

## Our Cathedral and MU – a Historic Relationship

Newcastle Cathedral is buzzing with life, seven days a week. The doors are open all day. Worship follows a daily pattern and is open to all. The nave is now an open space which allows for all manner of events – concerts, workshops, school activities, dance, exhibitions, art installations – you name it and the Cathedral will consider it.

Our Cathedral is an open door to all – a place of shelter where heaven may be glimpsed and an oasis of peace can be found. A great deal of unseen work goes on the background to ensure that **'Sacred Space / Common Ground'** is a reality. Café 16 is growing from strength to strength, giving ex-offenders employment opportunities with professional training to develop new skills and attitudes. Warm drinks and food are given to the homeless, with the help of donations from café clients. So if you drop in for a lunch or a coffee, do consider popping a small donation in the pot.

The parish church of St Nicholas was built in 1091 and made a Cathedral in 1882 when the Diocese of Newcastle was created. The same decade, the first Bishop of Newcastle, Rt Revd Ernest Wilberforce, welcomed Mothers Union into the Diocese. Mrs Emily Wilberforce was its first President. MU features on the Cathedral website.



**MU continues to have strong links with the Cathedral and members meet every first Thursday of the month to share Midday Prayer in St George's Chapel and fellowship in the café. Occasionally MU leads the Cathedral's Thursday Eucharist at 12.30 to which everyone is welcomed.**

MU works with the Cathedral on issues such as the UN 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence. The

MU Diocesan banner is in the Chapel of the Resurrection, where MU have accepted an invitation to make kneelers. Please contact Jackie Moore for more details.

**Baptism Shawls – can you knit a prayer?** Many refugee families find their way to the Cathedral, asking for their young children to be baptised. The Cathedral likes to give each family a white baptismal shawl, but these are in very short supply. If you are a knitter looking for a project – please could you knit a shawl? Predominantly white, approximately 750-1000mm / 2'6" - 3' in size.

Please keep the Cathedral's ministry in your prayers.

**Thank you!** [www.newcastlecathedral.org.uk](http://www.newcastlecathedral.org.uk)