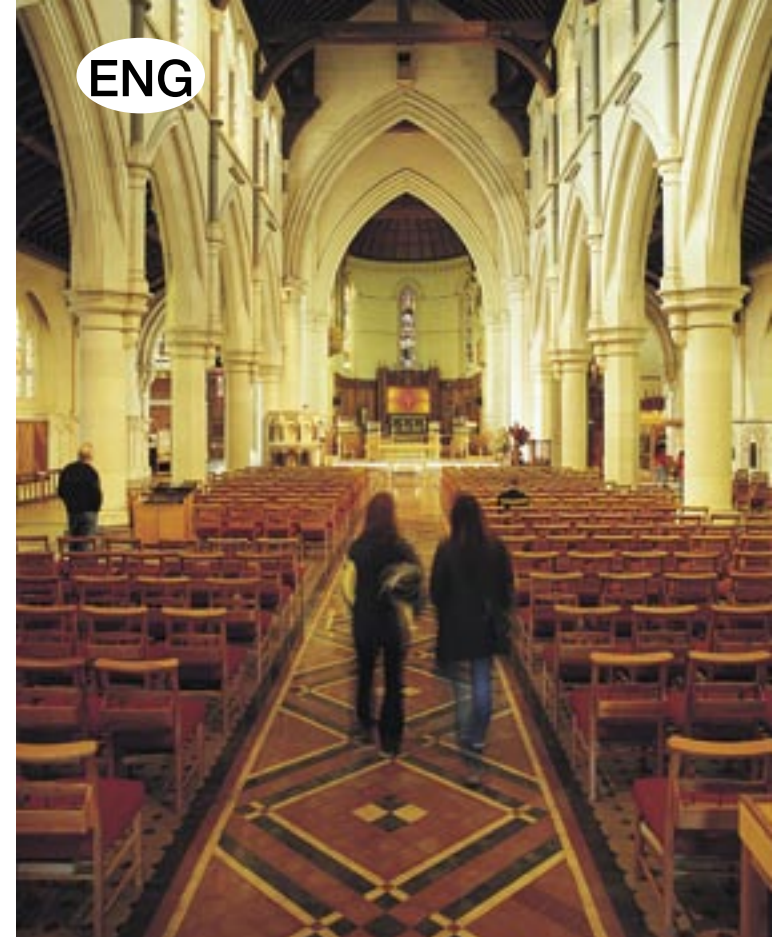
The 13 bells form the southernmost such peal in the world. They hang upside down (mouth upwards) in the 66m tower and are rung regularly to announce major services and civic events.

The Cathedral is the centre of the Anglican Diocese, headed by a Bishop whose seat (cathedra) can be seen in the sanctuary. It is a church for the city, open to all, and its programmes are supported by people of many different beliefs. There is a small staff, led by the Dean, and a team of 350 volunteers.

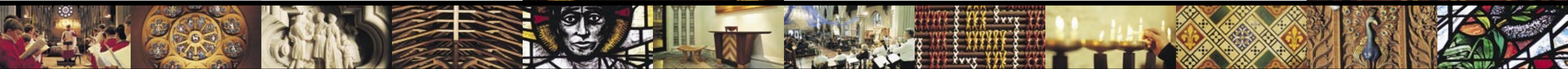
All that happens here is inspired by the story of Jesus Christ, told simply in the leaflets, windows, murals and carvings, spoken and sung in daily services in English and Maori using A New Zealand Prayer Book – He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa.

ChristChurch Cathedral offers 12 services of worship each week, five of which are regularly led by the internationally respected Cathedral Choir, the country's oldest and only professional church choir. It includes 24 boy choristers who are trained here and attend The Cathedral Grammar School nearby. The services range from daily Holy Communion and Choral Evensong to services involving jazz music, celebrations of creation, celtic spirituality, using audio visual images, greenery, water, stones, fire, candles and silence.

The Cathedral also offers a wide range of special events for children, including an animal service each Christmas and civic and ecumenical commemorations for Antarctic explorers, the Commonwealth, Anzac Day, Kidsfest, Floral Festival, Seafarers and No Ordinary Sunday Services for people who don't go to church.



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ChristChurch Cathedral   
New Zealand

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**BACK COVER** features the **ROSE WINDOW** above the west door, which is 9 metres across and comprises 31 individual sections of over 4,000 glass pieces; designed by Mountfort, it centres on the image of the Lamb of God, surrounded by angels and musical instruments.

**ABOVE:** A **PULPIT PANEL** showing Bishop Selwyn greeting the Harper family on arrival at Lyttelton Harbour in 1856; **CEILING TIMBER** which was pit sawn and brought in by sea from Barry's Bay; the universal features of **CHRIST'S FACE**, an image by Canterbury artist W.A. Sutton; and the new **PACIFIC CHAPEL** with its tapa cloth pillars and canoe-shaped altar with kava bowl at the centre.



**ABOVE:** Carved figure of Christ in **REREDOS, HIGH ALTAR**; **TUKUTUKU PANELS**; **THE VOTIVE CANDLE STAND**; Moses, the transfigured Christ and Elias are central figures in the **SCOTT MEMORIAL WINDOW**; **ENCAUSTIC WALL TILES**; the peacock above the altar (*front cover*) is one of over a hundred **CARVED BIRDS AND ANIMALS** in the Cathedral; and **NATIVE TREES, FERNS AND FLOWERS** feature in the windows.

**OTHER IMAGES:** The Cathedral Choir has sung the classical weekday and Sunday repertoire here since 1881, while the Cathedral offers a variety of other musical traditions, including a regular jazz service.

Candlelit choral events, such as the annual Advent Carol Service, plus special concerts with choirs and orchestras, make the Cathedral a popular location for performing arts in a city famous for its musical vitality.

ChristChurch Cathedral   
New Zealand

