




October 2025

God gave you a **gift**  
of 86,400 seconds  
today. Have you  
used one to say  
'thank you?'



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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**



Meet our new Sunday placement student, Mark Trimble. Mark will be joining us for 10 weeks from Sunday 5th October.

Hi everyone, my name is Mark, I am 38 years old, married to Emma and have a little boy called Toby.

We recently joined Willowfield Parish church where my wife now works as a kid's worker. Prior to that we were in Drumbeg Parish where I served as a Diocesan lay reader and part time Evangelist.

The rest of the time, I work as a Chartered Accountant in finance.

I have served in church in multiple ways over the years and have a real passion to see people come to faith. I am keen to see discipleship grow within the church so people can live out their faith in their daily lives.

In my spare time, I love to spend time with my family or friends, play football, play the drums or go up the mountains.

Looking forward to getting to know you all, serve and learn during my time in Dromore .

One thing which really irritates me is when you do something for someone and they don't even take the time to thank you for it. How many of us have found ourselves in the situation where we are stuck in traffic and someone is attempting to join the traffic from a side road. You indicate to them that you are willing to let them join the queue in front of you, an invitation which they are keen to accept but don't acknowledge with as much as a wave of their hand. Very frustrating!

Another favourite one of mine is when I've been paying for something in a shop and you give the cashier payment and there isn't as much as a please or a thank you. I don't want to turn into Victor Meldrew from "One Foot in the Grave" but it is just common courtesy and doesn't cost a thing to take the time to say thank you.

Isn't it something we teach our children and grandchildren and something which our parents and grandparents instilled in us? How many times have I heard myself saying "Now don't forget to say thank you."

The quote at the beginning of this article is at the heart of a very well known passage from Luke's Gospel in which Jesus takes pity on 10 lepers who cry out to him for mercy. Jesus simply directed them to go and show themselves to the priest and as they went, they were cleansed, just like that. But only one returned to say thank you, and he was a Samaritan. His words and actions demonstrated the depth of his thankfulness. He was praising God in a loud voice, threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. We could focus on the fact that he was a "foreigner" but that isn't the focus of my reflection as we approach harvest. My focus in this short note is that he was the only one who took the time to say thank you. But why did he say thank you? Well, quite simply, he understood just how much Jesus had done for him and what a debt of gratitude he owed Him. His life was transformed from being in isolation with other lepers with no hope to being restored to his family and community. He had so much to be thankful for and he made a point of doing so in spite of the fact that his peers didn't take as much as one second to say thank you.

This harvest, I would encourage you to sit down and write a list of all of the good things in your life. Your home, your family, your neighbours, the food you eat, the clothes you wear, the town we inhabit, the jobs we have or were employed in, the climate we enjoy, the freedom in our land, the education system, the health care....the list could go on. When we take the time to count our blessings, it might encourage us to return to Jesus, just like the Samaritan leper, and with a loud voice throw ourselves at his feet praising God with words of gratitude.....

.....and thanks. It only takes a second!

But why not take more than a second this harvest and join us for worship when we corporately pour out our hearts in thanksgiving as we lay ourselves at the feet of Jesus, in a manner of speaking, and utter words of praise for what He has done and thanks for all that He given us.

Please don't be like the 9 lepers who forgot what Jesus had done for them this harvest. Consider the response of the Samaritan leper who demonstrated very clearly just how grateful he was.

**Geoff**

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## **Harvest Sunday : 19th October 2025**

**10.45am**

**Harvest Celebration Service**

Speaker:

The Rev Karen Salmon, Rector of Magherally & Annaclone

**6.00pm**

**Community Harvest Festival**

Speaker:

The Very Rev Geoff Wilson

Fruit and veg will be given to those in particular need in our community through the services provided by Via Wings following the High School Harvest on Monday afternoon.

## **Decorating of the Church for Harvest**

One of the things which we have learnt in relation to the decoration of the Church for Harvest is that perhaps less is more. Mrs Sara McCorkell will co-ordinate a group of volunteers who will attend to the decoration of all of those areas which will be decorated on Friday 17th from 10am and Saturday morning.

## **Non-perishable items and how they can bless others at Harvest**

This Harvest time, why not consider bringing a non-perishable item such as a packet of pasta or a packet of tea bags to Church? This might be a lovely thing for both young, and not so young, to engage in and provide us with an opportunity to have conversations about what is behind this act of kindness and how it might bless others. All non-perishable items can be brought to the front of Church either during the service on Harvest morning, or as people arrive, and will be delivered to Via Wings for distribution to those with particular needs at the moment.

## Harvest Appeal 2025

Each harvest for the past 40 years or so, there has been an appeal envelope enclosed with either the box of envelopes or with your church magazine through which contributors have been able to give. As far as I am aware, each year this source of income has been essential to ensure that the mission and ministry of the parish has been enabled with the funds being designated by successive Select Vestries to the General Account.

This year, with the essential work of rewiring the cathedral about to commence and the fundraising target set at £95,000, the Select Vestry have decided that the Harvest Appeal will go towards the Development Fund, from which the rewiring will be financed.

Giving at harvest through the harvest envelopes has ebbed and flowed over the years with a peak of £12,915 in 2001. The equivalent value of this amount in today's world is £24,457 according to the Bank of England's inflation calculator. In 2024, the total figure contributed through harvest envelopes was £8,341. This means that support for the harvest appeal has reduced by around 66% in the past 24 years when we make allowances for inflation. Of course there could be a number of factors which have contributed to this reduction, not least a reduction in those attending our parish on a regular basis. However I would like to ask everyone to prayerfully and carefully consider their level of support for the rewiring project this harvest time.

There may be some of us who have not reviewed or revised our level of giving for some years, in spite of increases in income over the corresponding years. Perhaps now is the time to do so as we consider all the good things which the Lord has placed in our hands and say thank you with an increased measure of our income.

On the other hand, there may be some of us for whom living costs have increased, putting more pressure on already tight budgets. If that is your situation, then you may have to consider a reduction in your offering this year.

Mine is not to make demands, but rather to invite each of us to examine our hearts, hold this whole process in prayer, consider God's goodness and faithfulness and reflect our thankfulness with our level of giving.

## Rewiring Update

At the time of writing the Select Vestry are very close to having tender documents in hand which would mean that we could begin the tender process around the middle of October, God willing.

## **Dromore Cathedral History Reading Group**

The History Reading Group will hold their next meeting on -

**Wednesday 29th October 2025 at 7.30 PM. Venue - The Clayton Memorial Hall.**

In picking a title to read in advance of the October meeting the group had something of a hard act to follow. The book which was read over the summer just past, and discussed at the August meeting, was much enjoyed and very well received.

**1599 A Year In The Life Of William Shakespeare by James Shapiro** is a book that is well researched, well written and simply very clever in its concept. In brief summary the book highlights how the Shakespeare history plays of 1599, Henry V and Julius Caesar, are heavily infused with subtle references to the politics of late Elizabethan England - conflict in Ireland, the reformation, and the potential for a second Spanish Armada , known as the "Invisible Armada". There is much more to Shakespeare than might meet the eye!

So impressed were the group that they plan to read the follow up book by the same author during 2026 - **1606 Shakespeare And The Year Of Lear.**

In selecting a title for discussion at the October 2025 meeting the group hit the fast forward button on the history machine and moved to Spain in the time period 1936 - 1939. The book currently being read is -

**The Spanish Civil War - Reaction, Revolution and Revenge by Paul Preston.**

The book provides an overview of the conflict between the left leaning republican government in Spain and right wing nationalist rebels led by General Francisco Franco.

Everyone is most welcome to attend to share some fellowship and to engage in some lively discussion about the Spanish Civil War.

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## **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 as soon as possible.

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

## **Clothes and Fabrics Collection**

Thank you to those who have dropped off clothing in the garage in the Clayton Hall yard. **The collection will remain open until Wednesday 22nd October.**

## Equipping those who care

Who cares for you?

Well traditionally in the Anglican Church it has been the Rector or Curate who delivered pastoral care in the parish. In the cathedral, we're beginning to develop and broaden that thinking to embrace a more biblical model of body ministry through which members of the body of Christ care for other members, as well as the existing levels of support and pastoral care already in place.

To that end, there will be 3 evenings when those interested in growing in this area of pastoral caring will be better equipped. Each evening will commence at 7.30pm and meetings will take place in the Clayton Hall.

The equipping evenings will take place on Tuesday 30th September, Tuesday 7th October and conclude on Tuesday 21st October. Everyone is most welcome to attend as together we seek to become a more caring church family.

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## JOY

Join us on Thursday 9th October at 2pm when we will be joined by one of our parishioners, Mrs Audrey Hynds, a local Artist, who will be teaching us some art skills.

## Car Wash

After a very successful September car wash, bring your car to get washed at The Cathedral Hall car park on Saturday 4th October between 9.30 - 11.30am and enjoy a complimentary cuppa at the same time.

**Small Cars £7, Large Cars £10.**

All money raised goes towards the rewiring of the Cathedral.

## Justgiving Online

An online way to help with our fundraising project to rewire the Cathedral is an online Just Giving page. By using the link, which will be posted on all our socials and website, anyone from anywhere in the world can make a donation. If you reside in the UK Gift Aid can also be claimed.

An excellent, easy way to donate for friends and families, who maybe were part of our Church family in the past but have moved away over the years and would still like to support us.

## **A LOOK AT LIFE WITH THE RECYCLED TEENAGER- Walking**

“It’s good to be out!” Says Joan and Myrtle claims, “You feel like a different person after a walk.”

Both of these opinions are from two octogenarian friends of mine. The walks they refer to though (you may be surprised to learn) are in the mountains. No bother to these two awesome and inspiring ladies. They are up hill and down dale, while I’m trailing at the back, craving oxygen at the end.

For the past two years I’ve been hillwalking with a rambling club, the age membership of which is in excess of 50+ and everyone a truly recycled teenager! Recently a group of us travelled to Keswick and engaged in a spot of hiking in The Lake District. We made our presence felt when a 20 something year old was overheard to say,

“Let them old-foggies go on ahead, they know what they are doing.”

Each of the two full days trailing, tracking and traversing rocky terrain ended with a lovely meal, good company and a soft bed in our hotel.

So why do we do it? Is it to keep fit and agile? Yes. Is it for the friendship? Most certainly. Is it because there is no achievement like it? Definitely. But also it is because we can. Life is for living and Jesus came to give it to the full. Or as Myrtle says, “ Don’t think too much about it; just get up and get going!”

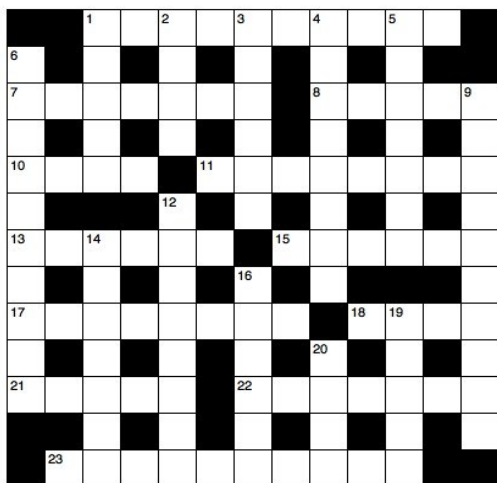
## **Let us pray together as we work together**

Work on raising the funds for the rewiring of the Cathedral have already commenced with the first of a series of monthly car washes in September. By the time you read these notes, we will have had 2 more fund raisers with the Social on Friday 26th and the cycle from Scarva on Saturday 27th. Please do keep up to date with fundraising through the magazine and social media and support those events which you can.

We hope to commence the practical work of the rewiring of the cathedral in the early part of the New Year, assuming grant applications bear fruit and availability of contractors once the work has been allocated.

One of the crucial parts of this project is to avoid the danger of focusing solely on the work and neglecting the need for prayer. Prayer is the power house of any church and prayer meetings are often the lowest attended meetings. So to encourage us all to be committed to praying for the necessary work, you will find enclosed with this magazine a prayer card to use each day in your home until the work is over. Please use it faithfully each day as we stand together in prayer.





## Across

- 1** He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7** 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8** Relieved (5)
- 10** Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11** Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
- 13** 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15** Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17** One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
- 18** and **20** Down 'She began to wet his — with her tears. Then she wiped them with her — ' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)
- 21** 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an — , — the last

trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)

**22** 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)

**23** Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

## Down

- 1** He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)
- 2** Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
- 3** 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
- 4** The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)
- 5** Sun rail (anag.) (7)
- 6** Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
- 9** Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
- 12** This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
- 14** Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
- 16** Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
- 19** Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)
- 20** See 18 Across

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## Services for October

### Sunday 5th

16th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am

Holy Communion

10.45am

United Service

6.00pm

Praise, Prayer & Testimony

### Sunday 12th

17th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am

No service of Holy Communion

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

11.30am

Holy Communion

6.00pm

Evening Epilogue

### Sunday 19th

18th Sunday after Trinity

8.30am

Holy Communion

### Harvest Sunday

10.45am

Harvest Celebration Service

6.00pm

Community Harvest Festival

*Harvest Supper after in the Cathedral Hall*

### Monday 20th

2.00pm

Dromore High School Harvest Service

### Sunday 26th

5th Sunday before Advent

8.30am

Holy Communion

10.00am

Cathedral Praise

11.30am

Service of the Word

6.00pm

Evening Epilogue Service

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PARISH REGISTER

HOLY MATRIMONY

20th September Linda-Jane Chambers and Michael Maze

*“Those whom God has joined together let no-one put asunder.”*

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

2nd September Dorothy Ethel Graham, Howe Road, Dromore

22nd September Rachel (Rae) Gilliland, Mountvale Nursing Home

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

Church Collections: August

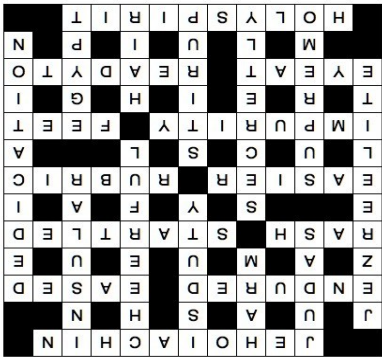
GENERAL FUND	2025/26	2024/25
August	8,636.00	8,770.50
Total to date	£43,025.85	£43,193.50

DEVELOPMENT FUND		
August	1,248.00	811.40
Total to date	£4,492.00	£4,110.80

Attention all Magazine Distributors

The November edition of our magazine will be ready for collection and distribution on **Friday 31st October** with items for inclusion to be with Jill in the office by **Friday 24th October at 1pm**. Items can be sent to Jill by emailing - [dromorecathedral@outlook.com](mailto:dromorecathedral@outlook.com)

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## OCTOBER DATES

Saturday 4th	9.30	Car Wash	Cathedral Hall
Monday 6th	7.30	Parish Prayer Meeting	Clayton Hall
Tuesday 7th	10.30	Craft Class (each Tuesday)	Clayton Hall
Tuesday 7th	7.30	Pastoral Care Equipping	Clayton Hall
Thursday 9th	2.00	JOY	Cathedral Hall
Tuesday 14th	7.30	Contemplative Prayer	Clayton Hall
Friday 17th	10.00	Harvest Decorating	Cathedral
Saturday 18th	10.00	Country Comes to Town	Cathedral Hall Car Park
Monday 20th	7.30	Select Vestry Meeting	Clayton Hall
Tuesday	7.30	Pastoral Care Equipping	Clayton Hall
Wednesday 22nd	7.30	Mothers' Union Meeting	Clayton Hall
Tuesday 28th	7.30	Contemplative Prayer	Clayton Hall
Wednesday 29th	7.30	History Reading Group	Clayton Hall

October	5th	12th	19th	26th
Mrs Sara McCorkell 028 9269 3760	Mrs Pauline McMurray	Mrs Jean Gilliland	HARVEST	Harvest Arrangement

October	Refreshments Rota
5th	C Mayne & M Mayne
12th	N Wilson & L Teggart
19th	No refreshments
26th	S Shepherd & D Martin

## 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



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**Office:** Jill Wylie, Cathedral Office, 30 Church St, Dromore BT25 1AA 028 9269 3968  
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**Organist:** Vacant

**Praise Group:** Karen Bowden e-mail: karenbowden@me.com 0780 094 1256

**Sexton:** Jim McComb 028 9269 3968

**Children's & Youth Worker:** Christine Shanks 028 9269 3968  
e-mail: dromore.youth.children@gmail.com

**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

**Churchwardens:** Suzanne Watson (Rector's) Brian Hanna (People's)

**Glebewardens:** Ian Purdy (Rector's) Bill Forsythe (People's)

**Vestry Members:** 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.

**Honorary Secretary:** Mrs Rebekah Davidson, 30 Church Street, Dromore, Co Down BT25 1AA  
email: rebekah.down@gmail.com TN 028 9269 3838

**Honorary Treasurer:** Miss Nan McMurray 10 Pines Grove, Lurgan, Craigavon BT66 7PE  
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# GOLDEN CHARTER



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# Kingdom Kids Bible Buddies

On Sunday 7th September, twenty-five children adopted a Bible Buddy. The Bible Buddies were sent home as a way of encouraging children to develop a daily habit of reading their Bible and prayer. This initiative has proved very successful! One child has read her whole bible (all three hundred plus pages!) in one week! Be encouraged through some of the children and parents updates on their Bible Buddies:

“Harriett has loved looking after her Prayer Bear “Thea” It has given Harriett a real interest in reading the Bible. The verses that were sent home have all been short little snippets, perfect for bedtime, but also great little cues for reading a bit more each night and a good template for continuing after the list of verses is complete. Thea has been to school with Harriett numerous times over the last few weeks and is being very well looked after.”

“Lucie is really loving her prayer buddy Panda whom she named Grace. She began with the two week plan of Bible verses and is now beginning to read the book of John. She even took it to her Granny’s when she had a recent sleepover. It has really helped her develop her relationship with God.”

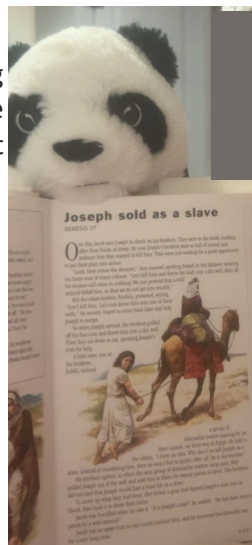
“I think this is a great way to introduce and get kids to read a Bible. Carter loves finding the verse himself and reading to us and it is now part of our bedtime routine. We have just started with one to two verses every night and then it can grow as he does.”

“She is loving Bible Buddy we have only missed two nights of it so she is doing so well at it.”

“Me and my panda Bamboozle are getting on very well. I’ve been feeding it every night by reading from my Bible.”

“I feed my panda Tea Leaf every night with prayers.”

“I call my Bible Buddy Oreo and before I go to bed each night I feed him by reading a Bible verse to him.”



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