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in the UNITED STATES

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November 2011

Dear Friends,

One of the memorable moments of this year in Canterbury for me took place on Friday, 17th June, when Canon Clare Edwards and I stepped outside the Christchurch Gate and walked to the top of the High Street to await the arrival of a pilgrimage of American Friends.

The High Street was busy with people, but as we stood in our cassocks looking through the crowds, suddenly we spotted our pilgrims coming on foot towards the Gate, which had seen millions of other pilgrims over the centuries. There in the High Street we exchanged affectionate greetings and walked into the Cathedral itself to say prayers of thanksgiving for the safe arrival of this pilgrim group, ready to learn more about each other in the way that pilgrims have over the years.

Throughout the year individual members of FOCCUS come to join us and stay, perhaps in our Canterbury Lodge, to be enriched by something of the flavour of Canterbury since the only real way to experience that is by being here. Only the week before we had said goodbye to young seminarians from across the world who had been partly financed by the contributions of the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral in the US and who will no doubt one day be leaders in their own Churches in different parts of the world.

The Canterbury experience starts with people such as you, people who have given much to foster opportunities to worship, to learn, and to grow, to be pilgrims themselves or to allow others to be pilgrims in faith. Your support has been crucial over the years. I know that the whole Chapter would join me in immense gratitude to members of FOCCUS for your constant interest in us and your vital contributions to the life of this place.

We look forward to another eventful year in 2012, particularly in England, which will be celebrating both the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games. What a blessing if you could continue your strong support in the coming year.

Robert Willis

The Very Reverend Dr Robert Willis
Dean of Canterbury Cathedral

Two important events are taking place in 2012

The Canterbury Cathedral Choir will make another trip to the United States from April 9-22, 2012, visiting Texas and the West Coast. Its preliminary calendar is on the reverse. Details at <http://www.canterburyus.org>

A Pilgrimage to Canterbury, moving along Chaucer's famed path, is planned for October 13-22, 2012. Led by the Rev Canon Matthew Corkern, it starts in London (including Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's, Lambeth Palace, Parliament), visits country homes and the cathedrals of Southwark and Rochester, and ends at Canterbury. Details at <http://www.canterburyus.org>

Canterbury Cathedral Choir Texas & West Coast Concert Tour

(Updated 7/1/11)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 TO LA SIGHTSEEING HOLLYWOOD, ETC. 121 miles LA CONCERT AT ST. JAMES CHURCH	16 LA sightseeing To Palm Desert 123 miles CONCERT AT ST. MARGARET'S, PALM D.	17 Drive to San Francisco 500 miles	18 Sightseeing San Francisco CONCERT AT GRACE CATHEDRAL	19 COACH TO PORTLAND, OREGON 600 miles	20 SIGHTSEEING CONCERT THROUGH OREGON CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHOIR AT TRINITY CATHEDRAL	21 COACH to SEATTLE 173 miles Lodging: Tacoma Y.C. SEATTLE ST. MARK'S CATHEDRAL CONCERT
22 FLY TO LONDON	23 ARRIVE LONDON EARLY	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					