

CATHEDRAL NEWS

December 2024/January 2025 - Vol 136



Silent night! Holy night!

All is calm, all is bright

'round yon virgin mother and child!

Holy infant, so tender and mild,

sleep in heavenly peace,

sleep in heavenly peace.



OUR VISION

Photograph by Willie Holmes

Saint Macartin's – At the heart of the Community
Strengthening Commitment, Outreach, Worship and Christian Love

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DEAN: Very Rev Kenneth R J Hall, M Phil

St Macartin's Deanery, 13 Church Street, Enniskillen BT74 7DW

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Mrs Adele Moore (also DPA)

PARISH OFFICE: Mrs Beth Rennick, Secretary (9.00am-12.00 noon)

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WEBSITE: www.enniskillencathedral.com

MESSY CHURCH: www.facebook.com/Stmacartinsmessychurch

The Dean Writes:

Dear Parishioners.

We often exchange greetings like peace and joy at Christmas, and for many people this may be hard to find! Many live in tense, anxious times worried about their health, their family, the cost of living, the in-

creased tensions and divisions in society and many other things.

Sometimes (most times) it is hard to find calm in our daily lives. In church life finding calm at Christmas is nearly impossible. It is the season where the work seems to increase. Christmas functions, dinners, extra services - all great in themselves yet all increasing the busyness and stress. Then there is the getting ready for the festivities, shopping, cooking, decorating – all things to aid our enjoyment but all adding to the pressure, the stress, the noise.

We need calm. We cannot live our lives at full pace hurling ourselves from one thing to the other. That is why we have the sabbath, made for humanity by a loving caring God, A God who does not need to rest but recognised at the moment of creation that the world would need rest and peace.

Silent Night, that famous carol first performed on Christmas Eve, offers a note of calm.

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright 'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

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When all is still we can sleep in heavenly peace! While the shepherds are quaking and the choirs of angels are singing, at the centre is the calming presence of Jesus. The Jesus, who later would calm the storm, would model times for prayer and solitude in the midst of his busy ministry, and would stand calmly defiant in the face of the persecution that led to his victory on the cross.

We all have storms in our lives and we all need to recognise for the people and the communities we serve Christmas is not always a time of joy and celebration but can be an occasion when the storms in their lives reach a climax and they need calm. This Advent, this Christmas, I pray that our Cathedral Church can be for you, for our parishioners and for the community a place of calm. That you can bring yourselves and others to stand before the prince of peace to find the peace, the calm that you or they need this Christmas. There are many opportunities for you to attend church during Advent and Christmas and truly worship our Heavenly King. As you draw close to Him may you experience that true calm and peace. Let His grace and forgiveness give you hope. Let His mercy bring you joy and peace.

Wishing you every blessing,



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Parochial Registers

Holy Baptism

2nd November -Oliver Andrew McElwaine

3rd November -Teddy Thompson Reilly

Ida Shirley Linda Lucy

17th November -Ezra Paul Morrison

Harvey-Lee Armstrong

22nd November -Tyler Jason John Clifford

"Go make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28: 19



25th October -Eric Johnston,

66 Windmill Heights, Enniskillen.

Burial

25th November -Thomas Owens,

15 Edenmore, Tempo.

Burial of Ashes in the Garden of Remembrance

15th November -Eric Johnston,

66 Windmill Heights, Enniskillen.

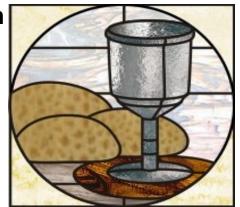
22nd November -Elizabeth (Betty) Powell,

58 Loane Drive, Enniskillen.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5: 4

Thursdays at 11.00am

Service of Holy Communion (30 minutes): We are encouraging parishioners who may be in Enniskillen shopping on Thursday mornings to drop in for this short service – a midweek pause and praise with God!







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Emergency Relief Fund

opened to help Cathedral

fected by the recent flooding and to build up a reserve

parishioners who were ef-

to help others in the years

ahead.

A new fund has been

Parish Donations

Fabric Fund

£250 Anonymous donation.

£250 Anonymous donation.

£9,376 Donations from Ivan Kee's Birthday Party.

Choral Scholarship Fund

£500 Anonymous donation.

Solar Panels Fund

£100 Donation from the Morning Bowling Club.

£1,000 Anonymous donation.

Minibus Fund

£10 Anonymous donation.

Flower Fund

£100 Donation in memory of her parents Winifred and Basil Rogers. From Lyn, Joe and family.

Confirmation

A Confirmation Service will be held on Sunday 2nd March 2025 for young people of Year 9 and above. Those who expect to be confirmed should regularly attend services with their families, as Confirmation is



about taking your place within the life and mission of the Church. Application forms for Confirmation are available in the Parish Office for those who wish to be confirmed. Please collect and return them as soon as possible. Details of Confirmation Classes will be released in due course.

Sunday School

December 2024

1st December: Sunday Lights and Café - children leave during the 11.00am service for their own activities

8th December: Sunday Lights and Café - children leave during the 11.00am service for their own activities

15th December: Nativity Service - 11.00am Family Service.

January 2025

12th January: Sunday Lights and Café - children leave during the 11.00am service 19th January: Sunday Lights and Café - children leave during the 11.00am service

26th January: Family Service

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Letter from the Treasurer

Dear Parishioners,

This time last year, I commented that 2023 had been a challenging year for all of us in our private lives as we had coped with the escalating cost of living for such essentials as food and fuel. We hoped for an improvement in conditions in 2024 but, sadly, that improvement has not materialised. The recent Budget did nothing to help us or our struggling National Health Service in its excellent work for the sick and the elderly. It also has left our farmers and owners of small businesses with huge problems. This is a world-wide crisis, caused largely by war and greed.

St Macartin's has had to meet additional financial challenges in 2024 when we undertook expensive work on the electrification of the cathedral bells, coupled with work on the cathedral clock. Both projects have been successfully completed and are fully paid. I hope you enjoy listening to the hymns on the bells whenever you are in town. It had been planned to paint the exterior walls of the Cathedral Halls in 2024, but prolonged periods of wet weather prevented that work from being done, so we hope for drier weather next Spring. The major project planned for 2025 is the fitting of solar panels on the south-west facing roof of the Cathedral Hall at an estimated cost of £21,000. At present, electricity is our biggest item of expenditure so solar panels will reduce that figure and will also reduce our dependency on fossil fuels which contributes to global warming. Following advice, a battery will also be installed which would allow us to store excess electricity for future use.

As Treasurer, I want to say how much I admire the way in which so many parishioners have risen to these financial challenges, the result of which is the magnificent premises we now have. Without your support and dedication all the massive projects undertaken during the last few years could not have been completed, so please accept our thanks. Sadly however, last year 159 families felt no responsibility for the church and made no financial contribution whatsoever. If lack of money is the problem then we fully understand, but, whatever the reason, the church will always be there for you when you need it and will never fail you.

Each family is receiving a set of white envelopes for 2025 with this magazine. A letter also is enclosed stating the amount you have contributed as Free Will Offering, as Harvest Offering and as contributions to other church funds up to, and including, 31 October 2024. These figures give you an opportunity to check with your own records and I am happy to discuss wherever necessary.

Please continue to use your purple envelopes until the end of December. I encourage you to use your FWO envelopes instead of putting cash in the collection baskets. By doing so, the parish may be able to claim an additional 25% as Gift Aid and your offering could be increased at no additional expense to yourself. You might also consider setting up a Standing Order for your Freewill Offerings. It is so simple - just inform your bank of the amount you wish to contribute and whether you wish to pay on an annual or monthly basis and they will look after the payments for you. Let me know if I can help! God Bless.

E. Rope Kerr

Mrs Hope Kerr HONORARY TREASURER

Trinity College Dublin Choir



The Trinity College Choir 2024/2025 will be visiting St Macartin's Cathedral on Sunday 19th January 2025.



Pictured with the Dean at Trinity College are left to right, Callum Byrne (Conductor), Rev Yesi (Church of Ireland Chaplain), Rev Steve Brunn (former Chaplain) and Rev Dr Adrian Empey (former Principal of the Theological College).

Remembrance Sunday



Remembrance Sunday





Cathedral Family



Charlie Webb

Twelve year-old Charlie is the son of Chris and Andrea Webb.

A former pupil of Enniskillen Model Primary School, Charlie is now in his first year at Enniskillen Royal Grammar School.

Tell us about your big event this year.

In June this year I had the honour of being involved in the 80th Anniversary of D-Day Commemorative Event held at Enniskillen Model Primary School, where I was a P7 pupil at the time. As part of this historic event, which was held to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of all those who were involved in D Day, I was given the role of interviewing some of the VIP guests including, the then Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Chris Heaton-Harris, Viscount Brookeborough, the United States Consul General James Applegate, the United States Special Envoy to Northern Ireland for Economic Affairs Joseph Kennedy III, and Councillor John McClaughry, Chair of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

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Charlie Webb

I know you made a big impression on the US Special Envoy so what happened next?

Following this event, I recently received a surprise invitation to the United States Consul General's Residence in Belfast to attend a reception held in honour of Joseph Kennedy III, U.S. Special Envoy to Northern Ireland for Economic Affairs, to mark the end of his term in office. This was a very special event, it was such a honour to be invited, I got to speak to Mr. Kennedy and I presented him with a bog oak pen from Fermanagh. It is an experience I will never forget and I am very grateful to have been given such an opportunity."

What are your hobbies/interests?

I love sport and particularly enjoy rugby and skiing. I currently play in the U12s team at Enniskillen Rugby Club and I also play rugby at school. I love travelling, learning Spanish and French, and looking after my new puppy, Heidi. My favourite subjects at school are Technology and Design, Science and Geography. In the future I would maybe like to do a job that involves sport, travel and languages. I am also a big fan of Liverpool Football Club!

Footnote from the Dean.....

I was present at the Model Primary School on the day Charlie interviewed all the dignitaries and Charlie's interview skills were amazing and impressive for a P7 pupil and his sense of humour certainly brightened up the interviews! Well done Charlie you have an amazing future ahead of you and maybe in media!

WEBSITE - enniskillencathedral.com

Please check out the Cathedral Website for many more photographs of all the activities in this Cathedral News. Thanks to Dr Willie Holmes our webmaster for operating the website.



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Home Holy Communion for Christmas

During the weeks before Christmas the Dean will be celebrating Holy Communion with those who are unable to attend the Cathedral. If you, or someone known to you, would like to receive such a visit then please contact the Cathedral Office. Those who had Holy Communion at home at Easter will automatically be on the list.



Christmas Services Sunday 15th December 11.00am – Nativity Service

Bring a gift unwrapped or wrapped and labelled boy or girl with age group. A special visitor may appear at the end of the service – I wonder who?

Tuesday 10th December 6.00-pm – Christmas 60+ Dinner 8.00pm - Choir Christmas Concert

Tuesday 17th December – Enniskillen Royal Grammar School Carol Service

(ticket only - contact the school)

Sunday 22nd December 11.00am - Carol Service

Tuesday 24th December 9.00pm – Christmas Eve Service

Celebrant – The Bishop of Clogher

Wednesday 25th December 9.00am - Holy Communion

10.30am Christmas Day Family Service (Holy Communion Two)

Celebrant – The Dean

Young people are asked to bring a toy with them to church for the Dean's walk around!

Sunday 29th December

9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Morning Prayer

St Macartin's 60+ Christmas Dinner



This is a wonderful opportunity for those who are eligible for a bus pass to enjoy good food, fun and camaraderie in comfortable surroundings.

Please do come along to the Cathedral Hall on Tuesday 10th December at 6.00pm. For catering purposes please give your name to the Cathedral Office or return the enclosed slip by 8th December.

Following the meal, you are invited to the Cathedral to join others for the St Macartin's Cathedral Choir Concert

at 8.00pm, to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral to St Macartin. All are welcome.

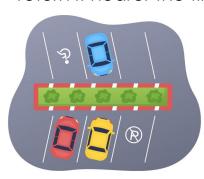
Supper at Six

'Supper at Six' has proved to be a very successful event and has been exceptionally well attended during the months of September, October and November. We now plan running it again in January, February and March, on the last Thursday of each month.

'Supper at Six' is a monthly meal in the Cathedral Hall which is open for all. Parishioners are welcome to make an anonymous voluntary contribution but are under no obligation to do so. Our hope is that the generosity of those who can afford to make a contribution will cover those who cannot at this time.

'Supper at Six' has also proved to be an ideal outing for those who live alone and by coming along can enjoy a meal in the company of others in a similar situation.

We would like to thank those who have made financial contributions to cover costs and ensure it continues. We also thank Saddlers Restaurant for catering for each event. If anyone would like to make a donation it will be most gratefully received. The next 'Supper at Six is on Thursday 30th January. See the flyer inserted in this Cathedral News, and if you would like to attend, return it nearer the time.



Renewal of Car Park Fobs

We wish to remind parishioners who use the car park that their fobs need to be renewed now. Fobs cost £25 per year. Thank you to those who have already renewed and for using the car park responsibly.

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Monday 11th at 7.30pm, On arrival we

sampled a gorgeous punch made by Adele. The Dean opened the meeting with a reading and prayer. Jenifer, Branch Leader, said there was no need to introduce our speaker Adele as she is a member. Adele demonstrated her delicious recipe for sausage rolls with different twists for the festive season, she also shared baking tips, ideas and a number of printed recipes which she had baked, we later sampled them for supper. A fun and lighthearted evening was enjoyed by all thanks to the talented

Adele. The evening closed with the mothers' union prayer. The evening closed with the Mothers' Union prayer. Note for the Diary: Souls of Our Shoes Exhibition is being launched in Enniskillen Library on Tuesday 26th

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Crossword 2 6 7 9 10 11 13 12 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

Across

- 1 'The blind receive sight, the walk' (Luke 7:22) (4)
- 3 Got (Philippians 3:12) (8)
- 8 Leave out (Jeremiah 26:2) (4)
- 9 Castigated for using dishonest scales (Hosea 12:7) (8)
- 11 Weighty (1 John 5:3) (10)
- 14 'Now the serpent was more than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made' (Genesis 3:1) (6)
- 15 'Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot God' (Romans 8:8) (6)
- 17 Because Israel lacked one of these, tools had to be sharpened by the Philistines (1 Samuel 13:19) (10)
- 20 In his vision of the two eagles and the vine, this is how Ezekiel described the latter (Ezekiel 17:8) (8)
- 21 Rite (anag.) (4)
- 22 Nine gigs (anag.) (8)
- 23 'The eye cannot say to the —, "I don't need you" (1 Corinthians 12:21) (4)

Down

1 'Flee for your lives! Don't — — , and don't stop anywhere in the plain!' (Genesis 19:17) (4,4)

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Crossword

2 Prin-

cipal thoroughfare (Numbers 20:19) (4,4)

- 4 'The tax collector... beat his and said, "God have mercy on me, a sinner"' (Luke 18:13) (6)
- 5 'The zeal of the Lord Almighty will this' (2 Kings 19:31) (10)
- 6 'The day of the Lord is for all nations' (Obadiah 15) (4)
- 7 Specified day (Acts 21:26) (4)
- 10 Deadly epidemic (Deuteronomy 32:24) (10)
- 12 Roman Catholic church which has special ceremonial rights (8)
- 13 Tied up (2 Kings 7:10) (8)
- 16 In his speech to the Sanhedrin, Stephen described Moses as 'powerful in speech and - ' (Acts 7:22) (6)
- 18 'Although he did not remove the high places, heart was fully committed to the Lord all his life' (1 Kings 15:14) (4)
- 19 Tribe (Deuteronomy 29:18) (4)

Men's Group



Roy Carroll was the speaker at Men's Group on Monday 18th November. Those in attendance heard Roy recount his experiences of being a profession goal keeper in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Denmark and Greece, of being turned down by Leicester City Football Club and then being contacted by Sir Alex Ferguson of Manchester United. He also spoke about his life after football! Pictured with Roy are Brooklyn Elliott and Roger Allen.

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Parish Organisations

Tuesday Club

The Tuesday Club met on 29th October with twenty eight in attendance. The Rev Edwin opened the meeting with prayer. The leader, Valerie Watson, welcomed Mrs Alex Aiken who shared with us her wonderful talent of sketching with both watercolours and pencils. Hilary Elliott then thanked Alex for the interesting art display.

A short quiz followed on the Halloween theme, well done to Vida, Marina and Roberta with the top score.

After a welcome cup of tea the meeting closed with prayer.

The next meeting is on 26th November at 2.00pm in the Eniskeene Room, the guest is Margaret Burleigh with the topic "Christmas Activities". Please join us, new members are

always welcome. The Annual Christmas dinner is on 10th December in the Cathedral Hall, please return the booking slip in this maga-





zine or phone the office if you wish to attend. A happy and peaceful Christmas to all and look forward to the first meeting of 2025 on 28th January.

Christmas Geese



shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

The story is told of a farmer who didn't believe in Jesus. One snowy Christmas Eve, his wife was taking their children to a service at their local church. He refused to come saying: 'Why would God lower Himself to come to Earth as a man? That's ridiculous!' So, they left him at home.

During the evening the winds grew stronger, and the snow turned to a blizzard. He heard a series of loud thumps on the window. In the field near his house he saw a flock of wild geese. They had been migrating south when they got caught in the snowstorm. They were lost and stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter.

The man wanted to help the geese and so he opened the doors of the barn, hoping they would go inside for shelter. But the geese didn't do anything, despite the man's efforts to move them. He made a breadcrumb trail leading to the barn and tried to shoo them toward the barn, but they only got more scared and scattered.

Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn: 'Why don't they follow me?!' Then he realised: 'If only I were a goose and become one of them, then I could save them.' Finally, he understood the heart of the Christmas message. God has become one of us in Jesus. The eternal creator God has entered time and space as a baby, to show us who God is and how we can know Him.

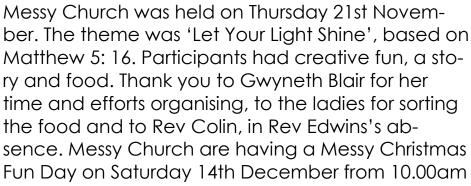
This Christmas, let's celebrate again this amazing truth that we have a God who knows and can meet our needs in Jesus.

'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel, which means 'God with us'. Matthew 1: 23.

Messy Church



Messy Church





The Longest Yarn, St Macartin's Cathedral 14th January to 8th February 2025

Photos in this article have been removed for copyright reasons.

The Longest Yarn is a three-dimensional wool tapestry, knitted and crocheted by hundreds of volunteers worldwide. Created with guidance from historians, retained by the project, to be historically accurate, each scene has been selected by the creator to depict the story of this momentous day in history, each scene unique and made with care. It measures 80 meters (265 feet) and represents the 80 years since D-Day and the 80 days it took for the Allies to liberate Paris. The Longest Yarn tells the momentous story of 6th June, from the build-up and launch in Eng-

land through the Normanay invasion.

The tapestry was unveiled at Notre Dame Church in Carentan, France on May 28, 2024. At present it is touring through Cathedrals in England and will arrive at St Macartin's Cathedral Enniskillen on Tuesday 14th January 2025 and will remain on display until Saturday 8th February. This is the only venue in Ireland. It will travel to the United States for display here in Cape May County at the Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum. For more information on the origination of the project,

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The Longest Yarn, St Macartin's Cathedral 14th January to 8th February 2025

The Longest Yarn is something quite unique and not to be missed. The scenes include the build-up to D-Day in England, the horrors on the Landing Beaches and the bloody inland battles. Created with guidance from professional historians to be accurate, each scene has been selected by the creator to depict the story of this momentous day in history. Some of the scenes depict actual WW2 veterans that were in the theatre of war in Normandy on 6th June plus the lesser-known events in local towns and villages in Normandy. Over 1,000 knitters from across the world, including the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, France and even people with NATO stationed in Europe, have joined in to help make this project happen.

An accompanying book will be on sale, giving more information on each of the 80 scenes, including a picture from 1944 to show viewers what each scene was based on.

It is expected that this will be extremely popular and so to help manage numbers, if you are bringing a party of more than 20 people, please could you let the Cathedral Office know in advance by email, stmacartins@btopenworld.com or telephone 028 66322917.

Help from Parishioners

The Cathedral will be open from 10.00am to 5.00pm each day. For security reasons help will be required to staff the Cathedral. If you would be willing to offer a few hours over the period of the exhibition, please add your name to the Rota in the porch or contact the Cathedral Office.

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The Dean's Sit Out for Charity THREE WAY SPLIT - INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL & LOCAL PEOPLE FOCUSED

MIERNATIONAL



Bishops' Appeal is the Church of Ireland's World Aid and Development Programme. It was set up by the Bishops of the Church in 1972 in response to the commands in the Bible to bring good news to the poor and relief to the suffering.

NATIONAL



To provide helicopter emergency medical services in serious or life threatening situations throughout Northern Ireland.

LOCAL



St Macartin's Outreach Fund
- 'people focused not
'building focused' provides
assistance for those in need
and to assist with projects that
reach out to people in the
locality.

AT THE GATES OF ST MACARTIN'S CATHEDAL, ENNISKILLEN

THURSDAY 19th DECEMBER 2024

9.00am-9.00pm

All donations can be gift aided NI Charity No 105443 Gift Aid Envelopes are available in the Cathedral porch.

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The Dean's Sit Out for Charity

Bishops' Appeal contributes to relief of suffering in time of emergencies whether natural or man-made.

Aims:

- To educate the Church at home about the needs and concerns of people in the less developed world and the causes of poverty;
- To encourage Church members to examine the reasons for the problems facing the less fortunate in the world and to consider what we can do to change conditions:
- To reach out in God's name to those who need our help;
- To encourage informed prayer and prayerful action aimed at strengthening the poor; and
- To raise the funds needed to allow Bishops' Appeal to support development projects and alleviate the suffering caused by disasters, both natural and man-made. The Church of Ireland Bishops' Appeal for World Aid and Development has released €10,000 (equivalent to £8,650) in emergency funds to the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. The Diocese includes 7,000 Anglicans worshipping within 28 congregations in Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan. It is responsible for more than 30 institutions, including hospitals, schools, clinics, rehabilitation centres, guesthouses, and retirement homes. The Diocese runs Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza which provides medical care and support to all people, regardless of their faith or ethnicity.

We urge the people of the Church of Ireland to pray for peace in the Land of the Holy One and pray for wisdom for those in positions of authority to work towards an end to all violence. We uphold to God in prayer all who are affected by the current conflict. All human life is the gift of God. The Church of Ireland, in its daily prayers, prays for people suffering in conflict, those who seek to bring care and relief, and the peace of the world.

Air Ambulance NI is a charity in Northern Ireland. They work in partnership with the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service, to provide the Helicopter Emergency Medical Service for the region. Serious or life-threatening situations can happen to anyone at any time and on average, every single day in Northern Ireland, two individuals find themselves in critical need of an Air Ambulance.

The charity's operational helicopter carries a crew compiling pilot, doctor, and paramedic, 365 days of the year operating for twelve hours every day. They attend some of the most traumatic medical incidents across the province and are dedicated to delivering the very best possible pre-hospital critical care, both at the scene and whilst transferring the patient to the most appropriate hospital for their specific injuries.

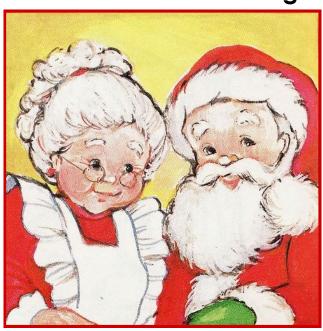
St Macartin's Cathedral Outreach Fund is specifically designed to be 'people focused' and not building focused'. It helps fund groups like Parenting and Wellbeing, Messy Church, Xplore, Supper at Six and Senior Citizens. It also provides assistance for those in need and to assist with projects that reach out to people in the locality.

Ivan Kee's 80th Birthday



Ivan celebrated his 80th Birthday earlier this month and invited family and friends to an evening of food, fun and celebration in the Westville Hotel. After a delicious meal, Ivan's life story was told through verse and music by family members and his many friends. He also told a few of his 'yarns' (as you would expect). Ivan's 80 years have not been without there ups and downs and his church is very important to him. He therefore asked that instead of presents, if you wished, to make a donation to \$t Macartin's Cathedral. Over £9,376 (including Gift Aid) has been donated to the Cathedral and is a testament to Ivan's friendship and generosity. We wish him good health for many more years. Ivan is pictured with his wife Avril, 'cutting the cake'.

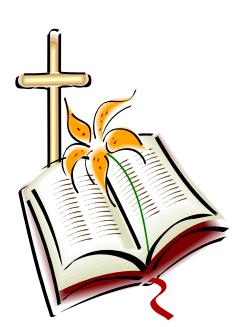
Parenting Wellness Group



There will be a very exciting visitor joining us for The Parenting Wellness Group on Saturday 7th December. Mrs Claus will be dropping in to St Macartin's Cathedral Hall at 2.00pm for a cuppa and she will be sharing stories from the North Pole. Suitable for all ages of children and their parents. To reserve a place or for further information, contact Linda Kingston on 07342045474.

Bible Reading Notes

Each Sunday all three readings from the Revised Common Lectionary are printed on a Parish Bulletin. The Psalm and Collect are also listed. Make sure you get this sheet each week. If for some reason you are not out, get someone to take one for you. Please keep it and use one of the readings or psalm each day throughout the week in your private prayers. Copies of Our Daily Bread (Bible Reading Notes) are available free of charge at the back of the church. Please take one and you will find an order form included so that you can order them and have them sent directly by post to your own home. These will make the reading of the Bible easy, enjoyable, interesting, and relevant to every day life.



'Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path' (Psalm 119: 105)

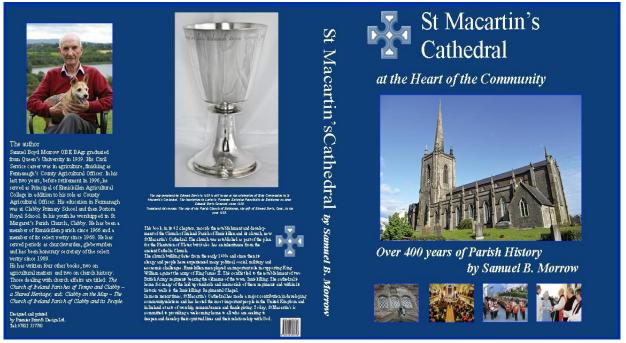
Answers to Crossword on page 16

DOWN: 1, Look back. 2, Main road. 4, Breast. 5, Accomplish. 6, Near. 7, Date. 10, Pestilence. 12, Basilica. 13, Tethered. 16, Action. 18, Asa's. 19, Clan.

ACROSS: 1, Lame. 3, Obtained. 8, Omit. 9, Merchant. 11, Burdensome. 14, Crafty. 15, Please. 17, Blacksmith. 20, Splendid. 21, Tier. 22, Singeing. 23, Hand.

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Ideal Christmas Presents 400th Anniversary Year - Cathedral History Book



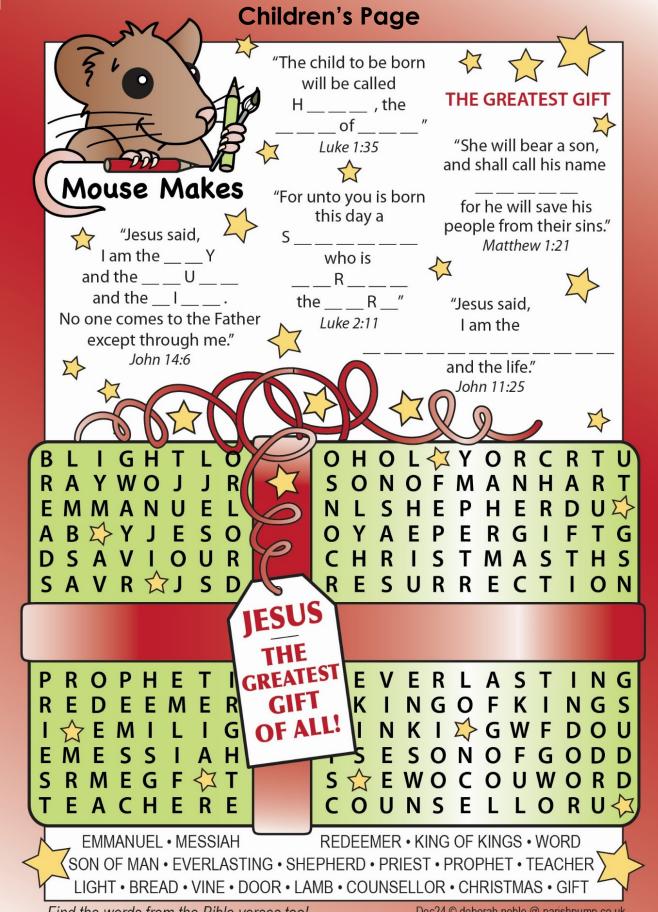
A number of St Macartin's 400 Years of Parish History by Samuel B Morrow are still available at the launch price of £20.00. These would make ideal gifts for family members and friends, especially those who were baptised, confirmed or married in the Cathedral, and for those who have had relatives buried from the cathedral. Copies are available from the Parish Office, the Deanery or from the Churchwardens.

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Prayer Books

Do you have a Prayer book in your home? If not you should have! We are a Prayer Book church and the Prayer Book should not just be on those shelves at the back of the church for use on Sunday, but there should be a copy of a Prayer Book in every home. Everything in it is biblically based and it is a vital tool to everyday living, for daily prayer, and for nourishment and for enriching our daily walk with God. As you leaf through the Prayer Book you will find services and prayers for daily use, and for every situation and worry in life. It is a marvellous resource so use it. Copies are available from the Cathedral Office for £20.00 and would make an ideal gift!

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Find the words from the Bible verses too!

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December Lessons and Readers

Sunday 1st December: The First Sunday of Advent

The First Reading - Jeremiah 33: 14-16 - Linda Corrigan

The Psalm - Psalm 25: 1-9

The Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13 - Raymond Campbell

The Gospel Reading - Luke 21: 25-36 - Adele Moore

Sunday 8th December: The Second Sunday of Advent

The First Reading - Malachi 3: 1-4 - Fred Watson

Canticle - Benedictus

The Second Reading - Philippians 1: 3-11 - Margaret Owens

The Gospel Reading - Luke 3: 1-6 - The Curate

Sunday 15th December: The Third Sunday of Advent

Family Nativity Service

Sunday 22nd December: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Carol Service

Sunday 29th December: The First Sunday of Christmas

The First Reading - Micah 5: 2-5a - Ivan Kee

The Psalm - Psalm 80: 1-8

The Second Reading - Hebrews 10: 5-10 - Isla Rowland

The Gospel Reading - Luke 1: 39-45,46-55 - Adele Moore

Lesson Readers and Welcome Team

If you would like to join our list of Lesson Readers or Welcome Team please contact the Parish Office.

WELCOME TEAM December 2024

- 01 Gwen and Karl Saunders
- 08 Myrtle and George Irvine
- 15 Doris and Gordon Jackson
- 22 Jenifer and Noel Johnston
- 29 Marie and Sam Morrow

WELCOME TEAM January 2025

- 05 Eileen and Jim Nixon
- 12 Karen and Arnold Graham
- 19 Caroline and Trevor Shaw
- 26 Hilary and Raymond Campbell



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Parish People

Director of Music and Organist - Glenn Moore

Churchwardens - Dwayne Nixon and Ann Little

Glebewardens - George Irvine and Noel Johnston

Hon Secretary - Sam Morrow, Assistant Hon Secretary - Stephen Richmond

Hon Treasurer - Hope Kerr, Assistant Hon Treasurer - David Graham

Select Vestry - David Clarke, Nathan Clyde, Richard Cochrane,

Linda Corrigan, Vanessa Elliott, Arnold Graham, Ivan Kee, Karl Saunders,

Audrey Williamson, Jonathan Woods.

Lay Readers - Karl Saunders and Jack Watson

Verger - Andrew McCabe

Hall Caretaker - Andrew McCabe

January Lessons and Readers

Sunday 5th January: The Second Sunday of Christmas

The First Reading - Isaiah 60: 1-6 - Geoffrey Wilkinson

The Psalm - Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14

The Second Reading - Ephesians 3: 1-12 - Gwen Saunders

The Gospel Reading - Matthew 2: 1-12 - The Dean

Sunday 12th January: The First Sunday after the Epiphany

The First Reading - Isaiah 43: 1-7 - Jeanette Cochrane

The Psalm - Psalm 29

The Second Reading - Acts 8: 14-17 - Richard Cochrane

The Gospel Reading - Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22 - The Curate

Sunday 19th January: The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

The First Reading - Isaiah 62: 1-5 - Myrtle Irvine

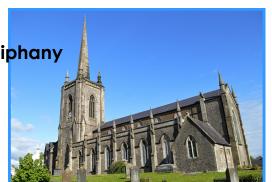
The Psalm - Psalm 36: 5-10

The Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11 - George Irvine

The Gospel Reading - John 2: 1-11 - Adele Moore

Sunday 26th January: The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Family Service



SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00am - Holy Communion

11.00am - Holy Communion (first and third Sundays)

Morning Prayer (second and fifth Sundays)

Morning Prayer/Family Service (fourth Sundays)

11.00am - Sunday School - Begins in church and children leave for classes.

On fourth Sundays they remain in church with their families.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

11.00am - Holy Communion (each Thursday)

4.00pm - Messy Church (Thursday once per month as arranged)

7.30pm - Lent (each Wednesday)

7.30pm - Holy Week (each evening)

PAROCHIAL ORGANISATIONS

MONDAY

Beavers - 6.45pm - 8.00pm

Cubs - 6.45pm - 8.00pm

Confirmation Classes - 6.30pm - 7.30pm (as arranged)

Select Vestry Meeting - 8.00pm - 9.30pm (first Mondays)

Mothers' Union - 7.30pm - 9.30pm (second Mondays)

Men's Group - 7.30pm - 9.30pm (third Mondays)

TUESDAY

Tuesday Club - 2.00pm - 4.00pm (last Tuesdays)

Rainbows - 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Brownies - 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Guides - 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Rangers - 6.30pm - 7.45pm

Word & World - 7.30pm (alternate weeks)

WEDNESDAY

Bowling Club - 10.30am - 12.00 noon

Bowling Club - 7.30pm - 10.00pm

Choir Practice - 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Bell Ringing Practice - 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Xplore - 7.30pm (last Wednesday of month, October to March)

THURSDAY

Messy Church - 4.00pm - 6.00pm (as arranged)

Scouts - 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Supper at Six –6.00pm - 7.30pm (fourth Thursday, September to March)

SATURDAY

Parenting Wellness Group (Once per month as arranged)

KnitWits - 2.00 - 5.00pm (Autumn to Easter)

New members are always welcome at any of our organisations!