

CC Cathedral Life



The Cathedral Church of Christ the Redeemer, Dromore

May 2026



**THE CATHEDRAL
CHURCH OF CHRIST
THE REDEEMER,
DROMORE**



**Connect with us
online:**

www.dromorecathedral.org
(cathedral.dromore.anglican.org)



Facebook:
/dromorecathedral



Instagram:
@dromorecathedral1



YouTube:
@dromorecathedral5114



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

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

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Act 2: 1

I often imagine when I'm watching one of those costume dramas what it was like living at that time. Often my wonderings are filled with romantic notions rather than the facts of the day and the challenges that were common place at that time.

In a similar vein, I wonder what it must have been like for the early disciples waiting in Jerusalem, just as Jesus had instructed them to? Much of the emotion involved in the waiting, we would have to speculate about. But there are some things of which we can be certain. Firstly, there were around 120 of them. Secondly, they all joined together constantly in prayer. And third, they were all in one place.

We often think of the early church as consisting of literally thousands of disciples. This is shaped, I believe, by stories of feeding masses of people, for example. Of course there were thousands who came out of the towns and villages to bring their sick to Jesus and listen to his teaching. But when it came to the bit, there were only 120 committed followers of Jesus who gathered faithfully and prayerfully to await the coming of the Holy Spirit. In the face of dwindling numbers in the western church we should be encouraged that what we know to be a worldwide movement began with a good handful of disciples. Church growth can be encouraged through outreach initiatives in almost any context, but if there isn't a committed band of faithful, focused followers of Jesus, the increase won't come.

Secondly, they all joined together in prayer. Charles Spurgeon once said that *“prayer is the slender nerve which moves the muscle of omnipotence.”* The early church certainly believed that without prayer, they could do nothing. There weren't just a few of them that gathered for prayer, as is the custom in most churches, **they all joined together in prayer**. I wonder how much of a priority is prayer for you? Our monthly prayer meeting often has 2 or 3 from the whole of our parish gathering for 1 hour in a month which contains 720 hours. Our contemplative prayer meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening has similar numbers in attendance. This isn't me writing this to make anyone feel guilty but rather to highlight the huge gap between what was a priority for the early church compared to what could be called apathy or half-heartedness. We've conceived of a new model for praying which we trust will encourage more of us to come together more regularly to pray in earnest. Before each 1045 service we'll gather to pray from 9.45am. Before 10am, we'll gather from 9am. Before 11.30am, we'll gather from 11.00am. You don't have to be there for the whole time of prayer, join in when you arrive for our services as we seek to rediscover something which the early church really depended on. Our monthly prayer meeting will continue as normal at 7.30pm on the 1st Monday of each month, unless it is a Bank Holiday.

Thirdly, they were all together in one place. I have said consistently that worshipping in the Cathedral Hall has been a real challenge for all of us. But I have also said that within the challenge, there have been huge opportunities. How good has it been to be together and having the opportunity to get to know one another a little better as we have worshipped together. For some of us, we have embraced this opportunity. Others have been lukewarm towards it, at best, for reasons best known to themselves. The church should be one. Jesus prayed for our unity as he prepared to face his accusers in Gethsemane. Our unity matters to Jesus, so why doesn't it matter to us. Please forgive me for being so frank, but it pains me deeply when we behave in ways which are harsh and entrenched towards one another rather than gracious and loving.

And lastly, their patience, faithfulness and prayers were answered as the Holy Spirit came in power and enabled them to become carriers of the gospel in word and deed, in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. That remains our commission and our charge. Lets meet together, and pray together as we prepare to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon His church 2000 years ago. The context has changed but the commission remains the same.

Geoff

Easter General Vestry Meeting

The Annual General Vestry meeting took place at 8pm on Thursday 16th April in the Cathedral Hall.

The Rector welcomed all those present and opened the meeting with a reading from John 21: 1-14 and reflected on how Jesus provided fish, fire and fellowship for his disciples.

The Rector reflected on the past 9 years drawing attendees' attention to the capital expenditure of over £500,000 which had not limited mission, outreach and ministry.

In closing, the Rector thanked all those who volunteered, in whatever capacity, for their service week by week through which the church was able to continue to deliver and develop existing and new ministries.

The minutes of the 2025 Annual General Vestry meeting were approved by those present, and signed as an accurate account of what took place.

Financial Report: Nan McMurray, Honorary Treasurer, gave a comprehensive report on the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025. The Accounts were adopted by the meeting.

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

Office-bearers elected to serve for 2026-27

Churchwardens: Andrew McNeill (Rector's) : Edgar Boggs (People's)

Glebe wardens: Ian Purdy (Rector's) : Bill Forsythe (People's)

Select Vestry: Ian Cardy, Andy Carson, Rebekah Davidson, Brian Hanna, Nan McMurray, Hilary Purdy, Jane Russell, Andrew Shanks, Ashley Silcock, Leanne Teggart, Alan Turkington, Suzanne Watson.

Triennial Elections : 2026-2029

Parochial Nominators:

Ashley Silcock (Lead Nominator), Paul Cochrane, Carolyn Jackson, Leanne Teggart

Supplemental Parochial Nominators:

Scott Mackey, Billy McCallum, Robert Poots, Ian Purdy

Diocesan Synod Members:

Andy Carson, Dorothy Farrell

Synod Person under 30:

Karl Teggart

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

Honorary Secretary: Andrew McNeill **Honorary Treasurer:** Leanne Teggart

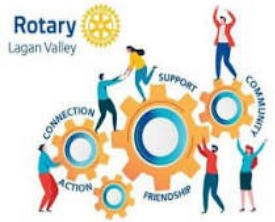
Care Group

The Care Group isn't a new idea, but rather a development of an existing group of visitors/carers within the Cathedral family. There are around 12 members who visit seniors or housebound members by consent as well as some who will exercise a hospital ministry. The Care Group exist to add an additional layer of support to that provided by Carolyn and Geoff.

At our most recent meeting of the Select Vestry a fund was approved from which ready meals will be purchased for those who have experienced substantial change in their lives. This is the beginning of what we hope will be a developing ministry to those who could benefit from the blessing of not having to prepare a meal at a time of crisis or substantial change. Those who could benefit might be the bereaved, households with newborn babies, those recently discharged from hospital with limited support networks. The fund will be established from the loose offering on Sunday 31st May. If you would like to contribute to this Care Group fund then either place loose cash on the plate or your offering in a plain envelope marked Care Group along with your name in order that qualifying Gift Aid can be claimed. The Care Group will be commissioned for service at the service that Sunday morning.

Garden Opening in aid of SHELTERBOX

Sunday 17th May 2026 — 2-6pm at Clanmurry



John & Sara McCorkell welcome you to their garden in conjunction with the Lagan Valley Rotary Club.

The Rhododendrons and Azaleas should be at their best, but the main thing is to discover **SHELTERBOX!**

If you don't know what that is, this is your opportunity!

SAVE THE DATE and come along on Sunday afternoon, 17th May.

Clanmurry, 16 Lower Quilly Road, Dromore BT25 1NL.

Free will donations for ShelterBox.



The Table

The next meeting of The Table is on Thursday 14th May at midday, concluding at 1.30pm. The Table shouldn't be seen as a group for seniors, but rather as an opportunity for the whole community, all ages, to come together around a table and enjoy some food and fellowship. Everyone is most welcome and everything is free of charge.

Time to Pray

We've taken a look at how and when we are meeting to pray and, in an effort to make prayer more accessible to everyone, have decided to set aside the hour before the 10am service and 1045am service and 30 minutes before the 1130am service, to meet together as one to pray. No one will be required to speak or pray, simply being present is an indication of your commitment to be part of this new movement of prayer. Corporate prayer matters and shouldn't be seen as the preserve of a few, or indeed as a last resort. With a forthcoming vacancy looming, it seems to me that prayer, particularly for the Parochial Nominators, has never been more important. Everyone welcome.

Mothers' Union Meeting

Our May meeting will take place on Wednesday 27th May in the Clayton Hall at 7.30pm. We welcome a speaker from the Alzheimer's Society who will be telling us about their important work in the community. We welcome anyone who would like to join us on this evening. Anne

Service in Mountvale Nursing Home

Please note that the next service in Mountvale Nursing Home will not be on the 1st Thursday of the month due to General Synod commencing that day in The Slieve Donard Hotel. The service will now take place on Thursday 14th May 2026 at 2pm. This service is not just for the residents as their families are most welcome to attend as well.

Brian Poots & Sons
Funeral & Monumental Services

Independent Family Business
24 hour Personal Service

106 Skeagh Road and Market Square Dromore
Dromore

Tel: 028 9269 3393 or 07802 379307

A LOOK AT LIFE WITH THE RECYCLED TEENAGER - Moving On

Since becoming a Christian in my teens, one piece of scripture has stood out to me as a beacon by which I've tried to navigate the straits of my life. It is Jeremiah 29 v 11.

“ ‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’”

This was a promise to Isreal who had been carried off into exile to Babylon. God promised he would fulfil His promise to restore them after 70 years (which by the standards of other exiles was a relatively short time). However, to the beleaguered Israelites this must have seemed an eternity!

Do you ever feel, like me, that life is just not going to plan? Do you feel perhaps like a ship in the Straits of Hormuz, going nowhere fast? Our lives can seem on hold, anchored to the one spot and we are running out of ways to move on. I personally have to be thankful that I've not been hit by a stray mine or come in contact with any aggressors who would try to destroy my ship.

I believe God will do exactly what he says. How do I know that? He's done it before. I can look back and list the times God has come through for me. When he has rescued me, mainly from my own folly and set my feet back up on the rock. It is very hard sometimes to see the next step on the path forward and it is painful when we have to let go and leave behind people or situations even when they are not good for us.

I hope, like me, you can take encouragement from this verse and others that remind us of God's unfailing love. While I'm waiting for the straits to clear, I am going to try to be faithful to the life and responsibilities God has given me in the here and now and lean into the help and support of those God has placed around me.

R J POOTS & CO



Funeral Directors - Established 1902

Proprietor Mr Robert J Bready

24 Hour Personal Service

6 Circular Road, Dromore BT25 1AL

Telephone (028) 9269 2349 or 07702 498706

All Types of Wreaths Supplied — Memorials Arranged

Golden Charter Funeral Plans

Funeral Home Available

PARISH REGISTERS 2025

Holy Baptism

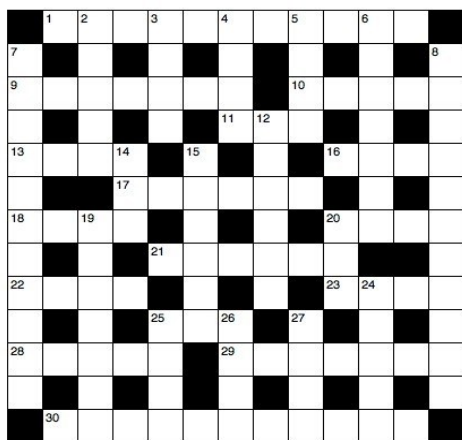
11th May Theodore John Columba Gamble, Hillsborough

Holy Matrimony

20th September Linda-Jane Chambers and Michael Maze

Funerals

8th January Howard King, Waring Terrace, Waringstown
9th January Andrew (Drew) Jess, Gallows Street, Dromore
31st March Robert Mills, Aughnacloy Nursing Home, Lurgan
1st April Mavis Pyper, Magherabeg Road, Dromore
1st April William Derick Napier, Mountvale Nursing Home
3rd April Mervyn Ronald McKnight, Green Dyke Walk, Dromore
13th June Violet Cranston, Aughnacloy House, Lurgan
28th June Isabella June Reain, Ballynahinch Road, Dromore
11th July Margaret Jane (Marjorie) Gamble, Maypole Park
21st July Robert James (Bobbie) Stevenson, Dromara
3rd August William Livingstone, Mountvale Nursing Home
2nd September Dorothy Ethel Graham, Howe Road, Dromore
22nd September Rachel (Rae) Gilliland, Mountvale Nursing Home
3rd October Margaret Anna Elizabeth Adams, Jubilee Park
3rd October Florence Viona Russell, Denfort Lodge, Dromore
28th November Harry Silcock, Banbridge Road, Kinallen



Across

- 1** Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus 32:27) (5)
11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
13 Stagger (Isaiah 28:7) (4)
16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought— and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
17 Stir up or provoke (Acts 13:50) (6)
18 Burden (Luke 11:46) (4)
20 'As far as the east is from the—, so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
21 Sign (Luke 23:38) (6)
22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
25 Has (anag.) (3)

28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, —sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)

29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)

30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

- 2** Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
3 'A bruised — He will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
5 Slip (anag.) (4)
6 'Take an awl and push it through his — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
8 'Therefore, as we have —, let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
12 Acquire (2 Timothy 2:10) (6)
14 Container cover (Numbers 19:15) (3)
15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on— —!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
19 Refrain (1 Peter 2:11) (7)
20 'She began to—his feet with her tears' (Luke 7:38) (3)
24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva (5)
25 'Give to everyone who—you' (Luke 6:30) (4)
26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)
27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)

OILDIRECT 
FOR YOUR NEXT FILL

ARMAGH	028 3753 9007
BANBRIDGE	028 4062 3800
DROMORE	028 9269 8844
LURGAN	028 3834 6666
NEWRY	028 3044 0014
PORTADOWN	028 3834 6666

Order Online
www.iwantcheapoil.co.uk

Johnston's Pharmacy
4-8 Gallows Street
Dromore



Tel: 028 9269 3450

Medicines | Toiletries | Baby Care
ID photos etc.

BRIDGE MOTOR WORKS Dromore Ltd
Bridge Street Dromore BT25 1AN

CALOR GAS CENTRE



COOKERS - HEATERS - KEY CUTTING
DAILY GAS DELIVERIES 028 9269 2219

PC CLINIC (Dromore)

Mobile Computer Repairs

Repairs - Upgrades

Wireless Networks Etc

Tel Paul: 07740 584227

www.pc-clinicdromore.co.uk

In the comfort of your own home



67 QUEEN STREET,
LURGAN, BT66 8BP
TEL: 02838322251

EMAIL:
INFO@MIDULSTERGRANITE.COM

B. CASTLES

— ESTD 1931 —

MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS

QUALITY MEMORIALS IN GRANITE
& STONE

RENOVATIONS AND INSCRIPTIONS
AVAILABLE

MID-ULSTER
GRANITE & STONE

PRODUCERS OF KITCHEN COUNTERTOPS IN
POLISHED GRANITE & QUARTZ

67 QUEEN STREET, LURGAN, BT66 8BP
TEL: 02838322251 EMAIL: INFO@MIDULSTERGRANITE.COM

Services for May

Sunday 3rd

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10.45am
3.00pm

United Service
Confirmation Service

Sunday 10th

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Rogation Sunday

10.45am

United Service *with* Holy Communion

Sunday 17th

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday after Ascension Day

10.45am

United Service

Sunday 24th

The Day of Pentecost

Whit Sunday

10.45am

United Service

Sunday 31st

Trinity Sunday

10.45am

United Service

Smile Lines....

Notices found in church newsletters – that didn't quite come out right!

Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of the vicar's sermons.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married last weekend in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their schooldays.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Don't let worry kill you. Let the church help!

At the church meeting last week, the rector spoke briefly and delighted the audience.

Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.

PARISH REGISTER

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

1st April Michael Henry Byrne, Thornhill Drive, Dromore
 7th April James (Jim) Brown, Drumbroneth Road, Dromore

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

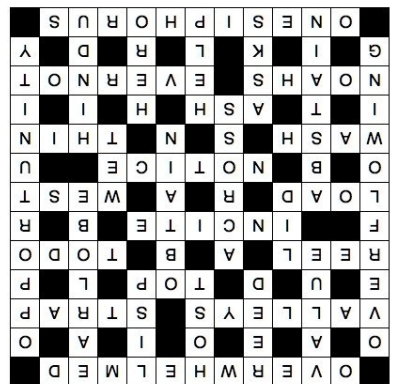
Church Collections: March

GENERAL FUND	2025/26	2024/25
March	10,907.87	11,935.70
Total to date	£104,709.33	£108,740.00
DEVELOPMENT FUND		
March	910.50	932.50
Total to date	£10,729.50	£9,374.55

Attention all Magazine Distributors

The June edition of our magazine will be ready for collection and distribution on **Friday 29th May** with items for inclusion to be with Jill in the office by **Friday 22nd May at 1pm**. Items can be sent to Jill by emailing - dromorecathedral@outlook.com

SOLUTION



MAY DATES

Sunday 3rd	3.00	Confirmation Service	Cathedral Hall
Sunday 3rd	6.45	Christianity Explored	Cathedral Hall
Tuesday 5th	10.30	Craft Class (each Tuesday)	Clayton Hall
Wednesday 6th	7.00	Pickleball (most Wednesdays)	Cathedral Hall
Sunday 10th	6.45	Christianity Explored	Cathedral Hall
Monday 11th	7.30	Parish Prayer Meeting	Clayton Hall
Thursday 14th	2.00	Monthly Service	Mountvale Nursing Home
Friday 15th	11.00	Monthly Service	The Beeches
Sunday 17th	6.45	Christianity Explored	Cathedral Hall
Monday 18th	7.30	Select Vestry Meeting	Clayton Hall
Thursday 21st	12.00	'The Table' Community Lunch	Cathedral Hall
Sunday 24th	6.45	Christianity Explored	Cathedral Hall
Wednesday 27th	7.30	Mothers' Union Meeting	Clayton Hall
Sunday 31st	6.45	Christianity Explored	Cathedral Hall

May Flower Rota	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
Mrs Sara McCorkell 9269 3760	Mrs Phyllis Mackin	Mrs Pamela McKeown	Mrs Lorna Rodgers	Vacant	Miss Nan McMurray

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.

May	Refreshments Rota
3rd	Stephanie Shepherd & D Martin
10th	E Magowan & R Wilson
17th	C Mayne & M Mayne
24th	Gamble Family
31st	D Farrell & H Forsythe



Rector: Very Revd Geoff Wilson, 28 Church Street, Dromore BT25 1AA 028 9269 2275
email: revgeoffwilson@gmail.com Mobile: 07808 844637

Lay Pastoral Assistant: Carolyn Jackson 07791 935801

Office: Jill Wylie, Cathedral Office, 30 Church St, Dromore BT25 1AA 028 9269 3968
e-mail: jill@dromorecathedral.co.uk or dromorecathedral@outlook.com

Organist: Vacant

Praise Group: Vacant

Sexton: Jim McComb 028 9269 3968

Children's & Young Families 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 2026-2027

Churchwardens: Andrew McNeill (Rector's) Edgar Boggs (People's)

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

Vestry Members: Ian Cardy, Andrew Carson, Rebekah Davidson, Brian Hanna, Nan McMurray, Hilary Purdy, Jane Russell, Andrew Shanks, Ashley Silcock, Leanne Teggart, Alan Turkington, Suzanne Watson.

Honorary Secretary: Mr Andrew McNeill, 37 Church Meadows, Dromore, Co Down BT25 1LZ
email: amcneill12741@hotmail.co.uk TN 07428 433349

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

**GOLDEN
CHARTER**



FUNERAL PLANS

**JOHN GAMBLE
FUNERAL DIRECTOR**

7-9 Meeting Street
Dromore Co Down BT25 1AQ
Telephone 028 9269 2319

*24 Hour Personal Service
Funeral Home
Memorials Arranged and Erected
All types of Wreaths and Sprays supplied*



Daffodil Afternoon Tea

Sincere thanks to everyone who supported our most recent fundraiser, the Daffodil Tea. The food was excellent, entertainment with SOMA, conducted by Karen Bowden and accompanied by Shona Norris, was superb and the craic was mighty. Very well done to the terrific team of volunteers, led by Jane Russell. The incredible amount of £1055 was raised for the rewiring of the Cathedral.

Rewiring Update

The rewiring of the Cathedral has had to be put on pause due to the need for extensive replastering of the walls to either side of the memorial window and tower door. The reason for pausing the work is that so much dust is in the atmosphere while the plastering is taking place and the concern is that if new light fittings were installed at this stage they may well be damaged due to the dust. So the hope is that the replastering will be complete around the end of May/early June and the rewiring will resume at that stage.

The Select Vestry are delighted to report that the unscheduled work amounts to around £20,000, a figure which they are confident will be found from existing funds, grants yet to be received and ongoing gifts and fundraising. The hope is that the work will be complete and paid for with around £40,000-£60,000 left in reserve, something which is strongly encouraged by the Charity Commission. The Select Vestry would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this crucial work in whatever form that took. One of the significant streams of funding for us throughout this process has been fundraising. In the past 7 months we have raised £11,408 as follows.....

6 monthly Car Washes	£1,894
DC Social x 2	£625
Sponsored Cycle	£925
Country Comes To Town	£2,950
Big Breakfast	£1,125
Christmas Fayre	£1,430
Fireside Quiz	£584
Donation	£50
Ready Steady Cook	£770
Afternoon Tea	£1,055

As well as achieving this wonderful amount, at each event there was a great sense of fellowship within our church family and wider community.

The next fundraiser will be the June Gift Day with all of the funds raised through this going to the rewiring project. Please do consider how you might support our ongoing efforts to ensure that the Cathedral remains a vibrant place of worship for many years to come.



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.