

# CATHEDRAL LIFE

The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

**MAY 2021**



**"Plants need watered"**

## 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

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Rector on 028 9269 2275 or if  
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028 3832 1217

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Dear friends

### Why we need to be watered!

Naomi and I are frustrated; we planted some wild flower seeds around 3 weeks ago and we are still waiting for signs of growth! To grow, seeds need good soil, light, heat and water. As we ask ourselves what may be deficient from this list, we are convinced that the lack of rain over the month of April accounts for the lack of growth. Seeds need watering in order for them to grow and as someone said to me very recently, *"There haven't been any April showers this year."*

As the feast of Pentecost approaches on Sunday 23rd May, I believe that there is something from this law of nature that helps us to understand the importance of the Holy Spirit for our own personal growth in our walk with God. Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, he

told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the gift of the Holy Spirit, a gift which would empower them in the first part and would enable them to be witnesses in the second part, *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...” Acts 1: 8.* We read in Acts 2: 1 that the disciples *“were all together in one place”* when the Holy Spirit came in power in wind and fire. And then the disciples were empowered; empowered to *“speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them” Acts 2: 4.* Imagine the scene with me for a moment. Those who had gathered to celebrate the feast of Pentecost from every nation under heaven are able to understand the words of the disciples, Galileans with little or no education, all through the empowering of the Holy Spirit.

And then the enabling came along with the empowerment. Peter stood up with the Eleven, and witnessed to his fellow Jews as to who Jesus is and how salvation can be found in him through repentance. That power to witness would continue to be very evident as the believers would take the Good News to every corner of the earth, all in the power of the Holy Spirit. So the Holy Spirit came in power and enabled the disciples to do things which they were unable to even consider beforehand.

I want to take us back to where I started with that rule of nature that there is no growth without water. The same principle applies to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. When the Holy Spirit came at that first Pentecost, He brought great growth in the lives of those who received Him, not least that of Peter as he preached a sermon which he couldn't even contemplate immediately following his 3 denials of Jesus. But He also brought great growth in the body of believers as their numbers swelled by over three thousand.

The Holy Spirit helps us to grow as followers of Jesus; but He also enables the church to grow as we continue to witness to the redemptive power of the Cross of Christ.

Your friend in Christ.

**Geoff**

# Maridi Update

“While Bishop Moses was delighted with the success of his first Diocesan Synod as Bishop in March there have been significant challenges to face since then. In the second week of March Bishop Moses sent an urgent report that there was total destruction of homes and granaries and very sadly, one eight year old boy lost his life, due to wildfires. Thanks to considerable support from link parishes and individuals CMSI was able to send emergency funds to help the affected families. Just a week later part of the Guesthouse on the Cathedral compound caught fire in further wildfires. It has also been destroyed. Now just 6 weeks later there is more news of destruction due to “a wild wind and heavy rain”. Please remember Chaima Theological Institute as this storm has caused severe damage to the buildings, especially the roof.

Some optimism comes from the progressive work by the evangelism team. Revd Tito Matatia has trained 100 evangelists in Kozi Archdeaconry and Central Cathedral. These evangelists need our prayers as messengers of hope to people returning home in such challenging circumstances.”



Bishop Moses would very much appreciate prayers on the following matters of praise and concern, April 2021:

- Churches re-opened after lockdown.
- Success of Synod in March with ordination of 60 new priests. They have been sent out to rural parishes, some removed from Maridi HQ by 2-3 days walk. Many of these parishes have been empty because people had fled the violence, but now as people return home the parishes are filling again.
- Thankful for response to bicycles for clergy.
- Mother’s Union had a successful conference in February, but many women from rural areas were unable to attend. Mama Monica who leads up MU will travel with her team, maybe including Mama Rejoice, to each of the seven Archdeaconries (a new Archdeaconry was added at Synod) in June and July. This will be a huge encouragement to the women in remote areas.
- One hundred new evangelists have been trained by Revd Tito who heads up the evangelism team. They will soon be commissioned. In their red shirts they are easily recognised by people within the parishes to which they are posted. They are a vital assistance to the parish clergy and a source of prayerful hope for the communities they serve.
- Floods last year destroyed the Cassava harvest – crops rotted in the ground. Kozi, Amaki and Eddie Archdeaconries were worst hit by flooding. People were able to harvest some grains and stored them in small granary buildings near their homes as usual.
- Wildfires in several villages in March destroyed homes and granaries, and one eight year old boy lost his life. Up to a hundred families have been affected. Bishop Moses visited them and emergency food and shelter supplies were distributed – assisted by funding from CMSI link parishes.
- Most recently further climate change issues have caused damage to Chaima Theological Institute. A storm caused some structural damage and the veranda roof was blown off completely leaving the classrooms at risk of rain damage. There are 84 students currently enrolled there.
- As schools are allowed to reopen there are extra needs for desks in order to maintain social distancing.
- The Centenary of the gospel reaching Maridi will be celebrated 22<sup>nd</sup> January - 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022, there are many preparations to make.

Thank you for your prayers.

# Jar of Grace

A very sincere word of thanks to everyone who has already returned their Jars of Grace and in doing so has contributed to the brilliant total of £2,367.00. If you haven't already returned your jar and would like to do so, then please either bring it to Church on any Sunday and give it to the Rector or one of the Churchwardens, or drop it in to the office with Jill. The Jar of Grace is something which we engage in as a Church each year during the season of Lent and this year all monies raised, including Gift Aid, will be divided equally between our mission partners in Maridi, South Sudan as they respond to further Wildfires which have caused devastation within their community, and our Development Fund which covers the cost of maintenance and development within the Cathedral.

## Audio/Visual Update

Sunday 18th April was our Audio/Visual Gift Day, with the first count coming to £8,023.00, 80% of which will go towards the cost of installing and upgrading our Audio Visual system in the Cathedral. Amongst other things, the upgrade will enable the following:

- Live streaming of services to those who are unable to attend;
- Live streaming of occasional services such as funerals and weddings;
- Upgrade of a loop system which is not functioning adequately;
- Installation of speakers in the chancel area to improve sound in all areas;
- Replacement of projectors to improve the clarity and quality of images;
- Installation of cameras to ensure that everyone can see what is taking place;
- Replacement of the sound desk and cabling to eradicate sound issues;
- Relocation of the sound and visuals desk to a more appropriate location.

The cost of this root and branch upgrade is in excess of £41,000.00 but the improvements will be a rich blessing to absolutely everyone. Sincere thanks to everyone who has supported the Gift Day to date. If you haven't already supported the appeal and would like to do so, drop your offering in the plate at the end of a service or give it to the Rector, one of the Churchwardens or Jill in the church office.

# Easter General Vestry Meeting

The Annual Easter Vestry meeting took place in exceptional circumstances this year at 11.00am on Sunday 11th April in the Cathedral due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions. The meeting was somewhat truncated, due to time constraints, with the meeting taking place between our 2 main morning services.

**Financial Report:** Nan McMurray, Honorary Treasurer, gave a comprehensive report on the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. The Accounts were adopted by the meeting.

**Auditor:** S.M. Vint & Co, Banbridge was re-appointed Auditor.

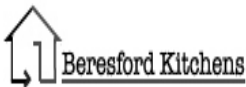
## Office-bearers elected to serve for 2021-22

**Churchwardens:** Rebekah Davidson (Rector's) : Scott Mackey (People's)  
**Glebewardens:** Ian Purdy (Rector's) : Bill Forsythe (People's)

**Select Vestry:** Ian Cardy, Andrew Carson, Paul Cochrane (Honorary treasurer), Andrew Cuthbert, Jonny Jackson, Scott Mackey, Nan McMurray, Sam Newell, Jane Russell, Ashley Silcock, Joanne Silcock, Leanne Teggart (Honorary Secretary)


At a short meeting of the newly elected Select Vestry the following appointments were made:

**Honorary Secretary:** Leanne Teggart      **Honorary Treasurer:** Paul Cochrane



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# PARISH REGISTERS 2020

## Holy Baptism

8th March	Alice Charlotte Grace Milford, Church Meadows, Dromore
6th September	Romilly June Gray, O'Roory Hill Road, Dromore

## Holy Matrimony

16th September	Thomas Wishart and Caroline Jess
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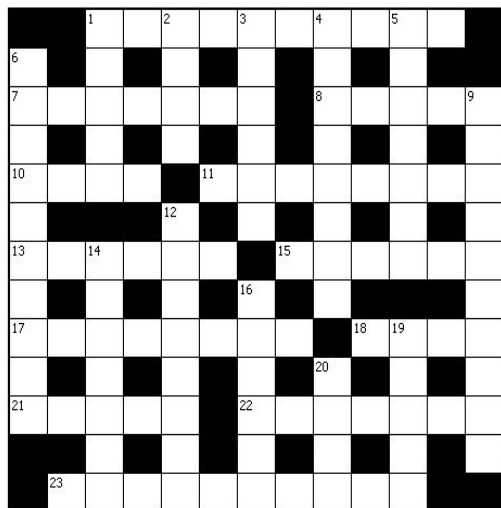
## Funerals

29th January	Alan Nigel Grier, Sunmount Park, Dromore
10th April	Elizabeth Dines, Bernice Road, Mallusk
16th April	Kathleen Thompson, Church Street, Dromore
21st April	Russell Poots, Shore Road, Belfast
5th May	Victor Gibson, Meeting Street, Dromore
8th June	Cecil Martin, Hillsborough Road, Dromore
14th June	Jack Jess, Newtownabbey
29th July	James Allan Seawright, Moorefield Road, Dromore
18th August	John Halliday, Thornhill Drive, Dromore
17th September	Mary Lowe, Rosemount Care Home, Portadown
23rd September	Myrtle Smylie, Thornhill Drive, Dromore
28th October	Margaret Georgina Martin, Hillsborough Road, Dromore
30th October	Agnes Thompson, The Beeches, Dromore
16th November	James Aidan Mackin, Jubilee Park, Dromore
31st December	Andrew Waddell, The Priory, Dromore

## Cremation

23rd March	Margaret Gillian, The Beeches, Dromore
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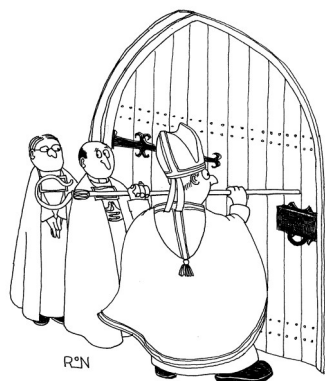


## Across

- 1** Sense of right and wrong  
(1 *Corinthians* 8:7) (10)
- 7** Coming (*John* 11:17) (7)
- 8** 'All I have is — , and all you have is mine' (*John* 17:10) (5)
- 10** Smarten (*Acts* 9:34) (4)
- 11** Hold back (*Job* 9:13) (8)
- 13** Member of the Society of Friends (6)
- 15** At ague (anag.) (6)
- 17** Citizen of the Greek capital (8)
- 18** So be it (*Galatians* 6:18) (4)
- 21** Twentieth-century poet and dramatist who wrote *Murder in the Cathedral*, T.S. — (5)
- 22** Empowers (*Philippians* 3:21) (7)
- 23** Imposing (1 *Samuel* 9:2) (10)

## Down

- 1** Healed (*Luke* 7:21) (5)
- 2** Central space in a church (4)
- 3** Co-founder of Spring Harvest and General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance 1983–97, Clive — (6)
- 4** Moses killed one when he saw him beating a Hebrew labourer (*Exodus* 2:12) (8)
- 5** Bravery (*Acts* 4:13) (7)
- 6** It interrupted Paul and Silas singing hymns in a Philippian jail (*Acts* 16:26) (10)
- 9** Transgression (*Psalms* 36:1) (10)
- 12** Irish province in which Dublin is situated (8)
- 14** Same hit (anag.) (7)
- 16** 'The Spirit of God was hovering over the — ' (*Genesis* 1:2) (6)
- 19** Author of the immortal stories of Winnie the Pooh, A.A. — (5)
- 20** Cab (4)

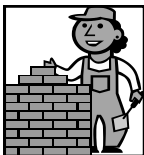


There didn't seem to be anyone in

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## Services for May

### Sunday 2nd

5th Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Morning Prayer

### Sunday 9th

6th Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Holy Communion
Rogation Sunday	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Holy Communion

### Sunday 16th

7th Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise <i>with</i> Holy Communion
	11.30am	Morning Prayer

### Sunday 23rd

Whit Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Morning Prayer

### Sunday 30th

Trinity Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Service of the Word

## Update on our Service Pattern

As we continue to return to something resembling a measure of normality in our land, within the church, we are seeking to match that development with the services which we offer and the manner in which we deliver them.

At the time of writing, our full range of morning services has been restored with every protocol in place to ensure the safety of everyone attending services. It is hoped that evening services will resume in the very near future; this is dependent on the availability and willingness of volunteers to steward services, something which is a huge commitment for those who serve in this way.

Please be assured that our church services are extremely safe and that every measure has been taken and will be taken to ensure that remains the case.

# PARISH REGISTER

## HOLY BAPTISM

25th April

Henry John McCracken, Parkside, Dromore  
Catherine Rebecca McCracken, Parkside, Dromore

## Church Collections: March

### GENERAL FUND

March

2020/21

11,993.00

2019/20

8,616.41

Total to date

£93,146.70

£91,870.30

### DEVELOPMENT FUND

Month 12

March

1,093.00

673.75

Total to date

£9,470.85

£9,993.75

May	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
<b>Flower Rota</b> E Cordingley	Mrs P Mackin	Mrs E Jeffryes	Mrs P McKeown	Miss E Cordingley	Mrs J Russell

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## Smile Line....

### What did I do with the car?

As I left a meeting at our church, I could not find my car keys. They were not in my pockets. They were not in the church. Then I thought – I’ve left them in the car! As I burst through the doors of the church, my heart sank: the church car park was empty.

With a heavy heart I called the police, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen. Then I made the really difficult call, and told my wife that the car had been stolen. There was a little gasp. “*You did not have the car. I dropped you off. Remember?*”

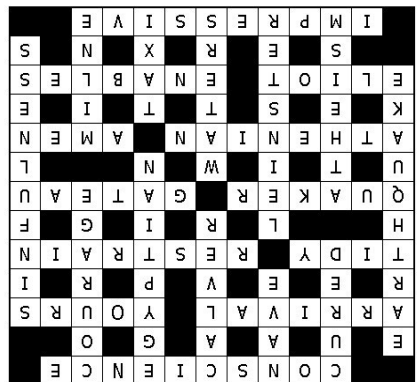
My heart sang as relief flooded through me. “Of course! Thank God! Well, come get me quick – I am already running late... what is keeping you?”

My wife replied with ominous calm: “What’s keeping me? I’ll tell you what’s keeping me. The police are here. They think I’ve stolen the car...”

## Attention all Magazine Distributors

The next edition of our magazine will be ready for collection and distribution on **Friday 28th May** with items for inclusion to be with Jill in the office by **Friday 21st at 1pm**. Items can be sent to Jill by emailing - [dromorecathedral@outlook.com](mailto:dromorecathedral@outlook.com)

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<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: karenbowden@me.com	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 2021-2022

<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Rebekah Davidson (Rector's)	Scott Mackey (People's)
<b>Glebewardens:</b>	Ian Purdy (Rector's)	Bill Forsythe (People's)
<b>Vestry Members:</b>	Ian Cardy, Andrew Carson, Paul Cochrane (Honorary Treasurer), Andrew Cuthbert, Jonny Jackson, Nan McMurray, Samuel Newell, Jane Russell, Ashley Silcock, Joanne Silcock, Leanne Teggart (Honorary Secretary)	

**Honorary Secretary:** Mrs Leanne Teggart, 8 Maypole Park, Dromore, Co Down BT25 1SH  
email: leanne218@btinternet.com TN 028 9269 3870

**Honorary Treasurer:** Mr Paul Cochrane, 38 Backnamullagh Road, Dromore, Co Down BT25 1QT  
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Congratulations to Revd Mark Harvey, Rector of Shankill Parish Lurgan, who has accepted Bishop David's invitation to become a Canon of Dromore Cathedral.

Speaking of his appointment Mark said: "It's an honour to have been invited by Bishop David to join the Chapter of Dromore Cathedral, both personally and on behalf of Shankill Parish. I look forward to working alongside Dean Geoff Wilson and my colleagues on the chapter to further the ministry of the Cathedral in our Diocese as we proclaim the good news of the Gospel and seek to extend the Kingdom of God."

Since ordination in 1993, Mark has served in St. Columba's, Portadown as Curate Assistant, as Incumbent of the Monaghan Group of Parishes (1996–2001) and St Mary's Ballybeen (2005–17) and also on the staff of CMS Ireland (2001–05). He became Rector of Shankill in June 2017.

Before moving to Dromore Diocese Mark was a Canon of Down Cathedral (2015) and served as Clerical Honorary Secretary of Down. He is married to Joanne, and they have a daughter, Lydia. Prior to ordination, he worked as a primary school teacher in Bangor.

A Service of Installation will take place in the very near future, the date as yet has not been agreed.



Sunday 11th April 2021 marked a very significant day in the life of Miss Nan McMurray and indeed Dromore Cathedral as she stepped down from her role as Honorary Treasurer following 12 years of service. It is genuinely impossible to put into words just how thankful we are for all that Nan has done and given during those years of service. In financial terms they were at times very difficult years as the Parish faced many challenges; but Nan served faithfully, always giving accurate updates to members of the Select Vestry, always producing accounts to the absolute best of her ability. A very sincere thank you to you Nan for all that you have given in service. Nan will continue to serve as a member of the Select Vestry and in many other roles associated with the finances of the Parish.

At the meeting following our Annual General Meeting, Paul Cochrane was appointed as our new Honorary Treasurer, a role which he is not unfamiliar with, having served in this capacity in the past. Paul can count on the full support of Nan, over the next few months in particular, as he gets to grips once more with managing the finances of the Parish.



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**