

The Parish of Enniskillen - Saint Macartin's Cathedral



CATHEDRAL NEWS

May 2022 -

Vol 110



'How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!'
Psalm 84



OUR VISION

Photograph by George Irvine

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

The Parish of Enniskillen Saint Macartin's Cathedral

Vol 110

Page 2

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PARISH READER: Mr Scott Elliott B Th

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The Dean Writes:

Dear Parishioners,

An extract from the Dean's address to his 12th Easter General Vestry (in Enniskillen) as the 28th Rector and 6th Dean of St Macartin's Cathedral.



Covid-19 has rocked the world, this country, and our parish. The very idea that schools and businesses could be closed by the government and churches not allowed to welcome worshippers would have been unthinkable three years ago. Yet we know all too well what has happened and the repercussions across society.

In this parish, we are blessed to have been able to install a webcam, and live broadcasts allowed worship from our church to be broadcast to every corner of the world at a time when very many people were anxious, afraid, or unable to be physically present at services. However, I anticipate that this will pose challenges from here on in trying to encourage anxious parishioners, or parishioners who have just got out of the habit, to return to in-house worship. The same is true of all other church events and organisations. Every organisation will have to work exceptionally hard to try and rebuild or re-energise themselves! Despite all our problems with Covid 19, and all the interlinked complications associated with it, we have had an unbelievable year!

The Cathedral restoration project

Without this beginning there would certainly have been a very different ending – and that beginning was Mr Sam Morrow who very willingly accepted my request to act as Manager of the Restoration Project. The time, patience, understanding and expertise that Sam has given to this project has been well beyond the capabilities of any person – all carried out in his characteristically

The Parish of Enniskillen Saint Macartin's Cathedral

Vol 110

Page 3

calm and gracious manner. How grateful I, the Select Vestry and indeed all our parishioners are of his magnificent achievement!

A sincere thank you to Mrs Hope Kerr for her financial management skills in trying to balance the books in light of an overly optimistic Rector, who tends to push the boat out into deep waters! Her patience, understanding and willingness were greatly appreciated. To complete the Project Management Team, our two Glebe Wardens, Mr George Irvine, and Mr Noel Johnson, who were very helpful and understanding with all the extra demands, and with their hands on approach were at my beck and call on numerous occasions. St Macartin's Cathedral, which dates from the early 1600s, has undergone major restoration work, costing in excess of £550,000, and will reopen for worship on Palm Sunday. The work involved re-roofing, repair of stonework, internal redecoration, a rebuild of the organ, and enhancement of the cathedral precincts.

Curate

We were extremely fortunate and indeed blessed to be able to attract and secure the appointment of the Rev Christopher West. He comes here bringing with him a wealth of experience from previous placements in the Parishes of Killyman and Taney, and previously in the Episcopal Church of Scotland. His knowledge and intellect know no bounds and his personality has already won over the parishioners he has come into contact with. His organisational skills are exceptional, and no doubt will be of assistance as we plan the way ahead into recovery post the Covid damage! We no doubt will be blessed by his faith, his work, and his witness in this our *Quadracentennial Year*.

Transformations:

In the Parish of Enniskillen, all our church buildings have undergone major transformations within this past ten years - the Deanery, the Cathedral Hall, the Curatage, the Cathedral and also the Graveyard. It is now time that our parishioners should undergo major transformations and become regular worshippers in our beautiful, magnificent House of the Lord – a beautifully transformed and welcoming place for all regardless of any differences.

For many, worshipping God is pure joy. It is a normal part of their lives. God's presence is as familiar and natural as breathing. They come to church enthused about worshipping God and being with His people. David speaks of this in Psalm 84. This Psalm was apparently written when David was forced to leave Jerusalem during Absalom's rebellion, and David was distressed about leaving God's house. David had a strong desire for God's House - "How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!" (Verse 1).

Today, more than anything else we need God's presence. Worship provides strength for the day - "Blessed are those whose strength is in you" (verse 4). We gain strength from God's presence and fellowship with His people. The

more you desire to come to the house of worship, the stronger you will become. Conversely, the more you stay away, the weaker you become. There is nothing mystical or magical about that. It is a fact of life. Worship is not just a spiritual "warmer" on Sunday morning. It is God's people actively responding to him. Worship is not a spectator sport. Worship is not something done to us or for us, but by us. Time spent daily in worship with the Lord strengthens your inner spiritual being. Be faithful to the Lord and His church and watch yourself become strengthened spiritually.

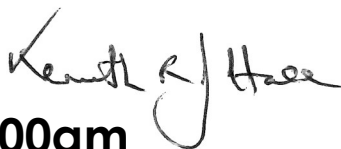
Thanks

The best way to manage a parish especially one like this Cathedral Parish, is to have an abundance of good leaders. Having a great team of helpers is the key to success. On my calculations there are over 200 parishioners involved in many different roles/duties and it would be impossible to name all without omitting some so thank you to one and all for your support, and if others do not know what you do God does and that is all that matters. Quietly working and witnessing for him.

Finally, can I say a word of personal thanks for the friendship and support which I continue receive from all of you. It is my joy and privilege to serve you here in St Macartin's and together to serve and glorify Almighty God.

I continue to count it a joy, an honour, and a privilege to serve Him by serving you and keeping **Saint Macartin's at the heart of the Community – Strengthening Commitment, Outreach, Worship and Christian Love.**

Yours very sincerely,



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 mid-week pause and praise with God!

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



The front page cover is a photograph taken by George Irvine during the clean up of the graveyard.

We hope the mother bird has a successful hatch!

Cathedral Official Reopening

The Official Reopening of St Macartin's Cathedral after complete reroofing, repainting and extensive improvements will take place on

**Sunday 15th May 2022
at 7.00pm**

**An invitation is included with this
Cathedral News.
Please attend and invite
family and friends.**



Scott Elliott selected for Ordination Training



The clergy and people of St Macartin's Cathedral wish to express our warmest congratulations to our Parish Reader, Mr Scott Elliott, on the good news of his selection by the Bishops' Advisory Panel for training for ordination. In due course, Scott will begin studying the Master in Theology degree, in conjunction with the Church of Ireland Theological Institute and Trinity College Dublin, which forms the basis of the

training pathway. Scott has been a lifelong member of our cathedral family, being baptised and confirmed here, and has proved to be a very popular member of the Ministry Team in recent years, having served as our Parish Reader since 2021. Parishioners and members of the wider community have appreciated his ministry in leading services, preaching, and visiting, and have enjoyed watching him grow and develop in his faith and vocation. We offer every blessing to Scott as he undertakes his theological studies, and all good wishes as he prepares to embark on this exciting new stage of the journey in his faith and ministry. Many congratulations, once again!

Parochial Registers

Holy Baptism

10th April - Alexandra Poppy Joy Deller

"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

Burial

3rd April - Peter Richard Thomas Mayes
Monalla Road, Ballinamallard.

25th April - William Percival (Percy) Bruce,
58 Rahall Road, Irvinestown.

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



Donations in Lieu of Flowers



The Church can benefit greatly from donations made in lieu of flowers at the time of a death or the anniversary of a death. Please keep this in mind, and we acknowledge with grateful thanks all who have contributed in this way in the past.

Parish Donations

Cathedral Roof Repair Fund

£250 Donation from Erne Flower Arranging Society.

Organ Restoration Fund

£250 Anonymous donation.

£1,000 Anonymous donation, in memory of a loved one.

£100 Donation in lieu of flowers in memory of Mr Peter Mayes from Dr Willie & Mrs Claire Holmes.

£100 Donation from the McKendry family.

£200 Donation from Mrs Georgina Kemp. In memory of her husband Ronnie.

Parish Donations

Redecoration Fund

- £20 Donation from Gordon Armstrong.
£150 Donation from Mr William and Mrs Margaret Burleigh.
£100 Donation from Sandra Schindeler, Canada.
£500 Donation from Miss Stephanie Black.
£10,000 Donation from the Kee and Rowland families in memory of their beloved Shirley, to supply and fit the wooden floor in the Regimental Chapel.
£250 Donation from Mr Alastair and Mrs Doreen Woods.
£2,000 Donation from The Ancient and Most Benevolent Order of the Friendly Brothers of St Patrick (Fermanagh Knot).
£100 Donation from Mr Stephen and Mrs Joy Fletcher.

Choral Scholarships Programme

- £1000 Anonymous donation.

Cathedral Grounds

- £100 Anonymous donation to plant two rowan trees to mark the Queen's Jubilee. (One planted by the Scouting Association).

Regimental Chairs *(donations of £80 towards each chair)*

To be supplied by Anne Carson, Ronnie Carson, Violet Cassidy, Ruby Elliott, Brian Gault, Eleanor Lynn (3), Jean Stinson, Raymond Woods and Violet Vennard.

Chancel Chairs *(donations of £150 towards each chair)*

To be supplied by David Burton, Maureen Farrelly, Mandy Graham, Fred Mitten, Stella Robinson, Gwen Saunders, Ronnie Tiernan (3), Gary White, Johnny Woods and Ruth Young,

These chairs will be acknowledged in the list of gifts for dedication in the June Cathedral News.

The Palm Sunday Procession



Tom the donkey is led by his owner Matthew Hall, followed by parishioners and members of the wider community who processed to Church with the clergy on Sunday 10th April, waving palm branches to mark the beginning of Holy Week and to commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

The Parish of Enniskillen Saint Macartin's Cathedral

Vol 110

Page 9

The Palm Sunday Procession



Cathedral Restoration

The final phase of the cathedral restoration project has now been reached. After the work on the roof and stonework was completed, re-decoration was carried out. This was a complex procedure in such a high building. Scaffolding was required so that any internal plasterwork requiring attention could be repaired, and to allow the painters access to all the surfaces. Responsibility for the scaffolding, which took the greater part of two weeks to erect, was undertaken by Mr Harold Graham, and the painting contract was carried out by Ross Scott of Castlederg. The colours chosen were slaked white for the ceiling and stock white for the walls, with the pillars and other structural members being a shade of mushroom. The east and chancel walls have been painted in a distinctive shade of red. Parishioners are delighted with the new colour scheme. The redecoration process was specified and supervised by Mr Chris McCollum, McCollum Con-



The newly decorated
Cathedral.

servation, specialists in the restoration of historic buildings. Other enhancement works undertaken in association with the redecoration included the choir stalls and baptistry. An additional shelf to match the original oak shelving was added to the choir stalls. Lamps, which were custom made, were then fitted on top of the top shelves. These improvements have brought great benefits to the choristers.

Cathedral Restoration



Pot Lamps and extra shelves were fitted to the choir stalls.

Improvements have also been carried out to the baptistry. First of all greater room was created by the removal of the last row of pews. This has enabled the font, in use from 1666, to be moved out slightly from the wall which creates space for the clergy and baptismal parties. A shelf has also been fitted which supports a lit candle and brings added life to this important part of the cathedral. Finally, the words in gold and black lettering: 'I am the light of the world', (John 8:12), have been added.



Cathedral Restoration



The Regimental Chapel has been fitted with a new oak floor. The dividing screen which limited the chapel's seating capacity has been relocated. The chapel can now seat 70 people.

The final phase of the scheme of improvement for the cathedral was the enhancement of access leading to the graveyard and Garden of Remembrance. The limestone chips which covered the walkway round the cathedral have been removed and replaced with attractive gravel. The approach to the path at both front and back of the cathedral has been flagged with natural sandstone.



Newly flagged and gravel path at the south side of the Cathedral.



Ivan Hume with Billy Dixon working in the background

Cathedral Restoration

New signage will be erected giving information on the Cole vault and on the area of the graveyard where the graves are unmarked. A major effort has also gone into exposing the flat headstones so that they are more legible. Thank you to all those who helped. There are still a

few graves that need a clean up. If you could help that would be appreciated.

The final item of improvement was the construction of a gravelled pathway leading to the Garden of Remembrance.



Dougie Irvine and Ivan Hume clearing ivy from the approach to the Cole vault. Ernie Vance and Ronnie Lucy in the background.



New path leading to the Garden of Remembrance



Andrew Rogers and Dr Willie Holmes clearing the flat headstones.

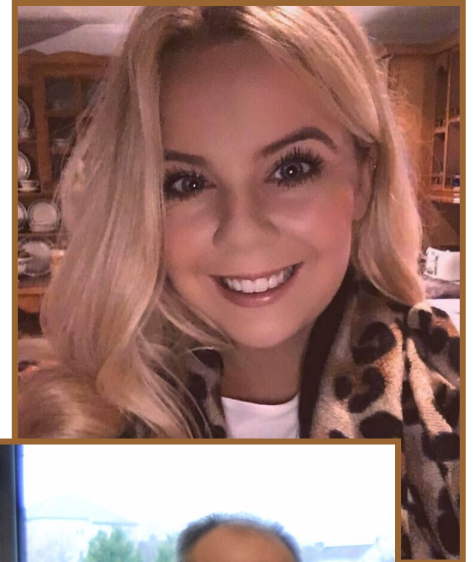
The Dean also rolled up his sleeves and helped with the Cathedral clean up! Thank you to everyone who helped in any way. There are too many to name but you know who you are.



Cathedral Family - The Select Vestry 2022/2023



Left: Nathan Clyde
(Rector's
Churchwarden)



Right: Alanna Williamson
(People's
Churchwarden)



Left: George Irvine
(Rector's
Glebewarden)



Right: Noel Johnston
(People's
Glebewarden)



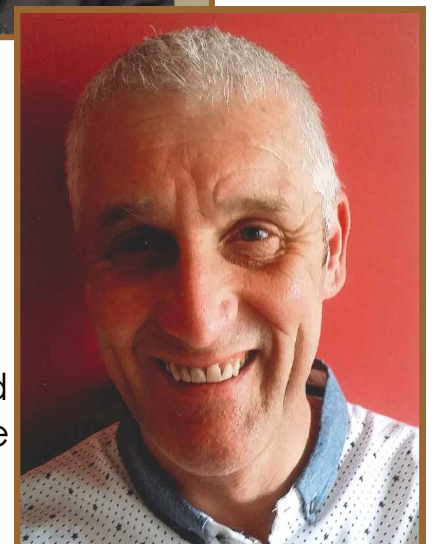
Sam Morrow
(Honorary
Secretary)



Hope Kerr
(Honorary
Treasurer)



David Clarke



Richard
Cochrane

The Parish of Enniskillen Saint Macartin's Cathedral

Vol 110

Page 15

Cathedral Family - The Select Vestry 2022/2023



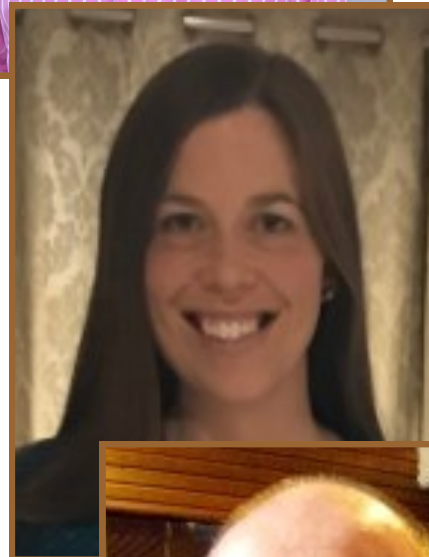
Linda
Corrigan



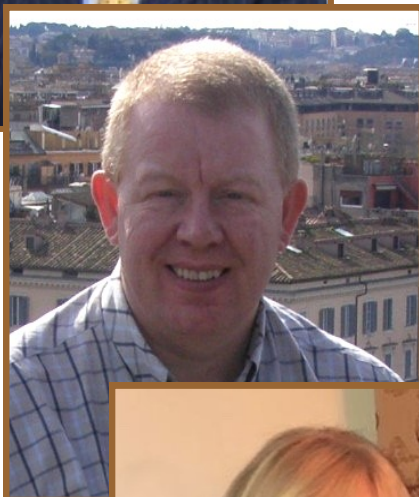
David
Graham



Ivan Kee



Linda
Kingston



Stephen
Richmond



Karl
Saunders

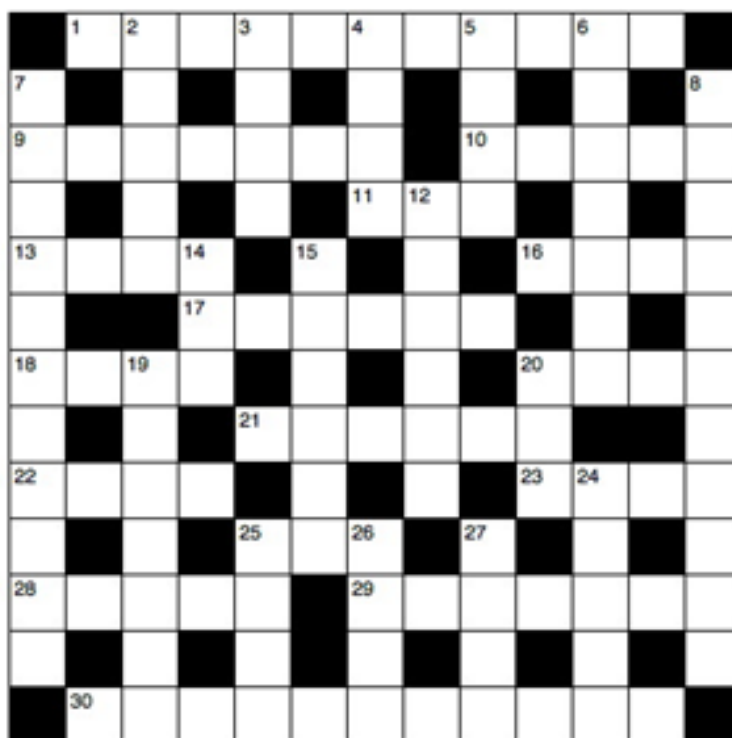
Audrey
Williamson



Johnny
Woods



Crossword



Across

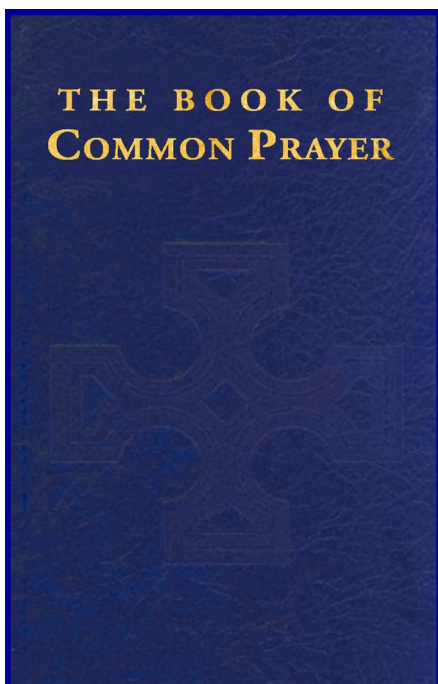
- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus32:27) (5)
- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger(Isaiah 28:7) (4)
- 16 'Anyone,then,who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
- 17 Stir up or provoke(Acts13:50) (6)
- 18 Burden(Luke11:46) (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(Luke23:38) (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)

Crossword

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)

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!

Study on the Holy Communion: Part 3 - "Confession"

In the last edition, we explored the gathering aspect of our eucharistic liturgy. After we gather, the celebrant asks the people to confess their sins. Silence may be kept for reflection before the confession begins. The celebrant then pronounces the forgiveness of God over the people, and an ancient hymn of thanksgiving is sung. It is customary for the celebrant to make the sign of the cross over the people during the Absolution, as it is the sign of our redemption and the means of our forgiveness.



As we are about to offer ourselves to God, we begin with penitence. We know, all too well, that we are not able to stand before God and offer him praise: our failings prevent us. We might echo the words attributed to the prophet Isaiah when faced with a vision of the glory of God: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a

man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" But God asks us to offer those weaknesses to him as well, to confess our sins, so that he may forgive them, and accept us just as we are.

In the words of the confession, we acknowledge our sins of commission ("we have sinned in thought and word and deed") and our sins of omission ("and in what we have left undone"). The message of God's kingdom, I suspect we might find, is that our



greatest sins in God's eyes are those sins of omission – our negative sinning, rather than our positive sinning (as it were): our not loving, our not caring, our not living fully, and so on.

Study on the Holy Communion: Part 3

Having received God's forgiveness, we can then give glory to God who comes among us. The canticle Gloria in Excelsis may be omitted in penitential seasons and on some weekdays which are not holy days; but when we do sing it, we should do so joyfully, celebrating the forgiveness we have been offered in Christ.

The words of Absolution and Gloria in Excelsis remind us that what Jesus reveals about human beings does not begin and end with the fact we are sinners. Yes, we are sinners, utterly dependent on God's grace in Christ; but saying something anti-humanity is not the same thing as saying something pro-God. It is only in the light of the forgiveness of Christ that we know we are sinners. As theologian Stanley Hauerwas once put it, "You only know sin on your way out of it."

Sin should not – and, as the Crucifixion and the Resurrection show us, does not – have the last word. As Oscar Wilde famously said, "The only difference between the saint and the sinner is that every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future." Our past does not define us; and so, we begin our celebration of the Holy Communion by placing it into God's merciful hands. Confessing our sins frees our hearts and minds to hear and receive the good news of God's story (Scripture readings and the sermon) – an aspect of our liturgy which we will explore in the next edition of Cathedral News.



Mothers' Union

There was a good turn out of Mothers' Union members for the church service on Monday of Holy Week. A short meeting followed where Jenifer confirmed some dates for the diary: Overseas Mission money has to be in by 10th May. The outing is to the Killyhevlin Hotel on Tuesday 10th May meeting at 6.30pm.



The Area Service is in Kiltyclogher (Garrison) at 8.00pm on Friday 13th May. Final details will be discussed at the meeting on 10th May.



Mothers' Union

Photographed are some of the knitting and needlework produced by our members throughout the year for the neonatal ward of the SWAH and local Nursing Homes.



Messy Church



Photographs from Messy Church on Maundy Thursday (14th April) held in the Cathedral Hall.

The Way Ahead - Youth

Sunday Lights and Café

After two years of holding activities exclusively online, Sunday Lights and Café began meeting in-person at the beginning of Lent. Sincere thanks are due to Sophie Richmond for producing and uploading sessions onto Google Drive during the lockdowns. Sunday Lights is open to anyone in P1-4 and Sunday Café welcomes children in P5-Year 8. In person meetings started back on the First Sunday in Lent for the 6 weeks prior to Easter. Each Sunday, the children leave for their own activities after the Sunday School Prayer and the singing of a family hymn. Sincere thanks are also due to the leaders who help supervise these sessions and make this vital ministry possible. The first Family Service was held on Sunday 27th March (The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Mothering Sunday), and the second Family Service was held on Sunday 10th April (Palm Sunday). Sunday Lights and Café then went on a break until the end of September. The recommencement of in-person meetings has put good foundations in place for starting back in force after the summer break.



Messy Church

As a result of the restrictions on gathering, Messy Church sessions have also been held online over the past couple of years, with families collecting activity packs from the Cathedral Hall. Sincere thanks are due to Gwyneth Blair, Laura Richmond, and Sophie Richmond for their challenging work in planning and preparing sessions. The online sessions provided an important point of contact for young families. The first in person session of the programme took place on Maundy Thursday with the children exploring the meaning and significance of the Passover. Sincere thanks are due to the people of Leslie's Bakery for their generosity in supplying our Messy Church with hot cross buns!



Confirmation and Xplore

On the 27th April, 24 young people made their Confirmation. The candidates have contributed so thoughtfully and well to the classes on Monday evenings, and have enjoyed exploring the part they might play within the life and mission of the Church. They took part in leading the Service on the Monday in Holy Week. Our youth group, Xplore, is open to all Confirmation candidates and others in Years 9-12. The new programme begins with a trip to an activity centre in Belfast on Saturday 7th May – a trip which has been met with a great deal of excitement and enthusiasm from the Confirmation candidates. This trip will help create a strong bond between the young people, and should act as a good foundation from which to relaunch our youth group.



The Way Ahead - Adults

Pilgrim

Following on from the very high take up of the Pilgrim Lenten Books – 40 days of Reflections on The Creeds by Stephen Croft – we will be starting a new Pilgrim Course in the Autumn looking at 'What is the faith of the Church?' The faith of the Church is revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set

forth in the words of the Apostles' Creed. We would like to promote 'Pilgrim' as a teaching and discipleship resource. Interestingly almost 100 copies of the Pilgrim readings were taken during Lent! Pilgrim aims to help the local church create a place where people can explore the Christian faith together and see how it can be lived out each day. Pilgrim takes a different approach to other Christian programmes. It approaches the great issues of faith not through persuasion, but participation in a pattern of contemplation and discussion with a group of fellow travellers!

We need to live out our Vision: *Saint Macartin's at the heart of the Community – Strengthening Commitment, Outreach, Worship and Christian Love.*



Adult Confirmation

Any adults, who are not already confirmed, and would like to be confirmed please contact the clergy or the Parish Office and a member of the clergy will be in touch.

A service to confirm adults will take place in St Macartin's Cathedral on Ascension Thursday (26th May) at 7.30pm. Adults throughout the Diocese are welcome to be confirmed at this service – please contact the clergy for details.



Answers to Crossword on page 16

ACROSS: 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus.
DOWN: 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Earlobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Oppor-tunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

Congratulations to George



On Saturday 9th April The Scout Association (NI) held their annual St George's Day Awards at Ardnavey Scout Centre in Belfast.

George Irvine from 1st Inniskilling Scout Group was awarded the Bar to the Silver Acorn and the presentation was made by Craig Turple Deputy UK Chief Commissioner (pictured above).

The Bar to the Silver Acorn is the second highest Adult Award in Scouting. George has completed 46 years of service to Scouting, to date.



Knitwits Knitting group

The Knitwits Knitting group recently held an afternoon tea party in the cathedral hall on Saturday 2nd April, to mark the end of their winter activities and announce the winners of the Knitwits Challenge –knitting competition. Three challenges were set this year: (1) a pair of socks (2) a head or neck accessory eg hat, scarf, cowl etc (3) a blanket. The categories were judged by Tracy Whitehead of Ewemomma Hand Dyed yarns and her daughter, Rachel. A very high standard of knitting presented quite a challenge for the judges, but three winners were identified:

Socks - Mavis Fleming

Head or neck accessories - Liz Robertson

Blankets - Jean Ternan.

The Knitwits raised £400 and gave donations of £200 each to two local charities: Friends of Marie Curie and Cancer Connect NI.

The Knitwits Knitting group meets in the cathedral hall on Saturday afternoons in winter from 3.00-5.00pm between September and the end of



March.

Above: Knitwit members make a presentation to Marion Faris from Fermanagh Friends of Marie Curie on 26/03.22.

Knitwits Knitting group



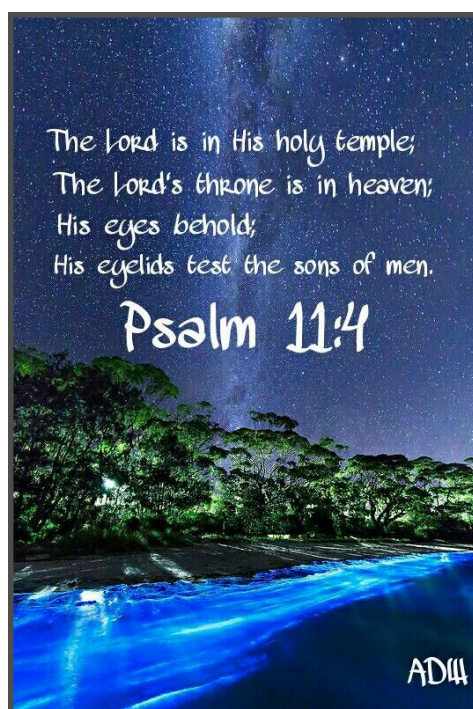
Top: Knitwits presenting a cheque to Breda McGrenahan from Cancer Connect NI (Fermanagh Branch) on 02/04/2022. Above: Mavis Fleming receiving her prize from Claire Holmes (Head Knitwit). Middle right Liz Robertson and bottom right Jean Ternan receive their prizes. Well done ladies!

Psalm 11

In the Lord I take refuge; how can you say to me, 'Flee like a bird to the mountains; for look, the wicked bend the bow, they have fitted their arrow to the string, to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart. If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?' (Verses 1-3).

David presents a picture of utter chaos: constant danger and harsh oppositions, when perhaps the King and his counsellors feel they are being attacked from all sides. He uses the menacing image of hidden archers, ready to shoot their deadly arrows at any moment, to illustrate this. It seems, for David, that the very foundations of the world are shaking. We are no strangers to this kind of personal turmoil: perhaps, for us, it might be sitting in the bus station, or the doctor's waiting room, at the hospital bedside, or a virtual office after a conflict, or an empty flat.

In the Psalm, one suggestion is that the King should flee like a bird to the hills – escape from it all, and leave them to it. But that would mean the very foundations would be destroyed; there would be nothing left to build upon in the future. David determines that the faithful thing to do is to stay put. Sometimes, when facing challenges, we should not run away but stay where we are – to allow grace to work its wonders in its own good time. It is through perseverance that we begin to discover a far greater freedom than we have ever known.



The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven. His eyes behold, his gaze examines humankind. The Lord tests the righteous and the wicked, and his soul hates the lover of violence. On the wicked he will rain coals of fire and sulphur; a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup (Verses 4-6).

David grounds his resolve to stay put, even though that is a difficult thing for him to do, in what he knows about God: God is in control, and nothing escapes his notice. David mentions the 'portion of their cup' in the Psalm. In some Hebrew traditions, there are thought to be two cups: the cup of suffering and the cup of blessing. On the night before Jesus died, Jesus says to the Father: 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass

Psalm 11

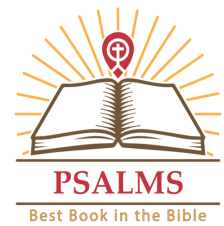
from me; yet not what I want but what you want.' Jesus loves us so much that he goes to the cross; he drinks the cup of suffering, so that we might receive the cup of blessing.



For the Lord is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face (Verse 7).

David longs for what Christians later came to call the 'blessed vision of God'. Saint Paul describes it this way: 'For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.' God has promised that one day, we will see him face to face; we will see the glory and beauty of God in the

face of our Lord Jesus Christ. We will know God then even as he knows us now. We can take refuge in God, just as David says at the beginning of the Psalm.



400th Anniversary History Books



The author
Samuel Boyd Morrow OBE BAgr graduated from Queen's University in 1959. His Civil Service career was in agriculture, finishing as Fermanagh's County Agricultural Officer. In his last two years, before retirement in 1996, he served as Principal of Enniskillen Agricultural College in addition to his role as County Agricultural Officer. His education in Fermanagh was at Clabby Primary School and then Portora Royal School. In his youth he worshipped in St Margaret's Parish Church, Clabby. He has been a member of Enniskillen parish since 1966 and a member of its select vestry since 1968. He has served periods as churchwarden, glebewarden and has been honorary secretary of the select vestry since 1989. He has written four other books, two on agricultural matters and two on church history. Those dealing with church affairs are titled: *The Church of Ireland Parishes of Tempo and Clabby - a Shared Heritage*; and: *Clabby on the Map - The Church of Ireland Parish of Clabby and its People*.

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The cup presented by Edward Devereux in 1622 is still in use as the chalice of St Macartin's Cathedral. The inscription is Latin for 'Portrait of Edward Devereux, Earl of Essex, 1622'. The cup of the Parish Church of Enniskillen, the gift of Edward Devereux, Earl of Essex, 1622.

The book, in 12 chapters, records the establishment and development of the Church of Ireland Parish of Enniskillen and its church, now St Macartin's Cathedral. The church was established as part of the plan for the Plantation of Ulster but it has an inheritance from the ancient Celtic Church. The church building dates from the early 1600s and since then it and its people have experienced many political, social, military and economic challenges. Enniskillen played a major part in supporting King William against the army of King James II. The conflict led to the establishment of two British Army regiments bearing the surnames of the town, Inniskilling and Inniskilling. The cathedral is home for many of the laid up soldiers and memorials of these regiments and within its walls is the Inniskilling Regimental Chapel. In more recent times, St Macartin's Cathedral has made a major contribution in developing community links and has led the most important people in the United Kingdom and in Ireland at acts of worship, remembrance and thanksgiving. Today, St Macartin's is committed to providing a welcoming home to all who are seeking to deepen and develop their spiritual lives and their relationship with God.



St Macartin's Cathedral by Samuel B. Morrow



St Macartin's Cathedral

at the Heart of the Community



Over 400 years of Parish History
by Samuel B. Morrow



Children's Page



Mouse Makes

"Give thanks to the
Lord for He is good,
His love endures
forever"
Psalm 136:1



Jesus said,
"This, then, is how
you should pray:

Our

in -----
hallowed be your

your



come,
your ----- be
done, on
----- as it
is in -----.
Give us this day our
daily -----.
And



us our -----,
as we also have
forgiven our debtors.
And -----
us not into
temptation, but

us from the
----- one."

Read Matthew 6:9-13
to fill in the words.



"Never stop praying."
1 Thessalonians 5:17



"Do not be anxious about
anything, but in every situation,
by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God."
Philippians 4:6

Parish People

Director of Music and Organist - Glenn Moore

Churchwardens - Nathan Clyde and Alanna Williamson

Glebe wardens - George Irvine and Noel Johnston

Select Vestry - David Clarke, Richard Cochrane,

Linda Corrigan, David Graham, Ivan Kee, Hope Kerr (Hon Treasurer), Linda Kingston, Sam Morrow (Hon Secretary), Stephen Richmond, Karl Saunders, Audrey Williamson, Jonathan Woods.

Lay Readers - Karl Saunders and Jack Watson

Verger - Andrew McCabe

Hall Caretaker - Andrew McCabe

May Lessons and Readers

Sunday 1st May: The Third Sunday of Easter

The First Reading - Acts 9: 1-6 - George Irvine

The Psalm - 30

The Second Reading - Revelation 5: 11-14 - Myrtle Irvine

The Gospel Reading - John 21: 1-19 - The Curate

Sunday 8th May: The Fourth Sunday of Easter

The First Reading - Acts 9: 36-43 - Wendy Graham

The Psalm - 23

The Second Reading - Revelation 7: 9-17 - Trevor Stevenson

The Gospel Reading - John 10: 22-30 - Scott Elliott

Guest Preacher Rev Dr Issac Thompson

Sunday 15th May: The Fifth Sunday of Easter

The First Reading - Acts 11: 1-8 - Jeanette Cochrane

The Psalm - Psalm 148

The Second Reading - Revelation 21: 1-6 - Richard Cochrane

The Gospel Reading - John 13: 31-35 - The Curate

Sunday 22nd May: The Sixth Sunday of Easter - Rogation Sunday

The First Reading - Acts 16: 9-15 - Gwen Saunders

The Psalm - Psalm 67

The Second Reading - Revelation 21: 10, 22 - 22: 5 - Brendan McCann

The Gospel Reading - John 14: 23-29 - Scott Elliott

Sunday 29th May: The Seventh Sunday of Easter - Sunday after Ascension

The First Reading - Acts 16: 16-34 - Linda Kingston

The Psalm - Psalm 97: 1-6

The Second Reading - Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21 - Fred Watson

The Gospel Reading - John 17: 20-26 - The Curate

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 - 7.30pm - 9.30pm (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)