



**“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.”
*(Hebrews 12: 1-2)***



**St Macartin's Cathedral
Welcomes You!**

OUR VISION

Photograph by William Holmes

**Saint Macartin's – At the heart of the Community
Strengthening Commitment, Outreach, Worship and Christian Love**

The Parish of Enniskillen Saint Macartin's Cathedral

Vol 133

Page 2

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The Dean Writes:

Dear Parishioners,

Over the summer we saw the Olympics. This brings to mind a number of New Testament letters referring to sport, including Hebrews: *'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith'* (Hebrews 12:1-2).

The Christian life is compared to a long-distance race, but despite the struggles and obstacles, there is a great crowd of witnesses cheering us on. We have a heavenly Father who loves us and a Saviour who has run the race before us. If we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, He will enable us to finish the race.

During the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, the British athlete Derek Redmond was running in the semi-finals of the 400 metres. About 250 metres from the finish his hamstring tore. He fell to the ground in pain and stretcher bearers came over to him. However, Redmond was determined to finish the race and so he started hopping toward the finishing line. Suddenly Jim Redmond, Derek's father, ran out of the stands towards him. "You don't have to do this," he told his son. "Yes, I do," said Derek, to which his father said, "We're going to finish this together." They completed the lap with Derek leaning on his father's shoulder. As they crossed the finish line, the spectators rose to give



The Parish of Enniskillen Saint Macartin's Cathedral

Vol 133

Page 3

Derek a standing ovation. Although he did not win an Olympic medal, Derek Redmond finished the race with his father at his side.

In our race of life let us make sure we keep our eyes on the finishing line - the finishing line might be closer than we realise! Let us not forget the encouragement we have to finish the race, and let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, and the prize he has promised us of eternal life! Let us also not forget others who like Derek might be struggling along the race of life! Many people and their lifestyles are continually changing and not all for the better of the Christian Church. There are many families living in the Enniskillen area who now have no church connections – children are not being baptised, civil marriages, and non-religious funerals. If God has become less relevant in peoples' lives where is the hope for the future? And I am not just thinking of their future in this world but their future in the next world! This is a growing factor, and everyone needs to be on the alert not to fall victim to growing secularism!

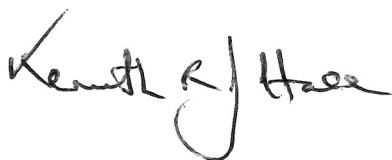
We need to be faithful to God and show that faithfulness in our everyday life and to be a regular attender (if able) at church. Stay connected, connect, or reconnect but do not disconnect! A Sunday or two at church missed, leads to three or four missed, and in turn leads on to months missed, and finally to years, and at that stage reconnections are hard to make – then secularism wins!

With the ministry we offer in St Macartin's Cathedral no one should feel judged by their circumstance or feel 'left out in the cold' – we are open and available to welcome everyone regardless of situation or circumstance! You may know better than I know, of people who feel weary with life, troubled with one problem or another, have felt isolated or hurt by others, and need help on the race of life. These are the ones you need to extend the hand of friendship to and assure them that they are valued and welcome in our Cathedral –

*'Saint Macartin's – At the heart of the Community
Strengthening Commitment, Outreach, Worship and Christian Love'*

As we begin the Autumn season, please make this widely known and invite others you know to join or re-join our church.

Yours very sincerely,



Kenneth R J Hall



Parochial Registers

Holy Baptism

- 30th June - Coby Lewis Jamie Timoney
Holly Iris Rebecca Chambers
- 21st July - Georgia Amelia Ellen Woods
- 26th July - Sebastian Giles John Deller
- 27th July - Reggie Brian Rostron
Lila Louise Reid-Goodings
Milo James Reid-Goodings



"Go make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28: 19

Burial

- 4th July - Tanya Margaret Kathleen Lealan,
13 Sligo Road, Enniskillen.
- 19th July - Noelle Louise Oliver,
295 Clabby Road, Stragole, Tempo.
- 4th August - Sarah Elizabeth (Betty) Rogers,
Millcroft Nursing Home,
formerly Elliott Place, Enniskillen.
- 9th August - Joseph (Joe) Fleming,
7 Killyreagh Road, Tamlaght.
- 16th August - Cecil Charles Hubert (Herbie) Elliott,
34 Ballyreagh Road, Tempo.



Cremation

- 31st July - Onagh, Janette (Ann) Walsh,
County Care Home,
formerly Beaumont, Chanterhill Road, Enniskillen.
- 12th August - James (Noel) Little,
Lackaboy Park, Enniskillen.

Burial of Ashes (In the Garden of Remembrance)

- 23rd July - Christopher Southam,
74 Windmill Heights, Enniskillen.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5: 4

Parish Donations

Fabric Fund

- £20 Donation from The Rev Canon Charles Mullen.
- £500 Donation in memory of her husband Victor, from Mrs Eleanor Lynn.
- £100 Donation from Mr Stephen Fletcher.

Organ and Choir Fund

- £250 Donation from Chamber Choir West.
- £1,000 Donation in memory of Gerald Coalter, who would have been 100 years old on 8th August 2024. Loving husband of Joan, father of Norman, father in law of Helen and grandfather of Matthew, Jordan and Sophie.

Webcam Fund

- £50 Donation from Mrs Eleanor Lynn.

Choral Scholarship Fund

- £500 Anonymous donation.

Parish Visitations

The Clergy and the Diocesan Pastoral Assistant are continually making visits around the parish, but these are often prioritised by sickness and bereavement calls. As we have now well over 600 families emergency calls are quite numerous. Sometimes we are not in the right place at the right time and that is where you can help. If for some reason you are ill, have been ill or bereaved, please let us know by contacting the Cathedral Office and someone will call with you. No contact may well result in no visit through no fault of the clergy! If you or a member of your family is in hospital please inform us otherwise we may not know. Help us to help you!



Thursdays at 11.00am

Service of Holy Communion (30 minutes): We are encouraging parishioners who may be in Enniskillen shopping on Thursday mornings to drop in for this short service – a mid-week pause and praise with God!



Back to Church Sunday



On Sunday 22nd September at 11.00am, we mark 'Back to Church Sunday'. This provides an opportunity for those who used to attend, and anyone who does not currently attend, our

Sunday services to come back to Church. This invitation especially applies to young families. All who come along will receive a warm welcome. The special guest preacher at the service will be the Rev Chris McBruithin, Rector of Castlerock and a former Curate of St Macartin's Cathedral. We look forward to hearing what Rev Chris has prepared to share at the service.

As a special treat, an ice-cream van will provide free ice-cream for all afterwards.

If every person in the congregation invites one other family, even one other person, we could have a massive success and one to be celebrated. If some or all of the invitees respond positively, we could be on the way towards real



growth in our congregation. Realistically, we know that not everyone in our congregation will invite someone else. (However, remember that people are free to invite more than one family or one person!) Realistically, we also know that not everyone who is invited will say "yes." But making the invitation is a significant step towards becoming an invitational church, where it is natural for church members to encourage friends to

"come and see." The beauty of the initiative is that it is based on existing relationships, whether the people to be invited are friends, family members, colleagues, or acquaintances. It is so it is easy for us all to participate.

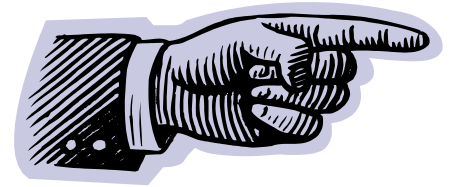
Psalm 122 says 'I was glad when they said to me let us go into the House of the Lord'.

Do your duty towards God, and you may very well be surprised with the response that someone might be overjoyed to be asked!



HELP NEEDED - YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!

Can you help us out?
Your duty towards God and Neighbour!



LEADERS FOR SUNDAY LIGHTS (Sunday School)

This meets from the last Sunday in September to April. Usually 3 or less Sundays per month with only 7 Sundays before Christmas and about 10 between Christmas and Easter (due to holidays and half term). The more volunteers we have the less Sundays your help is needed as we operate a rota system.

HELPERS FOR MESSY CHURCH

Can you offer 2 hours on the third Thursday of each month? We need help to assist with activities or to help in the kitchen to serve food.

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Both the Guides and Scouts are always in need of extra leaders/helpers. Due to the massive numbers attending the guides we need a lot of helpers!

CHOIR MEMBERS

There has been a tremendous increase in our choir members but we still need more, especially male voices! Younger members are welcome to join the Choral Scholarship Scheme – see separate article.

WELCOME TEAM

It is very important that people are greeted with happy friendly faces on a Sunday morning so we need more people for our welcome team!

LESSON READERS

It is good to have a variety of voices to read lessons so more readers are required!

TEA AFTER FAMILY SERVICE

This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other members of the Cathedral Family. Please add your name to a rota for making the tea!

GRAVEYARD VOLUNTEERS

The Cathedral grounds are looking at their best but we need constantly to keep the ivy and weeds under control, especially around the old gravestones. Volunteers can come at any time, any day and work on their own accord.

If you can assist in any of the above please ring the Cathedral Office (66322917), the Clergy or Churchwardens. Please offer your gift of time and talent in God's service! If you do not want to volunteer alone why not approach another parishioner and team up with them? After all it is TEAM work we are after!

TOGETHER EVERYONE ACCOMPLISHES MORE!

St Macartin's Mothers' Union Celebrates 120 Years

Our Branch was formed in March 1904 with 60 members. The first Diocesan President, 1904-1919, was the Countess of Belmore, Anne Elizabeth Honoria. She was the wife of the 4th Earl of Belmore and had 13 children.

On 2-09-2001 our Branch Banner was dedicated by the then Bishop, the Rt Rev BDA Hannon. The Rector, Precentor Brian Courtney, conducted the service and the lesson was read by Mrs Avril Kee. The Banner is a blue damask trimmed with gold fringing. The Diocesan Banner was designed and made by Brown's of Manchester in 1963 and is kept in St Macartin's Cathedral Enniskillen. In 1996 this Banner survived a fire in the Cathedral which gutted a large area at the back of the Church.



Joyce Scott, Valerie Thompson, Angel Nawn, Sadie Whittaker, Dorothy Benson and Maureen Farrelly 2004



Ida Byers, Valerie Thompson, Jean Wilson, Margaret MacLean, Florence Graham, Maureen Farrelly, Margaret Owens, Prue Mahood, Ethel Oldcroft, Joyce Scott, Myrtle Irvine and Barbara Irvine 1976

St Macartin's Mothers' Union Celebrates 120 Years



Valerie Thompson, Valerie Watson and Ann Gault 1988



Eleanor Lynn and Avril Kee 2001



Marie Morrow, Valerie Courtney, Edna Young, Margaret Owens, Hazel Hunter, Dorothy Benson, Maureen Robinson, Joyce Scott, Helen Noble; Claire Stuart, Mrs Coalter, Ruby Breen, Kathleen Lucy, Mrs Armstrong, Angel Nawn, Mrs Brown, Dorothy Armstrong, Dorothy Latimer, Avril Kee; Joan Elliott, Eleanor Lynn, Sadie Whittaker, Mary Barrett, Valerie Thompson and Vilma Vance 2003

Today our MU Branch has 71 members, with Jenifer Johnston as Branch Leader, Sally Masterson as Secretary, Maud Shaw as Treasurer and Valerie Watson as Overseas Treasurer.

On 19th January 2023 we had 19 members enrolled at a special service attended by Heather Ellis, Diocesan President. It was unprecedented to have this number enrolling at one time.

As well as new members enrolling we were able to present 20 members with long service Certificates on 19th March 2023.

continued overleaf

St Macartin's Mothers' Union Celebrates 120 Years



MU Long Service Awards
Mothering Sunday 19th March 2023



**Above: Maud Shaw, Treasurer;
Jenifer Johnston, Branch Leader;
Sally Masterson, Secretary and
Valerie Watson, Overseas Treasurer**

We meet every second Monday between September and May and have a varied programme. Mothers' Union is an integral part of the Cathedral family, helping with Messy Church, Parish Outreach, 2023 Flower Festival, to name but a few.

Our Branch is one of the largest in Ireland and that is due in part to the unwavering support from the Dean. On 8th September 2024 we will celebrate our Birthday at a special service in St Macartin's Cathedral at 11.00am conducted by The Dean.

A Civil Reception, hosted by the Chairman of Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, Councillor John McClaghry will also be held in Enniskillen Townhall on Monday 30th September at 6.30pm, in honour of the occasion.

Forming Faith at St Macartin's



Were you in last year's confirmation class?! Will you be in this year's?! Join us on the last Wednesday evening of each month at 7.30 pm, starting on 30th October, as we Xplore some of the contrasts of our faith, including: How can God be merciful and angry? How

can God be heavenly and human? How can there be divine and artificial intelligence? You don't need to say anything if you don't want to, but all contributions and opinions are welcome as we Xplore together!

Men's Group

Calling all men! We are starting a Men's Group in the Cathedral which will meet on the third Monday of each month, beginning on 21st October. We're expecting a variety of speakers on a diverse range of topics including football, family history and life as a journey. Tea and coffee will be provided.



Word & World

All are welcome to join us as we explore the ways in which Christianity caresses and collides with our world through a series of theological and biblical studies, beginning on 17th September at 7.30 pm in the Hilliard Room and continuing on alternate Tuesdays. Tea and coffee will be available.



Supper at Six

'Supper at Six' is a monthly meal in the Cathedral Hall, which is open for all. You are welcome to make an anonymous voluntary contribution, but are under no obligation to do so. To book your place for the next meal on **Thursday 19th September**, please fill in the slip on the information flyer available in this Cathedral News and return it by **12th September**. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

St Macartin's Cathedral
SUPPER AT SIX
Thursday 19th September 2024
At 6.00pm

"Supper at Six" is a monthly meal in the Cathedral Hall, which is open for all. Parishioners are welcome to make an anonymous voluntary contribution, but are under no obligation to do so. Our hope is that the generosity of those who can afford to make a contribution will cover the cost of those who cannot at this time.

Please return the slip below to the Cathedral Office before Thursday 12th September 2024 to book your place. Due to expected demand, places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

CONTACT NAME: _____
CONTACT NUMBER: _____
NUMBER OF GUESTS: _____
DIETARY REQUIREMENTS: _____



Choral Scholarships

If you have the talent and interest, you can help to form an integral part of St Macartin's Cathedral Choir, Enniskillen, and benefit from our new choral scholarships.

The Cathedral Choir sings at the weekly Sunday morning service at 11.00am, and occasionally at additional services throughout the year. Once or twice a year, the Choir visits churches and cathedrals further afield, to sing. Each year, commencing in September, St Macartin's offers up to ten Choral Scholarships; ideally at least two of each voice part (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). It is useful, but not essential, for potential Choral Scholars to have relevant experience of singing in a choir, for example a church, school or community choir. For all Scholars, good sight-reading skills are desirable.

There are three types of scholarship available: Choral Scholar (Fulltime), Choral Scholar (Part-time) and Organ Scholar.

- Fulltime Choral Scholars receive an annual scholarship of £500 to assist with costs of tuition.
- Part-time Choral Scholars receive an annual scholarship of £250 to assist with costs of tuition.
- Organ Scholars receive an annual scholarship of £100 to assist with costs of tuition and have use of the Cathedral Organ for practice purposes provided the cathedral is available at the time and prior booking of the organ for practice has been made. Organ Scholars will also receive some introductory sessions from the Cathedral Organist to the Cathedral Organ and the musical aspects of worship at the Cathedral.



Choral Scholars, either fulltime or part-time, may also be organ scholars if they apply for and are awarded both scholarships.

All Scholars are obliged to take lessons from an approved professional tutor in their chosen field of music. These lessons should be paid for by the Scholar/Parent/Guardian and financially assisted by the Scholarship award.

Youth and Children's Ministry

Messy Church

Messy Church is held on the third Thursday of each month from 4.00-6.00pm. Dates are 17th October, 21st November and 19th December. The rule is: no child without an adult, and no adult without a child.

Now that we're in a new school year, we are looking forward to meeting new friends! So even if you've never been before, even if you or your children aren't parishioners of the Cathedral, you are very welcome to join us!



Sunday Lights and Café

Sunday Lights and Café, at which we use interactive and creative forms of learning to help the children learn about the Christian faith (telling Bible stories, discussion, songs, games, and crafts), will return in the Sundays following "Back to Church Sunday".



Registration forms will be available, and should be completed, following the "Back to Church Sunday" service. From Sunday 29th September onwards, the children will leave during the 11.00am service after the singing of a family hymn for their own activities, and will attend and take part in monthly Family Services. The first Family Service of the new programme (after "Back to Church Sunday") will be held on 27th October. Sunday Lights is open to anyone in P1-4, and Sunday Café welcomes children in P5-Year 8.

Confirmation



A Confirmation Service will be held during Eastertide 2025 for young people of Year 9 and above. Those who expect to be confirmed should regularly attend services with their families. Confirmation is about taking your place within the life and mission of the Church. Application forms for Confirmation are available in the Parish Office for those who wish to be confirmed. Please collect and return them as soon as possible. Details of Confirmation Classes will be released in due course.

Cathedral Family Raymond (Ray) Hall MBE

Ray is married to Gwendoline and they have two children. He is an avid piper and recently received an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours list.



Tell us about your early stage of life and family background:

I grew up in Tullyavey, the second youngest of a family of seven. I attended Shanmullagh Primary School and then on to Portora Royal School. After leaving Portora I moved to England and joined the Royal Air Force serving as an engineering technician. On leave back home in Enniskillen I met my wife Gwendoline and we were married in Saint Macartin's Cathedral in 1979. We have two children, Rachel and Ciaran, both of whom were born in England but brought home to be christened in Saint Macartin's. On moving back to Enniskillen in 1996 we joined the congregation at Saint Macartin's.

Your career?

I served in the Royal Air Force for nineteen years and on leaving have been employed in Local Government and the NHS in a variety of audit, safety, governance and risk management roles. I presently am employed in Civil Contingencies as the Resilience Manager for the Southern area of Northern Ireland, project managing multi agency partners in preparing, responding and recovering from any emergencies that may or indeed does occur.

Your interests?

I have been part of the Pipe Band movement for many decades, joining Killeadeas Pipe Band at eleven years old and continuing on playing with the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Air Force, as well as playing with a number of other bands. I am presently Pipe Sergeant with Moybrone Pipe Band. I have been privileged to play at many prestige events, tattoos and festivals all over Europe and further afield, highlights include Buckingham Palace, Edinburgh Military

Cathedral Family

Tattoo, Avvenches Tattoo in Switzerland and the Spaaskaya Tower Music Festival on Red Square in Moscow from 2015 to 2019 with the International Celtic Pipe Band. Piping indeed has opened numerous doors and I have made many great friends through the pipe band family across the world.

I was Chairman of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association, Northern Ireland Branch (RSPBANI) for nine years up until 2021 and since 2022 have served the parent body as a Board Director of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association involved in the organisation and staging of the major piping championships including the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow as well as directing the organisation. I also have been involved in the Fermanagh Section of RSPBANI for many years as Secretary and more lately as Treasurer, it has been a real delight to be involved with the great team who contribute so much to bringing the County Fermanagh Championships to Enniskillen year on year. I feel very privileged to serve as the Chairman of the County Fermanagh Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association for the past fifteen years, we are a small but incredibly active group who strive hard to be very much a part of the community and ensure every member of the RAF family in Fermanagh and more widely receives our help if in need. This year is the 75th anniversary of the County Fermanagh Branch, which was formed on the 15th of March 1949, we were very proud indeed to be the host for the recent D Day commemoration service in our Cathedral which was a really poignant and moving occasion. I have been on the Board of the Arts Council NI since 2022, a role I greatly enjoy and which allows me to make a small contribution to the wider Arts world.

Favourites?

Film: All the President's Men

Book: All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriott – I read a lot but this is true comfort reading.

Food: Love all food, especially Italian.

Hymn: God is my Strength and Refuge – to Dambusters tune of course!

Bible Reading: John 16: 33.

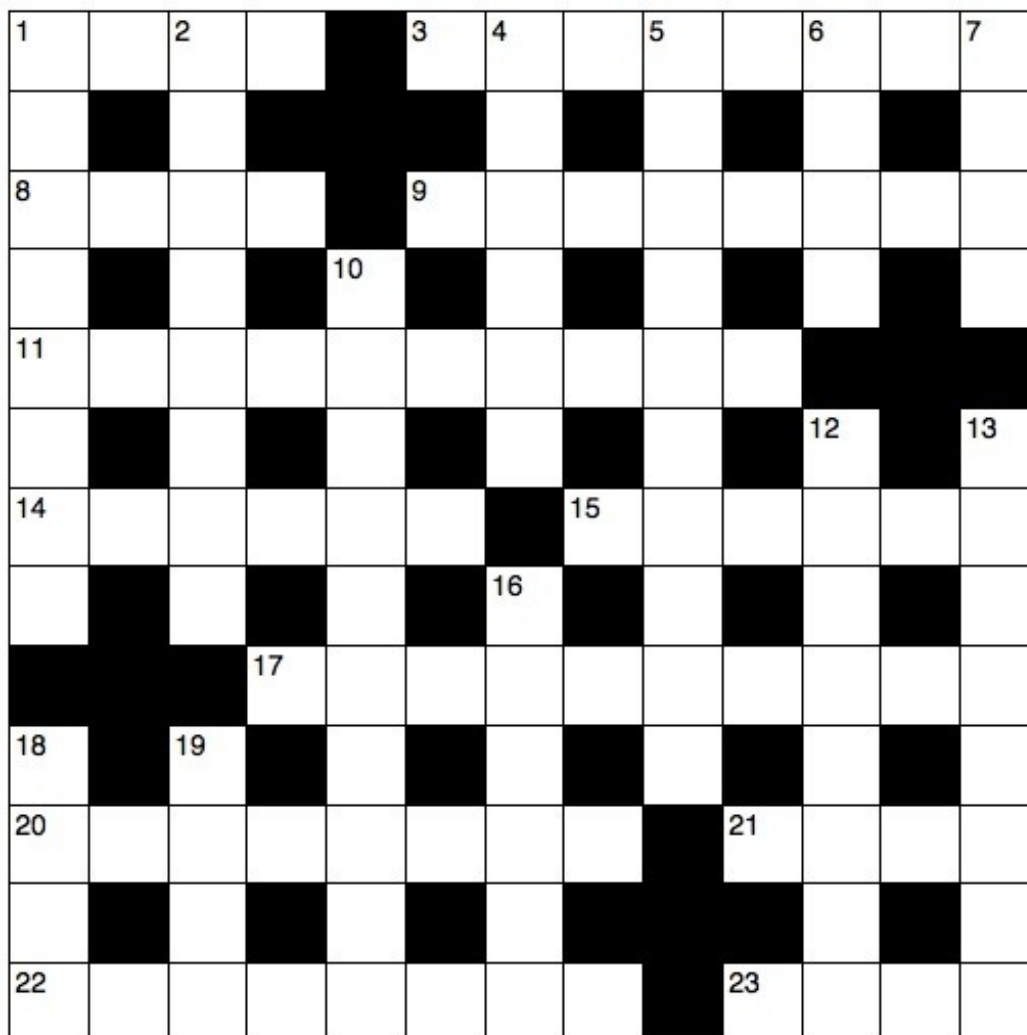
Best Day(s)?

Our wedding day and the birth of our two wonderful children.

Biggest Surprise?

I was absolutely surprised, shocked and humbled to receive news that I was being awarded the MBE in the King's Birthday Honours list for services to Pipe Bands and the community.

Crossword



Across

- 1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28) (4,3,5)
- 3 See 1 Across
- 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22) (4)
- 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
- 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6) (4)

Crossword

22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)

23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

Down

1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)

2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)

4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)

5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)

6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)

7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)

10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)

12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)

13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)

16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)

18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)

19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

Bible Reading Notes

Each Sunday all three readings from the Revised Common Lectionary are printed on a Parish Bulletin. The Psalm and Collect are also listed. Make sure you get this sheet each week. If for some reason you are not out, get someone to take one for you. Please keep it and use one of the readings or psalm each day throughout the week in your private prayers.

Copies of Our Daily Bread (Bible Reading Notes) are available free of charge at the back of the church.

Please take one and you will find an order form included so that you can order them and have them sent directly by post to your own home. These will make the reading of the Bible easy, enjoyable, interesting, and relevant to every day life.

'Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path' (Psalm 119: 105)



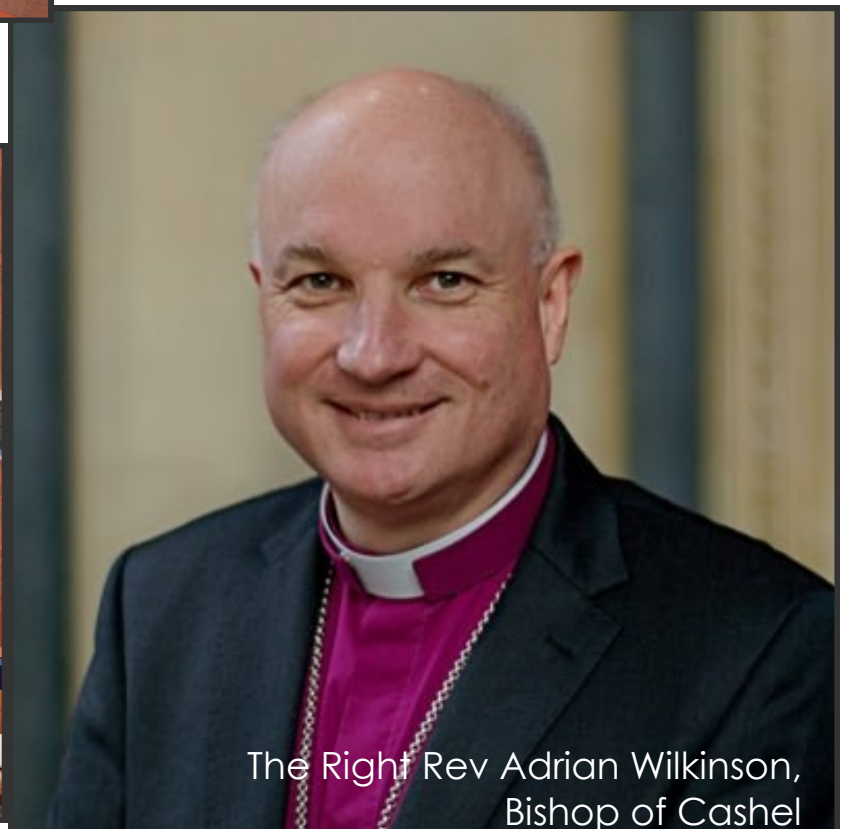
Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Our annual Harvest Thanksgiving, in which we give thanks to God for his generous provision, will be held on Sunday 13th October at the usual time of 11.00am. The special guest preacher at this service will be The Right Rev Adrian Wilkinson, Bishop of Cashel. At 7.00pm on the same day, we will have another opportunity to thank God for his promise that "as long as the earth endures, seed-



time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease." Much like the annual Festival of Lessons and Carols for Christmas, this service will give us an opportunity to reflect on inspiring hymns and readings but with a Harvest theme. Refreshments, as well as apple tarts with fresh cream, will be served in the Cathedral Hall following the service.

All are warmly welcome to



The Right Rev Adrian Wilkinson,
Bishop of Cashel

Psalm

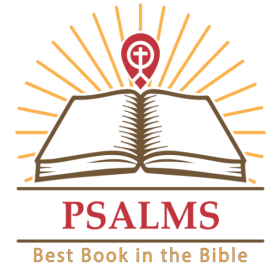
Psalm 88

There are times when all of us feel overwhelmed by the darkness. When there seems to be no hope and no solution to our problems. For the Jewish people as a nation these feelings reached a peak when they were carried into exile in Babylon: they left familiarity and home behind, they left their beloved temple, for the most part they left their friends and families to be taken forcibly to a life of suffering far from home. Their sense that God had abandoned them comes through clearly in their writings, and in this psalm in particular. They felt shunned by those around them, isolated, without hope. And their pain is palpable: they cry out in different ways at different times in their plight. All options have been exhausted.

When we too feel without hope and without words to express our pain then we can turn to passages like Psalm 88, where we can learn how to pray in crisis, where we can find permission to be in the dark depths, without judgement. We can learn that we are not alone in despair. The exceptional and extreme nature of this psalm is the key to its power. Psalm 88 seems to offer nothing else, and yet the hope is that the psalm still does appeal to God in the midst of the darkness. The most remarkable thing about this psalm is that it has been written at all. As people of faith we are uncomfortable with the whole text: every other psalm of lament ends on a note of redemption, a note of obvious hope. But here the hope is more subtle: the fact that the psalm exists is the expression of hope. The psalm is not shallow or unempathetic: it knows and feels real pain, real abandonment, and yet it knows somehow that these are moments to offer to God, that God is still in the midst of these moments.

It would be wrong to think of this psalm as a prediction of the crucifixion, but it certainly captures some of the heart pain, shunning and abandonment that Jesus expressed as he approached the cross. The love shown on the cross was in no way conventional, or expected, and similarly the conundrum of feeling abandoned by God, yet engaging in dialogue with God is the mystery right at the heart of the crucifixion and Psalm 88.

When we stand in hopeless, utter darkness, we do not stand alone: we stand with the writer of Psalm 88, and we stand with Christ on the cross.



Psalms 88:18 KJV

Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness.

Parish Organisations

CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice is held fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday evening of each month at 7.30pm from September through to April/May, and weekly for 6 weeks during Lent. On occasions choir practices may be held weekly to prepare for certain services or performances. New choir members are most welcome, currently tenor or bass singers would be particularly encouraged.

CRÉCHE ROOM

As we start what is traditionally seen as a new season of church life in September, here is a reminder of the crèche room and facilities which are available during the main Sunday morning service. Parents of babies and children who are not of Sunday School age are welcome to use the Creche Room situated at the top of the stairs from the north-west porch. It is best if children can remain in church, but if a parent needs a break they are welcome to use the Creche Room. Please feel free to move around during the service.

MESSY CHURCH - Meets the third Thursday each month – see page 13

PARENTING WELLNESS GROUP - Meet Saturdays once per month – see page 25

BEAVERS

Beavers will recommence late September from 6.45 pm to 8.00pm (date to be confirmed). This is for all children aged 6 to 8 years.

CUBS

Cubs will recommence late September from 6.45 pm to 8.00pm (date to be confirmed). This is for all children aged 8 to 10 1/2 years.

SCOUT GROUP REGISTRATION

The scouts will have a registration evening late September and meetings will resume the following week from 6.45 pm to 8.00pm . This is for all young people aged 6 to 15 years and they will join a worldwide organisation of over 300 million members preparing young people to develop as active members of their Community. They will take camping and outdoors to a new level and for some to an international level. For all sections the gaining of badges and awards is a large part of the programme and there is the opportunity for Scouts to ultimately gain the Chief Scout's award



Parish Organisations

RAINBOWS

Rainbows will recommence on Tuesday 24th September from 6.30pm to 7.30 pm. This is for all girls aged 4yrs to 6yrs and they will enjoy learning new games, craft work and going on outings as well as making new friends with other Rainbows in Fermanagh.

BROWNIES

Brownies will recommence on Tuesday 24th September from 6.30pm to 7.45pm. This is for all girls aged 7yrs to 10yrs (P6) and they will enjoy completing badge work, going on outings, craft work, participating in joint activities with other Brownie units throughout Fermanagh and going on Pack Holiday.

GUIDES

Guides will recommence on Tuesday 24th September from 6.30pm to 7.45pm. This is for all girls aged 10 years (P7) to 14years and they will enjoy completing badge work, craft work, camp holidays and taking part in activities with Guides throughout Fermanagh and Northern Ireland.

RANGERS

Rangers will recommence on Tuesday 24th September from 6.30pm to 7.45pm. This is for all girls aged 14-18years and they will complete badge work, crafts, be eligible to complete Duke of Edinburgh award and Queen's guide award. Girls will also have the opportunity to take part in international trips away.

MOTHERS' UNION

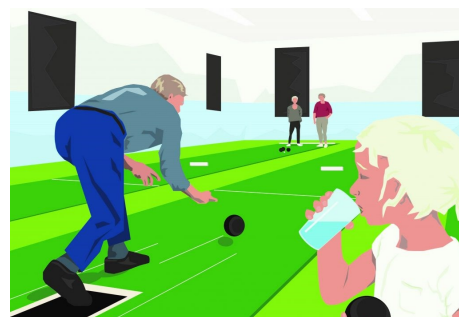
Recommences on Monday 9th September at 7.30pm. See pages 8 & 9. New members welcome!

TUESDAY CLUB

Recommences on Tuesday 24th September 2.00pm – Hilliard Room. New members are welcome, and we especially want to encourage men to come along and enjoy the fun and fellowship! Come and meet other parishioners - a good friend could be someone you have yet to meet.

BOWLS

Recommences on Wednesday 11th September at 10.30 am and 7.30 pm. It is an excellent means of socialising and meeting new friends for fun and friendship. Wednesdays from 10.30am-12.00 noon (Morning Bowls) and 7.30-10.00pm (Evening Bowls).



Knowing your Cathedral - The East Window

The Church has taught since ancient times that Eden was in the East, and that the second coming of Christ will happen in the East, and so the special significance of this cardinal direction for church buildings is marked in many ways. In St. Macartin's Cathedral we have a splendid East Window which draws on this tradition by depicting four scenes of resurrection from the Bible. Our curate, Revd Edwin, will be writing about each of these scenes over the coming months.

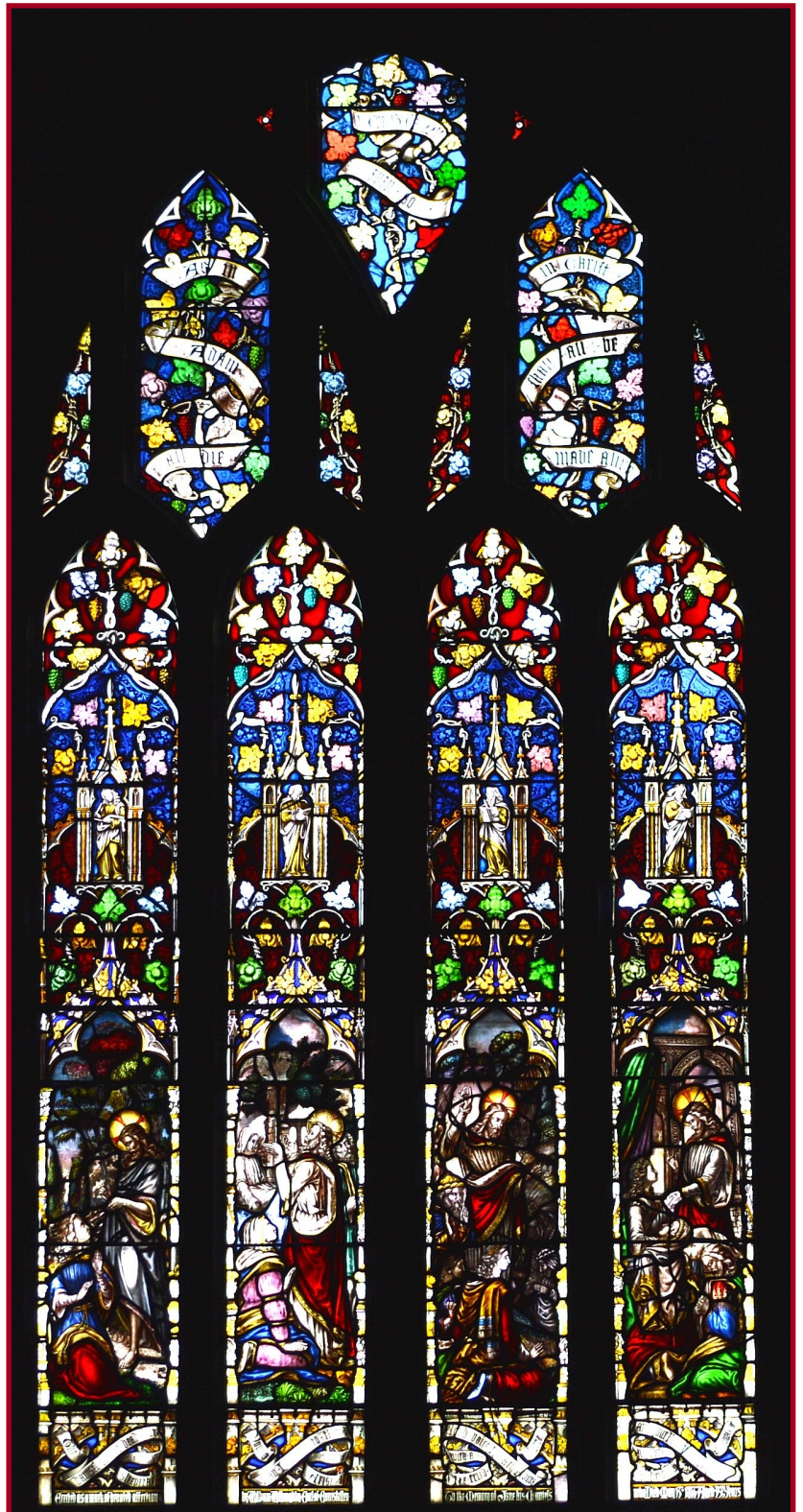
The final panel depicts the resurrection of Christ himself. In the first three panels we have moved from one just dead, to one on his way to be buried, to one who had been dead for three days: this increasing power of Christ over death as he went through his ministry culminates in him conquering death in his own body. In common with the gospel accounts




Knowing your Cathedral - The East Window

of Jesus' resurrection, the actual moment itself is not depicted, but the window shows Mary Magdalene's very human and gentle encounter with the newly-risen Christ. He reminds her not to touch his body until he has ascended to heaven. How human and how poignant: of course he could have ascended earlier, avoided Mary altogether until afterwards, but he knew it was likely that she would come to the tomb as early as possible to weep near his body, and he waited there for her. Even in the greatest moment of history, God waits for the individual, sits with their pain, acknowledges their grief, blesses them with God's presence. Mary's part was simply to be faithful, to trustingly present herself and her pain to Jesus, in the peace and solitude of the garden. And her blessing was to be the first of the apostles: the earliest person sent to take the good news of the resurrection to the world. The final bit of earthly humanity in the story is that of course the first people she told, the eleven disciples, didn't believe her.

**Photographs by
Dr Willie Holmes**




400th Anniversary Year - Cathedral History Book

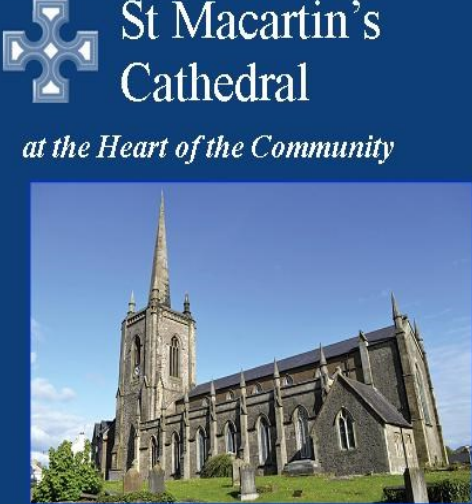


The author
Samuel Boyd Morrow OBE BA graduated from Queen's University in 1939. His Civil Service career was in agriculture, finishing as Fermanagh's County Agricultural Officer. In his last two years, before retirement in 1996, he served as Principal of Enniskillen Agricultural College in addition to his role as County Agricultural Officer. His education in Fermanagh was at Clabby Primary School and then Portora Royal School. In his youth he worshipped in St Margaret's Parish Church, Clabby. He has been a member of Enniskillen parish since 1966 and a member of its select vestry since 1968. He has served periods as churchwarden, glebewarden and has been honorary secretary of the select vestry since 1989. He has written four other books, two on agricultural matters and two on church history. Those dealing with church affairs are titled: *The Church of Ireland Parishes of Tempo and Clabby - a Shared Heritage*; and: *Clabby on the Map - The Church of Ireland Parishes of Clabby and its People*.

Designed and printed by Parnis Press & Design Ltd. Tel: 09812 33780




The cup presented by Edward Davis in 1525 is still in use as the chalice of the Convent in St Macartin's Cathedral. The inscription is Latin: *Prophetam Esaiam Placuit de Jherusalem et domo Edward Davis Concessit anno 1525*. Theological title given: *The cup of the Church of Enniskillen, the gift of Edward Davis, Gent., in the year 1525*.



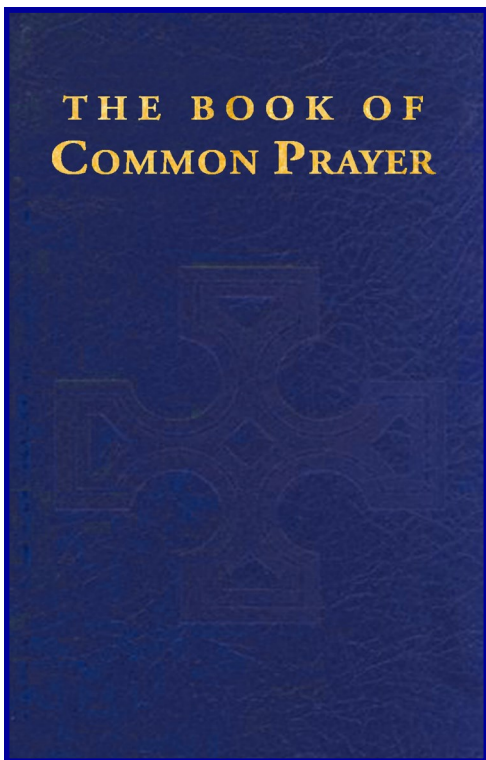
St Macartin's Cathedral
at the Heart of the Community

Over 400 years of Parish History
by Samuel B. Morrow



St Macartin's Cathedral by Samuel B. Morrow

A number of St Macartin's 400 Years of Parish History by Samuel B Morrow are still available at the launch price of £20.00. These would make ideal gifts for family members and friends, especially those who were baptised, confirmed or married in the Cathedral, and for those who have had relatives buried from the cathedral. Copies are available from the Parish Office, the Deanery or from the Churchwardens.



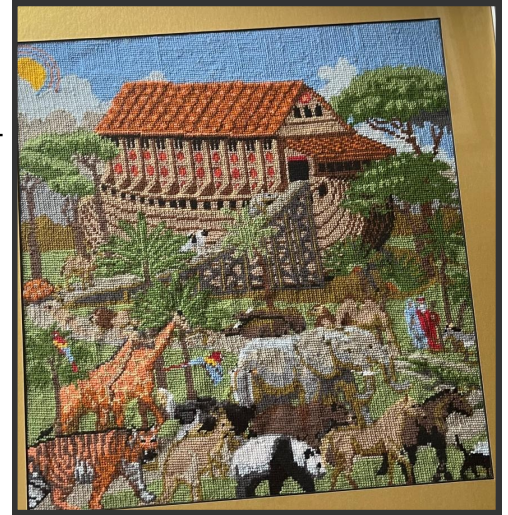
Prayer Books

Do you have a Prayer book in your home? If not you should have! We are a Prayer Book church and the Prayer Book should not just be on those shelves at the back of the church for use on Sunday, but there should be a copy of a Prayer Book in every home. Everything in it is biblically based and it is a vital tool to everyday living, for daily prayer, and for nourishment and for enriching our daily walk with God. As you leaf through the Prayer Book you will find services and prayers for daily use, and for every situation and worry in life. It is a marvellous resource so use it. Copies are available from the Cathedral Office for £20.00 and would make an ideal gift!

Parish Organisations

Knitwits

Knitwits is a group of people who enjoy knitting, crochet and other handcrafts. There are no barriers, the photo shows a beautiful tapestry of Noah's Ark completed by Teddy Beeson and now hanging in pride of place in his home. Knitwits was started by Claire Holmes in her home for those who wished to learn to knit socks! It has grown and now meets in the Cathedral Hall on Saturday afternoons resuming on 28th September at 2.00pm in the Eniskeene Room.



Parenting Wellness Group

The Parenting Wellness Group was set up by Linda Kingston. There is a very active What's App Group for the families to join which is a great source of encouragement and it enables parents to let each other know about upcoming events in the church and local community e.g. Messy Church, Supper at Six, Sunday School, Summer Camps, Summer Fetes, Flower Festivals, Coffee Afternoons.



The Parenting Wellness Group will visit The Battle Camp Activity Centre, located near Teemore, on the Derrylin to Belturbet Road on Saturday 7th September at 2.00pm. Activities to include

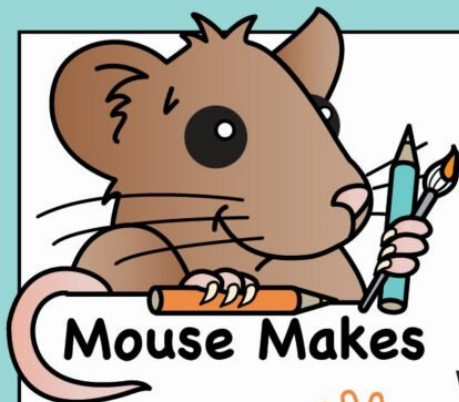
Nerf and Archery. For more information about the Group or to reserve a place, please contact Linda Kingston on 07342045474.



Answers to Crossword on page 16

ACROSS: 1, John. 3, And James. 8, Near. 9, Omission. 11, Theocratic. 14, Asleep. 15, By-path. 17, Stalligrad. 20, Backbone. 21, Baca. 22, Whose eye. 23, Seth. DOWN: 1, Jonathan. 2, Heavenly. 4, No meat. 5, Justly-ing. 6, Maid. 7, Sins. 10, Acceptable. 12, Marriage. 13, Shadrach. 16, Plenty. 18, A bow. 19, ECHO.

Children's Page



"AND WHEN YOU PRAY,
PRAY THEN LIKE THIS ..."

Where does Jesus say
to go to pray?
Matthew 6:6



What does God know
before you ask Him?
Matthew 6:8



What can we ask God
to deliver us from?
Matthew 6:13

If you forgive others
what will God do?
Matthew 6:14



"Always be full of **joy**.
Never stop praying.
Whatever happens,
always be **thankful**."
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

D L O R D S P R A Y E R
L F W R E A R T H K S O
D A I L Y K E D A S K O
E T L V T H Y E L H D M
B H L A M E N L L O O I
T E M P T A T I O N N H
S R A R A V I V W O E E
S K N A M E T E E U V A
I C J Y V N E R D R I R
N O U R N A V B R E A D
S M E W I K I N G D O M
J E S U S U L Y O U R J
N E E D S F O R G I V E



ROOM • PRAY • ASK • NEEDS • HEARD • JESUS
LORDS PRAYER • OUR • FATHER • HALLOWED • HONOURED
NAME • THY • KINGDOM • COME • YOUR • WILL • DONE
EARTH • HEAVEN • DAILY • BREAD • FORGIVE • DEBTS
SINS • TEMPTATION • DELIVER • EVIL • AMEN

Parish People

Director of Music and Organist - Glenn Moore

Churchwardens - Dwayne Nixon and Ann Little

Glebewardens - George Irvine and Noel Johnston

Hon Secretary - Sam Morrow, Assistant Hon Secretary - Stephen Richmond

Hon Treasurer - Hope Kerr, Assistant Hon Treasurer - David Graham

Select Vestry - David Clarke, Nathan Clyde, Richard Cochrane,
Linda Corrigan, Vanessa Elliott, Arnold Graham, Ivan Kee, Karl Saunders,
Audrey Williamson, Jonathan Woods.

Lay Readers - Karl Saunders and Jack Watson

Verger - Andrew McCabe

Hall Caretaker - Andrew McCabe

September Lessons and Readers

Sunday 1st September The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

The First Reading - Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9 - Isla Rowland

The Psalm - Psalm 15

The Second Reading - James 1: 17-27 - Geoffrey Wilkinson

The Gospel Reading - Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23 - The Dean

Sunday 8th September The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Mothers' Union 120th Anniversary Service

The First Reading - Isaiah 35: 4-7 - MU Member

The Psalm - Psalm 146; 1-6

The Second Reading - James 2: 1-10, 14-17 - MU Member

The Gospel Reading - Mark 7: 24-37 - MU Member

Sunday 15th September The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

The First Reading - Isaiah 50: 4-9 - Jeanette Cochrane

The Psalm - Psalm 116: 1-8

The Second Reading - James 3: 1-12 - Richard Cochrane

The Gospel Reading - Mark 8: 27-38 - The Curate

Sunday 22nd September The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Family Service - Back to Church Sunday

Sunday 29th September The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

The First Reading - Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 9: 24-29 - Blane Bailey

The Psalm - Psalm 19: 7-14

The Second Reading - James 5: 13-20 - Liz Robertson

The Gospel Reading - Mark 9: 38-50 - Adele Moore

WELCOME TEAM September 2024

01 Myrtle and George Irvine

08 Doris and Gordon Jackson

15 Adele and Andrew Kerr

22 Marie and Sam Morrow

29 Jenifer and Noel Johnston

SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Holy Communion (first and third Sundays)

Morning Prayer (second and fifth Sundays)

Morning Prayer/Family Service (fourth Sundays)

11.00am - Sunday School - Begins in church and children leave for classes.

On fourth Sundays they remain in church with their families.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

11.00am - Holy Communion (each Thursday)

4.00pm - Messy Church (Thursday once per month as arranged)

7.30pm - Lent (each Wednesday)

7.30pm - Holy Week (each evening)

PAROCHIAL ORGANISATIONS

MONDAY

Beavers - 6.45pm - 8.00pm

Cubs - 6.45pm - 8.00pm

Confirmation Classes - 6.30pm - 7.30pm (as arranged)

Select Vestry Meeting - 8.00pm - 9.30pm (first Mondays)

Mothers' Union - 7.30pm - 9.30pm (second Mondays)

Men's Group - 7.30pm - 9.30pm (third Mondays)

TUESDAY

Tuesday Club - 2.00pm - 4.00pm (last Tuesdays)

Rainbows - 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Brownies - 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Guides - 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Rangers - 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Word & World - 7.30pm (alternate weeks)

WEDNESDAY

Bowling Club - 10.30am - 12.00 noon

Bowling Club - 7.30pm - 10.00pm

Choir Practice - 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Bell Ringing Practice - 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Xplore - 7.30pm (last Wednesday of month, October to March)

THURSDAY

Messy Church - 4.00pm - 6.00pm (as arranged)

Scouts - 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Supper at Six - 6.00pm - 7.30pm (fourth Thursday, September to March)

SATURDAY

Parenting Wellness Group (Once per month as arranged)

KnitWits - 2.00 - 5.00pm (Autumn to Easter)

**New members are
always welcome
at any of our
organisations!**