

Historic St. Paul's Cathedral Faces Global Backlash Over Partnership With London Nightclub

St. Paul's Cathedral is facing mounting criticism after entering a four-year agreement with Fabric, one of London's best-known nightclubs, to stage contemporary music events inside the historic place of worship.

The agreement makes Fabric the cathedral's exclusive contemporary-music partner from 2026 through 2030. The first concert is scheduled for Oct. 29, although organizers have not announced the performer.

Sandra Lynes Timbrell, the cathedral's director of visitor engagement, said the program would encourage people to experience the building "in new and exciting ways," according to St. Paul's Cathedral.

Critics argue the partnership represents another step toward treating churches as entertainment venues rather than places set apart for worship.

Peregrine Hood, president of the Nelson Society and a descendant of Admiral Horatio Nelson's brother, condemned the decision. Nelson is buried in the cathedral's crypt beneath its central dome.

"Is nothing sacred any more?" Hood told The Times. "What a sad reflection on where spiritual integrity and Christianity are today."



Order Jonathan Cahn's New Book, "The Altar of Pergamon" on !

The cathedral's concerts will reportedly be seated, and attendees will not enter the crypt. However, opponents maintain that the absence of dancing near the tombs does not settle the larger issue of using a consecrated Christian space for secular nightlife culture.

Gavin Ashenden, a former chaplain to Queen Elizabeth II, described the partnership as "a betrayal of all the faithful Christian people who said their prayers there," according to Christian Today.

The dispute follows similar controversies at other British cathedrals, including silent discos at Canterbury Cathedral.

Churches do not need to imitate nightclubs to remain relevant. They are called to proclaim Christ, worship God and provide a sacred refuge from the world. The decision at St. Paul's reflects a deeper crisis: Many within the Christian faith have lost their reverence for the Lord and no longer recognize the difference between what is holy and what is common.

James Lasher, a seasoned writer and editor at Charisma Media, combines faith and storytelling with a journalism background from Otterbein University and ministry experience in Guatemala and at the LA Dream Center. A Marine Corps and Air Force veteran, he is the author of *The Revelation of Jesus: A Common Man's Commentary* and a contributor to Charisma magazine. For interviews and media inquiries, please contact media@.