

# CATHEDRAL LIFE

The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

APRIL 2020

Beauty in brokenness

## THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER, DROMORE



### Rector -

The Very Revd Geoff Wilson, B.Th  
Dean of Dromore

### Curate Assistant

The Revd Trevor McKeown, B.A. (Hons.)

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### Pastoral Duty

In the event of pastoral need or  
emergencies, please contact the  
Rector on 028 9269 2275 or if  
unavailable, the Curate on  
028 3832 1217

Deadline for articles and information  
for the next edition of Cathedral Life.

*No material will be accepted after  
this deadline.*

Friday 17th April 2020

Dear friends,

## Beauty in brokenness

I'm always amazed how things of great beauty can grow, and even prosper, in the most challenging of circumstances. The image on the front of our magazine this month is one such example of a beautiful flower flourishing in a crack on the face of a mountain. No beautifully landscaped flowerbed full of peat, nutrients and protection from prevailing winds. Just a thing of beauty managing to grow in the starkest of situations with little nurture, protection or encouragement from the prevailing context.

We find ourselves faced with perhaps the most challenging situation our country has faced in living memory. Interest rates have never been lower. Restrictions on our movements, work and social life (for very good reason), have never been so prevalent. Fear has never been felt so acutely as those belonging to "at risk" groups isolate from others for fear of contracting the potentially deadly Coronavirus Covid-19. And that fear has at times found expression in the most selfish practice of stock piling groceries and shelf-emptying at the expense of others, particularly key workers serving at the front line in the battle against the virus.

And yet....in the midst of this terrible crisis, if we look carefully enough, there is so much beauty to be observed. There are stories of singers standing outside nursing/care homes and serenading the residents from a safe distance. Stories of small shopkeepers giving out of their own position of need, to resource emergency food packs for people in the "at risk" group in society. Stories of individuals offering their services to run errands, pick up prescriptions, exercise pets, show compassion. Stories of community groups coming together, in spite of difference, to respond to growing need in our country. Stories of churches all considering what they can do to show something of God's love and compassion to a world that could be asking where God is in this whole horrible crisis.

As I reflect on everything as it unfolds, almost on an hourly basis, it really does remind me of a similar journey to an equally dark, horrible and broken place - the cross of Christ. But there is one hugely significant difference between the journey we are on and the one which Jesus made, **he chose** to make that journey. I don't doubt the despair and fear that followers of Jesus must have felt at the foot of the cross. But imagine the difference it made to those same followers when they discovered the empty tomb and were able to look back on the cross and recognise the beauty of the cross in the midst of the brokenness.

As we continue to journey towards what our government call "the peak" of the crisis, I would encourage us to look for the beauty in the midst of our brokenness. Or perhaps we could be part of the beauty as we see beyond our own fear and anxiety and see the needs of others around us. You will be able to read about our response as a church to growing needs - I would encourage you to be part of the response by signing up to be a volunteer.

Be part of the beauty as together we seek to overcome the brokenness.

A very peaceful, healthy and Christ-centred Easter to you and those who you love and care for.

Your friend in Christ.

**Geoff**

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# Visitation

Due to the developing situation surrounding the Coronavirus Covid-19 crisis, we would advise each and every home in our parish that it is currently unwise for routine visitation to take place. We have written to a number of folks and advised that with certain carefully considered parameters, limited visitation may still be offered if it is requested. Since that letter was written, the situation we are faced with has changed considerably. Regrettably, we will not be able to call at people’s homes for visitation as this would be in contravention of the latest government instructions and guidelines - this is not only sensible to protect both you and me, but also a very sensible measure to prevent further spread of the virus. We can assure you that appropriate visitation will be resumed as soon as it is considered wise to do so, in keeping with government advice.

As a church, we are encouraging the use of social media and the good old fashioned telephone to reduce feelings of isolation. Please do help us by your understanding of the foregoing and by supporting your friends, neighbours and family members in appropriate ways.

## A new CD Ministry - Beauty in Brokenness

As a consequence of the suspension of all services and meetings in the Church, services will be broadcast at 10.45am on a Sunday morning. However, we recognise that not all of our members have access to the internet and so may not be in a position to avail of this service. Consequently, we have purchased a multi CD copier and have commenced a CD ministry which will be available to everyone who requests one. This is a ministry which was conceived of as part of our vision process/document back in October 2017 - isn’t it interesting how something good has come out of something broken?

In the first instance, we will be delivering CDs to around 60 homes, but if you would like to receive one, simply contact Geoff in the Rectory on 9269 2275 and he will be only too happy to arrange for delivery.

## Closure of Church Office

In the interests of safety, and in order to prevent further spread of the Coronavirus, it has been decided to close the church office until further notice. Any enquiries should be directed to our Rector, Geoff in the Rectory - Geoff can be contacted on 9269 2275, 07808 844637 or [revgeoffwilson@gmail.com](mailto:revgeoffwilson@gmail.com) after 9am and before 9pm every day, and at any time in the event of an emergency.

# Coronavirus Advice

## Stay at home

Everyone is being asked to stay at home with only a few exceptions:

- Getting food or essentials, once per day
- Exercising, once per day
- Travelling to work, only where that work can't be done from home.

Please honour this request from our government. Human contact is spreading this disease. By stopping it we protect our NHS.

## Symptoms

Coronavirus has some particular symptoms to watch for:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need a thermometer)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hrs (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

**DO NOT go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Use the 111 online coronavirus service to find out what to do. ONLY CALL 111 if you cannot get help online.**

**Remember to WASH YOUR HANDS with soap and water often! Do this for at least 20 seconds (you can sing Happy Birthday twice)!**

**Catch sneezes in a tissue and cough into your elbow.**

## Self-isolation

If you have symptoms of coronavirus, you'll need to stay at home completely for 7 days. After 7 days, if you still have a temperature you need to continue to stay at home until your temperature settles.

If you live with someone who has symptoms, you'll need to stay at home for 14 days from the day the first person in the home started having symptoms. (If you develop symptoms during these 14 days you need to stay at home for 7 days after YOU first develop symptoms).

If you live with someone who is 70 or over, has a long-term condition, is pregnant or has a weakened immune system, try to find somewhere else for them to stay for 14 days. If you have to stay at home together, try to keep away from each other as much as possible.

Staying at home means NOT going to work/school/public areas. DO NOT use public transport or taxis. DO NOT have visitors such as friends or family. DO NOT go out to buy food or collect medicine. You can use your garden if you have one. You can also leave the house to exercise but you must stay at least 2metres away from other people.

We can help you get food and essentials. **Call 0300 365 5561** for help.

**Checklist (adapted from [mind.org.uk](http://mind.org.uk)):**

- **Contact no.:** do we have your contact details? Are there are others you could tell (via phone) about this who do not receive the church magazine?
- **Food:** do you need help to get food delivered?
- **Cleaning:** do you have enough cleaning supplies or soap?
- **Medication:** do you have a way to get more medication if you are near the end of your supply? (we are advised not to over-order)
- **Pets:** can someone else help you walk your dog?
- **Connectivity:** would you like someone to phone for a chat? Let us know what you enjoy/what TV you watch so we can connect you with someone with similar interests/hobbies. Do you need someone to post letters?
- **Routine:** can you create a routine or timetable for yourself? Do you need to agree how the household will run with everyone at home all day?
- **Exercise:** is there any physical activity you can do inside your home, such as going up and down the stairs, using bean tins as weights, or exercises you can do in your chair? NHS website Fitness Studio exercise videos

NHS Choices have a leaflet – Exercises for older people

- **Nature:** have you thought how you could access nature? Just getting outside in the garden or opening a window can help. Can we get you some seeds for planting, houseplants or living herbs?
- **Entertainment:** have you thought about things to do, books to read or TV shows to watch?
- **Relax:** have you got materials so you can do something creative, such as writing paper, paper and colouring pencils or wool for knitting? Perhaps this is the time to rediscover an old hobby?
- **Generation Game:** We would love to use this opportunity to connect the different generations of our church family. Our kids and young people would love to hear about what Dromore was like when you were growing up and stories you might have. If you are willing, we would love you to write down and share some memories. Then we will get the kids to respond!



## **How can I help?**

### **Help deliver food and essentials.**

We plan to co-ordinate food packs and essentials to those who are isolating or in need of assistance. In time, should restrictions relax, we may ask for donations of basic dry food stuffs to do this centrally.

For now however if you are willing to deliver food and essentials for others, please join our volunteer list by visiting [link.dromorecathedral.org/volunteer](http://link.dromorecathedral.org/volunteer)

### **Volunteer**

There will be a need for a lot of people to serve others in the community. As the needs arrive it would be great to have an army of volunteers ready and waiting. If you think you could help, please sign up online [link.dromorecathedral.org/volunteer](http://link.dromorecathedral.org/volunteer) - or phone our hotline.

### **Pray**

This is a time where God's people need to fall on their knees and cry out to God for the souls of so many. We have direct access to the King of creation – and everyone of us can be heard.

### **Give**

With Sunday services suspended we ask our members to consider how they might continue to give their free will offering to the church. One way in which you would be able to do this would be by taking out a Standing Order (something which can be altered or cancelled at any time). If you are in a position to take out a Standing Order and would like to have more information on how to go about this, then please contact our Treasurer, Nan McMurray on 028 3832 7856 or [nanmcmurray@btinternet.com](mailto:nanmcmurray@btinternet.com) and she will be able to provide you with all of the necessary paperwork by post. Additionally, the Cathedral now has a Paypal account, through which you can make one off donations, just like placing your envelope on the plate on a Sunday! If you would like to donate to the work of the church in this way, please visit our website or Facebook page, click on the donate button and follow the instructions - don't forget to add your name and FWO number in order that we can record your giving. This service should be available very shortly.

In saying this, we recognise that for some of us, this crisis could also have financial implications and your financial support for the work of the church may need to be decreased or even stopped for the time being.

For more details on how you might be able to continue to use the envelope system, please contact Nan McMurray.

### **Thank you**

The coming months will test us all. We know that our Church is filled with people with generous hearts and we thank you for all your help, patience and understanding in the coming days.

## The Greeting

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

## Hymn

### Psalm 46

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,  
**an ever-present help in trouble.**
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way  
**and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,**
- 3 though its waters roar and foam  
**and the mountains quake with their surging.**
- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
**the holy place where the Most High dwells.**
- 5 God is within her, she will not fall;  
**God will help her at break of day.**
- 6 Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;  
**he lifts his voice, the earth melts.**
- 7 The Lord Almighty is with us;  
**the God of Jacob is our fortress.**
- 8 Come and see what the Lord has done,  
**the desolations he has brought on the earth.**
- 9 He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth.  
**He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.**



## **For use with CD's**

10 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;

**I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."**

11 The Lord Almighty is with us;

**the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

## **Worship Song**

## **Bible Reading**

## **The Sermon**

## **Worship Song**

## **The Prayers**

**Almighty and merciful God, who in Days of old didst give to the land the benediction of thy holy Church; withdraw not, we pray thee, thy favour from us, but so correct what is amiss, and supply what is lacking, that we may more and more bring forth fruit to thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## **Closing hymn**

## **The Blessing**

## **Sunday Services accessed via Facebook at**

**[link.dromorecathedral.org/services](http://link.dromorecathedral.org/services)**

**10:45am every Sunday.**

**You don't need a Facebook account**

**Just type the address above into your browser.**

**CD recordings of the service are also available, please phone 9269 2275  
to request a CD.**

## **Can you help us? We need volunteers**

**[link.dromorecathedral.org/volunteer](http://link.dromorecathedral.org/volunteer)**

**We need people who can fetch groceries, run errands, be a phone friend and  
much more. If you have some spare time please sign up  
using the link above.**

## **Church Magazine**

We intend to continue to produce our church magazine on at least a monthly basis, given that we believe that it is a vital way of keeping contact with the most vulnerable members of our church family. However, the way in which we produce the magazine and deliver the magazine during this period of crisis has to change, given the necessary limitations on our journeys and movements.

So, the changes are as follows:

The magazine will be produced by a team of 2 people;

The magazine will not be hand delivered;

The magazine will be posted to a smaller group of people - those whom we perceive have no access to the internet;

The magazine will be accessed by the majority of our church family by downloading it through the website where it can be accessed through downloads on the homepage.

We do apologise for all of the above changes and hope that we will be able to return to our normal practice as soon as is considered safe and practicable.

If you are aware of anyone who does not have access to the internet and who does not receive a copy in the post, please do let Geoff know and we will arrange for one to be posted without delay.

## **CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRY GOES CYBER!**

As you can imagine, our Rector Geoff, Trevor, Jill and I have had to think about our roles and how they look over this next season. I have never been more thankful for social media. Social media particularly "Facebook" and "Wats app" is how our children's and youth ministry will continue. This is the means to which I get to keep up with our children and young people, through videos and images and most importantly provide ongoing ministry to our children and teens. Here is our new, cyber weekly schedule of ministry:

**SUNDAY: Kingdom Tots, Kids & Come:** We will continue our usual Sunday Ministry in an unusual way! A ministry video will be uploaded every Sunday morning on Facebook with songs, prayers and bible stories.

**MONDAY: Memory Verse Challenge:** Each week a video will be posted of a memory verse with actions and the challenge is to learn it and post a video.

**Weekly Activity Pack Download:** Every Monday parents/guardians can download activity sheets for the children to complete throughout the week.

**Teen "Dare Ya":** Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday our teens will be given a different challenge to complete that day.

**TUESDAY: Girls Brigade JAM:** I feel it's important to continue our ministry with our GB girls so during this session we will have "dance and devotion". The girls will learn new songs and the session will finish with a five minute devotion.

**DC Challenge:** Every Tuesday and Thursday we will set the children a simple challenge to complete and respond to.

**Teen "Wat ya think?":** This will consist of a one minute devotion that we want the teens to think through and respond to.

**WEDNESDAY: Wacky, weird and wonderful:** In these video sessions we are going to hear about an animal from the bible and learn some interesting facts about it.

**Teen "Dare Ya"**

**THURSDAY: Bedtime Bible:** Just before your little ones get tucked up in bed for the night, we will have a video recording of prayers and listen to a bedtime bible lullaby.

**DC Challenge**

**Teen "What ya think?"**

**FRIDAY: Prayer & Praise:** We want to continue to pray and praise God in these difficult days. Prayer and praise will consist of a recorded video with songs and a prayer activity.

**Teen "Dare Ya"**

### **TO GET INVOLVED**

In order to join in with the weekly schedule you will need to have downloaded "wats app" and send your mobile number to me by email: [dromore.youth.children@gmail.com](mailto:dromore.youth.children@gmail.com)

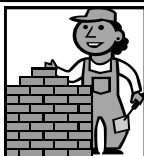
You will also need Facebook to get access to all the teaching videos. Like and follow our page: "Dromore Cathedral Youth & Children"

Bless you all,  
Christine Shanks

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## PARISH REGISTER

### HOLY BAPTISM

8th March      Alice Charlotte Grace Milford, Church Meadows

*"By your prayers and example, by your teaching and love,  
will you encourage this child in the life and faith of the Christian Community."*

### CREMATION

23rd March      Margaret Gillian, The Beeches, Dromore

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. They are blessed indeed,  
says the Spirit, for they rest from their labours."*

## Church Collections: February

General Fund		2019/20	2018/19
Week 44	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1,300.00	1,240.00
Week 45	9 <sup>th</sup>	1,384.20	1,498.08
Week 46	16 <sup>th</sup>	1,400.00	1,315.70
Week 47	23 <sup>rd</sup>	3,078.00	3,024.00
Total to date		<b>£83,253.89</b>	<b>£81,849.00</b>

### Development Fund

Month 11	February	890.10	778.45
Total to date		<b>£9,320.00</b>	<b>£9,217.57</b>



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## The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

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<b>Curate:</b>	Revd Trevor McKeown 39 Cedar Park, Bleary BT63 5LL e-mail: curate@dromorecathedral.co.uk	028 3832 1217
<b>Office:</b>	Jill Wylie, Cathedral Office, 30 Church St, Dromore BT25 1AA e-mail: jill@dromorecathedral.co.uk or dromorecathedral@outlook.com	028 9269 3968
<b>Organist:</b>	Orly Watson, B.A. Mus (Oxon), M.A. Mus (RAM) e-mail: organist@dromorecathedral.co.uk	0777 030 5491
<b>Praise Group:</b>	Karen Bowden e-mail: musicgroup@dromorecathedral.co.uk	0780 094 1256
<b>Sexton:</b>	Boyd McClurg	028 9269 3968
<b>Children's &amp; Youth Worker:</b>	Christine Shanks e-mail: dromore.youth.children@gmail.com	028 9269 3968

**Parish Panel:** Very Revd Geoff Wilson 028 9269 2275  
Robert Beggs 0777 160 7914 : Julie Orr 0774 067 4130

*Please contact the Office to request the issue of Weekly Envelopes or Cathedral Life, and for queries about Hall Bookings, Record Searches, Adverts, etc*

### Select Vestry 2019-2020

<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Ashley Silcock (Rector's)	Ian Doig (People's)
<b>Glebewardens:</b>	Johnny Gordon (Rector's)	Bill Forsythe (People's)
<b>Vestry Members:</b>	Colin Barr, Andrew Carson, Paul Cochrane, Andrew Cuthbert, Scott Mackey, Nan McMurray (Honorary Treasurer), Samuel Newell, Julie Orr (Honorary Secretary), Sue Pegrum, Joanne Silcock, Leanne Teggart, Agnes Thompson.	
<b>Honorary Secretary:</b>	Miss Julie Orr 54 Bishops Hill, Dromore, Co Down BT25 1FL email: honorarysecretary@dromorecathedral.co.uk TN 0774 067 4130	
<b>Honorary Treasurer:</b>	Miss Nan McMurray 10 Pines Grove, Lurgan, Craigavon BT66 7PE email: honorarytreasurer@dromorecathedral.co.uk TN 028 3832 7856	

# GOLDEN CHARTER



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## LAZARUS STAINED GLASS WINDOW

The first window in the Harding Aisle depicts the raising from the dead of Lazarus.

It was installed in the 1920's as a memorial to Thomas Boston by his parents James and Margaret (nee Kerr) Boston of Ballysallagh.

Thomas, a twin, was born on 15th May 1891 and had eight brothers and sisters. He was baptised in the Cathedral and attended Skeogh School.

In the early 1900's he emigrated to Canada and entered a career in farming.

On 15th July 1915 at Edmonton he enlisted in the Royal Highlanders, 13th Battalion Canadian Infantry. He was killed age 25 at the Somme in September 1916.

This window, dedicated to the memory of one, Thomas Boston who made the supreme sacrifice.

It reminds us, at this Easter time, of One, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross and rose triumphantly from the grave so that we may have everlasting life.







## Birthday Ladies

Many happy returns to Edna, Sadie and Mary (from the left) who celebrated birthdays at the March meeting of JOY. Sadie celebrated a birthday which included a 9 and a 0 but we're saying nothing more!!

Also included in the background are Beverley and Jane, JOY leaders.

## Dromore Cathedral Response Hotline

**0300 365 5561**

**If you or someone you know needs help please call this number. We'll try to understand what it is you need and respond accordingly.**

**Calls to this number will be charged at the rate of a local call.**



Dromore Cathedral is the Parish Church serving the Dromore and Kinallen areas and a Cathedral of the Diocese of Down and Dromore in the Church of Ireland.

*Registered with The Charity Commission for NI - NIC101679*