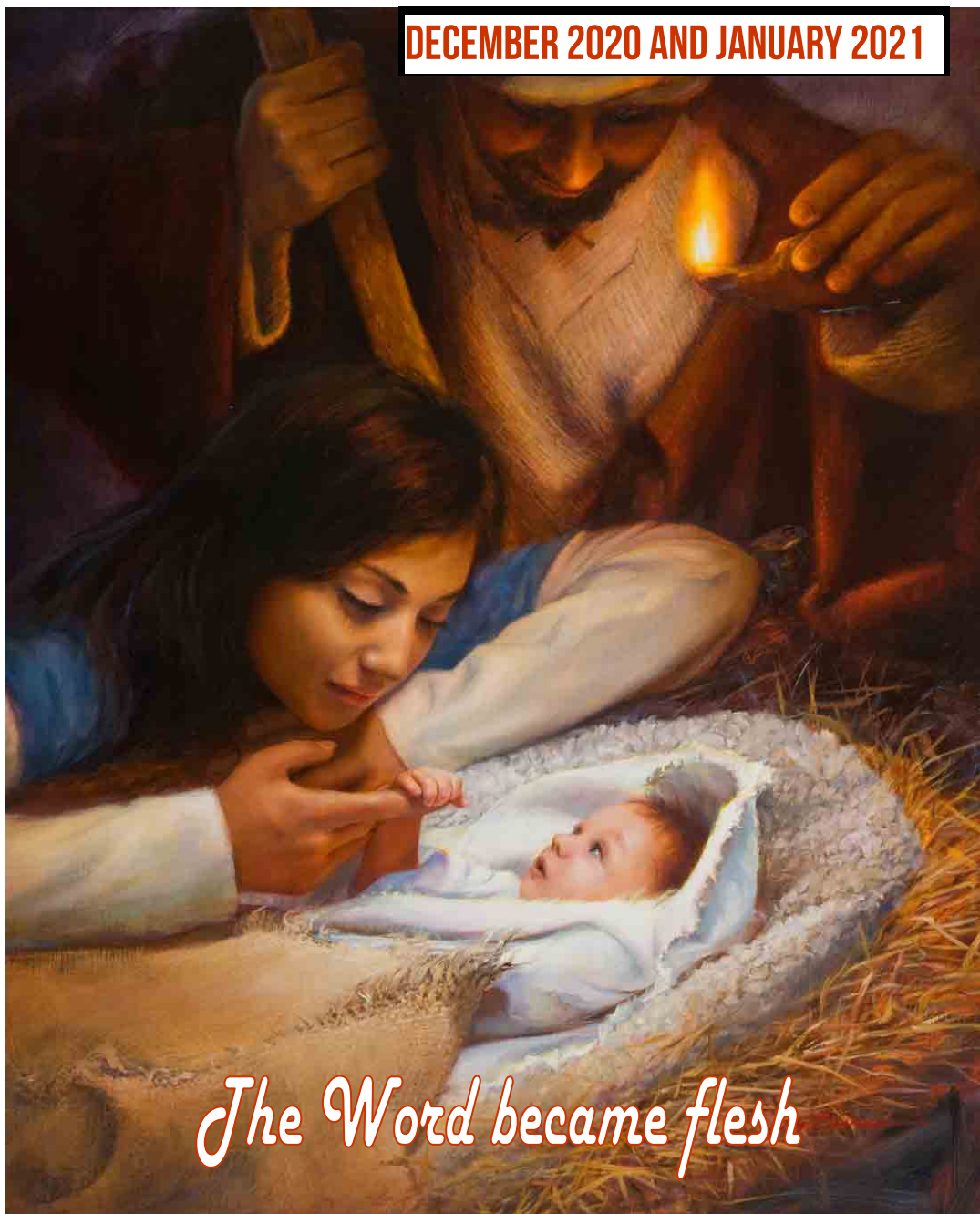




# CATHEDRAL LIFE

The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

DECEMBER 2020 AND JANUARY 2021



*The Word became flesh*

## 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.)

### Cathedral Office

Clayton Hall  
30 Church Street  
DROMORE  
BT25 1AA

t. (028) 9269 3968

e. [jill@dromorecathedral.co.uk](mailto:jill@dromorecathedral.co.uk) or

e. [dromorecathedral@outlook.com](mailto:dromorecathedral@outlook.com)

w. [dromorecathedral.co.uk](http://dromorecathedral.co.uk)

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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 22nd January 2021

Dear friends

***“The Word became flesh and  
made his dwelling among us” John 1: 14***

**I want us to simply pause and consider the simple family scene on the front of our magazine and ask yourself *“How does it relate to me?”***

As I reflect for myself, I consider my place as a husband and a father. For you it could be that you are the wife or the mother. For others still, you could be the child in the image. I want to suggest that at some level, each and every one of us can place ourselves in the image and relate to it at some relational level.

In another sense, I can identify with the image in the sense that it speaks of intimacy. The mother gazes at her child and tenderly allows her finger to be clasped by the tiny hand of the child. The father is in the background of this scene, though he bends over the child and mother, not coming between them, but rather encouraging and enabling this very personal image of intimacy between them.

In another sense, I can identify with the image in the way that it communicates provision and security. The child is well wrapped up and content, there is warmth and security in the crib in which the child lies. This mother is in close attendance, considering carefully the face of the child, ready to respond with tenderness and compassion. The father is more removed in a physical sense, but he holds a staff and a light, symbols of security and provision.

And in another sense, it speaks of presence, not only presence of father and mother with one another and the child, but also more significantly the presence of the child with his parents. Being with those who are closest to each of us, is generally something which we crave and desire more and more of.

***But how does this image speak into what we have been journeying through as a country and indeed could be facing in the coming months?***

Perhaps it is a painful reminder of those we have had to let go of in the most painful of circumstances. Perhaps we have lost brothers or sister, aunts or uncles, husbands or wives, parents or children. Perhaps the image is a painful reminder of much happier times and when our families were intact and our relationships were preserved.

Or the image could remind us only too acutely of that fact that for many of us, this dreadful pandemic and its consequences have meant that we haven't been able to enjoy that level of intimacy with those whom we love, particularly at those times when it was most needed. None of us can understand how difficult it must have been for those families not to be able to visit loved ones in their last hours in hospital. None of us can really understand how difficult it must have been for families who haven't been able to touch, hug or kiss loved ones in Nursing or Care Homes. The image communicates so powerfully a level of intimacy which hasn't been possible for many of us, for very good reason, but is nevertheless painful to live with as we crave what we so desperately need.

Or perhaps the image could touch a painful nerve as we consider the loss of financial security or fears for the future as we consider the ongoing implications of a pandemic for our land.

But what I want us all to consider is the over-arching sense of presence. It would be easy for us to consider the presence of the father with the mother and the parents with the child. But the presence of the Christ-child with the parents and indeed the whole of humanity is what this image of a birth 2000 years ago still communicates to each of us today.

Present with us in the midst of the loss of our loved ones.

Present with us as we crave intimacy we have been prevented from enjoying.

Present with us in our fears and anxieties which can weigh so heavy on our hearts.

Present with us as we enter those places of challenge and sacrifice as we reach out to those we are called to love and serve.

Present with us in our brokenness as Emmanuel shines His love into our darkness.

Present with us in the memories of yesterday, the immediacy of today and in our expectations of what tomorrow holds in store for us.

Present with us as we prepare to celebrate once more that Jesus made his dwelling among us that first Christmas, and he continues to dwell with us by His Spirit in these challenging times.

Reflect on these things this Christmas, and allow the light of Jesus to shine into our brokenness and darkness, whatever that might be.

Wishing you all a Christ-centred and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your friend in Christ.

**Geoff**

## Bishops' Appeal Envelope

This is an opportunity for parishioners to assist the needy in the world by supporting the Church of Ireland's own Relief and Development Fund.

Funds raised are used promote the education and relief of people in need. Funds are also available for emergencies when they occur, so that immediate relief can be sent.

Cheque payable to Dromore Cathedral.

**Please return your envelopes by the end of December.**

## Leprosy Mission Boxes

Please return Leprosy Mission boxes to Tommy Wilson or leave in the Church Office as soon as possible. Cheque payable to Dromore Cathedral. If you would like a Leprosy Mission Box, please get in touch with Tommy.

The Leprosy Mission can also benefit from used postage stamps. Please collect your stamps, especially during the Christmas period, and put them in the box provided in the Church porch.

## Mothers' Union

Many thanks to everyone who has donated to Women's Aid in Newry. This will mean a happier Christmas for the ladies and children there. Also a big thank you for preparing the toiletry bags. These were delivered to Newry Hospital and are much appreciated.

Please do remember those in need over the Christmas period, keep safe and we trust that we will all meet again very soon. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a brighter and healthier new year 2021.

**Helen Forsythe**

## CMSI Boxes

The total of the CMSI Boxes for 2019/2020 amounted to £1,080.44. Thank you to all who contributed.

We thank Mrs Helen Forsythe for her management of this aspect of mission support.

The work of CMSI can be supported by requesting a box from Helen or contacting the Cathedral Office.

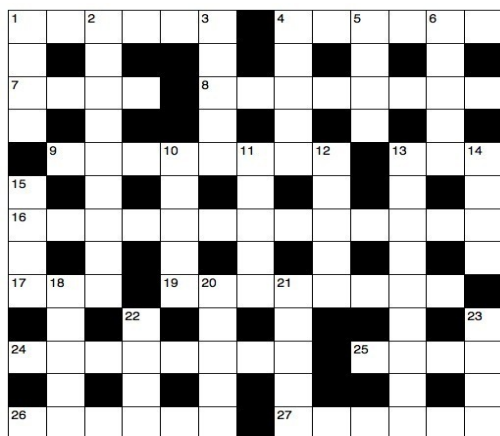
## MATCH

As we enter the final month of our calendar year we have not been able to enjoy the programme which was planned since February. Many thanks to the ladies of MATCH for their continued support throughout the year. Looking forward to a hopefully more normal 2021 when we can meet up together again for fun and fellowship. Wishing all ladies and their families a Happy Christmas. **Jane**

## JOY

Our new group got off to a good start back in Jan 20 with the naming of our name 'JOY' suggested by Yvonne Rimmington. We enjoyed hearing speakers Dr Eileen Atchison at our Feb afternoon talking about PNG and Richard Gill from the Ulster Bank at our March meeting advising us about scams. Unfortunately our planned programme for the rest of the year had to be cancelled (hope you all enjoyed your home delivery of afternoon tea in June) and we very much look forward to meeting up again in 2021 when it is safe to do so. Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas albeit a little different.

**Jane & Beverley**



## Across

- 1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)
- 4 'He stretches out the heavens like a — , and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)
- 7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)
- 8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)
- 9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)
- 13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)
- 16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)
- 17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)
- 19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)
- 24 Able dock (anag.) (8)
- 25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)

26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)

27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

## Down

- 1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)
- 2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)
- 3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)
- 4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)
- 5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)
- 6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)
- 10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)
- 11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)
- 12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)
- 13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)
- 14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)
- 15 One of Israel's north towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)
- 18 Narnia's Lion (5)
- 20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)
- 21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)
- 22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)
- 23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)

## Services in December and January - something old and something new!

At the time of writing these notes, we are still very much in a state of flux and are not even sure if we will be “back in the building”, so please read the following with the understanding that things could change very, very quickly. However, our aspirations are very much to make this Christmas and New Year as “normal” as possible, and safe, as we continue to press through the worst health crisis we have faced in living memory in our country.

### Online Service - Sunday 29th November & 6th December

Unfortunately, we have to resume our online services on Sunday mornings for the next couple of weeks. You will find an Order of Service in the centre of this magazine or by visiting our website. Our normal services will resume on Sunday 13th December, according to the latest advice.

### Praise and Prayer

As we plan to resume our Evening Epilogue services on Sunday 3rd January, we are also seizing the opportunity of doing “a new thing” on the 4th Sunday evening of each month, commencing Sunday 21st February at 6.00pm.

Praise and Prayer is something which has emerged from our vision process in 2017, through which we discerned that God was calling us to engage more fully with our community at an evening service in the Cathedral. We sense that now is the time to step up and reach out with a service of informal worship and creative prayer. The service will not be exclusively for young people/adults, but that will certainly be the group we will be seeking to reach and nurture. If this isn't for you, then please do what all Christians should do, hold it in prayer!

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## Nativity, Carols by Candlelight and Christmas Day

In order that numbers can be accommodated at these key services, two identical services will take place on each occasion, so please simply choose the time that suits you best as the content will be identical. Singing may not be permitted by that time and if that is the case, video recordings of singers from the Cathedral will be played. Readings may well be recorded as well as recordings of children performing their part of the Nativity in their own homes, but there will be a Christmas!!

## Holy Communion

We have now been issued with guidelines from the House of Bishops which enable us to receive the holy communion in both parts, something which I'm sure many of us will warmly welcome. Bread will be broken in a sanitised environment before the service and administered to recipients with the use of tongs/tweezers whilst they remain standing at the communion rail. Wine will be served in individual containers which will be handled only by the individual receiving. Face coverings will be worn whilst approaching the rail and returning to one's seat. All of the foregoing will be explained and demonstrated before hand, perhaps even online, to ensure everyone is comfortable and best placed to benefit from the Lord's Supper. Our first service of Holy Communion will be at 11.00pm on Christmas Eve.

## Community Carol Service

Sadly, due to the success of previous Carol Services and how well attended they have been, we won't be able to host a service this year. We look forward to hosting this service again in December of next year.

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# Order of Service for use with Online Service and CDs

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.**
- 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



## Services for December/January

### Sunday 6th December

2nd Sunday of Advent

10.45 (Online)

Service of The Word

### Sunday 13th

3rd Sunday of Advent

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

11.30am

Morning Prayer

### Sunday 20th

4th Sunday of Advent

10.00am

Nativity Service

11.30am

Nativity Service

5.30pm

Carols by Candlelight

7.00pm

Carols by Candlelight

### Thursday 24th

Christmas Eve

11.00pm

1st Communion of Christmas

### Friday 25th

Christmas Day

9.30am

Family Christmas Celebration

10.45am

Family Christmas Celebration

### Sunday 27th

1st Sunday of Christmas

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

11.30am

Morning Prayer

### Thursday 31st

11.15pm

Watchnight Service

### Sunday 3rd January

2nd Sunday of Christmas

8.30am

Holy Communion

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

11.30am

Holy Communion

6.00pm

Evening Epilogue

### Sunday 10th

1st Sunday after

the Epiphany

8.30am

Holy Communion

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

11.30am

Morning Prayer

6.00pm

Evening Epilogue with HC

### Sunday 17th

2nd Sunday after

the Epiphany

8.30am

Holy Communion

10.00am

Cathedral Praise with HC

11.30am

Morning Prayer

6.00pm

Evening Epilogue

### Sunday 24th

3rd Sunday after

the Epiphany

8.30am

Holy Communion

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

11.30am

Morning Prayer

6.00pm

Evening Epilogue

### Sunday 31st

Presentation of Christ

8.30am

Holy Communion

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

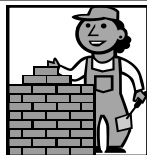
11.30am

Morning Prayer

6.00pm

Evening Epilogue

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# Annual Sit Out

Our annual sit out to support the work of Southern Area Hospice Services is going to take place between 9am and 5pm on Friday 11th December. Collections will take place at the following locations, with the kind permission of the owners:

- Taste Cafe, Market Square;
- Supervalu Supermarket, Banbridge Road;
- Eurospar Supermarket, Hillsborough Road.

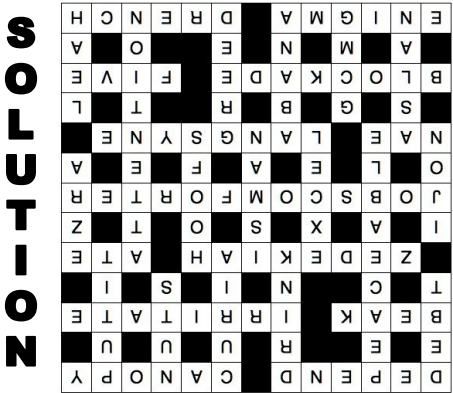
This year, due to the restrictions in place, the collection will look a little different to previous years. The following are the measures which we have put in place to ensure the safety and protection of all concerned:

- Collectors will be outside at all times;
- A table will be between the collector and the general public;
- The collector will wear a face covering at all times;
- Sanitiser will be available for the use of all concerned.

The work of the Southern Area Hospice has been severely affected by the pandemic, so it has never been more important for us to step up and support their crucial work.  
If you would like to volunteer one hour of your time in support of this cause, then please do contact Jill in the church office on 9269 3968.

## Sponsored Cycle

A few of the members of the Cathedral will be doing a sponsored cycle from Dromore to Newry Hospice and back (45 miles in total) on Saturday 12th December to raise funds for the work of the Hospice. This is intended to cover the loss of much needed income for the Hospice, given that the Community Carol Service cannot take place this year.  
If you would like to take part in the cycle, then please give Geoff a ring on 9269 2275. Or if you would like to sponsor those taking part, please call in at the Church Office or ring Jill on 9269 3968.



## Church Collections

General Fund		2020/21	2019/20
October		8,889.50	7,835.60
<b>Total to date</b>		<b>£51,239.60</b>	<b>£52,969.29</b>
Development Fund			
Month 7	October	638.00	841.00
<b>Total to date</b>		<b>£5,546.60</b>	<b>£5,765.25</b>
Harvest Offering			
<b>Total to date</b>		<b>£8,511.70</b>	<b>£8,452.30</b>

## Dromore Cathedral History Reading Group

Throughout the period of coronavirus related restrictions on the life of both our community and our Parish the Dromore Cathedral History Reading Group have continued to meet remotely and to select and read books. The group are now moving on to title number 5 since March of this year.

In selecting a Christmas read the group have returned to safe and familiar territory in terms of both a time period and an author. The next book which the group will read is the Atlantic Books 2020 paperback print of -

### The Borgias - Power and Fortune by Paul Strathern

The Borgias have long been associated with corruption, avarice and ruthlessness. However the story of this most remarkable of families is much more than that and it marks the golden age of the Italian Renaissance and a turning point in European History.

The author moves from the Spanish roots of the family through to the papacy of Rodrigo Borgia and details the life stories of his infamous offspring, Lucrezia and Cesare.

The book is readily available at reasonable cost from the usual high street and online retailers. Everyone is of course most welcome to join with the group in reading this book over the Christmas and New Year period.

Anyone who would like to become actively involved with the group can contact Billy McCallum on - 07714 035909 or [wmccallum09@googlemail.com](mailto:wmccallum09@googlemail.com)

## PARISH REGISTER

### CHRISTIAN BURIALS

28th October	Margaret Georgina (Peggy) Martin, Hillsborough Road
30th October	Agnes Thompson, The Beeches, Dromore
16th November	James Aidan Mackin, Jubilee Park, Dromore

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

December	6th	13th	20th	27th
<b>Flower Rota</b> Mrs Lisa Howard	Mrs Barbara McKeown	Miss Marjorie Gamble	Mrs Caroline Wallace	Mrs Kathy Chambers

January	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
<b>Flower Rota</b> Mrs Sara McCorkell	Mrs Margaret McAlister	Mr & Mrs Roland Wallace	Mrs Eileen Magowan	Mr Howard King	Mrs Dorothy Burns



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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:** Very Revd Geoff Wilson 028 9269 2275  
**Panel:** Robert Beggs 0777 160 7914 : Vacant

*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 2020-2021

<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Rebekah Davidson (Rector's)	Ashley Silcock (People's)
<b>Glebewardens:</b>	Ian Purdy (Rector's)	Bill Forsythe (People's)
<b>Vestry Members:</b>	Andrew Carson, Paul Cochrane, Andrew Cuthbert, Ian Doig, Jonny Jackson, Scott Mackey, Nan McMurray (Honorary Treasurer), Samuel Newell, Jane Russell, Joanne Silcock, Leanne Teggart (Honorary Secretary)	
<b>Honorary Secretary:</b>	Mrs Leanne Teggart, 8 Maypole Park, Dromore. Co Down BT25 1SH email: leanne218@btinternet.com TN 028 9269 3870	
<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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## Online Ministry Round Two!

The Church has to close once again but ministry does not stop! We are so thankful for technology in these unprecedented times. I complain about technology often, but never have I been more thankful for it!

During Church closure (Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December), Kingdom Kids and Kingdom Tots will resume an online programme. The programmes will be available on the “Dromore Cathedral Youth & Children” Facebook Page on a Sunday morning. Within the programmes there will be a bible story, craft, song and more!

“Wacky, Weird & Wonderful” our fun fact, bible based, animal programme is back online. This takes place every Wednesday night from 7.15 - 7.30pm. The programme is live streamed on our Facebook page.

Each Sunday night we have a “Youth Zoom” for all those in first year upwards. It runs from 7.30pm - 8.30pm. During the zoom, we have icebreakers, games, a devotional and more games! Be warned our youth is competitive but they also provide a lot of laughs. If your teenager isn’t part of our youth zoom but would like to be, please contact me on 07756 390224.

Can I also take the opportunity to sincerely thank all the parents, and volunteers for their support and encouragement during this season.

God Bless, Christine

*“Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9*





## Christmas Treats

With restrictions still in place at time of writing, we plan to distribute a few Christmas treats to a group of our seniors and housebound on Thursday 10th December. The past nine months have been a very challenging time for us all but in particular we think of those people who are perhaps less mobile or unable to leave the house as much as they would like.

These packs are provided by the church family in the Cathedral for the church family in the Cathedral. Be blessed as you enjoy them whilst listening to some Christmas Carols sung by our Praise Group leader.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

"Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary to Carol (nee Herron) and Brian Mackey who were married in Banbridge Road Presbyterian Church on 29th December 1970." We wish Brian and Carol every blessing.



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.

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Cathedral Life