

# CATHEDRAL LIFE

The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

FEBRUARY 2021

$\frac{20}{200}$	E	$\frac{200 \text{ FT}}{61 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{100}$	F P	$\frac{100 \text{ FT}}{30.5 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{70}$	T O Z	$\frac{70 \text{ FT}}{21.3 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{50}$	L P E D	$\frac{50 \text{ FT}}{15.2 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{40}$	P E C F D	$\frac{40 \text{ FT}}{12.2 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{30}$	E D F C Z P	$\frac{30 \text{ FT}}{9.14 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{25}$	F E L O P Z D	$\frac{25 \text{ FT}}{7.62 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{20}$	D E F P O T E C	$\frac{20 \text{ FT}}{6.10 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{15}$	L E F O D P C T	$\frac{15 \text{ FT}}{4.57 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{13}$	F D P L T C E O	$\frac{13 \text{ FT}}{3.96 \text{ MT}}$
$\frac{20}{10}$	E N O S N E E U Q	$\frac{10 \text{ FT}}{3.05 \text{ MT}}$



## 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 19th February 2021

Dear friends

## Seeing Things Differently

I recall very clearly the first time I put on a pair of varifocal glasses. Everything around me was “at sea” in a manner of speaking. Rather than having one specific strength across the whole lens, varifocal lenses work by gradually changing in strength from the top of the lens to the bottom. So the first time I stepped out of the opticians with them on, I almost fell off the kerb as I wasn’t viewing the kerb through the “correct” part of the lens! But the human eye is a wonderful thing and with practice and persistence, within a few short weeks, I was able to make sense of the world around me whilst reading a text message, watching television or driving the car. All because my body had made the necessary adjustments to enable me to view the world around me through the correct part of the lens, often without even thinking about it. Lent is a time for making adjustments in our walk with God. Over time, things which were once clear in our lives can become blurred and difficult to focus on. Circumstances can cause us to lose sight of things which were once so clear. Familiarity can cause us to slip into unhelpful patterns of behaviour which lead us away from God rather than towards Him.

So this Lent, we are encouraging each of us to take up something which will sharpen our focus on Jesus once more and enable us to follow in His footsteps here on earth. But we are also very mindful of the context within which we will mark this season of Lent. We are experiencing the worst pandemic in living memory and are being encouraged to continue to wear a mask, wash our hands and watch our distance by keeping at least 2 metres from one another. So the 3 things we will be encouraging

everyone to do this Lent will be based on those 3 disciplines which we trust will see us come through this dreadful crisis as our behaviour is modified and through that healing comes to our land once more.

First then, as we observe the discipline of wearing a face covering, we cover our mouths to prevent others from being exposed to potentially harmful particles in our airways. As we cover our mouths with face coverings this Lent, we are asking each of us to consider the things we say to one another or about one another. Things which can be potentially harmful to others as they are given voice in our conversations with others. We can sometimes rush in and say things which, if we had given them more time and consideration, we would have either not said them at all or put them in a more generous way. We are encouraging each of us to take time before speaking something which may be harmful to others. Before speaking ask yourself the following questions of what you intend to say:

Is it true?

Is it kind?

Is it necessary?

If we aren't able to answer yes to each of these, then say something which is true, kind and necessary.

Secondly, as we sanitise our hands to prevent picking up the virus from the things we touch or indeed passing on it on to others in similar fashion, be mindful of the things which we touch with our hands this Lent, things which can entrap us and cause us to lose our focus on Jesus. We can use our hands to take us to places on our computers or televisions, places which won't build us up but rather trip us up. We can use our hands to hold tightly to the things which God has generously placed in them, rather than holding them lightly and giving freely, just as we have received. And we can use our hands to offer violence and aggression towards others, often within the home. Use this period of Lent to understand that God's Spirit cleanses us of these unhelpful, sinful habits by shining light into our darkness.

And finally, as we keep a 2 metre distance in those places where we are in contact with one another, consider allowing God to come closer to you than ever before. Often, we can keep God at a distance, fearing the intimacy of a close relationship with Him. Such thinking can be shaped by our experience of hurt and pain caused by those who have been closest to us in our relationships with one another. We can tell ourselves that we won't let that happen again and in so doing we keep others at a distance, including God. God wants intimacy with us and wants to

come close to us so that we might experience the fullness of His love for us in Jesus. Trust God more this Lent. His love for us is both unconditional and perfect and He wants nothing more than we know that love and show it to others. So as we wear our face coverings, be mindful of the things we say. As we sanitise our hands, watch how we use our hands. As we keep distance from one another, allow Jesus to come closer to us. May this Lent be a time of going deeper with, and drawing closer to Jesus as we see things differently.

Your friend in Christ.

**Geoff**

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## Revision of General Vestry List

Each Parish in the Church of Ireland is required to maintain a Register of Vestrymen. Inclusion on this register entitles you to stand for election to serve on the Select Vestry and to exercise your right to vote at our Annual General Vestry meeting. A review of this register must take place in February of each year, with this year's review meeting taking place at 7.30pm on Monday 22nd February 2021, by means of Zoom.

If your name does not already appear on the register and you would like it have it added, you would need to contact the church office on 028 9269 3968 or [dromorecathedral@outlook.com](mailto:dromorecathedral@outlook.com) and request a form of declaration which needs to be completed and returned to the church office or the Rectory before the review meeting takes place. Those who wish to have their name added to the register have to be 18 years old or above and have supported the church financially in a recordable manner in the year previous to the review meeting. Recordable financial support is by means of FWO envelopes, Standing Orders, online Bank Transfer or a one off donation where the donation is done in such a manner that a receipt could be provided, if requested. Loose offerings on the collection plate do not qualify as recordable giving as there is no way of determining the identity of the giver.

The register must be open for one calendar month prior to the review meeting taking place so will be open and available for inspection in the church office from Friday 22nd January.

# Confirmation 2021

It is our desire to hold Confirmation classes and a Confirmation Service this year. We are sensitive to the fact things are changing regularly due to the ongoing pandemic, but it is our hope that we can go forward in assisting young people and others in taking this important step in their Christian walk.

To be confirmed means to take ownership of your own faith. If you were baptized as an infant, confirmation is the time to declare, as a promise to God, that you are going to take responsibility for the vows that your parents made over you at your Baptism.

In preparation, we will spend a number of weeks exploring the Christian faith. We cover topics such as - Who is Jesus? What is Church? Who is the Holy Spirit? and many more interesting topics. These classes will either be held at the hall or online. The classes are for everyone in year nine and above.

Following the preparation classes, all candidates will be confirmed by Bishop David McClay, Bishop of Down and Dromore at a special Sunday afternoon Service in the Cathedral (date to be confirmed).

If you would like to be confirmed this year, please get in touch with Christine Shanks as soon as possible.

You can do that by email:

[dromore.youth.children@gmail.com](mailto:dromore.youth.children@gmail.com) or call/message: 07756 390224



***If you know of anyone in need, please do ring the number above at local rate - calls are transferred to the Rectory where Geoff will deal with any issues which arise.***

# Jar of Grace

One of the things we are encouraging our church family to engage in during the season of Lent this year is prayer and giving through the Jar of Grace.

## **What is the Jar of Grace?**

It is simply a glass jar which you place on your meal table throughout the season of Lent. Some of us may already have our jar from previous years where we have engaged in it. But if you don't already have a jar, there are a couple of ways in which you can get one. You could get a jar yourself by simply using an empty jam jar and placing a sticky label on it with the words "Jar of Grace" written on it. Or, if you are out for a walk in the town on your daily form of exercise, you could call into the church office where a supply will be available in the foyer for collection.

## **How does it work?**

Well it really is very simple. At each meal time throughout Lent, we are asking every person at every meal time to take a moment to place a coin/coins in the jar and offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the food and for the projects we will be supporting through your giving. The prayer can be spoken or silent; all of our prayers are acceptable in God's sight through Jesus. On Easter Sunday, government restrictions permitting, we would encourage everyone to bring their Jars of Grace to church and we will receive them and ask God's blessing on them.

## **What are the projects we will be supporting?**

**The first project** is to go towards the maintenance of our Cathedral. Each five years, a survey is carried out of all of the properties owned by the church and a report produced; this is known as the Quinquennial Inspection Report. Within this report, items in need of attention are identified, commented on and prioritised. Over the past year, a good deal of work has been carried out in the Rectory with issues of damp around the kitchen having been addressed and downpipes and gutterings at the rear of the Rectory replaced. This year, the intention of the Select Vestry is to address some of the issues identified in the Cathedral itself.

**The second project** is our link with the Diocese of Maridi in South Sudan. Three of the specific areas where our support will be used will be in the provision of transport for Bishop Moses, the delivery of medical care through the Bethsaida Clinic and in ongoing education of children through the Hadow School. Our support is addressing immediate and ongoing spiritual, educational and medical needs; without our support, life would be very different for our brothers and sisters in Maridi.

**So....that's the challenge.** Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 17th February 2021. Are you willing to Pray, Act and Give this Lent?

## Update from Maridi

As the end this year 2020 and draws near to 2021, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Diocese of Maridi and my humble family to thank you for your amazing prayer and financial support in 2020 to the Diocese of Maridi. Despite the hardship we all faced this year, we are honoured by you to celebrate victories and accomplishments for the year 2020. The success of the Episcopal Diocese of Maridi in the year is based on the effective and vibrant relationships with you. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to work with, and for you! As we move into 2021, we seek opportunities for growth, knowing that the Diocese of Maridi is here, as your partner, to help with you the growth and expansion of Gospel in Maridi and beyond. We kindly ask your prayers for-

1. Pray for the two months scheduled from January 12th for the training of a local cohort of ordinands (18 Deacons and 7 Priests) to be ordained on Sunday 7th March 2021; that the Diocese will be able to host the training and provide for the priest's vestments.
2. Pray for Mama Rejoice and the Mothers' Union Annual Conference from 10th to 13th February 2021. For the facilitators that should be brought from Yambio and security of women travelling from long distances to attend the Conference and for feeding and accommodation of the participants.
3. Pray for the 8th General Synod for the Diocese of Maridi to be held as from 1st March to 7th March 2021. Pray for Bishop Moses and 400 participants, both clergy and laity, that the good Lord may provide for the Synod.
4. Pray for the continued stabilities as government and opposition leaders in South Sudan try to implement peace process.
5. Pray for the ongoing preparation for the Centenary celebration of the gospel in the Diocese of Maridi. Pray for plans of renovations of the Guest House, Mission House and Cathedral of Maridi. Pray for plans of construction of Centenary House, Chapel, Vestry and Toilets. Pray for the plans of publications and history writings and pray for the plans for equipping and purchases and the good Lord may provide for those needs.

I wish you, your families, and your loved ones a very safe holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year, and thank you for your continued trust in us.

**Bishop Moses**

## **Impact of current period of Restrictions on Church Activities**

Following the extension of the period of lockdown, we felt that it would be helpful to update everyone on how we intend to keep connected with everyone and how you can remain connected with your church family.

### **Visitation**

This remains an absolute priority for us as a church, though we will have to be creative and intentional in how we do this in this next season. Our seniors will continue to be our priority given that they are the group which has been impacted most significantly throughout the pandemic. Our visits to seniors over the next period of restriction will be either phone calls or doorstep visits. If anyone would like a doorstep visit, they need only let Jill know in the church office or ring Trevor or Geoff.

### **Giving**

As can be seen from the figures on page 13 of this magazine, giving has almost kept pace with the same period last year in the General Fund and has increased slightly in the Development Fund. A very sincere word of thanks to everyone who has supported the church financially over this past year, it is deeply appreciated.

For some however, due to unforeseen circumstances such as illness or loss of income, ongoing financial support of the church has not been possible. If that has been your experience, please do contact Geoff in confidence and we will support you in whatever way we can as a church.

Giving by means of the envelope system has become more difficult for some to sustain during the current crisis resulting in around 20 people switching from Envelopes to Standing Orders and others choosing to make occasional online Bank Transfers. The benefits of these are that your support is not dependent on your attendance at church and also there is significantly less administration involved in handling electronic payments. If you would like to find out more about how to do either of these, please ring our Hon Treasurer, Nan McMurray, on 028 3832 7856.

### **Services**

During this period of lockdown, in-person church services will not be possible, something which remain the case until Friday 5th March at the earliest. During this period of lockdown, our broadcast services will continue at 10.45am each Sunday morning. In addition to this, around 40 CDs are distributed to those who do not have access to online services. If you would like to receive a CD recording of our Sunday service, then please contact Jill in the church office and she will add your name to the list of recipients.



## Lenten Services

Lent commences on Wednesday 17th February with an online service at 7.30pm. Each Wednesday evening during the season of Lent we will have a service which will last around 30 minutes, the purpose of which is to hold us together as a Church and build us up in our faith as we journey through Lent together. These services will also be recorded and distributed via the CD ministry.

## Bible Reading Notes

If you don't already do so, what about committing to reading your Bible more regularly during Lent? Daily reading schemes can be of great assistance to help us read our Bibles and can be obtained at the following links:

Scripture Union <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/bible-reading-guides>

Good Book Company <https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/daily-bible-reading/>

The Bible Project <https://bibleproject.com/>

The Bible Society <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/>

or contact Geoff and he will get a set for you.

Or if you have an electronic device and would prefer to have it on your phone, visit the following links for details of bible reading schemes:

Bible in One Year: <https://bibleinoneyear.org/>

Lectio 365: <https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>

Daily Worship App: <https://www.ireland.anglican.org/prayer-worship/lectionary/daily-worship-app>

Perhaps this Lent is your time to delve more into the Bible for yourself at home.

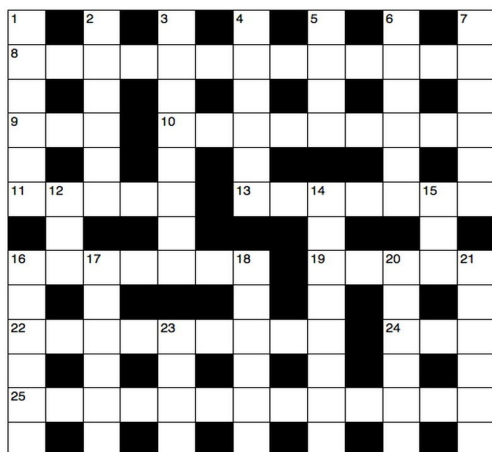
## Online Course on the 10 Commandments

Imagine a world where love guides every attitude and action. A community where people respect others. A place where God is recognised and respected.

God revealed the framework for life as it should be – simple statements for life that provide the foundations of our values and principles called the Ten Commandments. Sadly, society has moved from these absolute truths. How can we reclaim these timeless truths and apply them in our world today?

**“Just 10”** is a course written and presented by Canon J John, an ordained minister in the Anglican church. Commencing Monday 22nd February 2021 at 8pm we will begin a 10 week journey looking at each commandment using Canon J John and his teaching DVD **“Just 10”** as our guide. The course will be conducted via Zoom so participants can relax in the comfort of their own homes. No one will be asked to speak, read or pray as part of the course, but simply sign in each week with a cup of tea/coffee in your hand ready to learn more about how God intended we should order our lives.

If you would like to take part in the course, then please email Geoff on [revgeoffwilson@gmail.com](mailto:revgeoffwilson@gmail.com) and he will email your sign in details each Monday evening.



## Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)  
 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)  
 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)  
 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)  
 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)  
 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)  
 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)  
 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)  
 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

## Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)  
 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)

3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)

4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)

5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)

6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)

7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)

12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)

14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)

15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)

16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)

17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)

18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)

20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)

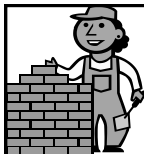
21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)

23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

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# Mothers' Union

Dear Mothers' Union friends

Although there has not been a great start to 2021, we must have faith that with the continuing rollout of the vaccine, we will have happier and brighter days ahead and we will be united once again with our friends in Mothers' Union and with the wider Church family. Thank you to all who have already sent in their £25 subscription. If you haven't done so yet, please leave it in the church office or contact Ruby. Anyone who has not yet seen a copy of the letter from Roberta McCartney or the details of the 'Mums in May' competition, please do contact me and I will get that to you.

As it is unlikely we will have a meeting for some time, let us unite in prayer to comfort those who are isolated or vulnerable and keep ourselves and others safe by following the Government guidelines.

God bless.

**Helen Forsythe**



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## PARISH REGISTER

### CHRISTIAN BURIAL

31st December      Andrew Waddell, The Priory, 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: November & December

GENERAL FUND	2020/21	2019/20
November	8,412.60	7,071.95
December	8,519.00	8,695.05
<b>Total to date</b>	<b>£68,171.20</b>	<b>£68,736.29</b>

### DEVELOPMENT FUND

Month 8	November	£957.25	716.40
Month 9	December	904.00	881.50
<b>Total to date</b>		<b>£7,407.85</b>	<b>£7,363.15</b>



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## The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

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<b>Rector:</b>	Very Revd Geoff Wilson, 28 Church Street, Dromore BT25 1AA email: revgeoffwilson@gmail.com	028 9269 2275
<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 : Sue Pegrum 028 9269 3280

*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



## FUNERAL PLANS

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## Introduction to Bishop David's Lent Series

This Lent, please join Bishop David for a series of daily reflections in Nehemiah. The Diocese will be sharing a short film online every day from Ash Wednesday 17th February, to Palm Sunday 28th March.

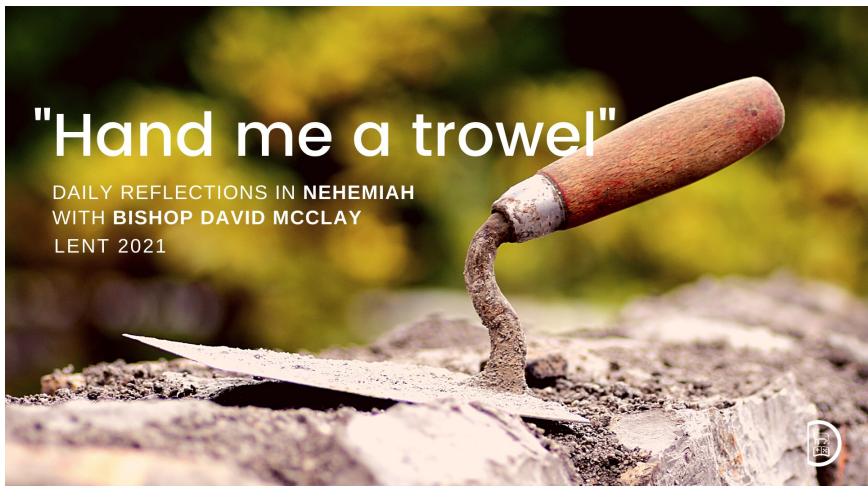
Bishop David explains why he has named the series, "Hand me a trowel".

"My father was a farmer and not a builder, but as a young boy I remember him rolling up his sleeves and doing a lot of building around the farm. I would be hanging around at the foot of a ladder as my Dad was building, and he would shout down the ladder to me, 'Hand me a trowel.'

"That's the sort of picture we have in the Book of Nehemiah. Everybody's involved in the work of building. They may not actually be builders, but they roll up their sleeves and they're involved in this important work of building a people for God.

"'Hand me a trowel.' I think God is saying this to us in the Church today. God wants us to be those who have an open hand and open hearts to work for his kingdom and to build a Church that is strong and healthy for these days.

"We need to be getting ready for a season of building and rebuilding. As we all get vaccinated and, hopefully, emerge back out into our churches and into the world to live for Christ, our prayer to God should be, 'Lord, hand me a trowel. I want to be one of your workers, help me to be one of your builders.'"



## Support for Southern Area Hospice Services



*From left: Trevor McKeown, Andy Carson, Jonny Jackson, Geoff Wilson & John Dalzell OBE*

For the past few years, as a Church, we have supported the work of the Southern Area Hospice Services through an annual Sit Out and Community Carol Service in December. Due to the pandemic, we had to be a little more creative in how we were able to do that this year. Our Sit Out was able to take place in a more measured, limited way and raised £1,109.00. Sincere thanks to the management of Supervalu for permission to position ourselves in their foyer, to Taste Cafe for permission to stand on the pavement in front of their premises and to Euro Spar for placing buckets at their tills for a whole week.

And then there was the creative bit....a sponsored cycle from Dromore to Newry and back. With training and preparation complete, favourable weather and stout hearts, Geoff, Jonny and Trevor set out on Saturday 12th December 2020, with Andy Carson in support, and met up with John Dalzell OBE in High Street, Newry. John has raised over 1.7 million pounds for the Hospice over the last 29 years and was awarded the OBE in the New Years Honours list for his services to fundraising. Having recharged the batteries over a late breakfast, the trio made their way back home, arriving safely, albeit a little tired at around 2.30pm. All in all, it was a great experience and a wonderful event raising £4,372.00, giving an amazing total of £5,481.00 if you include the Sit Out, and all for a very worthy cause.

Sincere thanks to everyone who enabled us to far exceed our expectations in support of the Southern Area Hospice Services. Thank you to the collectors who gave of their time through the Sit Out. Thank you to those who gave through the Sit Out or sponsored the cyclists so generously. And thank you to Andy, Trevor and Jonny for their invaluable support and encouragement on the day. Who knows, this might even become something of an annual event which perhaps more people could take part in?!



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

Cathedral Life