



ELY
CATHEDRAL

Christmas at Ely 2025

Services | Concerts | Family Activities



Advent and Christmas at Ely Cathedral

Advent & Christmas is a truly special time to experience Ely Cathedral, from joyful services and festive concerts performed by the Cathedral Choristers to family themed activities and events. The sights and sounds of the season are further enhanced by the ancient architecture showcasing Ely's magnificent Christmas tree adorned with lights and decorations.

Ely Cathedral Gift Shop

A place to discover beautiful gifts, accessories, homeware, and seasonal merchandise. The Cathedral shop is open seven days a week and is free to enter.

The Almonry Kitchen

The Almonry Kitchen's rich history and stunning architecture, combined with seasonal hospitality and festive food with a twist, make it the perfect choice for a Christmas treat.

Event Tickets

Visit: www.elycathedral.org

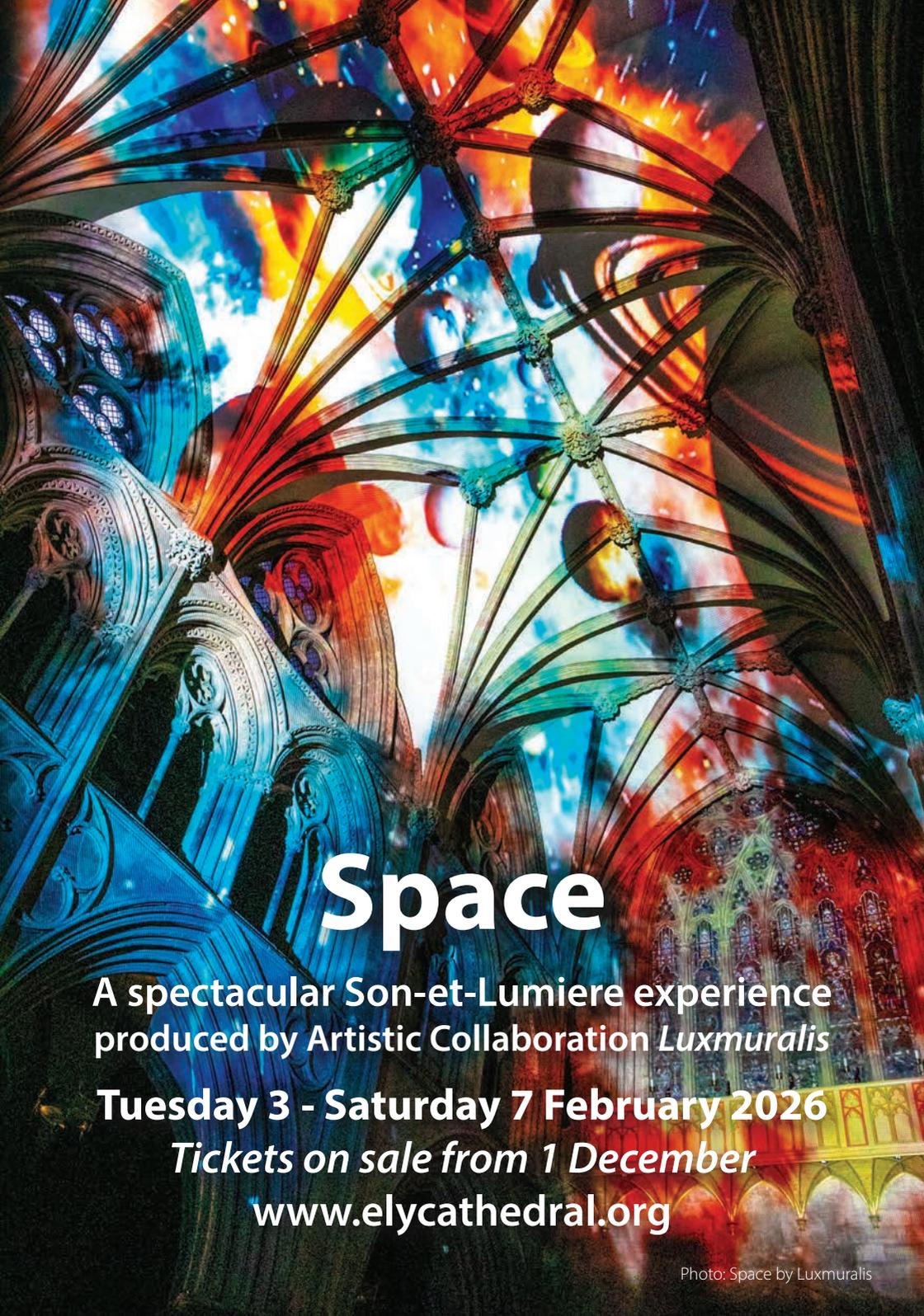
(All ticketed events are asterisked)

Dates and times are correct at time of going to press. Please always check our website for unscheduled changes or cancellations.

To keep up to date with events, sign up to our monthly newsletter, via the home page of our website.

The Christmas Tree is kindly sponsored by The Friends of Ely Cathedral.

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Space

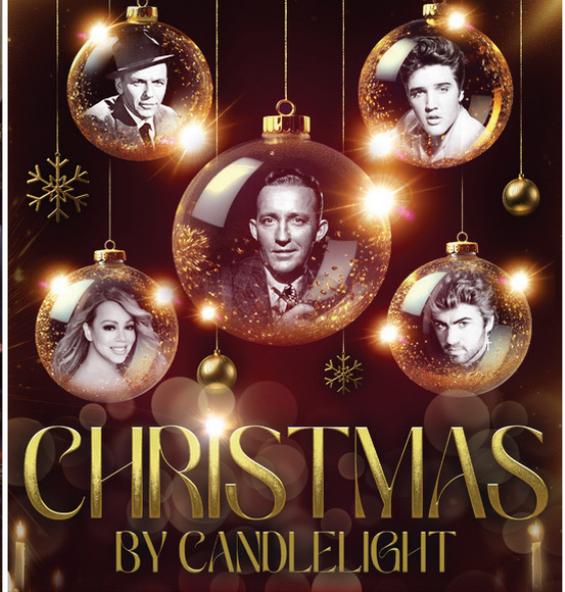
A spectacular Son-et-Lumiere experience
produced by Artistic Collaboration *Luxmuralis*

Tuesday 3 - Saturday 7 February 2026

Tickets on sale from 1 December

www.elycathedral.org

Photo: Space by Luxmuralis



Sunday 30 November, 6pm

Advent Procession

This awe-inspiring service prepares our hearts and minds for the season of Advent, a time of patient waiting and joyful expectation.

Tuesday 2 December, 8pm

Advent Compline

A beautiful candlelit service in the Lady Chapel to help you wind down at the end of the day.

Thursday 4 December, 10.15am

Story and Song Time - Messy Christingle

Celebrate the beginning of Advent and create your own Christingle at this interactive children's service.

A service for children under 5 and their parents and carers.

Thursday 4 December, 7.30pm

Vivaldi - The Four Seasons at Christmas*

Featuring The Picadilly Sinfonietta, Victoria Lyon and Warren Maillay-Smith.

Friday 5 December, 7.30pm

Bubl  Christmas By Candlelight*

Featuring a live, big band and the UK's number one Michael Bubl  tribute act.

Saturday 6 December, 7.30pm

Christmas By Candlelight*

A spectacular cast of West End singers and an incredible live band, perform favourite Christmas hits.

Sunday 7 December, 5.15pm

The Big Christmas Tree Lights Switch-on Service

Come and enjoy the biggest, most spectacular, Christmas tree in Ely as we count down to the switching on of the lights. This popular family event celebrates the festive season in song and prayer, concluding with the blessing of the magnificent tree! Sung by the Girl Choristers and Ely Imps.

Tuesday 9 December, 8pm

Advent Compline

Saturday 13 December, 11am & 6.30pm

Christmas Wreath Workshop*

With Katie from Wild Oak Workshops.



Saturday 13 December, 2pm

Community Christmas Carols

Come and sing along to your favourite carols with Littleport Brass Band. With Christmas music, readings and prayers.

Sunday 14 December, 1pm

Royal Papworth Christmas Carol Concert*

Sunday 14 December, 5.15pm

Carols on Palace Green

(outside the main doors of the Cathedral)

Wrap up warm for outdoor carol singing. Hot chocolate provided.

Tuesday 16 December, 8pm

Advent Compline

Thursday 18 December, 10.15am

Story and Song Time - Nativity

Enjoy our final pre-schooler service of 2025 as we hear the story of the Nativity and sing Christmas carols.

A service for children under 5 and their parents and carers.

Friday 19 December - Monday 5 January

Available during opening hours

The Nativity Riddle Trail

Discover the story of the first Christmas through our 6 banner trail. Solve the riddles to find the hidden word. This trail also includes a simple retelling of the story using PECS symbols.

Suitable for all ages.

(Included in usual entrance fee)

Friday 19 December, 8pm

G4 Christmas*

Monday 22 December, 10am - 12pm

Christmas Themed Craft Activities

Come dressed as your favourite Nativity character.

Suitable for under 12s and their families.

(Included in usual entrance fee)

Monday 22 December, 7.30pm

Pre-concert Reception, 6.30pm

Hark! The Herald Carol Concert*

An evening of traditional Christmas carols and seasonal music sung by the Cathedral Choir and Ely Imps, with Prime Brass.



Tuesday 23 December, 6pm

Carol Service

This processional service includes many opportunities for singing as well as a colourful mix of carols from the Cathedral Choir.

Wednesday 24 December, 12pm & 3pm

Crib Services

The children of the Cathedral retell the story of Christmas in this wonderful tableau of shepherds, angels, wise men. Sing carols and enjoy this family friendly celebration to mark the birth of Jesus.

12pm: Sung by the Ely Imps

3pm: Sung by the Choristers

Wednesday 24 December, 6pm

Carol Service

Wednesday 24 December, 11pm

Midnight Eucharist

The waiting and watching of Advent is brought to fulfilment in the deepest part of the night.

Thursday 25 December

8.15am

Holy Communion

10.30am

Christmas Day Festal Eucharist

4pm

Christmas Day Festal Evensong

Sunday 28 December, 4pm

(Rehearsal 2.15 - 4pm)

Come and Sing Carols

Be part of the choir for an afternoon of favourite carols in this festive free-for-all!

Saturday 10 January, 5.30pm

Evensong featuring

**Britten's Ceremony of Carols
with the Girl & Boy Choristers**

Accompanied by harpist Elizabeth Bass.

CHRISTMAS at The Almonry Kitchen

2 COURSE LUNCH £33
3 COURSE LUNCH £39

Price is per head. Minimum of 4 people per booking.

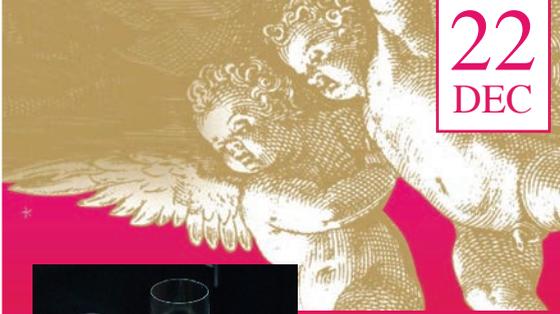
BOOK NOW

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Monday - Sunday 10:00 - 16:30
Enquire for evening bookings.

Email almonry@cdc.events
for our menus & to book.

The Almonry Kitchen is operated by The Cambridge Dining Co.
www.cdc.events



Hark! The Herald - Pre-Concert Reception

18:30 - 19:20

Join us for a special pre-concert reception in the beautiful setting of the Lady Chapel, with fizz & canapés from The Almonry Kitchen.

Pre-concert Tickets: £16*

Should you have any allergies please let us know upon booking your ticket.

*Please note: you must have a valid concert ticket to attend the reception.



The Almonry Kitchen is operated by The Cambridge Dining Co.
on behalf of Ely Cathedral - www.cdc.events

Ely Cathedral Shop

Visit the Cathedral shop for beautiful Christmas gifts, cards, decorations and accessories. The shop is free to enter, no visitor ticket is required.

We also have an online shop, which stocks a limited selection of our most popular items.

www.elycathedral.org/shop



Christmas Opening Times

22 & 23 December: 10am - 4pm

Christmas Eve: 10am - 3pm

Christmas Day: Closed

Boxing Day: Closed

27 December: 11am - 3.30pm

28 December: 12 - 3.30pm

29 - 31 December: 10am - 3.30pm

New Year's Day: Closed

2 January: Normal winter hours resume



THE LANTERN CHORISTERSHIP FUND

*Be a part of a story which began over 1000 years ago and
keep your Choir singing*



Help preserve this extraordinary tradition for future generations to enjoy.

For as little as £5 a month, you can support The Lantern Choristership.

Find out more and join the story today:

Call us: 01353 660305

Email: fundraising@elycathedral.org

Scan the QR code
to donate today.

