Cathedral Church of Saint Columb

HERITAGE • FAITH • BEAUTY

MAGAZINE

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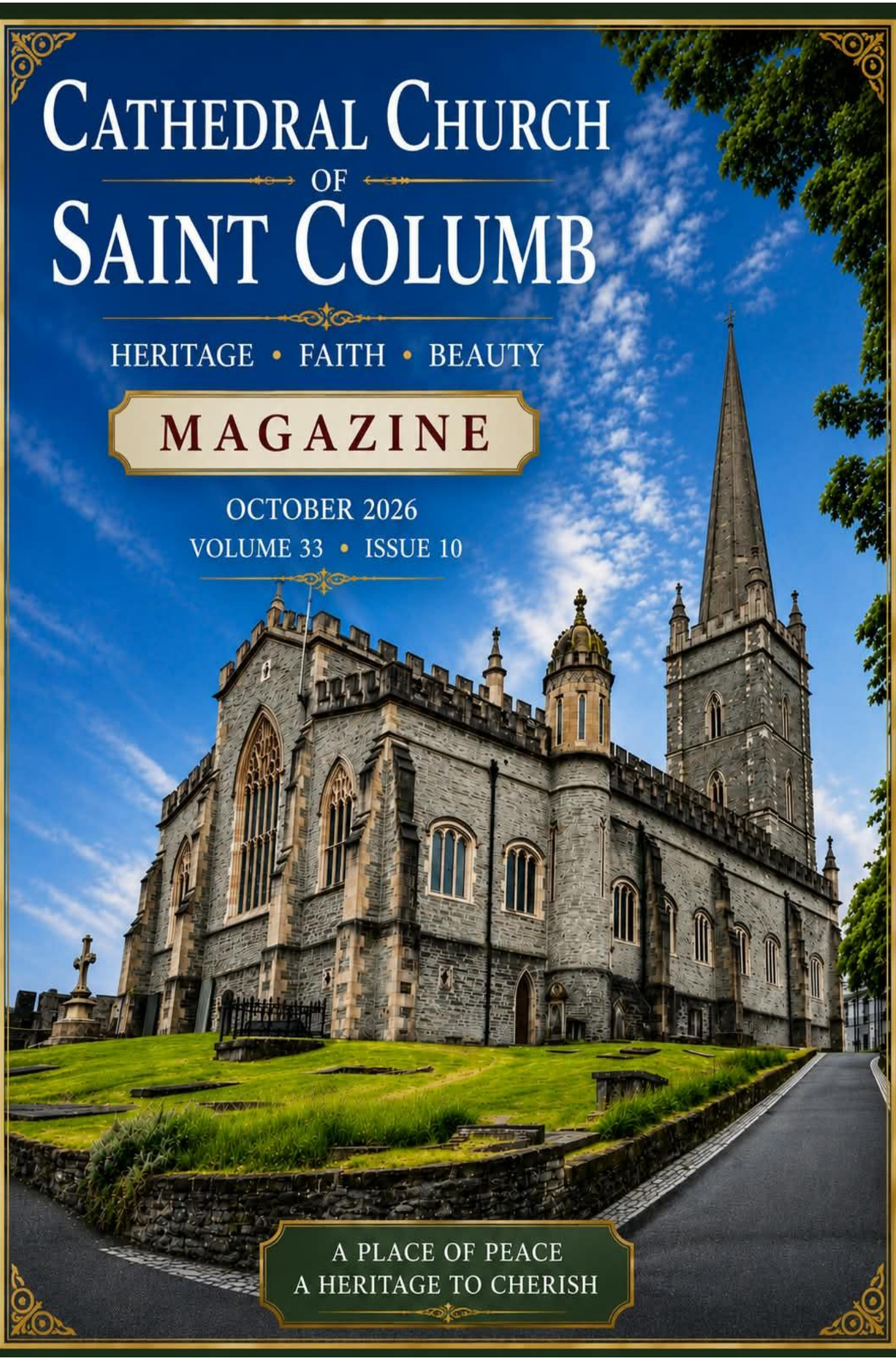


A PLACE OF PEACE
A HERITAGE TO CHERISH

From The Dean …..

As we come to the beginning of another autumn, there is much for which we can give thanks and much to look forward to in the life of our parish grouping.

The conclusion of the tourist season provides a particular opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all those who have given so generously of their time and energy throughout the summer months. The welcome that visitors receive in our churches does not happen by accident. It is made possible by the many volunteers who open our doors, welcome visitors, provide information, keep our churches clean and cared for, assist with music and worship, and undertake the many tasks that often go unnoticed. We are deeply grateful to everyone who has played their part. Your generosity and commitment are a very important part of our witness and ministry, and through you many people from near and far have encountered something of the faith, history and hospitality of this city.

We also have reason to offer our congratulations to the Venerable Robert Boyd on his appointment as the Archdeacon of Derry. It was a particular pleasure to welcome Archdeacon Robert to our parish grouping as the guest preacher on the last Sunday in September. We are delighted that he has been called to this new ministry and assure him of our prayers and good wishes as he begins his work as Archdeacon. We look forward to working with him and to the contribution that he will make to the wider life of the Diocese.

October is always a month filled with thanksgiving and celebration. Our Harvest Thanksgiving services remind us not only of the beauty and abundance of creation but also of our responsibility to care for God's world and to share its resources generously with others. At a time when so much of our attention can be drawn towards what we lack, harvest gives us an opportunity to pause and recognise the many blessings we have actually received.

Donations will be received in the Cathedral on Friday 2nd October, then the first Sunday of October (4th) will be Festival Choral Eucharist. During the service we will have the privilege of dedicating the newly refurbished frontal for the Communion Table. In St Augustine's, harvest thanksgiving will be celebrated through readings, meditations and hymnody for the season. As usual, both churches will be decorated, and gifts will be received gladly.

We are very much looking forward to the City of Derry Choir Festival at the end of the month. Music has always held an important place in the worship and witness of our churches, and it is a pleasure to welcome visiting choirs to the city. On Sunday 25th October, visiting choirs will take part in the services in both churches, adding their voices to our worship and helping us to celebrate the rich choral tradition which is such an important part of our Christian heritage. We hope that many members of our congregations will take the opportunity to come along and support the festival.

As October draws to a close, our thoughts will turn towards two particularly important events on Sunday 1st November. In St Columb's Cathedral there will be a special Choral Evensong marking the 500th anniversary year of the Tyndale Bible. William Tyndale's work in translating the Scriptures into English had an enormous influence on the English-speaking Church, and this anniversary gives us an opportunity to reflect with gratitude on the gift of Scripture and on the importance of being able to hear and read God's Word in a language we can understand – 'read, mark and inwardly digest' as our collect would state. We look forward to welcoming the Venerable David Huss, Archdeacon of Raphoe, as our preacher.

The same evening will also see 'Walk in the Light', an inner-city Christian walk which will stop at a number of our churches. Taking place in the aftermath of Hallowe'en, the walk seeks to re-establish a visible Christian presence in the heart of our city and to remind us that the light of Christ continues to shine in every generation. It is an opportunity for Christians from across the city to come together in prayer, fellowship and witness, and I hope that many from our own parish grouping will be able to take part.

There is therefore much to anticipate in the weeks ahead. Alongside our regular pattern of worship and fellowship, these occasions remind us that the Church is not simply a community which looks back with gratitude, but one which looks forward with hope. Whether through the welcome we offer to visitors, the beauty of our music, the celebration of harvest, the dedication of a treasured piece of our church furnishings, or our witness on the streets of the city, we are called to share the light and love of Christ with those around us.

May God bless our parish grouping throughout this autumn, and may we continue to give thanks for all that has been, while trusting God for all that lies ahead.

The Very Reverend Nigel Cairns
Dean of Derry
Rector of Templemore and St Augustine's

God Views His Blessings as a Ray (Greg Laurie)

"The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."

Proverbs 11:25

Blessed to Be a Blessing

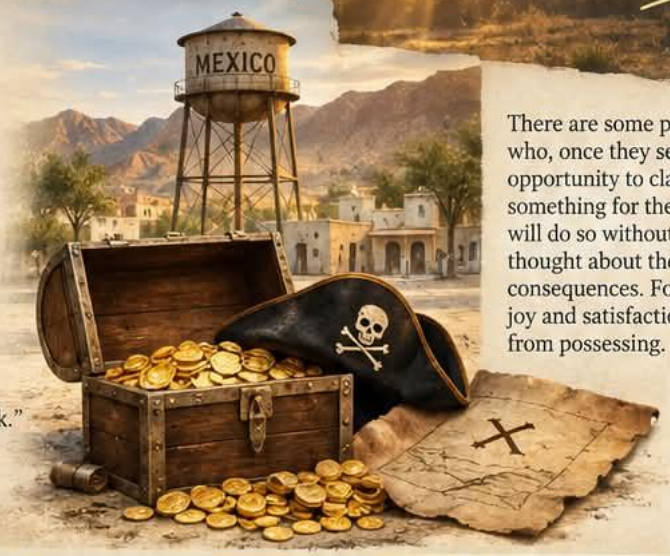
A PIRATE AND A TREASURE

There is a story of an infamous pirate named Juan Carlos who was rumoured to have buried an enormous treasure in a location only he knew.

One day a man approached Juan Carlos in Mexico, pushed him to the ground, and said, "Tell me where all your money is buried, or I will kill you right here on the spot!"

Juan Carlos didn't speak a word of English and needed an interpreter, so he saw a boy nearby and called him over. The boy relayed the man's message to Juan Carlos and, fearing for his life, Juan Carlos said to the boy, "Tell this man I don't want to die. Tell him the money is located thirty paces north of the city water tower, under a large rock."

The boy turned to the man and replied, "Juan Carlos says he is an honourable man and that he will never tell you where the money is. Juan Carlos says kill him now."



There are some people who, once they see an opportunity to claim something for themselves, will do so without a second thought about the consequences. For them, joy and satisfaction come from possessing.

A LINE SEGMENT

OUR VIEW

In geometric terms, they see God's blessings as a line segment with fixed ends. The blessings begin at Point A, with God, and end at Point B, with them.

A — B

A God — B Me

Blessings stop with me.

A RAY

GOD'S VIEW

God, on the other hand, views His blessings as a ray. They begin at Point A, with Him, but then continue indefinitely, through Point B and beyond.

A — B — and beyond

A God — B Me — and beyond

Blessings flow through me to others.

"And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others."

2 CORINTHIANS 9:8 (NLT)

"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full – pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back."

LUKE 6:38 (NLT)

The amazing truth at the heart of these passages is that God blesses us so that we can bless others. Ultimate joy, satisfaction, and fulfilment come not from possessing or hoarding God's blessings but from passing them on to others.

One of the best-known hymns ever written begins with the line, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Flow is the key. His blessings flow to us and then through us to others. God wants us to be part of how He blesses others. When we think only in terms of benefit for ourselves, we block the flow. We become obstacles to the ways He might bless others.

The way for God's people to truly prosper is to be generous. Refreshing others with what God has given us is one of our highest callings.

His blessings flow to us and then through us to others.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How can I get better at blessing others?

LIVE GENEROUSLY.
REFRESH OTHERS.
BE A BLESSING.

BLESSED PEOPLE
BLESS PEOPLE.

sunday school

Sunday School is back and we are delighted to welcome Maisie & Callie into our classes. This year we say farewell as pupils to Ifeoma, Molly, Jamie, Safia, Chisom, Leah & Lillie-Mae but I am delighted that some are staying on as helpers on a rota basis. We now have a healthy 20 pupils which is absolutely fantastic and we will always give a very warm welcome.

Our prize giving celebrated the work of last year and welcomed back some children as well as welcoming for the first time new children. Since our last magazine notes Maisie and Callie have joined us I am sure we will make their time with us enjoyable.

Calendar: Remember our new time of 11:30am, a small collection please and of course very important, your file.

FAMILY SERVICE -

Our family service for September was our Prize Giving, recognising the previous year's work and celebration a new term.

We are thankful to all our families who donate prizes in memory of loved ones, they are much sought after and I can assure you it is a lasting memory for our children who receive these awards.

OUR SPECIAL AWARDS – we thank most sincerely the families who sponsor the prizes they are much sought over by the children these are last year's awards

THE ELLA MOLLOY PRIZE	Casi
THE ETHEL GALLAGHER PRIZE	Safia
THE BETTY McCORKELL PRIZE	Ijeoma
THE PAM MITCHELL PRIZE	Chisom
THE ALEX MOLLOY PRIZE .	Finn
THE WILLIAM DOUGHERTY BROTHERS MEMORIAL PRIZE	Mark
THE NORMA GLENN AWARD	Lillie-Mae
THE TRAFFORD McINTOSH PRIZE	Ben
THE JUNIOR SHIELD	Rylee
THE WILLIAM GALLAGHER SENIOR AWARD	Leah

THE BESSIE BELL CONFIRMATION PRIZE:	Jamie
THE JEAN STANNETT MEMORIAL AWARD	Molly
THE SUPERINTENDENTS AWARD	Mark & Jamie
THE TEACHERS AWARD	Lynsey

BIRTHDAYS- OCTOBER

7th	Happy birthday Casi
13th	Our very own teacher Katie is 21
22nd	Our teacher Sam is 18

Happy special birthdays to everyone I am sure there will be a lot of celebrations in all houses!

Adopt a granny:

Our visits stopped over the summer as not only did I break my foot, followed by illness and so we were only able to visit Etta on her birthday – imagine 102 years of age and the stories she tells are fabulous. We will be resuming our visits in September so don't worry we will be calling. We will be working hard on the Christmas tree for the Festival and of course our Nativity which we know you all love. We currently have 20 children and would warmly welcome any new children. Just let us know. **Irene & the teachers**

ULSTER PROJECT

Our application process for teens for Ulster Project 2027 is now open:
Teens must be 15 on or before 1st July year of travel (2027). Must be available for regular meetings and fundraising events. Ideally teens should have a faith-based background from within the city.
Dates of travel to be confirmed but we are looking at outward Thursday 24th June returning 16th or 23rd July.
Teens will be expected to fundraise.
If you are interested and would like more information please request a fact sheet and application form. Email: ulsterprojectderrylondonderry@outlook.com
Please note: Closing date: 30th September 2026
We do expect to be over subscribed in applications for the limited number of places we have and interviews will be held.
Our applications are open for leaders for Ulster Project 2027
We are currently recruiting leaders male & female. Leaders must be 21 years minimum age, available for regular meetings, fundraising events and safeguarding trust training.
Ideally candidates should have a faith-based background from within the city.
Successful candidates will be Access NI checked.
Dates of travel to be confirmed but we are looking at outward Thursday 24th June returning 16th or 23rd July.
Leaders will be expected to fundraise towards their own fares and although this is a non-salaried position this will be far outweighed by the experience of Ulster Project.
Fact sheet attached: if interested please email:
ulsterprojectderrylondonderry@outlook.com.

Closing date for application: 30th September. Interviews will be held.

Invitation to
Harvest Lunch

You are warmly invited to a **Soup Lunch** in the Chapter House on **4 OCTOBER.**

Offering an opportunity to reconnect with parishioners after the summer as we begin a new season.

Please give your name to **Muriel** if you can attend to assist with catering arrangements.

Harvest Festival 2026

This is a season for giving thanks for the joyful, colourful beauty of nature around us.

We hope to decorate the Cathedral for our celebrations on **4 OCTOBER 2026** and would greatly appreciate gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables for the display.

Donations may be left in the Cathedral on **FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 2026.**

As part of our thanksgiving, we welcome donations for

Foyle Food Bank.

Food gifts are greatly appreciated, or, if you prefer, cash donations may be given to **Muriel**.

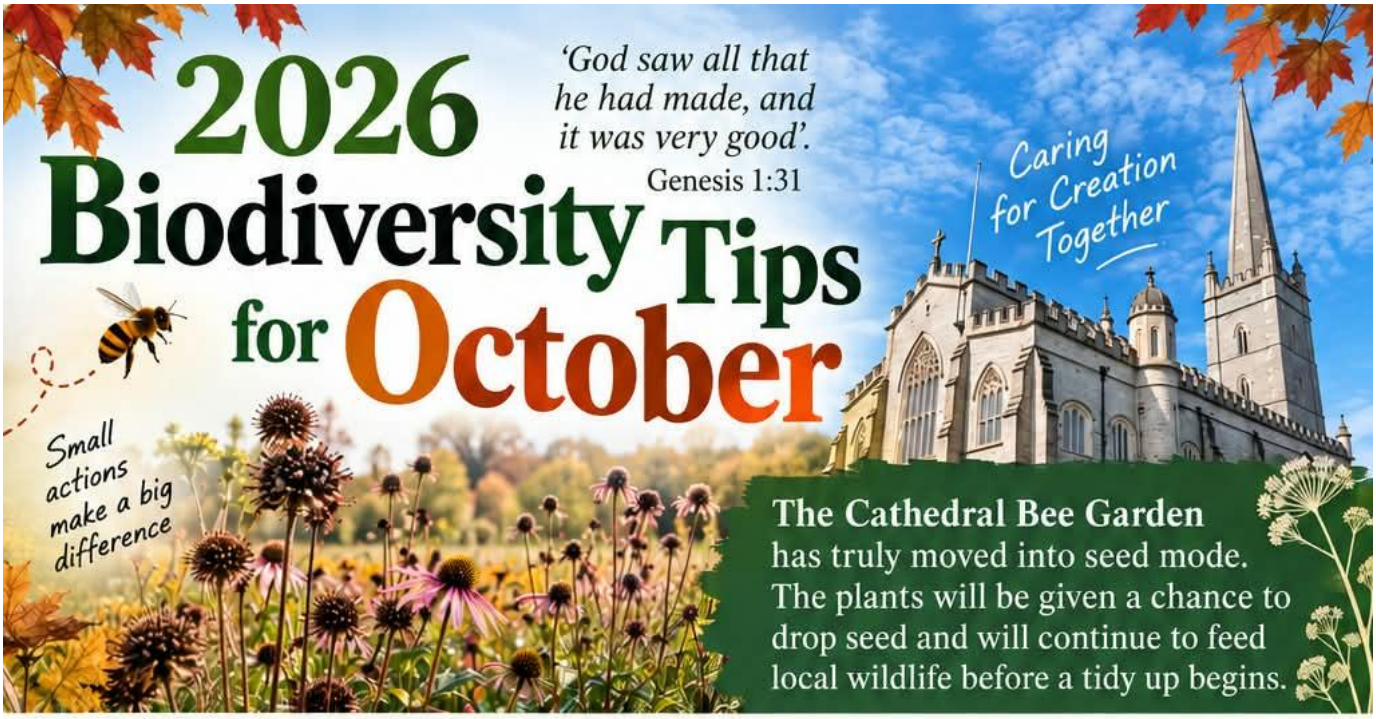
Foyle foodbank

2026 Biodiversity Tips for October

'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good'.
Genesis 1:31

Caring for Creation Together

Small actions make a big difference



The Cathedral Bee Garden has truly moved into seed mode. The plants will be given a chance to drop seed and will continue to feed local wildlife before a tidy up begins.

Pumpkin Tips:

Keep Cool and Dry:
Store uncut pumpkins in a cool, dry area like a shed, garage, or covered porch, away from direct sunlight.

Hold Off on Washing:
Do not wash your pumpkins until you are ready to carve or display them, as moisture accelerates mould and decay.

Plant Native Trees & Shrubs:

October is ideal for planting native species like hawthorn, holly, and rowan to provide food and shelter for birds.

Hawthorn

Holly

Rowan

Divide Perennials:

Split large, overcrowded perennial plants to increase plant diversity and improve plant health.

Provide Water:

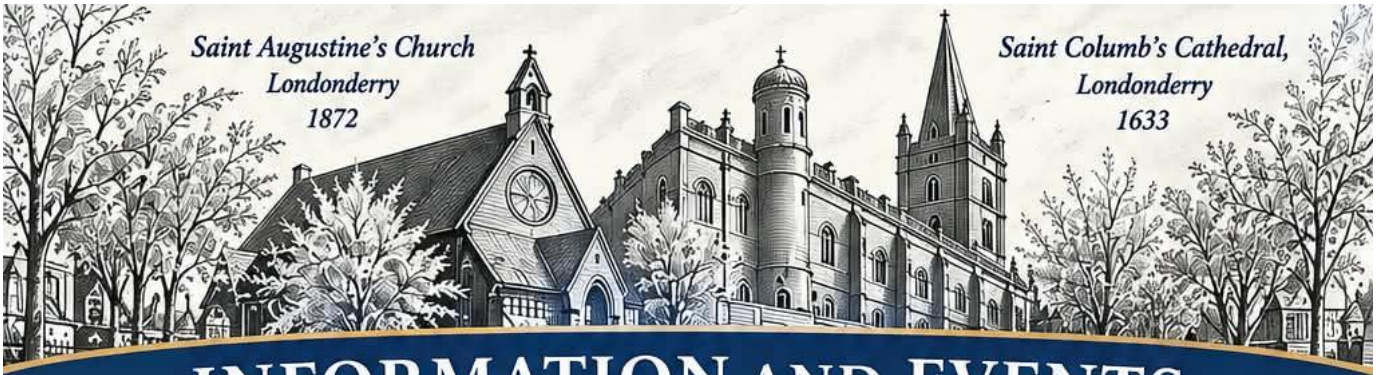
Put out a small dish of water, ensuring to add pebbles for insects to perch on.

Hedges:

Leave berries on hedges for birds like redwings that visit during autumn and winter.

WILDLIFE | HABITAT | PEOPLE | A HEALTHIER, BRIGHTER TOMORROW

God's Creation Our Shared Home



INFORMATION AND EVENTS

ACROSS THE PARISH GROUPING

Two Churches • One Community • Following Christ Together

Friday 2nd	Cathedral Open for harvest donations
Saturday 3rd	Derry and Raphoe Youth (DRY) BIG Restart, Oakfire *(Ask Noel Glen or Irene Hewitt for details)*
Sunday 4th	Choral Festival Eucharist (Cathedral) Soup lunch (Chapter House) – *give names to Muriel* 7.30pm – Bible Study *(St Augustine's Hall)*
Mondays	6.30pm – Prayer Meeting
Monday 5th	7.30pm – St Columb's Cathedral *The Institution of Archdeacon Robert Boyd*
Tuesday 6th	7.30pm – St Columb's Select Vestry, Diocesan Centre
Thursday 8th	7.30pm – 60th Anniversary Service in St Peter's
Saturday 10th	St Augustine's Open for harvest donations
Saturday 10th	7.30pm – The Wonderful Westend (Cathedral) – *tickets available on Eventbrite*
Sunday 11th	Meditations, Readings and Hymns for Harvest – St Augustine's Family Service with Holy Baptism in the *Cathedral* 7.30pm – Bible Study *(last one in this block)*
Monday 12th	10am – Communion service for Diocesan Clergy *(Cathedral)*
Tuesday 13th	11.30am – LEAH Harvest Thanksgiving followed by lunch – *give names to Ivan* 7.30pm – Mothers Union Bring and Buy Sale for Mothers Union Worldwide Projects
Fri & Sat 16th & 17th	St Augustine's – Luminare Presents Sean Keane *(Tickets from Music Capital)*
Sunday 18th	The Sacrament of Infant Baptism – St Augustine's
Monday 19th	6.30pm – Volunteers Dinner, Bishops Gate
Tuesday 20th	7.30pm – Men's Society – Diocesan Centre *Guest Speaker is Prof Aaron Peace DL*
Wednesday 21st	Diocesan Synod
Saturday 24th	12.30pm – Community Choir Concert (Choir Festival) – St Augustine's Fever Up Concerts – *St Columb's Cathedral*
Sunday 25th	Visiting Choirs in both churches
Sunday 1st Nov	2pm – William Jack (Cellist) concert – St Augustine's 4pm – Tyndale 500 Service – *Cathedral* 4pm – City of Londonderry Grand Orange Lodge Service – St Augustine's 5.45pm – Walk in the Light, beginning at Long Tower

Worship | Fellowship | Service | All Are Welcome

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; his love endures for ever."
Psalm 107:1

FAITH
PEOPLE
COMMUNITY
HOPE

Saint Columb's Cathedral
Men's Society

INFORMATION FOR THIS AUTUMN

PROPOSED PROGRAM FOR AUTUMN 2026

All meetings held in the Diocesan Centre at London Street on the Third Tuesday of each month starting 7.30pm with refreshments to follow.

SEPTEMBER 15th	**Speaker - JAMES BUCHANAN** on the Establishment of the Early Shirt Industry of the City.
OCTOBER 20th	**Speaker - AARON PEACE DL** paying a return visit to talk about men's health with an emphasis on Cardiology.
NOVEMBER 12th	**NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND VENUE.** This will be a combined meeting with St Columb's and St Augustine's Men and the First Derry Club and will be held in the **Lecture Hall at First Derry Presbyterian Church** at 7.30pm with refreshments afterwards. **Speaker - CAPTAIN SEAN FITZGERALD** who is husband of the Dean of Raphoe Cathedral. He has had a long career in the merchant navy and will speak of his experiences with Mercy Ships.
DECEMBER Date to be confirmed	December is our pre-Christmas Breakfast which is always most popular with members. Date, venue and cost will be available nearer the time.

NEW MEMBERS are always welcome and please circulate anyone interested in coming along.

ANNUAL FEES - this will be £20 for the year payable to me at the first meeting or earliest opportunity.

Best wishes to you all

William Lynn
Hon. Treasurer

LAUS DEO

Saint Columb's Cathedral

CHOIR

SUNDAY 4TH	**11.30 CHORAL EUCHARIST (order 2)**	
Harvest Sunday	Hymns	37, 25, 80
Boy Choristers and	Setting	Shephard *Wiltshire Setting*
Lay Clerks	Motet	Greene *Thou visitest the Earth*
Boy and Girl	**16.00 CHORAL EVENSONG**	
Choristers	Hymns	43, 47
and Lay Clerks	Responses	Stewart
	Psalm	136: 1-9
	Canticles	Stanford *Evening Canticles in C*
	Anthem	Rutter *All things bright and beautiful*
MONDAY 5TH	**19.30 INSTITUTION OF THE VENERABLE ROBERT BOYD AS ARCHDEACON OF DERRY**	
SUNDAY 11TH	**11.30 FAMILY SERVICE AND THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM**	
19th Sunday		
after Trinity	Hymns	584, 20, 587, 529
Girl Choristers and	Psalm	106: 1-6, 19-23
Lay Clerks	Anthem	Rutter *A Gaelic Blessing*
Cathedral Ensemble	**16.00 COMPLINE**	
	Hymns	66, 589
	Psalm	134
	Nunc Dimittis	Dyson *Nunc Dimittis in C minor*

Dean: The Very Reverend Nigel Cairns *Pastoral Assistant: The Reverend Canon John Merrick*

Service & Music List
October 2026

SUNDAY 18TH	**11.30 CHORAL EUCHARIST (order 1)**	
20th Sunday after Trinity	Hymns	557, 491, 10
Boy Choristers and	Setting	Darke *in F*
Lay Clerks	Motet	Byrd *Ave Verum Corpus*
Lay Clerks	**16.00 CHORAL EVENSONG**	
	Hymns	523, 326
	Responses	Plainsong
	Psalm	142
	Canticles	Lycett *Fauxbourdons*
	Anthem	Wood *View me Lord*
SUNDAY 25TH	**11.30 MORNING PRAYER**	
5th Sunday before Advent	Hymns	6, 343, 634
Fabre Ensemble, Dublin	*with anthems from Fabre Ensemble, Dublin*	
Visiting Choir from 2026		
International City of Derry		
Choir Festival		
	16.30 EVENING PRAYER	

Organist & Director of Music: Mr Nicky Morton *Assistant Organist: Mr Louis Fields*

During the first couple of weeks of September, Louis and I conducted choral workshops at local primary schools, inviting students who impressed us with their singing to participate in a 'Be a Cathedral Chorister for the Day' Event at the Cathedral on Saturday 19th September. This event allowed the children to learn more about the choir, including the commitments involved and the rewards of being a chorister.

Seven boys and three girls attended the event. The day began with an information meeting where parents received details about the commitments required and had the opportunity to ask questions about the choir. After the meeting, the young singers enjoyed a singing workshop, while their parents were given a tour of the Cathedral.

At the end of the workshop, the ten young singers auditioned for places in the Cathedral Choirs. Due to high demand and limited spaces available, we can currently offer positions to only four boys and two girls. Well done to those who successfully auditioned and you can expect to see some new faces in the choir stalls over the coming weeks! For those who have been placed on our waiting list, Louis and I are actively exploring ways to accommodate as many young singers as we can, in a bid to ensure no young singer is left out.

We are excited to announce that the Cathedral Music Department looks forward to appointing two new Scholars. The Philip Mehaffey Organ Scholarship is now back in action, thanks to the generous support of the Mehaffey family. The recipient will receive free organ lessons, opportunities to work with and accompany the Cathedral Choir during services and events, free exam entries, and an experience that will last a lifetime. Louis and I enjoyed catching up with Wendy, who shared that family members will be attending Harvest Sunday for the announcement of the new Organ Scholar.

In addition, we are delighted to introduce a new Music Scholarship established in memory of Mark Fields, generously supported by the Fields Family. This initiative will operate initially for the next three years - affording three lucky Scholars to gain valuable practical experience and training across various aspects of cathedral music, including singing, organ playing, and conducting. The successful candidate will also receive a financial award paid directly to them.

Our Cathedral Choir will take its Halloween break a week earlier than usual. We will be off on Sunday 25th October and return to duty on Sunday 1st November. This adjustment is due to a special service marking the 500th Anniversary of the Tyndale Translation of the Scriptures scheduled for the afternoon of 1st November. Additionally, we will be hosting a visiting choir from the International Derry Choir Festival on 25th October.

Having our Cathedral Choirs back after the summer break has been fantastic and has added an extra dimension to our Sunday services. As we approach the Christmas season, preparations are already underway for what promises to be our busiest period yet.

It’s wonderful to see the Boy and Girl Choristers flourishing, with increased interest and demand from outside of the Cathedral to sing at concerts and events.

We look forward to sharing these joyful moments with you and continuing to celebrate the rich musical life of Saint Columb’s Cathedral.

Nicky

October Bible Readings

Date	Bible Reading	Title
1st October	Matthew 18: 21 – 35	A question and a story
2nd October	Matthew 19 : 1 – 15	Provision for hard hearts
3rd October	Matthew 19 : 16 -30	Reverse order
4th October	Psalm 106	God's loving faithfulness
5th October	2 Kings 22 : 1 – 20	By the Book
6th October	2 Kings 23 : 1 – 18	Heart and soul
7th October	2 Kings 23 : 19 – 30	..... and all his strength
8th October	2 Kings 24 : 8 – 20a	Running on empty
9th October	2 Kings 24 : 20b – 25 :21	A decade of misery
10th October	2 Kings 25 : 22 – 30	The failed experiment
11th October	Psalm 107	His love endures for ever
12th October	Matthew 20 : 1 – 16	Scandalous generosity
13th October	Matthew 20 : 17 -28	"What is it you want ?"
14th October	Matthew 20 : 29 – 34	Open our eyes , Lord
15th October	Matthew 21 : 1 – 11	"Who is this ?"
16th October	Matthew 21 : 12 -17	Passion unfolding
17th October	Matthew 21 : 18 – 27	Figs and fruit
18th October	Psalm 108	Confident of God's promised
19th October	Matthew 21 : 28 – 32	On second thoughts
20th October	Matthew 21 : 33 – 46	The rejected stone
21st October	Matthew 22 : 1 – 14	Choosing a wedding outfit
22nd October	Matthew 22 : 15 -22	Whose image do you bear?
23rd October	Matthew 22 : 23 – 33	Ridiculous questions
24th October	Matthew 22 : 34 – 46	More questions!
25th October	Psalm 109	A person of prayer
26th October	Jeremiah 31 : 1 – 22	The fruits of repentance
27th October	Jeremiah 31 : 27 – 40	If winter comes .....
28th October	Jeremiah 33 : 1 – 26	Vision
29th October	Jeremiah 36 : 1 – 32	"You can't say that ...."
30th October	Jeremiah 38 : 1 – 28	Missing in action
31st October	Jeremiah 39 : 1 – 18	The upside

Readings are taken from Daily Bread brought to us by Scripture Union

Letter received (*9th September*) from Joy Fleming who is the National Director for Northern Ireland.

Dear Canon Mervyn & friends at St Columb's Cathedral,
Thank you for your generosity. Through your wonderful gift of £110.00 you are restoring the lives of people affected by leprosy in Nigeria.
Because of you, Abubakar can begin to rebuild the life he thought he'd lost.
For years he felt so alone, hiding away in a community riddled with fear, just because he had leprosy. But Jesus never passes people by. And neither do you.
Now, Abubakar knows the kindness of the God who loves him. The gentle touch of a nurse. The treatment that makes people whole again. The smiles and everyday moments many of us take for granted. With a growing sense of confidence and joy, Abubakar dreams of returning to work. Finding dignity and belonging in his family and community once more. His eyes sparkle with hope and thankfulness for the thoughtfulness of supporters like you: "Now I still have a future. You have wiped away my tears." And your compassion will help to find and protect other lives touched by leprosy in Nigeria. Breaking down fear. Showing love. Helping people to belong. Thank you for carrying on this Christ-like work.

With a heart full of thankfulness, **Joy Fleming,** National Director
Joy is our National Director. She joined the NI team in April 2025 having previously worked with The Leprosy Mission GB as Deputy Head of Programmes. Joy has a background in biomedical R&D. (The total sent from the Cathedral this year to date is £780.60 received from seventeen parishioners. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause and have not already done so, leprosy boxes are available in the vestibule.)

THE LEPROSY MISSION PRAYER

Almighty Father, the giver of life and health, look mercifully on those who suffer from leprosy. Stretch out your hand to touch and heal them as Jesus did during His earthly life. Grant wisdom and insight to those who are seeking the prevention and cure of the disease. Give skill and sympathy to those who minister to the patients.
Reunite the separated with their family and friends. And inspire your people with the task set before The Leprosy Mission that it may never lack the staff or the means to carry on its healing work in accordance with your will and to the glory of your holy name.
We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Panel continues to meet regularly, and our policies and procedures are compliant with the Safeguarding Trust of the Church of Ireland. Remember if there are any safeguarding concerns, they should be shared with –
For St Augustine's - Mrs Dierdre Amor, Mrs Irene White, Mr Marshall Kilgore, The Dean
For St Columb's – Mrs Elizabeth Fielding, Mr Malcolm Hewitt, The Dean
Additionally, there is a comprehensive suite of Safeguarding and Health & Safety Policies which is available in hard copy, upon request.

Mothers' Union appoints new Chief Executive

MU is delighted to announce the appointment of **Alison Marshall** as Mothers' Union's new Chief Executive. Alison brings more than 30 years of experience in international development, advocacy, campaigning and charity leadership to Mothers' Union. Alison will begin her role in December 2026.

Derry Girls – the growth of the shirt factories

We were delighted to be joined by Dean Nigel and several friends from SALT in St. Augustine's. Margaret Lee and her daughter, Catherine Hamilton, provided a remarkable insight into the transformation of women from the kitchen sink to becoming skilled seamstresses, managers and organisers as the shirt factories thrived throughout the 1900s. In 1922 there were 45 factories in the city employing nine thousand people! A section of the talk was illustrated using some original shirt factory quilts. We also enjoyed the opportunity to try our hand at sewing on a button – possibly not quite up to quality control measures – room for improvement!

MU Worldwide 150th Anniversary – Lighting The Way for Generations To Come

It is an exciting month as 100s of MU members from around the world gather in Durban, South Africa for a special few days of worship, connection, celebration and faith in action. Please pray for Diane White, Jean Thompson and Kathleen Finlay from our diocese - for safety as they travel, fulfilment as they take part and we look forward to their sharing their tales and adventures on their return.

Join MU and Prisons Week in Action & Prayer

This year's theme, "***All Are Invited,*** *there is a place for you,***"** is inspired by the parable of the wedding banquet in Matthew, which reminds us that *'the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with* guests'.

Mothers' Union is one of the sponsors of *Prisons Week* (11-17 October), an annual event that has been running for over 40 years. *Prisons Week* raises awareness and prompts prayer for everyone affected by prisons – including prisoners and their families, victims of crime, staff within the criminal justice system and the many individuals caring for those affected by crime both inside and outside our prisons. For more information, visit www.prisonsweek.org

Locally, through generous funding from the 'Mums In May' Fund, MU has, in recent years, provided 120 books for the children's library in the Visitors' Centre, and supported a creative writing project at Magilligan Prison.

The Prisons Week Prayer

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for everyone in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal anyone who has been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and his Spirit, now and every day. Amen.

Dates for your Diary:

Tues 13 October **Worldwide Evening and Bring & Buy Sale** for MU WW projects

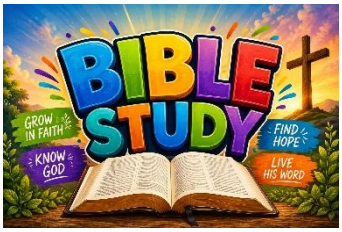
Autumn Diocesan Projects – Emergency hospital wash bag items, neo natal knits and vouchers for Foyle Women's Aid will be collected in October and November.

If you are interested in any of our activities, you are very welcome to come along.

A parting thought for October….

A modern interpretation of the word beautiful – ***BE-YOU- TO-THE-FULL!***

Lord, *'I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.'* Psalm 139:14



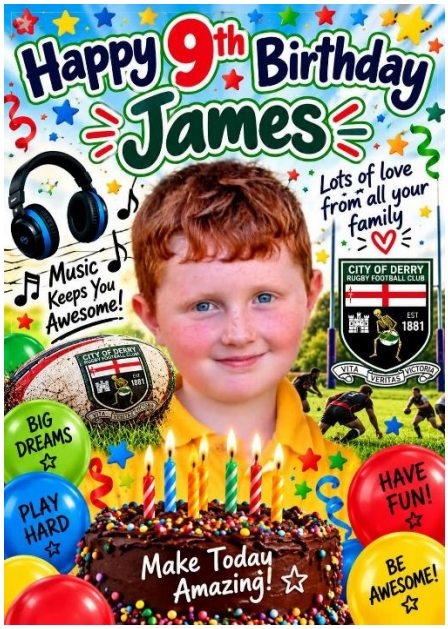
A huge thank you to Bob and Deirdre Amor who have been faithfully leading us through the book of James. There are two more weeks left in this block. It has been a great pleasure learning more about God's word and enjoying the fellowship with some of our neighbouring churches. In October, the Bible Sessions will be on the 4th and 11th .

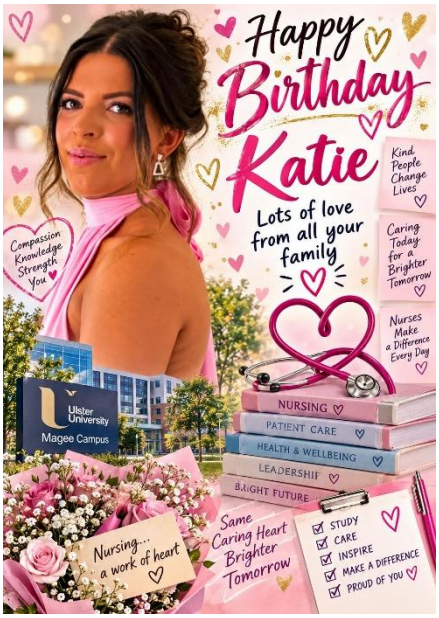
Prayer Meetings (Zoom)

These meetings continue each Monday evening at 6.30pm. If you would like to receive an invitation, please give your name to either Noel Glen or to the Dean.

HOSPITAL / NURSING HOME ADMISSIONS

If you or a relative is admitted to, or discharged from, hospitals or nursing homes please let The Very Reverend Nigel Cairns or The Reverend Canon John Merrick know if you would like a Pastoral Visit. Thank you for your co-operation.





Mark Fields Music Scholarship

It was a great honour and privilege to have the Mark Field's scholarship inaugurated and the associate scholarship medal dedicated on Sunday 13th September 2026. Thanks are accorded to the Fields family for generously sponsoring the scholarship which will provide mutual benefit for the worthy recipient, the Cathedral and the School or Music.

Walk in the Light

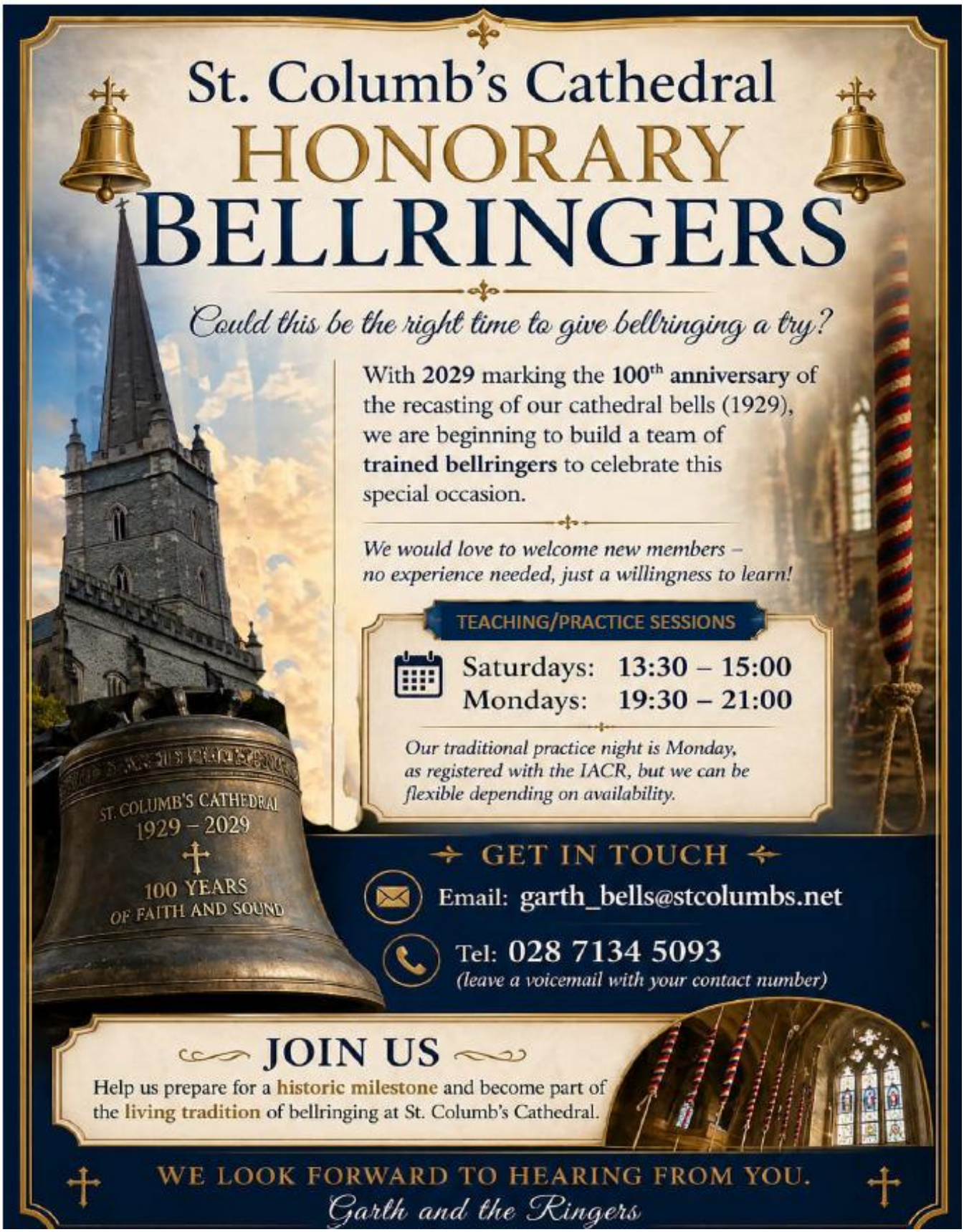
As per the Dean's foreword the Walk in the Light procession will take place on 1st November. It begins at 5.45pm at St Columba's Long Tower, and the route is – Long Tower; First Derry; St Columb's Cathedral; Salvation Army (where there will be light refreshments served)

Congratulations

Congratulations to Archdeacon Robert Miller, Archdeacon of Derry, on his appointment as Chaplain to His Majesty's Chapel Royal at Hampton Court Palace and King's Honorary Chaplain. The occasion provided a wonderful opportunity to thank him for his dedication and service to Saint Columb's Cathedral Choir, both at Evensongs and special services over the years. The Archdeacon joined us once again for Evensong, performed by our Boy Choristers, Girl Choristers, and Lay Clerks.

We were delighted to have the opportunity to take part in the Charles Wood Festival this year as part of the girls' choir, especially since it was the 100th anniversary of Charles Wood. It was a great experience staying at the Royal School of Armagh for the week and getting to work and sing with people from all over Northern Ireland, Ireland, and even Japan, making many new friends throughout. The rehearsals were intense and long but always worth it. Having Christopher Gray as our director, along with Luke Bond and Tingshou - who recently won the NI International Organ Competition - playing for us, made it all worthwhile when we could showcase our hard work in the concerts. We're very grateful that the congregation of St. Columb's Cathedral contributed to us being able to attend the festival by raising a large sum of the money towards it.

Caoimhe, Riley, Ellen, Alice.



THE CATHEDRAL MAGAZINE
Notes and Articles for the November 2026 edition
of the Cathedral Magazine are due by SUNDAY 25th October 2026
THE SELECT VESTRY
A meeting of the Select Vestry will be held in The Diocesan Centre, London Street, on Tuesday 6th October 2026 at 7.30 p.m.

2026 October is Domestic Abuse Awareness Month

October is Domestic Abuse Awareness Month.
It's easy to think of domestic abuse as something that happens to "other people," but the reality is that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6–7 men will experience domestic abuse. It affects people across our churches, workplaces, families, and friendship groups.

Knowing how to support a victim or survivor can be daunting, but equipping ourselves allows us to walk alongside them effectively.

Here are a few key ways you can help:
Share social media posts this October: Check out posts from Restored, Foyle Women's Aid, Women's Aid NI and the Men's Advisory Project (MAPNI) pages.

Become Informed: Learn about domestic abuse and how abusers operate. The Restored Church Guide provides a comprehensive overview to help build understanding.

Listen and Believe: If someone discloses abuse to you, believe them. Reassure them that it is not their fault, not God's will, and that they do not deserve it. It is not your job to verify claims.

Safe Church: St. Columb's Cathedral has *Safe Church* status. There are cards at the back of the cathedral which signpost men and women to NI helpline services.

THE MEN'S ADVISORY PROJECT
FOYLE: (028) 7116 0001
EMAIL: info@mapni.co.uk
www.mapni.co.uk

FOYLE WOMENS AID
FOYLE: 028 7141 6800
EMAIL: info@foylewomensaid.org
www.foylewomensaid.org

Contact the 24 hour **Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline** on **0808 802 1414**.

- **Text support to 07797 805 839**
- **Email 24hrsupport@dvhelpline.org**

Talk to a friend, relative, a colleague, someone you trust.

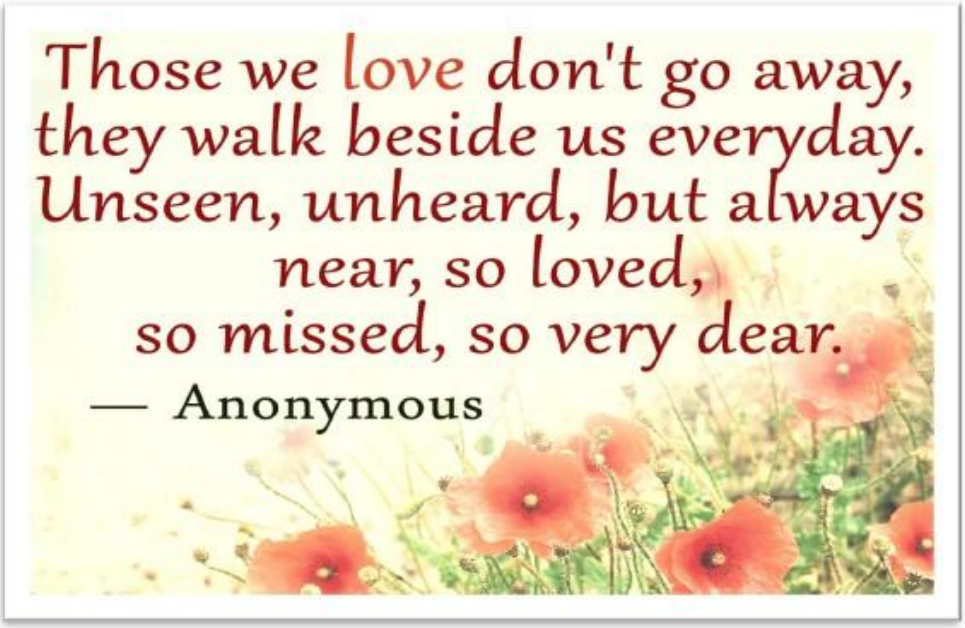
In an emergency – Dial 999
The PSNI are available 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing domestic abuse. If you Dial 999 the emergency services will attend as quickly as possible.
The PSNI also have non-emergency number – 101.

In Memoriam

In memory of our parents Mr & Mrs W W Horwill
From Charmaine & Anthony

In loving memory of our Dad, Lyndsay Moore
From Lynn, Alison & Suzanne

Overall Total £230.00



Parish Register

Holy Baptism

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

26th September - Lottie Carson

Holy Matrimony

"Those whom God hath joined together let no one put asunder."

19th September – Karen Forbes & Jason Holland
26th September – Emma Nutt & William Carson

THE DEAN

The Very Reverend Nigel Cairns
BEd(Hons), PQH(NI), MTh, LLCM, DL
Dean of Derry
Rector of Templemore & Saint Augustine's
The Deanery, 30 Bishop's Street,
Londonderry BT48 6PP
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The Reverend Canon John Merrick
B.A. H.Dip. Ed. D.A.S.E.
Saint Columb's Cathedral
Tel: (028) 7126 7313

WEB SITE

www.stcolumbscathedral.org

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00 am	Holy Communion
11.30 am	Services of Divine Worship
4.00 pm	Evensong

EACH TUESDAY

10.30 am	Holy Communion with Intersessions for the sick

EACH FRIDAY

10.30 am	The Litany

Worship • Fellowship • Service

MUSIC

Organist & Director of Music
Mr Nicky Morton
directorofmusic@stcolumbs.net

Assistant Organist:
Mr Louis Fields

CHURCHWARDENS

Rector's Churchwarden
Mr William Lynn
wlynn_geology@hotmail.com

People's Churchwarden
Miss Muriel Hamilton

FINANCE

Hon Treasurer
Mr Louis Fields
treasurer@stcolumbs.net

Assistant Treasurer
Mr Alan Thompson
12 Torrens Avenue
alan@stcolumbs.net

Miss Muriel Hamilton
28 Lansdowne Road

(All Donations/Thankofferings)

PARISH SECRETARY/ SOCIAL MEDIA

Mrs Linda McGonigle
Parish Office Hours
(Tuesday & Thursday 2pm-5pm)
Out of office hours
linda@stcolumbs.net

HON SECRETARY

Ms Jacqui Armstrong
vestrysecretary@stcolumbs.net

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs Irene Hewitt BEM
irenechewitt@outlook.com

SAFEGUARDING TRUST PANEL MEMBERS

The Very Reverend Nigel Cairns | Mrs Elizabeth Fielding BEM | Mr Malcolm Hewitt MBE

NOVEMBER 2026 MAGAZINE

Notes/Articles for November Magazine are due by 25th October
The publication will be available from 1st November