

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND CATHEDRALS

### HEADLINE MISSION STATISTICS 2007

*(excluding Westminster Abbey and other Royal Peculiars)*

- ◆ [Attendance levels](#) at regular weekly services in Church of England cathedrals have steadily increased by a total of 30% since the turn of the millennium, which is about 4% each year. At Sunday services alone 15,900 adults and 2,500 children and young people are usually present while over the whole week the figures rise (by 80%) to 26,300 and 6,800 respectively. Midweek attendance continues to grow in its significance. In 2006, for example, it added 70% to Sunday congregation. Cathedrals are key places of daily Christian worship outside Sundays adding an additional 64% of adult attenders and more than doubling the number of children over the whole week.
- ◆ Approximately 119,100 people attended services in cathedrals on [Christmas Day/Eve 2007](#) while services over the period leading up to Christmas attract attendances of 726,500. These figures appear to be adversely affected by Christmas Eve being a Monday. Nevertheless, attendance over the Christmas 24 hours has increased by a quarter, 26%, since the beginning of the century while attendance over the Easter 24 hours has dropped slightly compared with the previous year, and increased by 9% to 52,300 since year 2000. Comparable figures from parish churches are currently being collected and collated. Cathedral attendances on these two major Christian festivals average approximately 2,800 and 1,250 respectively for each cathedral and for many cathedrals additional services have been created to respond to the space restrictions that continue to limit attendance levels.
- ◆ A steadily increasing number of children attend [educational events](#) at cathedrals each year. In 2007 the number was 298,900 while a further 8,600 children are being educated at schools associated with cathedrals. Over 2,000 children and adults are also involved week by week in providing cathedral music traditions, a figure that has slightly reduced primarily among the choristers.
- ◆ Over the last **five** years the number of [volunteers](#) involved in the mission and ministry of cathedrals on a regular basis has steadily increased by over 3,100 to 15,000 that is, around 360 volunteers for every cathedral. In contrast, over the last **five** years, the number of visitors has gradually reduced by over 1.6 million to 9,411,000, that is, around 39,200 for every cathedral. With the addition of Westminster Abbey and other Royal Peculiars and, given the imprecise nature of visitor counting, our working estimate of the total number of visitors to Cathedrals remains at approximately 12 million.

(continued)

- ◆ Over 2,870 [specially arranged services](#) were conducted by cathedrals in 2007 which attracted over 1 million people. 1.2 million people attended about 4,100 public/civic events arranged in cathedrals during 2007. Over the last five years both the numbers of public/civic events and specially arranged services have considerably increased. In particular, the number of public/civic events has increased by 79% and the attendance at these events has increased by 37%.
  
- ◆ In 2007 approximately 685 [baptisms](#) (and thanksgivings for the birth of a child), 330 [marriages](#) (and blessings of marriage) and 370 [funerals](#) were conducted by cathedral clergy. Overall, these figures reflect a fairly static picture over recent years but in common with the national trend the number of baptisms of older children, young people and adults is growing.

*“Cathedrals attract a growing number of people wanting to explore the spirituality they offer and the Christian inheritance they embody. They frequently bring together the best of traditional and modern worship. Over the opening years of the current millennium, their popularity has significantly grown and their ministry broadened on key public and private occasions.”*

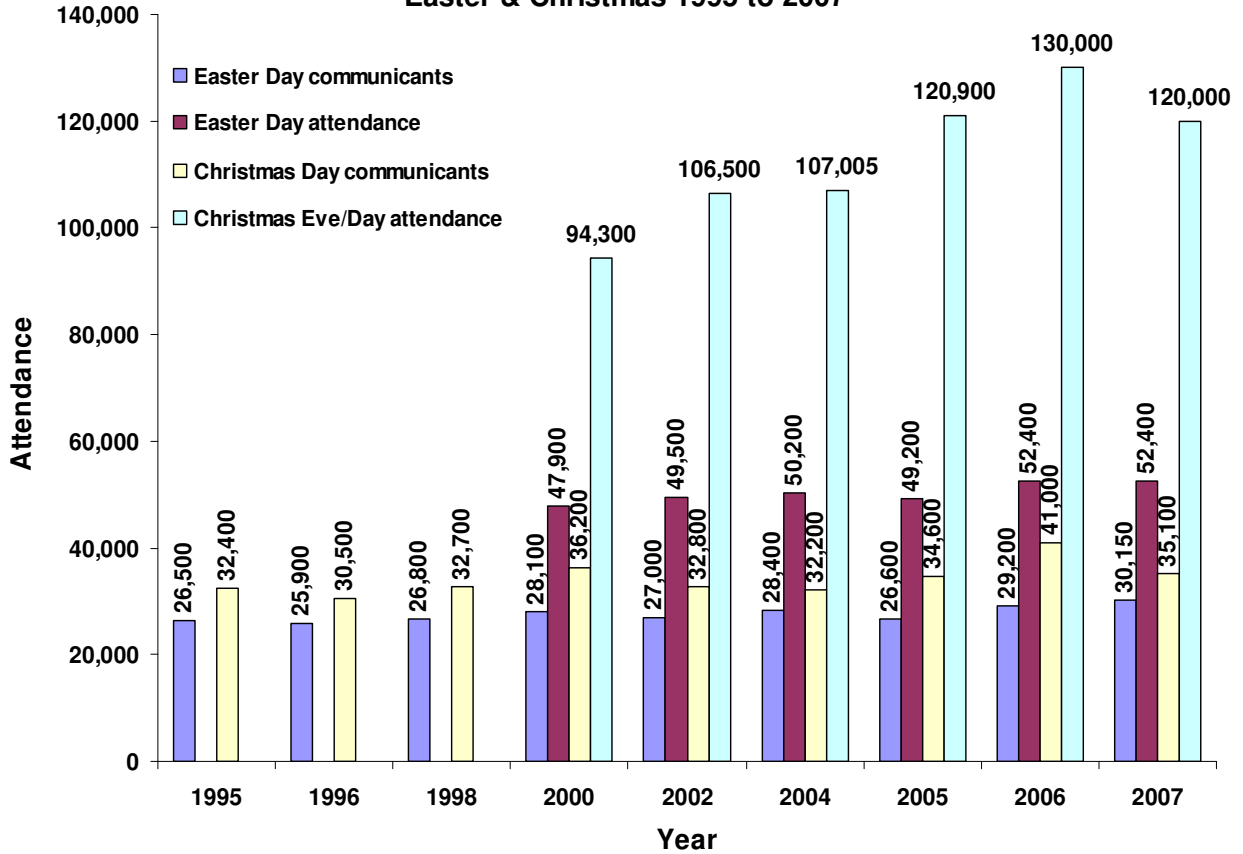
Revd Lynda Barley (Head of Research and Statistics)

**Research and Statistics Department  
Archbishops' Council, April 2008**

# Church of England Cathedrals

(excluding Royal Peculiars)

## Easter & Christmas 1995 to 2007



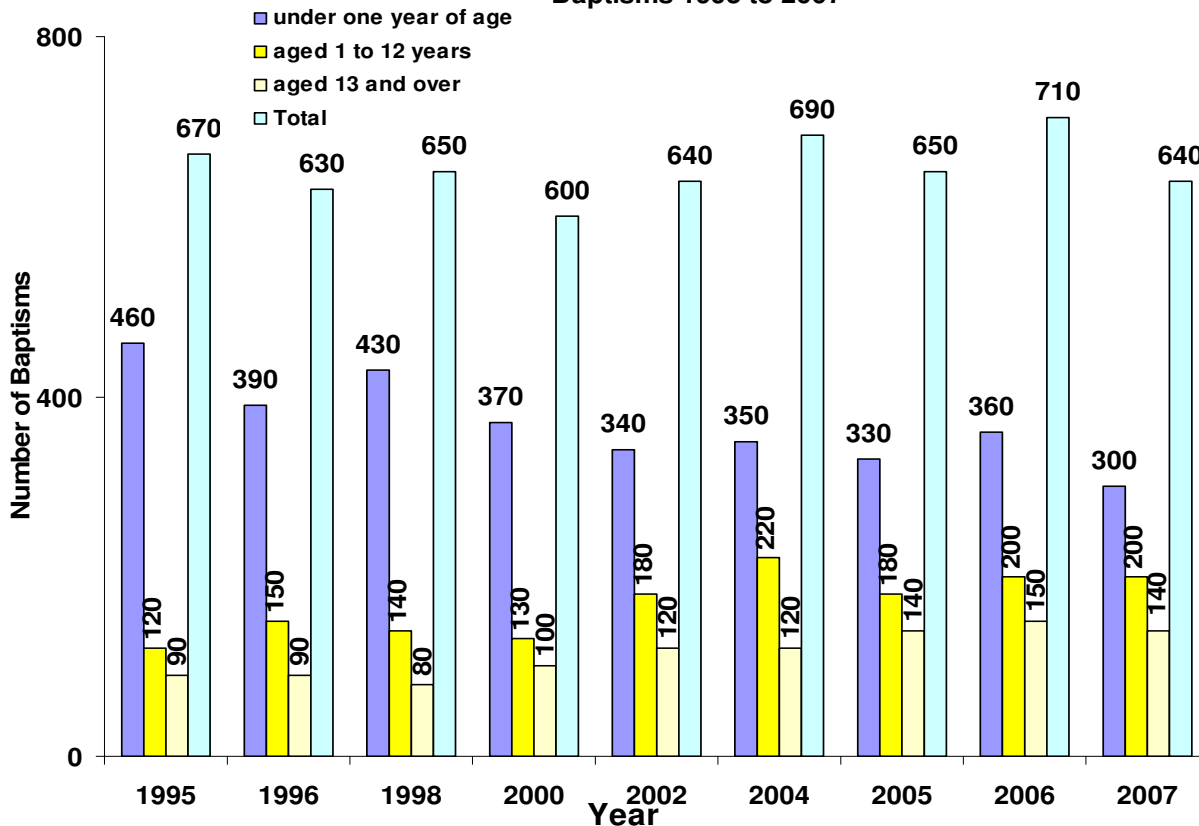
### Total attendance during Advent

2000	2002	2004	2005	2006	2007
630,500	712,200	714,200	721,700	717,300	690,000

### Church of England Cathedrals

(excluding Royal Peculiars)

#### Baptisms 1995 to 2007



### Church of England Cathedrals

(excluding Royal Peculiars)

#### Sunday & total weekly attendance 1995 to 2007

