# The Parish of Enniskillen - Saint Macartin's Cathedral **CATHEDRAL NEWS**



February 2022 - Vol 107



'But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 3:13,14).



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

## Vol 107

Page 2

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## The Dean Writes:

Dear Parishioners,

As we look back on another difficult year dominated by the pandemic, how should we look forward to 2022 with fresh hope? The apostle Paul writes: 'But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and



straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 3:13,14).

Firstly, to make a new start, you need to forget the things which are behind. St Paul saw himself as an athlete running for Christ and purposely not looking back. He refused to allow his past difficulties to define who he was. The same can be true of ourselves, as we confess our sins and failures to receive God's forgiveness.

Secondly, we need to focus on the things that lie ahead. The athlete is entirely focused on winning the race and gaining the prize. Like St Paul, we have to be single-minded in making our faith the focus of everything we do. What will it mean to better serve God in our workplace or neighbourhood, or family or friends?

St Paul looked forward to the day when he would stand before God, who would say 'well done, good and faithful servant'. In light of all that God had done through Jesus for him, St Paul wanted to give his very best to God. As we begin a New Year, let us ask ourselves, 'What can I do this year that will help

## Vol 107

me bring glory and honour to God?'

As you read this letter the Season of Epiphany is almost over, and the first celebration of this month is the Feast of Candlemas. That celebrates the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The date 'set' for Candlemas is the 2nd February each year and it marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest day and the spring equinox. So, from that date onwards the days begin to get noticeably longer and the nights shorter. It is the day when we celebrate Mary and Joseph taking their baby, Jesus, to the Temple. The custom was set down in Leviticus chapter 12, where the parents presented the child to the Lord, and received a blessing from the priests. It was a picture of the sacrifice of the first-born son, giving him to the Lord.

Your Christmas decorations will by now have been carefully packed away and ready for use next Christmas. The baby Jesus fits very neatly into a lot of homes at Christmas time, but have a think about where you put Jesus after Christmas? Not the figure but the 'real' person. Very often He is easily left in a virtual crib as a baby in the minds of many people, just like the wooden or plastic figure in our attics or under the stairs. If we keep Him as that cute baby boy we miss out on His teaching and miracles, we will fail to understand and engage with His massive love and compassion for each of us on the cross – and most importantly His resurrection. Therefore, we lose the true meaning of life – life in this world and the next! Death is not the end. Not for Him. Not for us, and not for our loved ones who have died in faith!

#### This new year can we forget the things which are behind? This new year can we focus on the things that lie ahead?

This new year can we live in faith, live in hope, live in love, serving God and all people who are made in the image of God, regardless of difference?

Wishing you every blessing,

Kent R Hall

### Cathedral News Contribution

If you enjoy this monthly publication we would appreciate a donation towards the production costs. Enclosed with this magazine is an envelope which you can use. Simply return to the parish office. Thank you for your continued support.



## Vol 107

## Page 4

### Marriage

4th December -

## **Parochial Registers**

Deborah Ann Carney and Christopher Ian Matthews.

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who labour build in vain" Psalm 127: 1

### Burial

27th November -	John (Charlie) Brown,
	6 Heathdale View, Letterbreen.

11th December - Hazel Mary Beatty, 15 Derrychara Drive, Enniskillen.

23rd December - Norman Caldwell Edgar 16 Coleshill Crescent, Enniskillen.

13th January - The Rt Revd Brian D A Hannon, (a former Bishop of Clogher).

14th January - Edward William (Ted) Webster, 8 Cornacully Road, Belcoo.

> Anna Elizabeth Townsend, 10 Main Street, Kesh.

20th January - Marina Stinson, 8 Holyhill Crescent, Enniskillen.

#### Burial of Ashes 18th December -

15th January -

John Francis (Jack) Spratt

20th December - Elizabeth Sarah Hewitt

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



### **Repainting Fund**

## **Parish Donations**

- £100 Anonymous donation.
- £400 Donation from Rev Canon Desmond & Mrs Pat Kingston (for redecoration of the Baptistry).
- £100 Anonymous donation.

### Webcam Fund

£50 Donation in loving memory of my husband Gerry on his birthday (9th February).





## Vol 107

## **Parish Donations**

### **Cathedral Roof Repair Fund**

- £5,000 Donation from the Irvine Estates Charity.
- £100 Donation from Mrs Kathleen Sloan.
- £100 Donation in memory of Joseph and Margaret Doogan from their daughter Renee.
- £300 Donation from Mr Harry, Mrs Violet & Mr Matthew Dickson.
- £500 Anonymous donation.
- £200 Anonymous donation.
- £100 Anonymous donation in memory of my parents.
- £100 Donation from Mr Jim & Mrs Esdille Lappin.
- £200 Donation from Mr Peter & Mrs Melanie Little.
- £150 Donation from Mrs Denise Rooney.
- £50 Donation from Mr Charles & Mrs Frances Barr.
- £200 Anonymous donation.
- £70 Anonymous donation in memory of my husband at Christmas.
- £50 Donation from Mrs Joan Elliott.
- £100 Donation from Mr & Mrs John Dundas.
- £20,000 Donation from Mrs Pearl Hodgins in loving memory of my husband Ben.
- £200 Donation from Mr Leslie Chartres.
- £50 Anonymous donation (for pathway leading to Garden of Remembrance).
- £50 Anonymous donation (for rearranging Pews in the Cathedral).
- £250 Anonymous donation.

### **Organ Restoration Fund**

- £500 Donation (additional to what was recorded in December in memory of Mrs Betty McKendry from her son Paul.
- £500 Donation from Fermanagh Choral Society.
- £100 Donation from Mrs Ann Love & Mrs Audrey Hopkins (in lieu of Christmas presents).
- £100 Anonymous donation.
- £100 Anonymous donation.

### Fabric Fund

- £100 Donation from Mr Howard & Mrs Margaret Thomas.
- £2,000 Donation from Mr Jonathan & Mrs Jane Styles.

### **Flower Fund**

£50 Donation from Mrs Denise Rooney.

## Vol 107

Page 6

### Welcome Rev Chris West



Pictured after the Advent Sunday Service, from left are Audrey Williamson (Churchwarden) Scott Elliott (Parish Reader), Rev Christopher West, Andrew McCabe (Verger), Dean Kenneth Hall and Linda Kingston (Churchwarden).

We were delighted to welcome the Rev Chris West as our new curate on Advent Sunday. The Rev Chris is from Markethill, Co Armagh and previously served as a Deacon in Killyman Parish Church, Diocese of Armagh and then as a curate for one year in Taney Parish, Diocese of Dublin. He is already proving to be a very popular face, nor only in church life, but also in the parish and diocese. He is a regular contributor with his articles in the Church of Ireland Gazette each month. We wish Rev Chris every blessing in his ministry here in St Macartin's.

### **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.

Vol 107

Page 7



## Tribute to the late Bishop Hannon

A parochial nominator for a parish carries heavy responsibilities in the appointment of a rector. I, along with three others, had the privilege of being a nominator for Enniskillen in 1982. Dean Clements, after a very distinguished period of service as rector of Enniskillen, had retired. The nominators had done their homework and had identified the Rev Brian Hannon, rector of Christ Church in Derry, as someone who could carry on the high standard of ministry in Enniskillen. An approach to Rev Brian bore fruit and he and his wife, Maeve, and their three sons, were very happy to come to the south west. I had the privilege of being his first churchwarden. His reputation as a preacher in Christ Church was known to be without equal – his sermons delivered a practical message for daily living. Our parishioners immediately found warmth and guidance from his new leadership and it

was not long until people were saying 'this man will go far'. He gave unfailing attention to the sick and elderly in the parish and his daily visits to hospital gave comfort and encouragement. He had rich musical talents and his rendition of 'Phil the Fluter's Ball', at social functions, brought pleasure to many. His great abilities were soon recognised in the diocese and he was appointed Canon in September 1982 and two years later was made Dean of Clogher. He was deeply involved in education, being a member of The Fermanagh Protestant Board of Education and a Governor of Portora Royal School. He served the wider education interests as a member and later as chairman of the Western Education and Library Board.

His gifts were not limited to the parish and he served the Church more widely. He was elected as a representative to The World Council of Churches and to that body's Central Committee.

As a former rector, bishop and friend of many he will be sadly missed. The parish community of Enniskillen wishes to express deepest sympathy to Maeve, Desmond, Brendan and Neil, and the wider family circle.

Sam Morrow Honorary Secretary Select Vestry St Macartin's Cathedral

## Vol 107

## Page 8

## **Cathedral Restoration Project**

Re-roofing and repair of weather damaged stonework and associated items on the cathedral have all been completed to a high standard in good time and on budget. The work to be undertaken was specified and supervised by Mr Chris McCollum, historic buildings specialist, and expertly carried out by Mr Harold Graham, contractor, and his team. Now that this major work on the roof has been undertaken to such a high standard it is hoped that further expenditure on this part of the building will not be required for the greater part of the next century.

People with special skills were employed to undertake certain aspects of the work. Stonemasons from Kilkeel undertook the work in restoring stonework that

had deteriorated through age. Right: Kyle Thompson and Jay Morton of S McConnell and Sons Ltd, replacing a section of weather damaged stone stonework at the outside entrance to the Chapter room.

Cleaning of the outside of the windows and fit-



ting secondary glazing was undertaken by a firm from Belfast. The guttering on the rather complex roof structure was undertaken by Mr Gerald Wilson, a lead specialist, from Belfast. All of this work required careful coordination to ensure that tasks were undertaken in a proper order. Much of the responsibility for the day-to-day operations fell to Mr David Hall, Harold Graham's site manager.

### Sequence of operations

The first stage of the work was the erection of scaffolding so as to enable the old slates, laths and felt to be removed. When this had been done the opportunity was taken to fit insulation to the ceilings – this should result in a warmer building and reduced heating costs. New roofing felt and laths were then fitted prior to the re-slating process being undertaken.

## Vol 107

## Page 9

## **Cathedral Restoration Project**

Left: Patrick Gilheaney on the Chapter Room roof. Patrick, who is a specialist in slating, fitted all the slates on the cathedral roofs.

As the slating progressed, new lead guttering, fabricated on site to meet the needs of the building, replaced the old copper guttering. This process was carried out first on the main roof, followed by similar action on the lower roof over the south aisle and then on the roof over the chapel. The opportunity was taken when designing the lead gutters to provide additional outfalls.

Close up of slating with copper nails and edge clips which will extend the life of the roof.

## Vol 107

Page 10

## **Cathedral Restoration Project**



There is now an additional outlet and down pipe half way along each roof. Previously there was only an outlet for rainfall at each end of the roof. The additional outlets should cater for any increase in rainfall intensity that may occur in future.

Below: The new cast iron hopper, with the 400th anniversary date, which takes the roof water from the centre section of the roof over the south aisle.

#### Stonework

Whilst the roof work was progressing, repairs to the stonework on the pinnacles, windows and at an outside door was being undertaken.





Left: The restored east window. Sections of weather damaged stonework have been replaced and secondary glazing has been fitted. The sandstone used for repairs is similar in colour and of equal water porosity to the original sandstone. In time, the new sections of sandstone will weather to a similar colour as the original.

## Vol 107

## Page 11

## **Cathedral Restoration Project**



Left: Other work undertaken to secure the building into the future included the replacement of the old chimney pot which had deteriorated as a result of frost damage.

Below: The newly restored cathedral (photograph taken on the day of completion 17th January 2022).



### Vol 107

## Page 12

### Cathedral Redecoration

Now that the external restoration of the cathedral has been completed, work can begin on the major project of redecoration. It was important that any structural improvements on the inside should be carried out prior to the redecoration starting. The select vestry decided that access to the main body the church should be improved. A row of pews has therefore been removed at the back of the nave. This creates much



needed room for baptismal parties. It also provides much more greeting space and improves the access for pall bearers at funerals and also for bridal parties. The floor area that has been cleared will be tiled in keeping with the patterns and colours of the tiles on the existing floors.

The advice of Mr Chris McCollum, buildings conservation specialist, was sought regarding the organisation of a painting contract. He advised that Mr Harold Graham, who very successfully executed the restoration contract, should be employed to erect the scaffolding inside the building and carry out any necessary preparation, cleaning, and repair work in preparation for the painters. A contract has been provisionally agreed with Mr Graham. Six painting contractors were invited to tender for the work which will involve the application of a primer coat, two undercoats and a finishing coat. Only three of these contractors submitted quotations - the tender of Ross Scott Painting Contractors from Castlederg has been accepted subject to agreement on a timescale for the work. Needless to say, due to ever increasing prices, the contract figures have exceeded the budget prices by fifty percent.

Colours are very important. Mr McCollum has advised that historically correct colours should be used. In keeping with the age of the building, he has suggested using a shade of white for the ceiling, and a slightly darker shade of white for the walls. He points out that originally the pillars and arches would have been painted to simulate natural sandstone. Consequently, a light mushroom colour has been chosen for these features. He has emphasised that the east wall and that part of the chancel extending to the first arch should be in a strong colour and has suggested a shade of red. Trial panels will be painted before the final colours are chosen.

Hopefully, the work will be completed well in advance of Easter. Whilst the redecoration is taking place in the cathedral services will be held in the cathedral hall. Arrangements have been made to have the services streamed for online viewers from the hall.

### Vol 107

## **Choir Member Charlotte wins at Wrestling!**

### Helsinki Open

On Thursday 26th November my team, Erne Wrestling, and I travelled to Helsinki for the International Competition at the Helsinki Olympic Stadium. The day was sectioned into two with the under 18s from 10.00am to 2.30pm and the seniors thereafter. I had two brilliant fights against two very skilled wrestlers. It was a great experience, especially as it was my first competition since Covid19 started. At this point I can only improve and I look forward to future competitions where I hope to progress even more! *Right: Charlotte McGuigan is pictured with her medal.* 



St Macartin's Cub Scouts enjoying a Christmas outing to the Share Centre, Lisnaskea on Saturday 11th December.

Page 14



Vol 107

### Christmas 2021

The prizewinning Dean! Every year our webmaster and assistant projectionist Willie Holmes runs a cake competition on Facebook. The cake is a copycat version of one produced by a famous American bakery. It is composed largely of nuts, dates and pineapple and with only a small quantity of flour. In this year's competition, entrants had to guess the number of currants it contained and Dean Kenny came up with the answer, 35. Divine inspiration? Probably!

The Church was beautifully decorated for Christmas by Sabrina McCabe, Myrtle Irvine and their loyal team of helpers.



## Vol 107

Page 15



The Dean accompanied by the Verger, Andrew McCabe proclaims the Christmas Gospel to the outside world on Christmas Eve night.

Vol 107

## **Cathedral Family**

Peter Mayes



Peter is married to Moya and they have a daughter Gillian who is married and lives in England. Peter is also part of the group, who work behind the scenes, to count and record the weekly church collections.

#### Tell us about your early days?

I come from a family deeply involved in the work of the Church of Ireland. My father was a clergyman and my mother a doctor who both worked with CMS in the mission field in Nigeria where they were married before returning to Ireland to the parish of Woodschapel near Magherafelt.

I have three brothers and one sister and we grew up in the country parishes of Woods, Clonfeacle and Tandragee where we were encouraged and able to enjoy freedom without the restrictions facing many children today.

I attended primary schools in Woods and Benburb and then boarded in Armagh Royal School before I left for Derby and Rolls Royce where I qualified as an aeronautical engineer working in the engine performance department. After a spell in Short Brothers I joined Kent Plastics in Enniskillen, becoming Process Engineering Manager until my retirement.

#### What are your hobbies and interests?

I particularly enjoyed playing rugby, badminton and squash, while golf, which caused a great deal of frustration, came later. Gardening has been a constant in my life and as I get older reading and music bring much pleasure.

## Vol 107

## **Cathedral Family**

#### Do you like to travel?

In younger days as a family we enjoyed some European travel but as the years have passed I find myself preferring to spend holiday time in the west of Ireland.

#### Do you have a favourite film?

Anything with John Wayne in it!

#### Do you have a favourite hymn or Bible verse?

Hymn: "Nearer My God To Thee" Verses: Matthew Chpt 5 v 1-11, The Beatitudes.

#### Any challenges?

The greatest challenges in my life nowadays are getting to grips with Technology and trying to balance the books.

## The West Family



Our new curate Rev Christopher West with his parents Linda and Nigel West and brother Owen after his first service on Advent Sunday.

### Vol 107

Page 18

### Mothers' Union

On Monday January 10th the meeting in the Enniskeene room, was a service of Holy Communion celebrated by the Dean with Rev Chris assisting. The AGM followed with the Dean presiding. Officers: Branch Leader - Jenifer Johnston, Secretary - Sally Masterson, Treasurer -Maud Shaw, Overseas Representative -Valerie Watson. Committee Members: Jeanette Cochrane, Stephanie Hall, Christine Halpin, Stephanie Hamilton, Hazel Hunter, Avril Kee, Estelle Latimer and Margaret Owens. The meeting closed with the Mothers' Union prayer.







### Vol 107

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Page 19

### Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union had a very enjoyable night out in Saddler's Restaurant before Christmas joined by The Dean and Rev Chris. The food was delicious and the company good. Claire Holmes organized a quiz which was great craic. Next meeting - Monday 14th February at the earlier time of 7.30pm in the Eniskeene Room with Rev Chris as Guest Speaker.

Vol 107

Page 20

Crossword



#### Across

8 How the Abyss (NIV) is described in the Authorized Version (Revelation 9:1)(10,3)

9 Frozen water (Ezekiel 1:22) (3)

- 10 The Ten Commandments (9)
- 11 In Roman Catholic theology, neither heaven nor hell (5)
- 13 Des cons (anag.) (7)
- 16 'Though [your sins] are red as , they shall be like wool' (Isaiah 1:18) (7)
- 19 Keen (Romans 1:15) (5)
- 22 Repugnant, loathsome (Jeremiah 24:9) (9)
- 24 Drink like an animal (Judges 7:5) (3)
- 25 First and last (Revelation 22:13) (5,3,5)

### Down

- 1 Father of Ahi, a Gadite (1 Chronicles 5:15) (6)
- 2 Where David found the stone with which he killed Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (6)

## Crossword

- 3 'Hour by hour fresh lips are making thy doings heard on high' (8)
- 4 'And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their at night' (Luke 2:8) (6)
- 5 United Society for Christian Literature (1,1,1,1)

6 'If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would — — or a tax collector' (Matthew 18:17) (1,5)

- 7 Where Paul was taken when things became difficult for him in Berea (Acts 17:15) (6)
- 12 Istituto per le Opere di Religione (Vatican Bank) (1,1,1)

14 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new — ; the old has gone, the new has come!' (2 Corinthians 5:17) (8)

15 Used to colour ram skins red for use in the tabernacle (Exodus 25:5) (3) 16 Vat car (anag.) (6)

- 17 'Be joyful —, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (6) 18 'The parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts — — special treatment' (1 Corinthians 12:23) (4,2) 20 Ancient rowing boat (Isaiah 33:21) (6)
- 20 Ancient Towing Dout (Isalah 55.21) (
- 21 Say again (2 Corinthians 11:16) (6)
- 23 What Jesus did in the synagogue in Nazareth after he stood up

(Luke 4:16) (4)

## **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 with 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 verse 105



### Vol 107

## Myrtle Irvine wins UK Air Ambulance Volunteer of the Year



I am from Enniskillen in County Fermanagh, married to George and next year we will be celebrating fifty years of married life together. We had five of a family, four sons and one daughter. Sadly though, we lost one of our sons in February 21st 2016. He died suddenly with a heart condition. On Sat 20th February 2016 we attended a Rotary Club function in a

tended a Rotary Club function in a local hotel. The Rotary Club charity, that night was raising funds for Air Ambulance. Most other regions in the UK had an Air Ambulance so it was naturally thought essential to have an Air Ambulance in Northern Ireland. That very night we learnt our son, Alistair had gone in to hospital in England. He had obtained his Dr's. Degree and

worked as a Research Scientist in Rothhamstead Research Institute, Harpenden. The very next morning came the sad news. He was only 37. My husband, George and I decided rather than have wreaths, with donations we would purchase a defibrillator for our local church, Enniskillen Cathedral with all the remainder of the donations going towards the NI Air ambulance.

On the Christmas of 2016 I decided to do something in memory of Alistair. I handmade forty wreaths and sold them, donating £600 to the charity. The grief of losing our son at this stage was very raw, so it was one of my memorable fundraisers that I did with tears in my eyes.

It was good news that in July 2017 the new Air Ambulance for Northern Ireland was launched, alongside a back up Air Ambulance.

The fact that it costs in the region of  $\pounds$ 5,500 per day in order to keep the Air Ambulance operational made us think of getting a Volunteer Group together. We began asking our friends to help and now have twenty seven volunteers in our Fermanagh Group. This means we can help in the organising of large fundraising events, like the weekend Vintage Car Exhibition in Irvinestown which raised over £19,000

## Myrtle Irvine wins UK Air Ambulance Volunteer of the Year

In fact the Air Ambulance are hoping, one day they will be able to mirror large groups like ourselves in the various regions throughout N.I.

Our Fermanagh group have raised around  $\pounds120,000$  so far, despite the interruption of Covid.

We know the Air Ambulance has been tasked over 2600 times since they first began. The Team consists of a doctor and a paramedic which brings urgent medical assistance to the scene of the incident. It takes only twenty five minutes to reach anywhere in Northern Ireland which is very important to us here in the West of the Province.

If we can save other families from going through the grief of losing a loved one then we will continue to be kept motivated in raising funds. I am proud to have won the Award and I am dedicating it, not only to the memory of our son, Alistair but to all those Volunteers in our Group who have lost loved ones too.

## A Message from The N I Blood Transfusion Service



DOWN: 1, Abdiel. 2, Stream. 3, Wondrous. 4, Flocks. 5, USCL. 6, A pagan. 7, Athens. 12, IOR. 14, Creation. 15, Dye. 16, Cravat. 17, In hope. 18, Need no. 20, Galley. 21, Repeat. 23, Read.

ACROSS: 8, Bottomless pit. 9, Ice. 10, Decalogue. 11, Limbo. 13, Seconds. 16, Crimson. 19, Eager. 22, Abhorrent. 24, Lap. 25, Alpha and Omega.

## Vol 107

Page 24

### **Presentation to Parish Secretary**



Mrs Beth Rennick has just completed 20 years of outstanding service as parish secretary. The Select Vestry, at its December meeting, decided that this service required recognition. Mrs Audrey Williamson, People's Churchwarden, made a presentation to Mrs Rennick on behalf of the Select Vestry at morning service on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Since her appointment, Mrs Rennick has served under two rectors, Precentor B.J. Courtney and now, Dean Hall. The parish secretary is a key member of the parish community and needs to work closely with the rector and many other people to ensure the smooth running of the parish. Mrs Rennick is the main point of contact with the parish for many people who may contact the office by telephone, email, or call in person. She manages this aspect of her work in an exemplary manner. She is an attentive and sympathetic listener and deals with issues that arise in an efficient and effective manner. Hall letting enquiries are dealt with by Beth who liaises closely with Mr Andy McCabe, caretaker, in making the necessary arrangements.

Mrs Rennick supplies valuable services to the cathedral office bearers, especially the honorary treasurer and honorary secretary. Parishioners may bring their subscriptions to Mrs Rennick, sometimes with very specific instructions. This requires careful recording and communication with the honorary treasurer. A most important part of her work involves the keeping of records, preparation of the weekly service sheets, the Cathedral News and Report. The preparation of these documents requires desk top publishing, database and excel skills which Mrs Rennick has mastered most effectively. Mrs Rennick possesses all the qualities necessary to be an excellent parish secretary. May Beth be long spared to continue in the role.

Sam Morrow Honorary Secretary Select Vestry

Thank you to the Clergy, Select Vestry and Parishioners for your thoughtfulness and generosity marking my 20 years 'in the Office.' It really was kind and very much appreciated. Beth

## Vol 107

Page 25

### A fresh start for the New Year

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression...? He has shown you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you: To act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6: 7-8)



A favourite Bible passage, and it is an ideal one for a new year as it sums up in a very simple but helpful way what true religion should be. That makes it a good verse to start the year. The message is simple: God does not want empty promises or lip service, but our real devotion, from our heart. What does it mean for us?

**To act justly –** Be honest and open in our dealings with others this year. Be dependable. We should say when things are going wrong and be appreciative when they go well. Be fair in our dealings, whether at home or at work or in church. Keep confidences and never pass on gossip.

**To love mercy –** Give people the benefit of doubt, do not take advantage of others and do not always criticise or complain. Accept apologies and explanations where we can, and be generous.

**To walk humbly –** Quietly get on with things. Do not make a big show of what we do. Lastly, we are *required* to do these things. They are not options or choices but requirements. Like many requirements in the Bible, they are simple to understand, but not always simple to do.

Happy New Year.



## **Parish Visiting**

Since parish visiting will not be possible for some time yet, I would appeal to parishioners to let us know if they are unwell or know someone who is unwell. We can arrange some form of contact to be made depending on what restrictions are in place at that time.



## Youth

### Messy Church @ Enniskillen Cathedral

Messy Church is a great opportunity for children to learn about God and the Bible in a relaxed and creative atmosphere. It is a FREE group, open to all primary-aged children, from all denominations, held on the third Thursday of each month.

While we were unable to meet in person in December, we still enjoyed learning about the story of the first Christmas from home, with lots of fun and messy crafts to go along with it! **February's Messy Church will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> via our closed Facebook group**. It's never too late to get involved – simply fill out a registration form and search for "Messy Church Enniskillen @ Home" on Facebook to join the fun!



We hope to return to inperson sessions soon, regulations permitting. When this does happen, space will be limited, and families will be required to pre-book their table to facilitate social distancing. All details for how to get involved will be posted to our Facebook and Instagram.

## Sunday Lights + Café @ Enniskillen Cathedral

Sunday Lights + Café allows children to spend time together learning about the Bible, listening to stories about Jesus and his life, singing songs, and participating in crafts and games. Sunday Lights is open to anyone in P1-5 and Sunday Café welcomes children in P6-Year 8.

Sunday Lights + Café sessions will remain online via our Google Drive. There will be one session posted each week, with activities suitable for both Sunday Lights and Sunday Café participants. The link to our Google Drive can be found on our social media pages as well as in the weekly Cathedral emails. Keep an eye out on our Facebook and Instagram for any updates.

lanuary	February	March	April	May
2 <sup>nd</sup> No SLC	6" SLC	6th SLC	3rd SLC	1º No SLC
9th No SLC	13th No SLC	13th No SLC	10 <sup>th</sup> SLC	8th SLC
16" SLC	20th No SLC	20th No SLC	17th No SLC	15 <sup>th</sup> SLC
23rd SLC	27 <sup>th</sup> SLC	27 <sup>th</sup> SLC	24th No SLC	22 <sup>nd</sup> Final SLC
30 <sup>th</sup> SLC				29 <sup>TH</sup> No SLC

updatest

a light for my path' Psalm 119

Vol 107

# The Parish of Enniskillen

Page 27

## Youth - Confirmation

We were thrilled that Confirmation classes for Years 9 and 10 began in-person on Monday 6th December. December saw us welcome a new group of young people, ready to begin their Confirmation journey. Classes started with an informal "get to know you" session and pizza, and each class involves an interactive way for candidates to learn about the Church and their faith. Classes are from 6.30-7.30pm in the Upper Room of the Cathedral



Hall (which is above the Main Hall). Anyone wishing to be confirmed should contact the Cathedral Office for an application form. Our dates for February are:

7th February – "Who are we, and how did we get here? (Part 1)" 14th February – Break

21st February – "Who are we, and how did we get here? (Part 2)" 28th February – "After Confirmation: What's next? (Part 1)" Our youth group, Xplore, usually meets on the last Monday of each

month and is open to all young people who have been confirmed as well as those in our current Confirmation class. We are looking forward to holding Xplore meetings again once regulations permit. How Can I Get Involved?

Don't be a stranger – if you have any questions please get in touch! Photos and updates can also be sent to our social media pages to be shared with the rest of the parish. All children and young people MUST be registered to participate in any Children and Youth organisation. All organisations are separate and require their own registration form.

Registration forms and details on how to register for all

Children and Youth organisations can be found:

- On our social media pages and Google Drive
- On the Enniskillen Cathedral website under the 'Children' tab
- From childrenandyouth@enniskillencathedral.com
- From the Cathedral Office





@ekncathedralyouth



childrenandyouth enniskillencathedral.com



## Vol 107

## Page 28

### **400th Anniversary History Books**



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 or the Deanery.



### **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!

## Vol 107

Page 29

## Psalm

### Psalm 61

Hear my crying, O God: give ear unto my prayer. From the ends of the earth will I call upon thee: when my heart is in heaviness. (verse 1,2)

We all have those times, days, weeks even when there is nothing about our life we like. We can be in a situation where turmoil is unending. We go through the low times

of routine that become wearisome. We look at where we are at and wonder, "How did I get here?" In such times when we move to such dire hopelessness, we want to give up. It just does not seem worth it any longer. Cries for change go unanswered. Some light, any light for that matter, seemingly is lost as we look toward to the future and see absolutely nothing changing. David was in

such a place. He is overwhelmed on every level. Yet in this instance he chooses not to give up on God and he prays for God to bring him into His shelter, His strong tower, His tabernacle, and he desires so greatly to rest and be comforted in His wings.

O set me up upon the rock that is higher than I: for Thou hast been my hope, and a strong tower for me against the enemy. I will dwell in Thy tabernacle for ever: and my trust shall be under the covering of Thy wings. (verse 3,4)

Beginning his prayer in desperation he ends with praise for his God and chooses to honour who He is. He will cling to God's unchanging character and name. He chooses to praise rather than complain in the end.

This is the challenge for each of us. David makes a vow to praise His God every single day. He promises to thank His God and go forward believing He will honour His promise of love. He would praise God through all the hard and good times. This is our challenge no matter what is going on in our lives or how meaningless things have become, or when we feel at a loss. Make it a habit to praise God and say Yes. He is present even in those hard times which we are going through.

So will I always sing praise unto thy Name: that I may daily perform my vows. (verse 8)







### Vol 107

Page 30



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## Vol 107

## **Parish People**

Director of Music and Organist - Glenn Moore Churchwardens - Linda Kingston and Audrey Williamson Glebewardens - George Irvine and Noel Johnston Select Vestry - Raymond Campbell, David Clarke, Richard Cochrane, Linda Corrigan, David Graham , Ivan Kee, Hope Kerr (Hon Treasurer), Sam Morrow (Hon Secretary), Stephen Richmond, Karl Saunders, Jonathan Woods and Rosemary Woods. Lay Readers - Karl Saunders and Jack Watson Verger - Andrew McCabe Hall Caretaker - Andrew McCabe

#### **February Lessons and Readers** Sunday 6th February: The Fourth Sunday before Lent

The First Reading - Isaiah 6: 1-8 - Margaret Owens The Psalm - Psalm 138 The Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 - Brian Rutledge The Gospel Reading - Luke 5: 1-11 - The Curate

## Sunday 13th February The Third Sunday before Lent

The First Reading - Jeremiah 17: 5-10 - Linda Corrigan The Psalm - Psalm 1 The Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20 - Brendan McCann The Gospel Reading - Luke 6: 17-26 - Scott Elliott

## Sunday 20th February The Second Sunday before Lent

The First Reading - Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-25 - Liz Robertson The Psalm - Psalm 65 The Second Reading - Revelation 4 - John Graham The Gospel Reading - Luke 8: 22-35 - The Curate

### Sunday 24th February The Sunday before Lent

The First Reading - Exodus 34 : 29-35 - Jim Nixon The Psalm - Psalm 99 The Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4: 2 - Julie Johnston The Gospel Reading - Luke 9: 28-36 - Scott Elliott

#### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

 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 (will resume as soon as allowed)

#### MONDAY

Beavers - 6.30pm - 7.45pm Cubs - 6.30pm - 7.45pm Confirmation Classes - 6.30pm - 7.30pm (November - April) Xplore - 7.00pm - 9.00pm (as arranged) Finance Committee Meeting - 7.30pm - 8.00pm (first Mondays) Select Vestry Meeting - 8.00pm - 9.30pm (first Mondays) Mothers' Union - 8.00pm - 10.00pm (second 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

#### WEDNESDAY

Bowling Club - 10.30am - 12.00 noon Bowling Club - 7.30pm - 10.00pm Choir Practice - 7.30pm - 8.30pm

#### THURSDAY

Messy Church - 4.00pm - 6.00pm (as arranged) Scouts - 6.30pm - 8.00pm Bell Ringing Practice - 7.00pm - 8.00pm

FRIDAY

Xplore Movies - 7.00pm - 9.00pm (as arranged)

#### SATURDAY

Film Club - 7.30pm - 9.00pm (as arranged)

New members are always welcome at any of our organisations!