

# CD Cathedral Life



The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore



September 2025

# THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER, DROMORE



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**Rector:**  
**Very Rev Geoff Wilson, B.Th**  
**Dean of Dromore**

**Pastoral Duty:**  
**In the event of pastoral need**  
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**contact the Rector on 9269**  
**2275 or the Cathedral Office**  
**on 9269 3968**

*"Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,  
for the Lord your God will be with you  
wherever you go." Joshua 1: 9*

I wonder if you can recall your first day at school? Perhaps, like me, it is too long ago to recall! So what about your first day in a new job? Or the first time you worshipped in a new church? I'm sure that if we all thought about it for long enough we could recall what it felt like to step into something new for the very first time.

September/October each year is a time of radical change for many of our children and young people. For some it involves moving to a new school, or place of further education. For some it involves moving into the workplace for the very first time. For some it involves leaving home and living independently, sometimes without any existing friendship or family support groups. It can be daunting for many causing feelings of anxiety to arise within. I heard a story this past week of a little child being taken to school following the summer break and sharing anxiously how their tummy was upset. The mummy shared with me that it made her feel sick to hear her child speak of their own anxiety.

Such feelings are not unusual amongst our children and young people, not because they are more sensitive than previous generations, but because we are now more open about our feelings rather than bottling them up as perhaps previous generations were more likely to do.

So what do we say and how do we face that sense of rising anxiety when it occurs?

Well, we can learn a huge amount from the story of Joshua. Joshua was one of those Israelites who journeyed through the wilderness with Moses every step of the way. Every step of the journey, Joshua looked to Moses as the leader of the people and his expectation was that Moses would lead the children of Israel across the Jordan and into the promised land. Imagine his shock and sense of anxiety when the Lord announced to him that as Moses was now dead, that he, Joshua, would be the one to lead them into the unknown. The first 9 verses of the book of Joshua are written in such a way as to make it very clear to Joshua that the Lord was with him, that he was God's person for this time, that nothing and no one could prevent him from achieving God's purposes and that wherever he went, the Lord would be with him. Joshua trusted God and achieved great things for the Lord. Joshua focussed on God's promises to him rather than allowing any sense of fear or anxiety to overshadow what had been spoken over him.

So how can the story of Joshua help us as we face substantial change?

Well, firstly we can rely on God's promise to be with us every step of the journey, just like Joshua. One of my favourite stories in the bible illustrates this truth so well. In Luke 24, Cleopas and his companion are journeying away from Jerusalem following the crucifixion of Jesus. Jesus walked with them, even though they were unable to recognize him. Jesus' promise to each and every child of God is to never ever leave nor forsake. I wonder how much we allow ourselves to be blinded to this glorious truth when fear takes over?

Secondly, Joshua was able to look over his shoulder and remind himself of how the Lord had been with Moses and the children of Israel throughout their difficult wilderness journey. If the Lord was with them in the past and has promised His presence for the future, why should he doubt? Similarly in our lives, we can look backwards and see those times when it was so clear that the Lord was with us and this knowledge can help us to face the future with total confidence.

Lastly, as Joshua trusted in the Lord so he was able to influence those around him as they faced an uncertain future. This was so clear in the instructions of Joshua to the people as they prepared to embark on this journey together as he told the people, *"Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you."* Joshua 3: 5 In essence faith was passed from one generation to the next.

Lets encourage our children and young people as they face uncertainty in the future with a growing sense of trust in the Lord. **Geoff**

## Property Update

Maintenance of our church buildings remains a key priority for the Select Vestry. Unless we maintain our buildings to a very high standard, we are not able to effectively fulfil the great commission of Jesus to make disciples of all nations.

As part of our ongoing commitment to maintenance, an in depth inspection of all church buildings is carried out every 5 years with key recommendations arising out of this. Following our most recent inspection in the autumn of last year, the following were identified as being in need of urgent attention...

Firstly, the plaster on the interior of the cathedral wall in the region of the memorial window. Those who sit in this general area may have noticed that there is evidence of dust and grit from time to time on the seat cushions in this area. This is due to the plaster coming away from the wall, something which is in need of urgent attention over the next few months. The Glebewardens are in the process of securing a contractor to carry out this work in the very near future. This may necessitate the pews in the immediate vicinity being inaccessible for a few weeks whilst the work is carried out.

Secondly, and of much greater concern, is the condition of the wiring in the whole of the cathedral. It has become clear to the Select Vestry that the rewiring of the cathedral must be carried out without any undue delay. A firm of conservation Architects have been engaged to oversee this work, along with Electrical and Mechanical Engineers who are in the process of drawing up tender documents. The Select Vestry have also decided that now is the time to improve the lighting in the cathedral as the current lighting clusters are not only difficult to access, posing significant health and safety concerns, but are also very poor in terms of efficiency when it comes to illuminating the space and the associated running costs. Consequently, the Select Vestry have decided that now is the time to improve the lighting as well as rewiring the building. This will mean removing the cluster pendant lights and replacing them with appropriate wall mounted up and down lighters which will better illuminate the roof as well as the floor. Whilst we don't have tender prices for this work at this stage, the projected costs for this important work are in the region of £195,000.00, inclusive of VAT. This is a very significant sum of money and the Select Vestry are convinced that elements of this work are not only essential but also extremely desirable to ensure that our beautiful is not only preserved for future generations of worshippers but also greatly enhanced through the improved lighting.

Some of us may be asking where on earth such a sum of money is going to come from, so I would now like to take some time to outline how this project will be financed and paid for.

The Select Vestry are of the view that the following breakdown of funding is how this will be achieved:

Funds available from church funds	£50,000
Funds from grant bodies	£50,000
Funds from fundraising activities	£95,000

It is recommended by the Charities Commission that registered charities hold 6 months operating costs in reserve, so the Select Vestry will set aside approximately £60,000 to ensure we are able to comply with this obligation/recommendation.

To assist with securing funds from grant bodies, the Select Vestry have engaged the services of a consultant to assist with the submission of grant applications.

In order to raise the remaining £95,000 of the project costs, the Select Vestry have agreed that a series of fundraising activities will commence in the autumn term, as follows.....

- Monthly car wash on the 1st Saturday morning of each month;
- Family social evening on Friday 26th September, details on page 7;
- Family sponsored cycle from Scarva tow path on Saturday 27th September;
- Country comes to Town on Saturday 18th October;
- Harvest Appeal on Harvest Sunday;
- Big breakfast in November;
- Christmas Fayre in November.

The above list is far from exclusive but hopefully gives a sense of how we intend to go about raising the necessary funds for the crucial work over the next while. In the short term we may need to revert to securing a bank loan to ensure we can meet our obligations; the shorter the term of the loan will be determined by the commitment and generosity of each one of us. Details of some of the above fundraisers are available in this magazine with further details appearing in future issues and by other means.

### Harvest Appeal

Each year, we encourage parishioners to support the Harvest Appeal with the proceeds going towards the general running costs of the cathedral. In light of the above work the Select Vestry have decided that this year, the proceeds of the Harvest Appeal will go towards the rewiring and upgrading of lighting in the cathedral. Please do support this as generously as you can.

## Clothes and Fabrics Collection

Once again, the Cathedral is taking up the opportunity of helping parishioners and friends to help themselves, and to help us, by providing a means of getting rid of old/used clothes and shoes.

The right hand Garage in the Clayton Hall Yard will be used as a collection point for bags of the following items to be left in the week commencing Monday 29th September. Bags will be collected on Wednesday 22nd October.

Please make sure the clothes have been cleaned beforehand.

### WHAT CAN I PUT INTO THE BAGS?

We can say **YES** to:

- Men's Clean Clothing
- Women's Clean Clothing
- Children's Clean Clothing
- Paired shoes
- Handbags
- Belts
- Bed linen
- Curtains

but we must say **NO** to:

- Dirty or wet clothing
- Single shoes
- Off cuts of material
- Uniforms

The more clothing suitable for re-use collected, the more money we will raise! Using services of All-Tex Ltd.

## CMSI Boxes

All CMSI boxes should be returned either to Helen Forsythe (Co-ordinator), left in the Church porch or with Jill in the Church Office during the month of September.

If you are contributing by cheque, please make cheque payable to Dromore Cathedral.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

We plan to take part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning on **Friday 26th September in the Cathedral Hall.**

But we need your help, either to provide food on the day or simply to attend and donate, helping us to raise money for this very worthy cause.

We would appreciate donations of scones or tray bakes to be left in the Cathedral Hall kitchen on the Thursday evening between 7.00pm and 8.00pm or before 9.00am on the Friday morning.

Teas and coffees will be served from 10.30am until 12.00 noon, so please try to join us and encourage as many of your friends as possible to pop in too.

Don't miss this opportunity to support these wonderful nurses whose role is invaluable to those who suffer from this life changing illness.



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## DC Family Social

DC family are excited to be having a Social Evening/Auction of Talents on Friday 26th September at 7.30pm.

We are very fortunate to have Embrace Socials join us and lead us for the evening. Tickets are priced at Adults £10, Child £5 with family discounts available. The ticket includes refreshments.

During the social we will have our Auction of Talents (held back from earlier in the year) with money raised from the Auction for Mairdi. So that we can gauge numbers for refreshments, tickets can be purchased in advance from the Church Office or any Vestry members.

## JOY

We plan to meet back to start our sixth year of JOY on Thursday 4th September at 2pm in the Cathedral Hall. We were very sad to hear of the passing of our dear friend John Wilkinson who had been a guest speaker at JOY on a number of occasions and was to join us again for Part 3 of his Dromore stories. With this in mind, we will have an 'Afternoon of Remembrance in memory of John Wilkinson'.

Please try to join us for this special afternoon, and bring a friend. We have plenty of chairs and it would be so encouraging for us to see our numbers increasing this year from our Church family and friends.

## Monthly Car Wash

Our fundraising events, to help with cost of new electrics in the Cathedral, starts on Saturday 6th September with a monthly Car Wash at the Cathedral Hall car park. We will be washing cars between 9.30 - 11.30am accompanied by complimentary refreshments while you wait.



**Small Cars £7.00**

**Large Cars and Jeeps £10.00**

The Car Wash will be available on the 1st Saturday of each month until April 2026. (2nd Saturday in November only). If anyone can help any month (even once) for 1 or 2 hours, please contact the Church Office to add your name to the monthly list or sign up in the Church Porch.

## Mothers' Union Meeting

As our summer break is coming to a close, I am looking forward to seeing you all at our September meeting on Wednesday 24th September at 7.30pm in the Clayton Hall. This will be in the form of a Walking Treasure Hunt. Hopefully this will be a lot of fun as we take a short walk around the park while catching up with everyone and try to answer the easy clues. Then back to the Hall for a welcome cup of tea.

If any of our Church family would like to join us you will be made very welcome.

## Country Comes to Town

Come join in the fun on Saturday 18th October from 10am until 3.00pm in the Cathedral car park. There's



something for everyone and lots to do including pony rides, alpacas, barbecue, face painting, stalls, miniature goats and much more.



Try your skill, if you're brave enough, on the bucking bronco and see how long you can remain seated!!

Please do plan to support this fun filled day and encourage as many others to come along.

*Admission is free but all Proceeds go to Church funds.*

## Men's breakfast

Calling all men. Don't miss out on the opportunity to have a fantastic breakfast with a great speaker at 8am on Saturday 13th September in Taste Café. Our former curate the Rev Titch Hamilton will be our speaker and breakfasts are priced at £10, including tea and coffee. To book your place put your name on the list in either of the porches. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend or neighbour along to a "church" event.

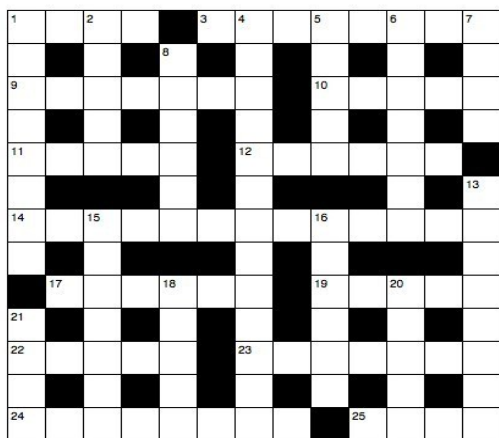
## Teddy Bear's Picnic

Following our united service at 10.45am on Sunday 7th September we are encouraging folks to join us for a Teddy Bear's Picnic in the Rectory garden, weather permitting. We will have all of the usual entertainment with bouncy castles, music and face painting, all you have to bring is yourself and your picnic! Please do make a special effort to come along as we seek to go deeper with one another over this next season.

## Family Cycle from Scarva to .....

As part of our fundraising activities to raise the necessary funds for the rewiring of the cathedral we are encouraging everyone to be part of the Big Cycle on Saturday 27th September, leaving Scarva at 2pm and ending wherever and whenever you feel you've had enough!. This is open to everyone to be part of, both young and old and everyone who takes part is being encouraged to raise some sponsorship through their friends and relatives. This won't be a race with winners and losers, but a time for the church family to have some fun as we seek to raise some funds. Sponsor sheets will be available from the church office or if you aren't able to participate by cycling yourself you can sponsor Geoff through sponsor sheets in each of the porches.





## Across

- 1** 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3** Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9** They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10** 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11** Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th- century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12** 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14** 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17** Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19** 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22** Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)

**23** i.e. train (anag.) (7)

**24** Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)

**25** 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

## Down

- 1** Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2** 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4** 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5** Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6** Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7** Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8** Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13** Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15** CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16** Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)
- 18** One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20** Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21** Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

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## Services for September

### Sunday 7th

The 12th Sunday after Trinity	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	Combined Service
	6.00pm	Prayer time at the High School

### Sunday 14th

The 13th Sunday after Trinity	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Epilogue with Holy Communion

### Sunday 21st

The 14th Sunday after Trinity	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise with Holy Communion
	11.30am	Service of the Word
	6.00pm	Evening Epilogue Service

### Sunday 28th

The 15th Sunday after Trinity	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Morning Prayer
	6.00pm	Evening Epilogue Service

## Craft Class

Our Craft Class will resume on Tuesday 2nd September. We meet every Tuesday in the Clayton Memorial Hall from 10.30am to 12 noon for a cuppa, chat and some craft. New members will be made most welcome.

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# PARISH REGISTER

## Christian Burial

28th June	Isabella June Reain, Ballynahinch Road, Dromore
11th July	Margaret Jane (Marjorie) Gamble, Maypole Park, Dromore
21st July	Robert James (Bobbie) Stevenson, Mullaghdrin Road, Dromara
3rd August	William Livingstone, Mountvale Nursing Home, 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: June & July

GENERAL FUND	2025/26	2024/25
June	10,223.00	10,317.50
July	7,225.10	7,553.00
<b>Total to date</b>	<b>£34,389.85</b>	<b>£34,423.00</b>
DEVELOPMENT FUND		
June	644.00	772.00
July	695.00	607.00
<b>Total to date</b>	<b>£3,244.00</b>	<b>£3,299.40</b>

## Attention all Magazine Distributors

The October edition of our magazine will be ready for collection and distribution on **Friday 26th September** with items for inclusion to be with Jill in the office by **Friday 19th September at 1pm**. Items can be sent to Jill by emailing - [dromorecathedral@outlook.com](mailto:dromorecathedral@outlook.com)

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## SEPTEMBER DATES

Monday 1st	10.00	First Steps	Cathedral Hall
Monday 1st	7.30	Parish Prayer Meeting	Clayton Hall
Tuesday 2nd	10.30	Craft Class (each Tuesday)	Clayton Hall
Thursday 4th	2.00	JOY	Cathedral Hall
Saturday 6th	9.30	Car Wash (1st Sat. of each month)	Cathedral Hall
Wednesday 10th	7.30	Parish Bible Class	Clayton Hall
Saturday 13th	8.00	Men's Breakfast	Taste Cafe
Monday 15th	7.30	Select Vestry Meeting	Clayton Hall
Wednesday 24th	7.30	Mothers' Union Meeting	Clayton Hall
Friday 26th	10.30	Macmillan Coffee Morning	Cathedral Hall
Friday 26th	7.30	DC Family Social/Auction of Talents	Cathedral Hall
Saturday 27th		Sponsored Cycle	Scarva tow path
Mon 29th - 22nd Oct		Clothes and Fabric Collection	Clayton Hall Garage

September	7th	14th	21st	28th
Mrs Sara McCorkell 028 9269 3760	Mrs Nuala Green	Mrs Glenda Galloway	Chambers Family	Mrs Gillian Hyde

September	Refreshments Rota
7th	No refreshments
14th	E Magowan & R Wilson
21st	N Wilson & L Teggart
28th	D Farrell & H Forsythe

## Refreshments Rota

If you aren't able to cover a date which you have been allocated, please either swap with someone else or contact the Cathedral Office. Thank you.



## The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

### Contact details for Staff and Office Bearers



<b>Rector:</b>	Very Revd Geoff Wilson, 28 Church Street, Dromore BT25 1AA email: revgeoffwilson@gmail.com    Mobile: 07808 844637	028 9269 2275
<b>Curate:</b>	Vacant	
<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>	Vacant	
<b>Praise Group:</b>	Karen Bowden e-mail: karenbowden@me.com	0780 094 1256
<b>Sexton:</b>	Jim McComb	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 1607914 : Sue Pegrum 028 9269 3280

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

### Select Vestry 2025-2026

<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Suzanne Watson (Rector's)	Brian Hanna (People's)
<b>Glebewardens:</b>	Ian Purdy (Rector's)	Bill Forsythe (People's)
<b>Vestry Members:</b>	Edgar Boggs, Andrew Carson, Rebekah Davidson (Honorary Secretary), George Gracey, Nan McMurray (Honorary Treasurer), Andrew McNeill, Robert Poots, Hilary Purdy, Jane Russell, Ashley Silcock, Leanne Teggart, Alan Turkington.	
<b>Honorary Secretary:</b>	Mrs Rebekah Davidson, 30 Church Street, Dromore, Co Down BT25 1AA email: rebekah.down@gmail.com TN 028 9269 3838	
<b>Honorary Treasurer:</b>	Miss Nan McMurray 10 Pines Grove, Lurgan, Craigavon BT66 7PE email: nanmcmurray@btinternet.com TN 028 3832 7856	

# GOLDEN CHARTER



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## ADOPT A BIBLE BUDDY!

Following our 10.45am service on Sunday 7th September, children aged 3-11 will be invited to “adopt” a Bible Buddy! The children will be invited to choose their teddy Panda, name it and commit to care for it through “feeding it” God’s word. Along with their chosen Panda the child will receive a care guide with a reading plan and an adoption certificate. The goal of this initiative is to help children connect with God’s word, learn about God’s character and build a lasting desire to read God’s word daily. If your child/children would like to adopt a Bible Buddy, please let Christine Shanks know by Friday 5th September: [Dromore.youth.children@gmail.com](mailto:Dromore.youth.children@gmail.com)



## KINGDOM KIDS ADOPT A BIBLE BUDDY



7<sup>th</sup> sept | 10.45am

FOLLOWED BY A  
TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC!

### DC CHILDREN & YOUTH WELCOME BACK!

**First Steps**

- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September  
10-11.30am  
Cathedral Hall

**Kingdom Kids**

- Adopt a Bible Buddy  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September
- Kingdom Kids Sunday  
14<sup>th</sup> September

**Youth**

- Boost: Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September
- Pulse: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September
- Connect: Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT CHRISTINE SHANKS:  
[DROMORE.YOUTH.CHILDREN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DROMORE.YOUTH.CHILDREN@GMAIL.COM)

## POWERED UP PRAYER

### CALLING ALL KIDS AND FAMILIES

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**SATURDAY  
6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
AT 2PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
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YOUR TOWN  
NEEDS YOU!





## Bishop's Bible Course

Congratulations to Dorothy, Joanne and Nick on completion of the Bishop's Bible Course. Over the course of 2 years of study in Belfast, participants consider both the Old and New Testaments with no other motivation other than to grow in their faith.

The next group of students will begin studying this coming Autumn with the course being located in Banbridge. If you are interested in this course, ask Geoff for more details.

Well done to our guys and watch this space to see what might be next for them!

## Lay Pastoral Assistant

Congratulations to Carolyn Jackson on her appointment as Lay Pastoral Assistant in DC. Carolyn is married to Jonny, they have 3 adult children and 3 grandchildren and have been a part of DC for around 6-7 years. Carolyn has been a senior leader with Freedom In Christ ministries for around 10 years and more recently has trained to become an accredited spiritual director.

Carolyn will work alongside Geoff in delivering pastoral care, but will also help in developing a team of lay visitors to support the staff team in what they do. Carolyn will also have a responsibility for spiritual formation



of adults of all ages. Please do welcome Carolyn into your homes and pray for this new ministry. Carolyn will begin her work on 1st September.



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