

Puppets to show the faith

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By Catherine Jones Echo Reporter

TOWERING puppets will lead the procession at Liverpool's spectacular Faith in One City celebrations tomorrow.

The five giant puppets - which are "faceless" to represent people of all faiths, nations, colours and creeds - have been created specially for the Liverpool cathedral ceremony.

Each of the 11ft puppets will be controlled by five people, one strapped to each of the puppets by a harness, while the other four take control of the arms and legs.

They will be part of a special performance called The Journey and will lead the 3,000-strong gathering outside at the end for a finale of projections and fireworks.

The year-long celebration of faith is the second of five themed years, highlighting Liverpool's unique culture in the build-up to Capital of Culture in 2008.

Its launch, which coincides with the birthday of human rights activist Martin Luther King, paves the way for 12 months of events for all Liverpool 's many communities.

Faith in One City coordinator Wally Brown said: "The faith puppets are a great example of local people having the faith to make a unique artistic vision a reality."

The puppets were created by around 20 Liverpool students and artists in community workshops run by arts organisation Hope St Ltd in association with the Capricio Theatre Company.