

CD Cathedral Life



The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore



November 2025

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER, DROMORE



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

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2275 or the Cathedral Office
on 9269 3968**

More than Conquerors

Ever since the fall in the Garden of Eden, our experience has been one of brokenness and enmity. For evidence of this look no further than the lives of Cain and Abel, where one brother, so fuelled with jealousy and hatred, raised his hand in anger and took the life of his own brother. In a metaphorical and literal sense we have been doing just that for each generation ever since, with the 20th Century being the bloodiest in terms of death through the consequences of conflict, either directly or indirectly. The loss of life is too horrible to contemplate with around 10 million military personnel and the same number of civilians dying in the First World War. Those terrible statistics were overshadowed in the Second World War when around 75 million lives were lost, the majority of which were civilians.

In our own context, over 30 years of violence, euphemistically referred to as "The Troubles", over 3500 lives were lost, something which remains a huge source of pain for so many. And as we heard very recently from Bishop Moses in Maridi Diocese, S Sudan, over 3 million people have lost their lives in conflict stretching back over 70 years with countless others left dealing with the consequential trauma.

As I reflect on this catalogue of loss and bloodshed throughout human history,

I am increasingly convinced that there are no winners and no losers. Don't misunderstand what I mean when I say this. Of course history will record which nations/armies won the various battles and ultimately the war. But in all of this, everyone is left with a deep sense of pain and loss, wrestling with the trauma of having lost loved ones in the pursuit of peace.

That is why it is crucial for us to remember. To remember those who are no longer with us due to conflict or war. To remember those who were intent on striving for peace and paid the ultimate sacrifice through the laying down of their lives. To remember the men, women and children, all over the world, who were the victims of cruel violence which they ultimately were not the architects of.

But we also need to remember that as we face the future with painful memories and very real trauma, that we do so with God by our side. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, states very confidently that *"If God is for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8: 31b* Paul is very aware of the reality of the fall in each of our lives. He lists some of the consequences in verse 35 when he asks a rhetorical question: *"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?"* All of these challenges in life are very real, to some extent or other, for Christians throughout the world today. Paul was convinced, and so should we be, that *"in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."*

Ask yourself what it is that you are battling with at present. And then tell yourself what Paul told the Christians in Rome, *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus."* Romans 8: 38-39

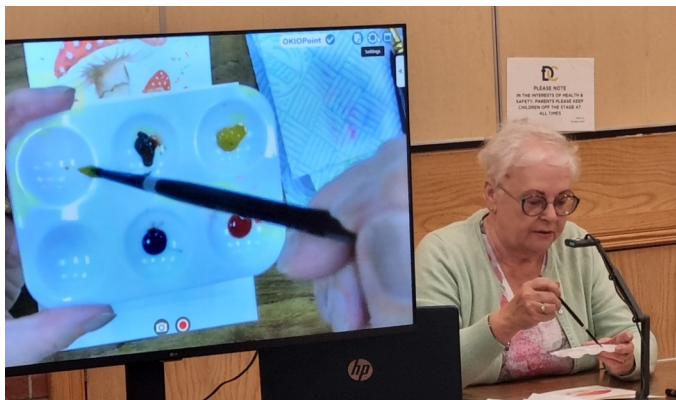
Jesus is with you whatever it is you are facing today. To be more than conquerors means that we face the trials of life with the certainty that we are not alone. Now that is worth remembering.

I look forward to joining with you all as we remember the fallen at the cenotaph this Remembrance Day at 10.45am.

Your friend
Geoff

JOY

We next meet on Thursday 13th November at 2pm in the Cathedral Hall. Our guest speaker will be Mrs Carolyn Jackson, our newest member of the Cathedral staff with a wonderful story to tell. Please try to join us to show encouragement to the speaker and organisers.



Mrs Audrey Hynds, a local Artist at last month's JOY meeting

Seniors Afternoon Tea

It is hard to believe we are back round to our annual Christmas Afternoon Tea again. I'm sure anyone who had attended in the past will agree that this afternoon is always a fun filled time with plenty of delicious food, music, chat and maybe a little dancing (even if its only Geoff and Naomi). The date is Saturday 6th December at 2pm but to help with catering and numbers, please add you name to the lists in either porch or by contacting Jill in the Cathedral Office by Sunday 30th November.

Can we give a big thank you to everyone who has donated or helped with this event in the past since it started at our vision weekend in 2017.

Car Wash

Our monthly Car Wash continues on Saturday 8th November 9.30 - 11.15am. This is proving to be a very successful morning with 33 cars washed in 2 hrs by 7 men. We plan to continue this until May. So that the same people are not required every month, please consider adding you name to the WhatsApp group to help even if its only for one morning. Contact Ashley Silcock for information. The help required is from men and women and the craic is great.

Big Breakfast

Along side our Car Wash on Saturday 8th November, we plan to have a Big Breakfast from 8.30 - 11.30 (please note car wash does not start until 9.30) in the Cathedral Hall. Come and enjoy a 'Large or Small fry' washed down with lots of tea, coffee or fruit juices. The cost is by a voluntary donation.

Craft Fayre

Our Christmas Craft Fayre is on Thursday 27th November 6.30 - 9.30pm in the Cathedral Hall. All tables are now booked with a large variety of lovely products to choose from. If you are needing some Christmas gifts you will be spoilt for choice. From Christmas cakes and puddings, wrapping paper, cards, jewellery, pictures, miniature driftwood houses, brownies, cupcakes to name a few. To help our Cathedral fundraising there will be an entrance fee of £3 per adult, children free, which includes tea/coffee, mince pies or Shortbread with juice and treats for the children. Looking forward to my first Cathedral Christmas Fayre and we may even make this an annual event.

Christmas Fireside Quiz

As part of our fundraising campaign we invite you to take part in our Christmas Family Fireside Quiz. Priced at £2, copies are available from the Cathedral Office or any member of the Vestry. Quiz sheets will be available at our Christmas Craft Fayre and Seniors Afternoon Tea. Maybe you would consider getting a few additional copies to sell to your family and friends. As the saying from a well known supermarket goes, 'every little helps'.

Just Giving Online

In our world of technology, a very popular way to donate to any charity appeal, without leaving your armchair, is by Just Giving. This is an online platform and is an easy way for anyone to donate who is not able to join with us in person at our fundraising events but would still like to support us.

Simply follow the link on our Facebook page on your mobile, tablet or laptop for Dromore Cathedral Just Giving and donate. There is also an opportunity to have gift aid included in your donation in the process. If you live in Belfast, Londonderry, New Zealand, Canada or anywhere else in the world the ability to donate is available to you. Further details shall be available on our church social media pages.

Mothers' Union Meeting

Our November meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th in the Clayton Hall at 7.30pm. We will have a fun evening getting ideas for Christmas.

We are organising the Advent Lunch again this year and it will be held on the first Sunday in Advent, 30th November at 1.15pm in the Cathedral Hall.

We will not meet in December, so I will take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Advent Lunch for All

Mothers' Union is planning to hold a
Traditional 2 Course Christmas Lunch
in the Cathedral Hall
on Advent Sunday 30th November 2025
at 1.15pm

Menu: *Roast Turkey and Ham or Roast Beef*
(served with all the trimmings)
Christmas Pudding or Pavlova
Tea/Coffee

Catering by Gilberry Fayre. Cost £25 per adult and £12.50 per child. Please book menus no later than 20th November with a £10 deposit or payment in full, to Jill in the Church Office or any Mothers' Union Committee member.

This will be a fun, Church family occasion, not just for Mothers' Union members, their family and friends -

everyone is invited



Christmas Choir Practices

Choir Practices for our Carols by Candlelight Service on Sunday 21st December will take place on four Thursday nights - 27th November; 4th, 11th and 18th December at 7.30pm in the Choir Room, upstairs in the Clayton Memorial Hall.

Property Update

At the time of writing, we are very close to appointing a contractor to undertake the essential work of rewiring the Cathedral and the important work of upgrading the lighting for years to come. It is anticipated that the work will commence very early in the New Year and will last for around 12 weeks. During this time we will be worshipping together in the Cathedral Hall with one service at 10.45am each week. This is going to be a difficult time for all of us so please do what you can to ensure that this challenging period is as seamless as possible.

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Leprosy Mission Boxes

All Leprosy Mission Boxes should be returned to Tommy Wilson or left in the Church Porch during the month of November. If you are contributing by cheque, please make cheque payable to Dromore Cathedral.

If you would like to support Leprosy Mission by receiving a Mission Box, please get in touch with Tommy and he will arrange it. Thank you.

CMSI Boxes

The total of the CMSI Boxes for 2024/2025 amounted to **£1,063.85**. Thank you to all who contributed.

We thank Mrs Helen Forsythe for her management of this aspect of mission support. The work of CMSI can be supported by requesting a box from Helen or contacting the Cathedral Office.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Sincere thanks to those associated with the successful Coffee Morning which was held on Friday 26th September in the Cathedral Hall.

We also thank all who baked, gave donations of food/money and all who supported the event on the morning. The total raised amounted to **£828** for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Clothes Recycling

Thank you to those who have dropped off clothing in the garage in the Clayton Hall yard.

The collection date has been extended until **Wednesday 5th November**.

Our Prayer Space is Open

We are thrilled to report that our Prayer Space is now open to the public for prayer!

Our Prayer Space exists in order that you can make yourself at home and become more aware of the presence of the Lord. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are interested in every detail of your life. They want to talk with you, to hear you and be heard by you. So why not take some time to tune in, to open up your heart and mind in prayer.

Prayer is powerful, it changes things and it changes us.

So why not set aside some time to pray in our beautiful Prayer Space. It is located on the first floor of the Clayton Hall, parking is available at the rear of the hall. The space will be open from 9.30-12.30 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. Booking isn't essential, but if you would like to book use the following link <https://signup.24-7prayer.com/signup/26d9fb> or the QR



code below. All we would ask is if you're using the space to let Jill know when you enter the hall and when you leave in order that we know who is in the building in the unlikely event of an emergency.

Remember, prayer is the slender nerve which move the muscle of Omnipotence. So lets use this next season to cry out to the Lord to build His church in and through us as we bend our hearts in prayer.

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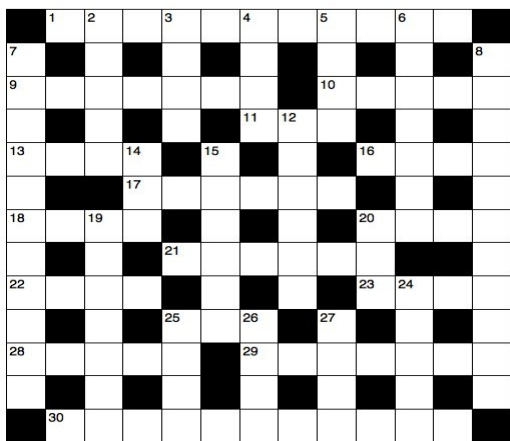
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Across

- 1** The sixth disciple (Matthew 10:3) (11)
9 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the — — ' (Matthew 6:13) (4,3)
10 Love intensely (Song of Songs 1:4) (5)
11 From Mt Carmel to Jezreel, Elijah — all the way (1 Kings 18:46) (3)
13 One of the Midianite leaders who was captured and killed after Gideon's victory in the valley near Moreh (Judges 7:25) (4)
16 Metallic element (4)
17 At line (anag.) (6)
18 'Cursed is everyone who is — on a tree' (Galatians 3:13) (4)
20 Where Samson killed a thousand Philistines with a donkey's jawbone (Judges 15:14) (4)
21 He succeeded Moses (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
22 'When he saw him, he took — on him' (Luke 10:33) (4)
23 'For — is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction' (Matthew 7:13) (4)
25 'The god of this — has blinded the minds of unbelievers' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (3)
28 Fear or terror (Psalm 31:22) (5)

29 'We, who are many, are one body, for we all — of the one loaf' (1

Corinthians 10:17) (7)

30 Assyrian ruler assassinated by his sons while worshipping his god Nisroch (2 Kings 19:37) (11)

Down

2 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made — ' (1 Corinthians 15:22) (5)

3 'After supper he — the cup' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (4)

4 The request of a man of Macedonia in Paul's vision: 'Come — to Macedonia and help us' (Acts 16:9) (4)

5 He disobeyed his father Judah by refusing to impregnate his dead brother's wife (Genesis 38:9) (4)

6 I veto me (anag.) (7)

7 Fourth king of Judah (1 Kings 15:24) (11)

8 Priest of God Most High, who blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18) (11)

12 'I have made you — — for the Gentiles' (Acts 13:47) (1,5)

14 Implore (1 Samuel 15:25) (3)

15 'Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the — , something sweet' (Judges 14:14) (6)

19 'I am the most ignorant of men; I do — — a man's understanding' (Proverbs 30:2) (3,4)

20 'Sin shall not be your master, because you are not under — , but under grace' (Romans 6:14) (3)

24 Native of, say, Baghdad (5)

25 The last word in the Bible (Revelation 22:21) (4)

26 Heroic tale (4)

27 'Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you — ' (John 8:32) (4)

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Services for November

Sunday 2nd

The 4th Sunday before Advent	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Epilogue with Holy Communion

Sunday 9th

The 3rd Sunday before Advent	8.30am	Holy Communion
Remembrance Day	9.45am	Cathedral Praise
	10.45am	War Memorial - <i>2 minutes silence at 11.00</i>
	11.30am	A Service of Remembrance
	6.00pm	Wider Act of Remembrance

Sunday 16th

The 2nd Sunday before Advent	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise <i>with</i> Holy Communion
	11.30am	Service of the Word
	6.00pm	Evening Epilogue Service

Sunday 23rd

The Kingship of Christ	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.45am	United Service
	6.00pm	Evening Epilogue Service

Sunday 30th

The 1st Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	Cathedral Praise
	11.30am	Service of the Word
	6.00pm	Evening Epilogue Service

Cathedral Praise – Sunday 9th November at 9.45am

Please note that the time of Cathedral Praise on Remembrance Sunday, 9th November is at 9.45am and not the usual times of 10am. This is to allow us to make our way to the Cenotaph for the annual Act of Remembrance which commences at 10.45am. I hope to see you all there.

Wider Act of Remembrance – Sunday 9th November at 6pm

Remembrance Sunday can be a particularly difficult day for many of us as we call to mind those loved ones who are no longer with us. As has been our custom in more recent years, as a Church, we are providing a space for us to remember those who have passed on since last year, or indeed beyond, through our wider act of remembrance on the evening of Remembrance Sunday at 6pm in the Cathedral.

The service will consist of 2 hymns, a bible reading, a talk, prayers and a symbolic act of remembrance using a white rose. No one will feel obliged to participate, but our experience has been that a real measure of healing can come for those who do, as together we press a little further into God's grace.

Light refreshments will be served immediately following the service.

PARISH REGISTER

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

3rd October Margaret Anna Elizabeth Adams, Jubilee Park, Dromore
3rd October Florence Viona Russell, Denfort Lodge, 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: September

GENERAL FUND	2025/26	2024/25
September	8,757.05	9,046.40
Total to date	£51,782.90	£52,239.90
DEVELOPMENT FUND		
September	1,073.00	632.00
Total to date	£5,565.00	£4,742.80

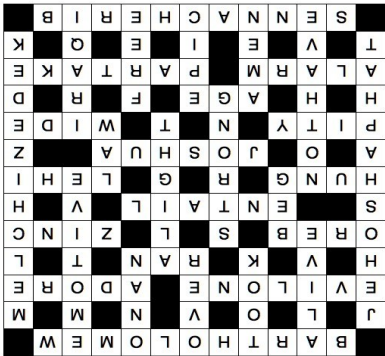
Refreshments Rota

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.

Attention all Magazine Distributors

The December/January edition of our magazine will be ready for collection and distribution on **Friday 28th November** with items for inclusion to be with Jill in the office by **Friday 21st November at 1pm**. Items can be sent to Jill by emailing - dromorecathedral@outlook.com

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NOVEMBER DATES

Tuesday 4th	10.30	Craft Class (each Tuesday)	Clayton Hall
Saturday 8th	9.30	Car Wash & Big Breakfast	Cathedral Hall
Tuesday 11th	7.30	Contemplative Prayer	Clayton Hall
Wednesday 12th	7.30	Parish Bible Class	Clayton Hall
Thursday 13th	2.00	JOY	Cathedral Hall
Monday 17th	7.30	Select Vestry Meeting	Clayton Hall
Wednesday 19th	7.30	History Reading Group	Clayton Hall
Saturday 22nd	7.30	Sacred Sounds 2 Concert	Cathedral
Tuesday 25th	7.30	Contemplative Prayer	Clayton Hall
Wednesday 26th	7.30	Mothers' Union Meeting	Clayton Hall
Thursday 27th	6.30	Christmas Craft Fayre	Cathedral Hall
Thursday 27th	7.30	Christmas Choir Practice	Clayton Hall
Sunday 30th	1.00	Advent Lunch	Cathedral Hall

November Flower Rota	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th
Arranger Mrs Julie McMurray 9269 3727	Miss Nan McMurray	Mrs Ann Buchanan	Mrs Sadie Aiken	Mrs Julie McMurray	Vacant

November	Refreshments Rota
2nd	S & J Noble
9th	E Magowan & R Wilson
16th	Gamble Family
23rd	D Farrell & H Forsythe
30th	K Chambers and L J Maze



The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

Contact details for Staff and Office Bearers



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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

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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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Advent Appeal 2025: Help us rebuild Hope in Maridi

This Advent, I'm inviting the whole diocese to stand with our partners in South Sudan through the Maridi Diocese Family Centre Appeal.

For years, the Maridi Family Centre has been a lifeline for women and families, offering trauma counselling, vocational training, youth engagement, and support for young couples.

Run by the Mothers' Union, it has empowered hundreds of women to rebuild their lives and generate income, all with minimal external funding.

Tragically, the centre now faces demolition due to a government road expansion project, and no compensation will be paid. The community is at risk of losing not just a building, but a vital hub of healing, learning, and hope.

We urgently need to raise £40,000 to build a new, permanent centre in a safe location in the cathedral compound. In this Advent season of hope, will you join me in helping to restore the Family Centre and its essential services?

Every donation, no matter the size, makes a difference in our partner Diocese of Maridi. Thank you.

Bishop David

To donate online please scan the QR code.

Donations by cheque (payable to Diocese of Down and Dromore) should be sent to:
**The Finance Manager, Diocese of Down and Dromore,
Unit 1, 21 Old Channel Road, Belfast, BT3 9DE.**

Please mark your donation 'Maridi'.



Maureen Watson celebrates her 90th Birthday at the Craft Class



Harvest Thanksgiving

A very sincere word of thanks to everyone who contributed to making our Harvest Thanksgiving weekend such a success.

The Country Comes to Town was most certainly a big hit and raised just under £3,000 for the rewiring of the Cathedral.

Our services were very well supported with well over 300 folks attending. The church was decorated beautifully with parish organisations involved more than in recent years, something to be encouraged. And the Harvest Appeal has raised just over £11,350 so far with every single penny going towards the rewiring project.

Thank you to everyone!

THE PAUL RUSSELL FOUNDATION
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Hosted by Bishop Ken Clarke

SAT 22nd NOV 7:30PM

Tickets: £15, available from Ticketsource or Jane at 0771 5707 160



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