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

October 2020 - Vol 96



"Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;"



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

Vol 96

Page 2

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The Dean Writes:

Dear Parishioners,

During this past six months we have probably faced the most difficult circumstances that we have ever faced in our entire lives and now we arrive at a period of thanksgiving! However, no matter what we have been



through it should not prevent us from giving thanks to Almighty God.

The lovely words of praise and faith found in the hymn 'Now Thank We All Our God' would lead us to believe that this hymn was written during a time of victory. Quite the opposite was the case. The Rev Martin Rinkart, a Lutheran priest in Eilenburg, Germany, wrote the hymn during the Thirty Year War which raged in Germany during the 1600s. Plagues raged through the city claiming hundreds of victims. In the midst of misery and pain, the Rev Rinkart wrote sixty hymns of faith and hope. His hymns helped turn the people's eyes from their despair to the power and love of God. The Rev Rinkart encouraged them to look beyond their circumstances to the eternal blessings of God. With this confidence, the Rev Rinkart was able to minister to thousands. In the terrible plague of 1637, other pastors fled or died, and the Rev Rinkart was left alone to bury close to 4500 men, women, and children. Some days he would conduct 45 funerals. As the war drew to a close, Eilenburg was overrun by several armies. At one point, the Swedish army occupied the city, and the general in charge demanded that the people pay a large tribute. On behalf of the people, Rev. Rinkart spoke to the general and begged for mercy. The general was unyielding. Facing possible death, the Rev Rinkart called his companions to kneel and pray. 'Come my children, we can find no mercy with humans; let us take refuge with God.' He led the prayer and the singing of a hymn. Stunned, the general watched. When the Rev Rinkart rose, the general ordered the levy to be reduced, and he spared the city. It was with this faith that he wrote, 'Now Thank We All Our God.'

This story shows us that even in times of hardship and suffering we can give

Vol 96

God thanks, like the Rev Rinkart. No matter what we have been through this past six months or no matter what we will face in the next six months we need to give thanks to God for everything and everyone. The Christian faith affirms that in the midst of everything – in times of high anxiety, in trouble, in loss, in hardship – we are to be thankful to the Lord. Of all we have or receive the most precious thing is that God blesses us with an abundance of love. At this time of the year our Harvest Services present us with a wonderful opportunity to return thanks to Almighty God in a special way. The Harvest Services this year will be very different to previous years, but please make every effort to attend, or join our services on line, and show your appreciation to Almighty God with a donation towards the Cathedral Roof Repair Fund in the Harvest Envelope enclosed with this magazine. If possible please also bring or send donations for Enniskillen Food Bank – see pages 6 and 7).

'Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;'

Wishing you every blessing,

Kenneth RJ Hall

Parish Visiting

Since parish visiting will not be possible for some time yet, I would appeal to parishioners to let us know if you 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.



Thursdays at 11.00am

A Service of Holy Communion is held each Thursday at 11.00am. Those who usually attend the early Sunday morning and Sunday evening services should consider (if not working) attending the Thursday service, as it is much quieter than the 11.00am Sunday morning service. **PLEASE NOTE:** For one week only the Midweek Service will be held on Wednesday 7th October at 11.00am instead of Thursday 8th.

Page 4

Parochial Registers

Holy Baptism

1st August - Alana Sarah Gott

19th September - Jaxon Samuel Fawcett

20th September - Isabelle Jeanette Lowry

"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

Christian Marriage

11th September - Amy Louise Dolan and Ryan James Morrison

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

Christian Burial

20th August –	Colin McClelland Park Manor Oaks, Belfast.
20th August –	Edward James (Jim) Robinson 28 Silverhill Park, Enniskillen.
7th September –	Glenn David Fawcett 31 Cavandale, Enniskillen.
12th September –	Robert Gerald (Gerry) Vennard

Robert Gerald (Gerry) Vennard, 17 Leenagrenagh, Enniskillen.

Cremation

18th September - Jean Follis, 19 Lakeview Park, Enniskillen.

"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 & Repainting Inside Fund

 \pounds 100 Donation in memory of Stewart H Scott from Joyce.

 \pounds 1,000 Donation from the Estate of the late Emma Craig.

£100 Donation from Mr & Mrs Ronnie Noble.

£200 Donation from Gillian Stevenson.

 \pounds 100 Donation in memory of Jim Robinson from Mr & Mrs C Carson.

Fabric Fund

\$100 Donation in memory of Jack Robinson from David Holroyd.

Choral Scholarship Fund

£2,000 Anonymous donation.

If you would like to support our Choral Scholarship Scheme please see page 18.

Installation of Webcam for Live Streaming

£100 Donation from Jack and Susan Spratt.

Confirmation

Confirmation Class 2020

A new date will be given as soon as possible for the eighteen candidates who were to have been confirmed on 15th March.

Adult Confirmation 2020

Those adults who were to have been confirmed on Ascension Thursday will also be confirmed as soon as possible. Any addition adults who wish to be confirmed, should contact the Dean and this can be arranged.

It is likely that both these dates will be in early 2021.

Confirmation Class 2021

A Confirmation service will be held in the spring of 2021 for young people of school year 9 and above. Please email or telephone the Parish Office for an application form and return as soon as possible.



Vol 96

Page 6

Harvest Thanksgiving Celebrations Sunday 11th October at 11.00am Thursday 15th October at 11.00am

Unfortunately this year due to Covid 19 our Harvest Celebrations will be very different. We cannot ask people to spend hours decorating a window or an area of the church that cannot be viewed by others. There will be services on Sunday 11th and Thursday 15th October. The Sunday service will be streamed as usual, and because those in at-



tendance must wear face masks the services will have to be as short as possible! It would be appreciated if some would like to give money for floral decorations for the front of the Cathedral and the porch area. This year parishioners are asked to contribute differently.

We are appealing in two ways:

Donations towards the Cathedral Roof Appeal & Repainting Inside Fund Contributions of food to Enniskillen Food Bank

Cathedral Roof Harvest Appeal:



Jesus said 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.' (Luke 10:2) In Christian service there is no resting, God has work enough for everyone. Don't just sit back and watch others work—look for ways to help. Help practically, prayerfully and financially.

Harvest Time is an opportunity to pause and think of all the goodness God provides for us in our daily living. Many things that are readily at our hands are taken for granted in this day and age, without a thought given to the provider, not to mention the number of things we accumulate or waste.

Here is an opportunity to give thanks to God in appreciation of His goodness to you. You will find enclosed with this Cathedral News a Harvest Appeal envelope. Please contribute what you can financially afford and bring it to church, as you make that extra effort to come to God's House to give thanks for His goodness and loving kindness.

'FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER' – 2nd Corinthians Ch 9 verse 7

Harvest Thanksgiving Celebrations

Enniskillen Food Bank:

In the UK, more than 14 million people are living in poverty – including 4.5 million children. Enniskillen Foodbank was set up under the auspices of the Trussell Trust as one of more than 1,200 food bank centres in the UK that provide a minimum of three days' nutritionally-balanced emergency food to people who have been referred in crisis, as well as support to help people resolve the major difficulties they face. So many people in our community have seen a sudden downward change in their finances during the last few months and we are here to help. The Enniskillen centre caters for the needy not just in the town, but also in the wider Fermanagh area with outlying "pop-up" centres in Irvinestown, Newtownbutler and Rosslea. Our volunteers sort food to check that it's in date and store it ready to be given to people who are referred to food banks in crisis. We partner with a wide range of care professionals such as the Housing Executive, health visitors, social workers and even political organisations such as the DUP and Sinn Fein! All such bodies identify people in crisis and issue food bank vouchers to allow needy people to access emergency food at our foodbank.

During the pandemic, donations from the public and also from large supermarkets have been extra generous and have allowed us to increase enormously the amount of food given out - we even organised deliveries to people living in advisory self-imposed isolation. Demand has now fallen back to pre-lockdown levels and this has allowed us to build up our stocks (rather reminiscent of Joseph preparing for famine in ancient Egypt) in readiness for what will in all probability be a dramatic increase in need as we progress into winter.

We like to adhere as much as possible to a set list of food items, namely, cereals, soup, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, custard/rice pudding, baked beans, tinned spaghetti, Dolmio type sauces/tinned tomatoes, UHT milk, juices, tinned meat and fish, pasta, rice, noodles, biscuits, tea, coffee and snacks, but we also give out baby food, nappies, toiletries and household detergents etc. on request. Financial donations are also most welcome as this gives us flexibility in allowing us to purchase specific items when there are sudden shortages.

We are indeed very grateful for the support from Dean Hall and members of the cathedral congregation in the past and feel that the words of Jesus apply where he said, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' (Matthew 25:40). May God bless you all. Willie Holmes

Vol 96

Page 8

The Cathedral Roof Repairs

The need for work on the cathedral roof was referred to in the September issue of the Cathedral News. Since then the Select Vestry appointed a committee from among its members to consider the project. The commitsubsequently met Mr tee Chris McCollum, a building conservation specialist who has dealt with the restoration of many historic buildings, to discuss what work was required. Mr McCollum had been employed by the Select Vestry in 2018 to produce a preliminary report on the condition of the cathedral. The outcome of the discussion with Mr McCollum was that all of



the roofs re-



Those in worst condition are the two side roofs at either side of the main roof and the chapter room roof. The side roofs and associated valleys are in urgent need. However, it would be foolish to carry out the necessary work on the lower roofs until the higher roofs are put in order. Stonework around some of the windows, including the east window, requires urgent attention. Some of the stone pinnacles are also in poor condition and need to be rebuilt.

Page 9



Window stone failure

It is difficult to know at this stage what this work will cost. Internal decoration alone will be of the order of £30,000. estimates Current indicate that the total it may be of the order of £400,000. More accurate figures will be available when Mr McCollum completes the first phase of his work. All of this means that substantial fund raising will be required to supplement existing reserves to enable the work to be carried out. Details of fund raising proposals are under consideration by the Select Vestry.

The Cathedral Roof Repairs

The Select Vestry at its September meeting considered the recommendation of the committee and decided to appoint Chris McCollum to progress the project. Mr McCollum and his team will first of all produce detailed costings for the different aspects of the work. When these are considered by the Select Vestry it is hoped to give instructions to prepare specifications and invite tenders for carrying out the work. A target date is to have the external work and the internal redecoration completed by early 2022 in time for the 400 year celebrations.



Vol 96

The Battle of Kilmacormick (Cornagrade)

Churchwarden Defends the Town

This engraving of the Battle of Kilmacormick, which took place in July 1689, has recently come to light. It is by the Dutch artist Adriaan Schoonebeek (1657-1705) and can be accessed on the Internet. The parish church can be seen in the background.



Also shown is a fortified gate and drawbridge. A drawbridge was speedily erected in late 1688 to replace the East Bridge as a means of affording better protection for the town. It is doubtful if the fortified gate was as elaborate as that depicted by the artist.

The picture shows the fighting which took place at Kilmacormick between King James' army, led by the Duke of Berwick, and the Enniskilleners, who were defending the town. The Enniskillen force, led by Captain McCormick, was small in number as the main Enniskillen force, under Colonel Lloyd, was on duty in Belleek at that time. King James' soldiers were eventually victorious in this battle but did not proceed to Enniskillen as they retreated to Trillick. Fifty Enniskilleners were killed in the battle and Captain McCormick, with others, was taken prisoner but subsequently released in an exchange of prisoners. Captain McCormick, who led the Enniskillen men, was churchwarden in Enniskillen in 1688.

Vol 96

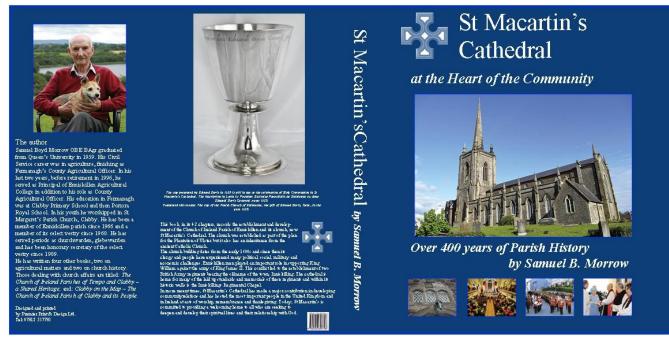
The Battle of Kilmacormick (Cornagrade)



A recently discovered drawing of the Battle of Cornagrade which was won by King James' men led by the Duke of Berwick in 1689 (drawing by a Dutch artist). You will see the church in the background.

Captain McCormick is shown on the Diamond calling the Enniskilleners to defend the town in advance of the Battle of Kilmacormick. The parish church is in the background. This picture is taken from 'The History of Enniskillen' by W.C. Trimble. Unfortunately the drawing was discovered too late to be included in the Cathedral History Book. Thank you to Richard Bennett for sharing it with us.

Cathedral 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 or Christmas presents 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.

Cathedral Family

Rector's Churchwarden - Linda Kingston

Tell us about your early years and your family?

I grew up close to Bawnboy Co. Cavan. I am the youngest in my family. I have one brother and two sisters. I went to Ballyconnell Central National School and then moved onto boarding school where I attended Wilson's Hospital School in Co. Westmeath. I then went to The Church of Ireland College of Education, Rathmines, Co. Dublin and Trinity College Dublin for three years full time and a fourth year part time where I trained to be a Primary School Teacher. My first job was in Holmpatrick National School, Skerries, Co. Dublin where I taught for five years and then I



moved to Drumcorrin National School, Drum, Co. Monaghan where I have been Principal Teacher now since September 2011. I am married to Ross and we live in Tamlaght with our two beautiful daughters, Anna aged 5 and Sadie aged 3.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I really enjoy spending time with my family. We enjoy the outdoors, so we love walking and exploring. We enjoy holidays on St. John's Point, Donegal where we have found some beautiful beaches where we have spent many enjoyable times together. I also enjoy reading and the two books in use at the moment are my Bible and a book by Colin Tinsley called 'No Ordinary Journey'.

Do you enjoy travel and eating out?

I have enjoyed many amazing holidays including New Zealand, Portugal, Lanzarote, and New York. A memorable holiday was our honeymoon where Ross and I went on a Mediterranean Cruise. This was a wonderful experience where we visited many different places like Nice, Naples, Rome, Croatia etc. Since having children, the most popular destination has been Donegal where Anna and Sadie have both enjoyed since there were young. We also take an annual holiday to Skerries in Dublin where I used to live, and I enjoy catching up with friends there. Ross and I met because of travel when we were both part of a church team that travelled to Ohio, America in July 2001. This was a wonderful experience where we worked with Habitat for Humanity in Virginia. We both also travelled to India in 2011 to work in an orphanage for two weeks. Eating out is something I enjoy, and we try to get to some of our favourite restaurants in Enniskillen as often as we can. We also love to go back to The Slieve Russel Hotel where we got married in 2012 to enjoy some fine cuisine there also!

Cathedral Family

What have been your best days?

Our wedding day on 7th July 2012 will be a day that I will cherish forever. Ross and I had such a fabulous day with our family and friends. 20th November 2014 and 3rd February 2017 are special dates also when Anna and Sadie were born, and we became proud parents.

Favourite Hymn?

I have many favourites, but I would choose 'Be Thou My Vision' and 'In Christ Alone'.

People's Churchwarden - Audrey Williamson

Tell us about your early days?

I was born in the Parish of Kinawley and Holy Trinity and attended Derrylin Church. I am the youngest member of a family of seven, four boys and three girls. I have a twin brother Fred who has just joined the Cathedral congregation. My father owned a Sand and Gravel business and my Mum was a housewife. I attended Earl of Erne Primary School and then Lisnaskea Secondary School. On leaving school I joined the family business in the accounts department. I was the Parish Organist for three years before leaving the Parish. **Family?**



In 1980 I married my husband Liam and we

have four children Raymond, Amanda, Alanna and Annie. We have five grandchildren.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I enjoy playing golf and I am a member of Enniskillen and Lough Erne Clubs. I love to travel and have been to Australia, America and around most off Europe where my favourite destination is the Algarve. I also enjoy visiting new restaurants and eating out.

Favourites?

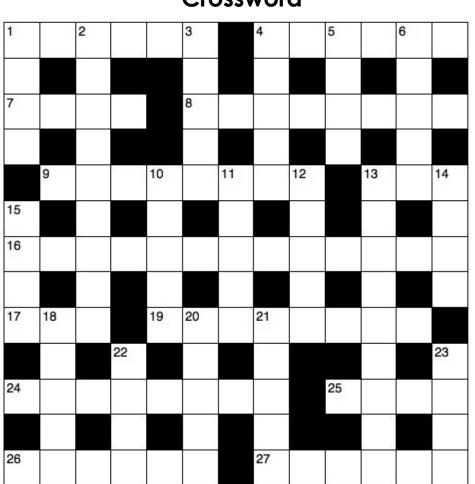
My favourite hymn is `All things bright and beautiful`. I enjoy music from the 60/70`s and my favourite film is `The greatest showman`.

Any Challenges?

I like to set myself small challenges every day and also give my best to anything I am involved in. I hope my time as Churchwarden will be no different and I look forward to my new role.

Vol 96

Page 14



Crossword

Across

1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)

4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10)
(6)

7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)

8 See 19 Across

9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest(Luke 9:46) (8) 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)

16 'He has sent me to bind up the — ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)

17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)

19 and 8 ' — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)

24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)

25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)

26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)

27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a —

!' (John 2:16) (6)

Crossword

Down

1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)

2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had avision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)

3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile inBabylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)

- 4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born '(John 3:3) (5)
- 5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)
- 6 'He encouraged them — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)
- 10 Ruses (anag.) (5)
- 11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)
- 12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)

13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)

14 'This is my - d, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)

- 15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)
- 18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)
- 20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)
- 21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)
- 22 Bats (anag.) (4)

23 'You strain out a - but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

Parish Organisations

Please note that all Parish organisation will be unable to meet again until

they are allowed to do so and all the regulations and guidelines are adhered to. We will

keep you fully informed through the Cathedral News and Pew News.





Youth

"Children are a gift from the Lord" - Psalm 127:3 (ESV)

Sunday Lights + Cafe @ Enniskillen Cathedral

Sunday Lights + Cafe allows our 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 facilitated by our amazing team of leaders. Sunday Lights is open to anyone in P1-5 and Sunday Lights Cafe welcomes children in P6-Year 8. Everyone is welcome and we always love to see new faces!



Both Sunday Lights + Cafe are staying online for the foreseeable future. Weekly sessions will be uploaded to our Children and Youth Google Drive every Friday ahead of service on Sunday. Each session contains a Bible passage, a YouTube video link, some discussion questions for you and your family, an interactive activity idea and short lesson as well as some additional resources. These can be completed at your own pace but make sure to tag us on social media to keep us up to date! Our Google Drive can be found at the following link (this can also be found on our social media pages): https://drive.google.com/drive/ folders/1nDxZoBQus757nWwnLT0g5aNtLLpw5fXC?usp=sharing **Details of how to register for Sunday Lights + Cafe for 2020/21 are on the following page.**

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 of all denominations. **This year Messy Church is going online!** We have created a private Facebook group to share video messages, worship videos, craft instructions, pictures and updates. Packs containing craft supplies will be available to pick up from the Cathedral Hall on specific days (see list opposite). A letter with all these details has been sent to all families on the register last year. New families are always

welcome - please get in touch for more information on how you can get involved!

Messy Church @ Home will be held on the third Thursday of each month. This month's session is on 15th October 2020. A full list of dates for 2020/21 is included on next page.



Youth			
Messy Church Dates 2020/21	Pack Pick-Up Date (4.00-5.00pm)		
15th October 19th November 17th December	12th October 16th November 14th December		
18th February 18th March 15th April	15th February 15th March 12th April		
Please see below for details of how to register for Messy Church @ Home for 2020/21.			

How to Register for Children and Youth @ Enniskillen Cathedral 2020/21

Each child or young person must be registered to participate in an organisation @ Enniskillen Cathedral. Each organisation has a separate form that must be completed. Children may want to participate in more than one organisation, but you must complete a separate registration form. Although we are not meeting in person, it is crucial to register your child so that we can begin in-person meetings once regulations permit.

A copy of each registration form is available:

- On our social media pages and Google Drive
- On the Enniskillen Cathedral website
- From childrenandyouth@enniskillencathedral.com
- From St Macartin's Cathedal Office

All forms must be printed, completed fully and signed by a parent/ guardian. Completed forms should be returned in a sealed envelope addressed to FAO [name of organisation] e.g. FAO Messy Church, to

St Macartin's Cathedral Office Halls Lane, Enniskillen BT74 7DR

For more information, or updates on all things Children and Youth @ Enniskillen Cathedral, please email us at childrenandyouth@enniskillencathedral.com or visit our social media pages.







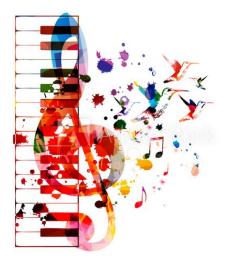
Vol 96

Page 18

Choral Scholarships

If you have the talent and interest, you can help form an integral part of St Macartin's Cathedral Choir, Enniskillen, and benefit from our new choral scholarships.

The Cathedral Choir sings at the weekly Sunday morning service at 11.00am, and occasionally at additional services throughout the year. Once or twice a year the choir visits churches and cathedrals further afield, to sing. Recently these have included St Macartan's Cathedral in Clogher and Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin.



Each year, commencing in September, St Macartin's offers up to eight Choral Scholarships; ideally two of each voice part (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). It is useful, but not essential, for potential Choral Scholars to have relevant experience of singing in a choir, for example a church, school or community choir. For all Scholars, good sightreading skills are desirable. All Scholars are obliged to take lessons from an approved professional vocal tutor of their own choice, or from the Cathedral's designated vocal tutor, Mr David Robert-



son. Application forms can be requested from the Cathedral Office by telephoning 02866322917 or emailing

enniskillen@clogher.anglican.org.

The cost of this programme is £4,000 as the students get £500 each towards the cost of the singing lessons. If you would like to support this very worthy scheme donations would be very welcome.

27, Market. 21, Dream. 22, Stab. 23, Gnat. 21, Dream. 22, Stab. 23, Gnat.

ACROSS: 1, Deacon. 4, Appear. 7, Wits. 8, Heavenly. 9, Argument. 13, Mob. 16, Broken-hearted. 17, Ran. 19, Suddenly. 24, Obstacle. 25, John. 26, Enable.

Vol 96

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:1-12

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God' (Matthew 5:8).

Simon Stylites was a Christian, living in Syria around 400 AD, who wanted to be totally pure in his devotion to God. In order to avoid distractions, he lived in the desert on top of a pillar for 37 years. Now is this what Jesus intended for the *pure in heart*? Does being single-minded for God mean





that our lives

should be dominated by 'Christian' activities, like Bible reading and prayer, and that God isn't really interested in the rest of our lives? To be pure in heart is to make God the number one priority in our lives. When this happens everything else in our lives, including work, leisure, relationships, time, money etc, will fall into place. When our overall aim is pleasing and serving God, we'll find many ways of working this out in practice.

To be pure in heart also means we aim to be completely sincere in all our relationships. In a culture where the pressure to conform is very great, it means living life in an open and honest way, with nothing to hide. This is the way God intends us to live, as we operate from a pure heart before Him. The challenge is relating to others without any hidden agendas, so that 'what you see is what you get'! Jesus promises that God will reveal Himself to the pure in heart and that one day they will see God face to face. Deception blinds us,



while purity opens our eyes to see God.

'Lord, we thy presence seek; may ours this blessing be; give us a pure and lowly heart, a temple meet for thee.' (Hymn 630: Blessed are the pure in heart).

Next month we will look at 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.' (Matthew 5:9).

Page 20

Why should I read the Bible?

The Bible is the world's best-selling book of all time. However, it is not one book, but a library of 66 books, composed by some 44 writers over a period of 1500 years in a range of literature including history, poetry, prophecy, letters and apocalyptic (end times). Despite having a number of different writers, the Bible claims one author: God himself!

This is the basis of the unity of its message and authoritative claim to be the primary way by which God speaks to us: 'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking,

correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work' (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is inspired ('the word of God in the words of humans') and presents itself as a manual for life, equipping us to live for God in every aspect of our lives. We also have the promise of the Holy Spirit to guide us in applying the words to our lives: 'the Spirit will guide you into all truth' (John 16:13). However, the Bible could also be described as a love letter from God, as He uses it to deepen our relationship with him. As Jesus said: 'You diligently study the Scriptures because

you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me' (John 5:39,40). Christians follow a person not a book, and the Scriptures are intended to help us to know Jesus better.

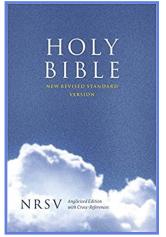
At her coronation the Queen was given a Bible with the words 'the most precious thing this world affords'. Does this reflect our own attitude to the Bible?

Our Daily Bread – 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



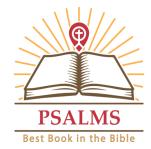




Psalm

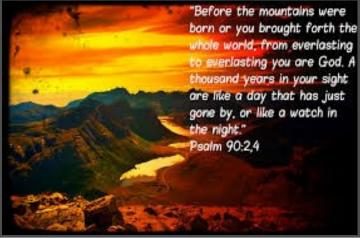
Psalm 90

'War simply aggravates the permanent human situation so that we can no longer ignore it. Human life has always been lived on the edge of a precipice.' (CS Lewis on World War II). Coronavirus powerfully illustrates this, and Psalm 90 demonstrates a



right response to the crisis: 'Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.' (12).

The Shortness of Life



We live as though life will go on forever, but in reality our time on earth is short: 'A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by' (4). By contrast God, who inhabits eternity, sees the whole of history in a single moment. How can we see our lives in the light of God, who is 'from everlasting to everlasting' (2). True wisdom is mak-

ing sure that

we don't waste the time we are given in this life!

The Fragility of Life

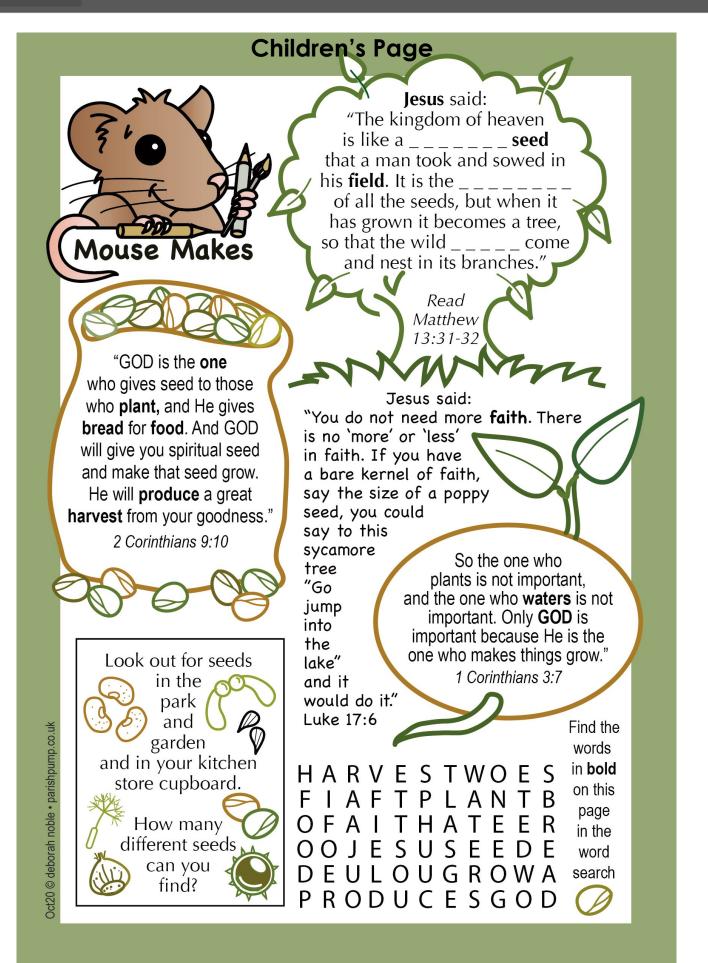
Living to 80 years old is definitely an achievement! We know how we wear out in life until we are dust again: 'You turn people back to dust, saying, 'Return to dust, you mortals.' (3). This is the result of turning from God to sin: 'You have set our iniquities before you' (8). True wisdom warns us not to trust in our own abilities or seek satisfaction in the things of this world. The Love of God

During the pandemic, many have lost loved ones, yet if we allow God's love to take hold of our lives, even death can bring us closer to God: 'Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.' (14). True wisdom is able to ask: 'May the favour of the Lord our God rest on us' (17).



"May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us..." Psalm 90:17, NIV

Vol 96



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 - Jim Kerr, Karl Saunders and Jack Watson

Verger - Andrew McCabe Hall Caretaker - Andrew McCabe

October Lessons

04 October The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity - Harvest Thanksgiving

The First Reading - Isaiah 5: 1-7 The Psalm - Psalm 80: 8-16 The Second Reading - Philippians 3: 4-14 The Gospel Reading - Matthew 21: 33-46

11 October The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

The First Reading - Isaiah 25: 1-9 The Psalm - Psalm 23 The Second Reading - Philippians 4: 1-9 The Gospel Reading - Matthew 22: 1-14

18 October The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

The First Reading - Isaiah 45: 1-7 The Psalm - Psalm 96: 1-9 The Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10 The Gospel Reading - Matthew 22: 15-22

25 October The Fifth Sunday before Advent

The First Reading - Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18 The Psalm - Psalm 1 The Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 The Gospel Reading - Matthew 22: 34-46





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!