



# Saint Columb's Cathedral Magazine

December 2023 / January 2024  
Volume 30/31

Issue 12/1



## The Dean writes



### Dear Parishioners and Friends

I see trees of green, Red roses too, I see them bloom for me and you, And I think to myself What a wonderful world.

As I write this letter I am listening to the great singer Louis Armstrong singing these words in his own unmistakable style. And I agree with his sentiments because this is a wonderful, beautiful and good world **because** God made it.

**God saw everything that He had made and, indeed, it was very good.** (Genesis 1: 31).

Yet, for many people the world can be a dark, dismal and depressing place.

So many people, during the past year, have experienced a variety of difficult world, community and personal problems.

Natural disasters, wars, food shortages, financial worries, health issues.

The list could go on and on.

They have faced a long, dark and lonely existence and for many the future does not look bright. At this festive time when many of their peers are celebrating, the poor and the needy hide behind closed doors without food, heating and companionship.

The Christian Message proclaimed over 2,000 years ago still has something to say to all who would listen. It is a message of hope in the Person of Jesus.

Scripture refers to Jesus as **The Light of the World.**

In the Prologue to his Gospel the evangelist John wrote,

**'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it'.** (Saint John 1: 5).

These words do not offer a false hope. Many who have embraced Jesus and His way of life can testify that He has lifted them out of the difficulties of life, given them purpose and hope, and transformed their lives.

Jesus often takes the lives of other Christian individuals and organisations to give hope to those who feel hopeless.

I would encourage you to pray for, and to support, those organisations that seek to shine the light of Christ into the dark places of people's lives this Christmas and beyond.

The Foyle Food Bank and The Bishops' Appeal for World Aid and Development are two groups that come to mind. Support them in whatever ways you can as they seek to support others.

The Christmas Tree Festival in Saint Columb's Cathedral continues to draw a goodly number of people who come to view the spectacular arrangements of trees with sparkling lights.

Those lights brightening up the dark interior of the Cathedral remind us of the message that we share with you this year.

**The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

However dark and dismal and depressing life may be, there is always the promise and assurance of light and hope, peace and joy.

Where Jesus is, these are always to be found and enjoyed.

I wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Yours sincerely

Raymond Stewart

# Confirmation 2024

The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe, will (DV) visit Saint Columb's Cathedral in 2024 to administer The Rite of Confirmation. The date of the Service has been arranged for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024

(The Feast Day of Saint Columba) at 11.00 a.m.

Parishioners (young people and adults) who wish to be presented for Confirmation are asked to give their names to the Dean.

Those who wish to be confirmed –

Must be baptised members of the Church.

Must be 13 years and over in 2024.

## THE BISHOPS' APPEAL FOR WORLD AID AND DEVELOPMENT

The Bishops' Appeal is The Church of Ireland's annual appeal for funds to provide money for emergency relief and for development in countries throughout the world.

The Bishops' Appeal provides financial aid to countries where there have been disasters like famines, flooding, hurricanes or earthquakes (and there have been many such incidents during this year) and it provides financial aid for development.

With this month's issue of the Cathedral Magazine you will receive an envelope for your personal or family contribution to The Bishops' Appeal.

Individuals can contribute through Gift Aid. If you are a UK taxpayer, The Bishops' Appeal can reclaim tax on your donation. For example, if you make a donation of £100 that donation will be worth £125 to The Bishops' Appeal.

**Please complete the details on the reverse side of The Bishops' Appeal envelope if you wish your donation to be treated as Gift Aid. It would be appreciated if you would return your envelope by Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 or as soon as possible after this date.**

Bishops' Appeal envelopes will also be available in the Vestibule of the Cathedral.

*Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of those who are members of my family, you did it to me.*

*Saint Matthew 25: 40*

## VISITING CHOIRS

The Cathedral Choirs had a break on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November, and we welcomed the Organist, Mr Louis Fields, and the Choir of The Parish of Agherton (Portstewart) who attended Choral Eucharist (Order Two) at 11.00 a.m. and Choral Evensong at 4.00 p.m.

The Preacher at the morning service was The Reverend Malcolm Ferry, the Rector of The Parish of Agherton.

The Choir sang the Motets 'Look at the World' by John Rutter and 'Ave Verum' by William Byrd.

At Choral Evensong The Reverend Malcolm Ferry read the Lessons and the Choir sang the Anthem 'Cantique de Jean Racine' by Gabriel Faure.

The Organist at both services was Mr Nicky Morton.

On Remembrance Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, we welcomed to Choral Evensong Cantemus Choir from Coleraine with its Organist / Musical Director Mr Tony Morrison BEM.

The Choir sang the Introit 'How beautiful upon the mountains' by John Stainer and the Anthem 'I was glad' by Hubert Parry. The Organist was Dr Derek Collins.

## CHAPTER NEWS

The Preacher at Choral Matins at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 will be The Reverend Canon Katie McAteer, Pastoral Director, The Grouped Parishes of Christ Church, Londonderry, Culmore, Muff and Saint Peter, Londonderry.



We would like to thank members of Select Vestry for their financial support for the work of the Sunday School and also a big thank you to Shirley & Morris for their very generous donation. Thank you also to Margaret Smith, Etta Dobson, Joanie Lovell, Hollie Olphert, Ray Mace, Gail Ferguson, Lynsey Hewitt and Maurice Brown and Malcolm Hewitt who, when we put a call out to our parents for gifts for our Kidz Corner Stall, sent a donation. Parents also answered the rallying call with items for the Santa Sack Lucky Dip.

I am sure you will all agree that our Christmas Tree which is made from recycled newspaper is looking fantastic and all the teachers and children's names are on each branch.

We thank most sincerely Brian and Pauline Doherty for their help.

We are also working hard on our Nativity Presentation and need full attendance please.

We will have two pieces – Nativity Escape Room and Light Shines Nativity.

I know that you will enjoy them both.

### **Confirmation: Sunday 9th June 2024**

The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe, will (DV) visit Saint Columb's Cathedral in 2024 to administer The Rite of Confirmation.

We have Ewan C, Sean G, Robbie H & Freddie Mcl. I know there will be someone from the Cathedral Girls' Choir joining the classes with Canon John which will commence in March.

### **Calendar dates:**

#### **December 2023**

3rd Sunday School in No 1 St Columb's Court

10th Sunday School in No 1 St Columb's Court

17th **Family Service Nativity**

24th **CHRISTMAS BREAK**

31st **CHRISTMAS BREAK**

#### **January 2024**

7th Sunday School in No 1 St Columb's Court

14th Sunday School in No 1 St Columb's Court

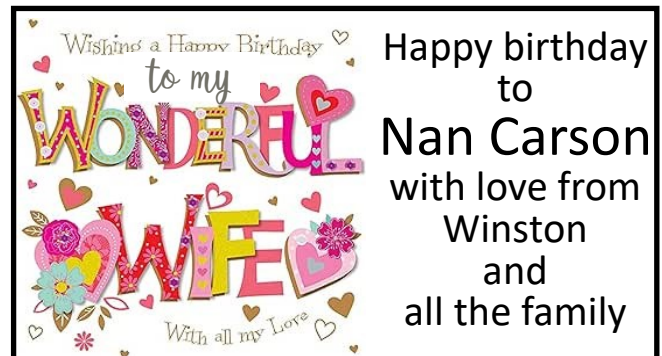
21st Family Service

28th Sunday School in No 1 St Columb's Court **WORLD LEPROSY DAY**

This year has been challenging and I would like to thank all the teachers for their commitment to the Sunday School.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

**Irene & All the Sunday School**



## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

My wife Patricia and our daughter Dione join with me as in wishing you and your family a very Happy Christmas and a very Blessed New Year.



## FOUNTAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Service of Remembrance was held in Fountain Primary School on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. The Dean, Mr James Shiels (Theological Student) and Mr William Lynn (Chairperson of Fountain Primary School Board of Governors) attended the Service that was led by the Principal, Mr Stephen Torney.

A number of the pupils took part in the Service at the end of which Mr James Shiels led a prayer.



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The customary Act of Remembrance was held at The War Memorial in the Diamond on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 10.50 a.m.

The Service was conducted by The Reverend Canon John Merrick.

The Scripture Readings (Micah 4: 1-5 and Saint Matthew 5: 1-12) were read by The Most Reverend Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry and The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe.

Prayers were read by The Reverend Canon John Merrick, The Most Reverend Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry, The Reverend Dr Stephen Skuce, Chairperson of the Northwest Methodist Mission, The Reverend Colin Jones, Minister of First Derry and Monreagh Presbyterian Churches and The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe. The Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral at 11.30 a.m.

The Service was conducted by The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart who preached the Sermon and by The Reverend Canon John Merrick.

Mr James Shiels, Theological Student, led the prayers.

The Scripture readings (Isaiah 2: 1-5 and Saint Matthew 5: 1-12) were read by Mr Ian Crowe MBE DL, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County Borough of Londonderry and by Councillor Jason Barr, Deputy Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council. The wreaths were laid at The War Memorial by Richard Doherty, Ryan McCready and Maurice Brown.

The Service was sung by The Cathedral Choir. The Choir was conducted by Dr Derek Collins. The Organist was Mr Nicky Morton.

On Tuesday 14th November we were pleased to welcome twelve members of the Saint Peter's Group Mothers' Union as our guests for the evening. Our speaker was Joanne Miller who is a Church Army Evangelist, the Bishop's Secretary and the guiding light behind the Outreach Centre in Tullyally that we visited in the

Summer.

Joanne gave an entertaining and informative illustrated presentation showing the many aspects of the great work done by the Centre. These include a cafe, a stay and play group, craft groups, allotments and many more activities which not only bring people together but also benefit many local charities.

Unfortunately the Winter has already taken its toll on our friends. Although Joan Hamilton was not a member of the Mothers' Union, she was a loyal and generous supporter of the Branch. She had also been a valued member and Treasurer of the Widows' Group since its inception and kept us entertained with her reminiscences and good humour.

Maisie Haslett made an immeasurable contribution to Templemore Mothers' Union over the years. She was always there to support, encourage and advise not to mention her superb catering skills. Her inspired creation of the Widows' Group helped many of us through difficult times for which I for one will always be grateful.

She was the embodiment of Mary Sumner's prayer: "All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe or the life I live".

She touched so many lives and made them all brighter. We have lost a loyal supporter, a lovely lady and good friend.

Our Christmas Tree is looking really well. Thanks again to Pauline and Brian and to all who made butterflies, it was a lovely idea to do something we could all be part of.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 12th December in Cathedral House. It will be our Christmas party so hope to see you all there.

**Irene, Margaret & Pauline**

## HOSPITAL / NURSING HOME ADMISSIONS



If you or a relative is admitted to, or discharged from, hospitals or nursing homes please let Dean Raymond Stewart or The Reverend Canon John Merrick know if you would like a Pastoral Visit.

Under Data Protection (GDPR) we **do not** have access to the Hospital Admission Forms, so we can only know that you are a patient in a hospital or a nursing home if the Chaplain notifies us or if you or a relative notifies us. Thank you for your co-operation.

## THE SELECT VESTRY

A meeting of the Select Vestry will be held in Cathedral House, No 1 St Columb's Court on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

## THE CATHEDRAL MAGAZINE

Notes / Articles for the February 2024 issue of the Cathedral magazine are due by Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024



Domestic abuse happens every day of the year, and Christmas Day is no exception. While we are enjoying the fun and festivities, meeting up with family and friends: for others it is a time of anxiety, fear and violence.

On Christmas Day last year there were over *110 incidents of domestic abuse* reported to the Police Service of Northern Ireland, a 10% increase compared to 2021. Later, 106 calls were received on New Year's Eve.

Domestic abuse charities like Women's Aid receive their highest number of referrals in January from women for whom the Christmas season has been a nightmare. And it is expected that this year will be no different. The reasons for the spike in domestic abuse are complex but we know that domestic abuse is made worse by financial pressures, increased use of alcohol and people cooped up together in the house.

Survivors report that the anxiety begins in the run-up to Christmas. Women living with financial abuse and control start planning earlier, to ensure that there are gifts for children and family. This can mean depending on charities such as Women's Aid or borrowing from family members to ensure that Santa's sack is full on Christmas morning and to purchase decorations and food.

Women are often working against a tide of jealousy, possessiveness and control of an abusive partner. Many women hide the gifts for fear that they will be sold by their abuser before Christmas or and smashed up on Christmas Eve in jealous rage.

One woman told Women's Aid about coming downstairs early Christmas morning to find the turkey, ham and other food strewn around the kitchen floor, stamped on and destroyed.

While alcohol is not the cause of domestic abuse, it makes things worse. Families already walking on eggshells around an abuser are facing a time of increased anxiety. More incidents occur when one or both people are drinking and when alcohol is involved the abuse is more severe. Christmas is one of those times of year – along with major sporting events – when there is a sharp rise in domestic abuse.

Meeting with family and friends is a part of Christmas that most people look forward to but often abusers feel threatened by the presence of others. It is not unusual for survivors to relate how they tried to avoid family and friends at Christmas, further isolating themselves.

Christmas is a very emotive time of year and it is a prime time for abusers to pressurise for reconciliation. Survivors relate how they felt under pressure to include their abuser in Christmas celebrations, sometimes for the sake of their children, only to experience further abuse.

Many of the women who contact the police, Women's Aid and other organisations for help, get away and make a new life. It is often a difficult journey, not knowing what the future holds. But one thing they can count on is a peaceful, safe Christmas.

***For support and information please contact;***



Foyle Women's Aid: 028 71416800 for advice, information, emergency accommodation.

Men's Advisory Project: Foyle 028 7116 0001 (9am – 5pm Mon – Fri)



**Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline:**

**0808 802 1414 for 24 hour free/confidential advice for all victims of domestic abuse.**

In an emergency always contact the Police on 999.

**Jo Corcoran**

Senior Support Services Manager, Foyle Women's Aid

## THE REVISION OF THE LIST OF REGISTERED VESTRYPERSONS

A Meeting of the Select Vestry of The Parish of Templemore will be held in Cathedral House, No 1 St Columb's Court on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

One of the items on the Agenda will be The Revision of the List of Registered Vestrypersons. At the meeting the name of any parishioner who has died, or who has left the parish, during the year will be deleted and, hopefully, new names will be added.

Any resident parishioner or accustomed member of the congregation who is eighteen years of age and over may have his/her name added to the List provided that he/she fulfils the following requirements.

**Signs a declaration form that he/she is a member of The Church of Ireland.**

**Is either a resident parishioner or an accustomed member of the congregation.**

Declaration forms will be available in the Cathedral during the month of January.

Please ask the churchwardens (Morris Forbes and Muriel Hamilton) for details.

**Q. What is the List of Registered Vestryperson?**

A. The List of Registered Vestrypersons is the list of the names of parishioners and of people who are accustomed members of the congregation, ie. people who 'belong' to the parish but who live outside of the parish boundaries.

It is from this list that people are appointed and elected at the meeting of The General Vestry, ie. The Annual Meeting of the Parish, held usually after Easter, to serve as churchwardens, glebewardens and members of the Select Vestry.

**Q. To what will I be committing myself if I sign the Declaration Form?**

A. By having your name on the list you will be doing two things.

- (1) You will be entitled to nominate, and elect, parishioners to various offices, and
- (2) you will be able – if you wish – to be nominated for office yourself.

If you have never signed a Declaration Form, or have forgotten that you signed many, many years ago, we can check the List for you.

## THE LONDONDERRY PROTESTANT ORPHAN SOCIETY

At Christmas, when we celebrate the Birth of Jesus, we think about children.

We remember children and young people who have been left without a mother or a father or, in some cases, both parents.

The Londonderry Protestant Orphan Society provides financial assistance to children who live in County Londonderry. **There will be a retiring offering in support of The**

**Londonderry Protestant Orphan Society at Choral Eucharist (Order Two) on Christmas Eve (11.30 p.m.) Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023, at Holy Communion (Order One) (8.00 a.m.) and at Festival Choral Eucharist (Order Two) (11.00 a.m.) on Christmas Day, Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023.**

## SHOEBOX APPEAL

**Thank you to everyone who supported The Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child Appeal.**

14 boxes were donated and this means that 14 needy children will be getting presents this Christmas.

I wish to thank Gordon and Audrey McSparron and Garth Doherty who delivered the boxes for collection.



## THE LEPROSY MISSION NORTHERN IRELAND


World Leprosy Day will be observed on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The year 2024 will have a special significance for The Leprosy Mission in Ireland because, founded in 1874, it will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.

A Family Service will be held in Saint Columb's Cathedral at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

The Speaker will be a Representative of The Leprosy Mission Northern Ireland.



  
FOR  
UNTO US A  
*Child* is born,  
UNTO US A *Son*  
is given; and  
the government will  
be upon his shoulder, and his name  
will be called  
*Wonderful Counselor,*  
MIGHTY GOD  
*Everlasting Father*  
PRINCE OF PEACE  
ISAIAH  
9:6

## CANDLELIGHT ADVENT PROCESSION

We are very much looking forward to the Candlelight Advent Procession on Advent Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023, at 7.30 p.m. This well established and much loved service of readings, hymns and anthems on the theme 'Darkness into Light' is extremely moving and inspirational. The service begins with the Cathedral Choir singing in the Gallery, with the Cathedral in darkness, and then gradually making its way to the Chancel. By the end of the service the Cathedral is fully lit.

## JOINT CAROL SERVICE

The City Centre Churches are holding their Joint Carol Service in Carlisle Road Methodist Church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 p.m. Supper will be served after the service. We would encourage a good attendance. All churches are most welcome.

## THE JOINT EMERGENCY SERVICES NORTHWEST COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

Supported by The Royal Foundation of The Prince and Princess of Wales will be held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 p.m. This Service recognises the work and contribution to society – particularly in the City of Londonderry – of many of the Emergency Services, including Northern Ireland Ambulance Service, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, Foyle Search and Rescue, Police Service of Northern Ireland and Air Ambulance Northern Ireland.

## FESTIVAL SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

will be held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 p.m. This service is the traditional celebration of the Nativity of our Lord in words and music.

## CAROLS OF THE EPIPHANY

At the Service on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 4.00 p.m. we will celebrate the Epiphany in carols, hymns, anthems and readings.

## CONCERT

A Concert with The Ulster Consort (Organist: Tristan Russcher) will be held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 7.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

# Coffee Morning/Sale

We were delighted that the weather was on our side on Saturday with a crisp dry morning. The response to our appeal for scones and tray bakes for the coffee, and cakes for the Cake Stall was extremely generous and gave us great encouragement. Everyone who appeared in the Cathedral last week was informed that "God had sent them" as they were roped into whatever task was outstanding! All those who offered their help were deeply appreciated including those who carried tables up the drive, carried boxes of cups from Cathedral House and those who moved the kidney table. We eventually left the Cathedral at 7.15pm on Friday night with everything ready.

The event raised £1705.34 on Saturday and since then we have had donations and converted euros into sterling, so we are inching up on £2,000.

The breakdown of stalls :

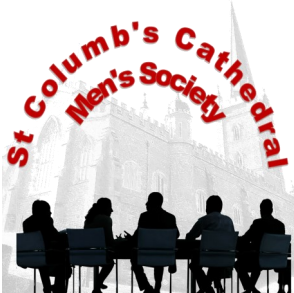
Coffee £527.50	Crafts £207.00	Gifts £77.82	Cakes £326.97
Books £298.00	Kidz Corner £98.60	Tombola £164.00	Donations £90.00

The effort put in by the stall holders at quite short notice was much appreciated. It was lovely to have people visiting the Cathedral, meeting old friends and enjoying coffee and treats in the Chapter House. As usual it was a lot of hard work, but it was all worth the effort to see the pleasure people experienced from the Christmas Tree Festival, the stalls, food, live music with items from a flute ensemble and The Cathedral Girls' Choir. It would not have happened without all of the volunteers who were recruited and who helped serve the coffee and treats, including the men who did a lot of the washing up!

**Doreen and Elizabeth**



The Reverend Andrea Cotter has been appointed Rector of the Parishes of Leckpatrick and Dunalong, succeeding The Reverend Canon Paul Whittaker, who retired last February. The announcement was made at services in both churches, and also in All Saints', Clooney, where The Reverend Cotter has been serving as Curate-Assistant since her ordination as priest there two years ago.



The November meeting of The Men's Society was cancelled as a mark of respect following the passing of long-time member, Percy Hamilton. He will be remembered as a good and reliable friend by many, and his passing is a very sad loss to our membership.

Our last meeting of the year is a Christmas breakfast in the Belfray Country Inn at 10:00am and it is hoped we will have a good turnout for what should be a good social gathering of friends to start the festive season.

The New Year always starts with a dinner and 2024 is no different as we will visit the new hotel at Ebrington Square, details to follow. We will return to Cathedral House on 29<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30pm with our guest speaker, Captain Bill McCann from Foyle Port. Dr Keith Munroe, who was to speak at our November meeting, has been rescheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> March.

On behalf of The Dean, Canon John, William Lynn (Treasurer), and myself, can I wish all our members A Very Happy Christmas and A Peaceful New Year.

**Robert McGonigle**  
Secretary



Friday 22nd December BBC1 7.30pm

## Paula McIntyre's Hamely Christmas

Paula McIntyre cooks up a festive feast in a Hamely Kitchen Christmas special.

22 December 2023

🕒 29 minutes

This Paula McIntyre Hamely Christmas Special will feature Bishop Andrew Forster talking about Cecil Frances Alexander and her writing 'Once In Royal David's City', and include the windows in The Baptistery. It will also feature the Cathedral Girls' Choir singing the hymn against the backdrop of The Christmas Tree Festival. This will be a lovely way to herald in the final days before Christmas so put it in your diary, or better still, put it onto record in case you miss it. It can also be picked up on BBC iPlayer. Paula's new series began on Friday 24th November and will run through to the Christmas Special.



# Bible Readings for December 2023

DAY	READING	THEME
Friday 1	Acts 18	Steady support, wise words (Priscilla and Aquila)
Saturday 2	Philippians 2:25-30	Messengers and meanings (Epaphroditus)
Sunday 3	Ephesians 1:1-10	Part of a bigger story
Monday 4	Ephesians 1:11-14	Marked with a seal
Tuesday 5	Ephesians 1:15-23	Called into upside-down power
Wednesday 6	Ephesians 2:1-10	Saved by scandalous grace
Thursday 7	Acts 11:1-18	Everyone's included
Friday 8	Ephesians 2:11-22	Welcomed into the family
Saturday 9	Ephesians 3:1-6	Heirs of the promise
Sunday 10	Ephesians 3:3-13	God can use anyone to preach his word
Monday 11	Ephesians 3:14-21	Understanding the depth of the love of Christ
Tuesday 12	Romans 8:37-39	No separation from the love of God
Wednesday 13	Ephesians 4:1-6	Make every effort to keep the bond of peace
Thursday 14	Ephesians 4:7-16	Growing to become the mature body of Christ
Friday 15	Ephesians 4:17-24	Take off the old to put on the new
Saturday 16	Ephesians 4:25-32	Your words can be helpful in building others
Sunday 17	Ephesians 5:1-14	Living in the light
Monday 18	1 John 2:7-11	Overcoming hate
Tuesday 19	Ephesians 5:15-21	Advice from John Wesley
Wednesday 20	Ephesians 5:22-33	On the way to Bethlehem
Thursday 21	Ephesians 6:1-9	Different worlds
Friday 22	Ephesians 6:10-17	Going into battle?
Saturday 23	Ephesians 6:18-24	Being fearless
Sunday 24	John 1:1-9	In the beginning was the Word
Monday 25	John 3:16-21	Light has come into the world
Tuesday 26	John 1:10-14	The Word became flesh
Wednesday 27	John 1:29-34	God's Chosen One
Thursday 28	John 1:43-51	The Son of God
Friday 29	John 8:12-19	The light of the world
Saturday 30	John 5:16-27	Life through the Son
Sunday 31	John 14:6-14	The way and the truth and the life

# Bible Readings for January 2024

DAY	READING	THEME
Monday 1	John 1:35-39	What are you looking for?
Tuesday 2	John 1:43-46	Come and see!
Wednesday 3	Matthew 6:25-34	Don't worry
Thursday 4	Lamentations 3:22-26	God's love never ceases
Friday 5	Isaiah 43:1-9	I am with you
Saturday 6	Genesis 9:13-17	A rainbow of hope
Sunday 7	Joel 2:22-25	Nature will awake
Monday 8	Isaiah 35:1-2	Spring flowers are coming
Tuesday 9	Colossians 3:12-17	Being thankful
Wednesday 10	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	Hold on to good
Thursday 11	Ephesians 3:14-21	Grounded in love
Friday 12	Hebrews 12:1-2,12-13	Strengthen your knees!
Saturday 13	1 Peter 1:3-9	A new beginning
Sunday 14	Mark 1:1-15	John's journey to Jesus
Monday 15	Mark 1:16-34	First disciples, first miracles
Tuesday 16	Mark 1:35-45	Prayer, purpose and preaching
Wednesday 17	Mark 2:1-12	Friendship, faith and forgiveness
Thursday 18	Mark 2:13-17	Sinners, sceptics and the Saviour
Friday 19	Mark 2:18-22	Method, message and maturity
Saturday 20	Mark 2:23-28	Pause, perspective and prayer
Sunday 21	Mark 3:1-12	Law or life?
Monday 22	Mark 3:13-19	Team Jesus
Tuesday 23	Mark 3:20-34	A willingness to be misunderstood
Wednesday 24	Mark 4:1-20	Choking
Thursday 25	Mark 4:21-25	The parable of the lamp
Friday 26	Mark 4:26-34	Like a mustard seed
Saturday 27	Mark 4:35-41	Jesus calms the storm
Sunday 28	Isaiah 51:1-3	Abraham, the first of many
Monday 29	1 Samuel 3:1-10	Samuel, called as a child
Tuesday 30	Genesis 7:1-5	Noah, called to serve
Wednesday 31	Amos 7:14-17	Amos, a humble shepherd

## Music List December 2023

Sunday 3  
11am

The First Sunday of Advent  
Choral Eucharist (Order Two)  
The Cathedral Girls' Choir and The Gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir  
Third Communion Service, William Mathias  
Long ago prophets knew, Malcolm Archer

7.30 pm

The Candlelight Advent Procession 'Darkness into Light'  
The Cathedral Choir  
Special Service Order

Sunday 10  
11am

The Second Sunday of Advent  
Choral Matins The Cathedral Choir  
Benedictus in C major, Charles Villiers Stanford  
Never weather-beaten sail, Charles Wood

4pm

Choral Evensong The Cathedral Chamber Choir  
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis Collegium Regale, Herbert Howells  
Expectans, expectavi, Charles Wood

Monday 11  
7.30pm

The Joint Emergency Services Northwest Community  
Carol Service The Cathedral Girls' Choir  
In the bleak midwinter, Harold Darke  
Brightest and best, Malcolm Archer

Sunday 17  
11am

The Third Sunday of Advent  
Sunday School Service The Cathedral Girls' Choir  
Brightest and best, Malcolm Archer

7.30pm

Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols  
The Cathedral Girls' Choir and The Cathedral Choir  
Special Service Order

Sunday 24  
11am

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve  
Choral Matins The Cathedral Choristers  
Gabriel's Message

11.30pm

Choral Eucharist (Order Two) The Cathedral Chamber Choir  
Wiltshire Service, Richard Shephard  
O Holy Night, Adolph Adam

Monday 25  
11am

Christmas Day  
Festival Choral Eucharist (Order Two) The Cathedral Choir  
Festive Eucharist, Noel Rawsthorne  
Sussex Carol, Philip Ledger

Sunday 31  
11.00 a.m.  
11.00 p.m.

The First Sunday of Christmas (New Year's Eve)  
Matins  
Holy Communion (Order One)

## Music List January 2024

Sunday 7  
11am

The First Sunday after the Epiphany  
Choral Eucharist (Order Two)  
The Cathedral Girls' Choir and The Gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir  
Wiltshire Service, Richard Shephard  
A New Year's Carol, Benjamin Britten

4pm

Carols of the Epiphany The Cathedral Chamber Choir  
Special Service Order



<b>Sunday 14</b> 11am	The Second Sunday after the Epiphany Choral Matins The Cathedral Choir Benedictus in C major, Charles Villiers Stanford I heard the voice of Jesus, Richard Shephard	
4pm	Choral Evensong Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in Bb major, Charles Villiers Stanford King of Glory, King of Peace, Charles Wood	The Cathedral Choir
<b>Sunday 21</b> 11am	The Third Sunday after the Epiphany Family Service Litany to The Holy Spirit	The Cathedral Choir
4pm	Choral Evensong with Rite of Holy Baptism Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C minor, George Dyson Love one another, Samuel Sebastian Wesley	The Cathedral Girls' Choir
<b>Sunday 28</b> 11am	The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Choral Matins Jubilate in G major, Derek Collins Lead Me, Lord, Samuel Sebastian Wesley	The Cathedral Choristers
4pm	Evensong Said Service	

## FORTHCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

2.00 p.m. The Service of Thanksgiving to mark the 335<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Shutting of the Gates

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December / The First Sunday of Advent**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Order One) in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel

11.00 a.m. Choral Eucharist (Order Two)

Celebrant and Preacher: The Right Reverend Andrew Forster,  
Bishop of The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe

7.30 p.m. Candlelight Advent Procession / Darkness into Light

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

7.30 p.m. The Joint Emergency Services Northwest Community Carol Service

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December / The Third Sunday of Advent**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Order One) in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel

11.00 a.m. A Family Service with Sunday School Presentation

7.30 p.m. Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December / The Fourth Sunday of Advent (Christmas Eve)**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Order One) in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel

11.00 a.m. Choral Matins

11.30 p.m. Choral Eucharist (Order Two)

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December / Christmas Day**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Order One) with hymns

11.00 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist (Order Two)

Celebrant and Preacher: The Right Reverend Andrew Forster,  
Bishop of The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December / The First Sunday of Christmas (New Year's Eve)**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Order One) in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel

11.00 a.m. Matins

11.00 p.m. Holy Communion (Order One)

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 / The First Sunday after The Epiphany**

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Order One) in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel

11.00 a.m. Choral Eucharist (Order Two)

4.00 p.m. Carols of The Epiphany

# THE DAILY OFFICE

The Daily Office is read in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel,

Monday – Friday, 10-30 a.m.

**Monday: Morning Prayer. Wednesday: Morning Prayer. Thursday: Morning Prayer.**

**Friday: The Litany.**

**The Tuesday morning service of Holy Communion (Order Two)**

**with intercessions for the sick is celebrated in the main aisle of the Cathedral.**

**Holy Communion on Saints' days and holy days**

**is celebrated in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel.**

Those who conduct divine worship would be delighted to have your support.

## Foyle Hospice Volunteer Minibus Drivers Needed

This role will involve transporting patients to and from their homes to our Day Hospice. We are looking for someone who has a friendly and compassionate nature and can spare a few hours each week.

The role will also require you to hold Category D1 on your driving licence and an Enhanced Access NI check will be required.

If you think this is something which interests you or you would like more information, please get in touch with Rachael Osbourne, Volunteer Co-ordinator,

**(028) 7135 1010 or email [rachael@foylehospice.com](mailto:rachael@foylehospice.com)**



### 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.**

### THE CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY PRAYER

May the God of Light shine brightly on the CMSI family, bringing blessing to – and through – staff, volunteers, members, mission personnel and Global Partners.

May the God of Life bring hope and renewal to those living in despair, in the places where CMSI's partners work.

May the God of Love bring healing and transformation to churches and individuals in Ireland as they encounter Him afresh and engage in His work of mission.

May the God of Peace and Justice reign in our world.

May His Kingdom come on earth as in heaven. **Amen.**



## **PARTNERS IN PRAYER**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**The Church of North India (United)**

The Most Reverend Bijaya Kumar Nayak,  
Moderator, The Church of North India (United).

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Dioceses of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

The Representative Church Body of The Church of Ireland  
Staff at Church House, Dublin; Church House, Belfast; and RCB Library, Dublin.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**The Parishes of Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey**

The Venerable David Huss, Rector. Miss Nuala Dudley, Diocesan Reader.

**MISSION FOCUS – THE BIBLE SOCIETY IN MALAWI**

**The local Church informed The Bible Society of Malawi that many families were struggling to read God's Word together.** This problem was especially serious in rural areas where families simply did not have enough money to purchase their own copy of the Bible. The Bible Society of Malawi partnered with the local Church and Scripture Union to produce 'Family Scripture Engagement' packs. Each of them includes a Bible, a Children's Bible and a Bible Reading Guide. This project has been life changing for families – they are able to read the Bible together, understand it and grow in their faith. Over 1,000 homes – most of whom live in extreme poverty – have been impacted by this project to date. The programme was especially vital over the last few years as stay-at-home restrictions prevented families from attending church together. Without their own access to Scripture these families would have been cut off. Nevertheless, it remains a much-needed resource today.

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**The Church of Pakistan (United)**

The Right Reverend Azad Marshall, Moderator, The Church of Pakistan (United)

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**The Parishes of Stranorlar, Meenglass and Kiltreevogue.**

Rector: Vacant

Sunday / weekday duty: The Reverend Mervyn Peoples.

In charge during the vacancy: The Reverend Canon David Crooks, Rural Dean.

**MISSION FOCUS – THE LEPROSY MISSION IN SCOTLAND**

**The Leprosy Mission Scotland is a fundraising team that engages with people and churches across Scotland, giving them the opportunity to eradicate leprosy, one person at a time. Through their love and compassion our supporters will make leprosy a thing of the past. As well as raising funds we believe in raising prayer support from across the country. Give thanks for the many supporters who give and pray to help people affected by leprosy. Pray that God will bless them for their generosity and care for others around the world.**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea**

The Right Reverend Nathan Ingen, Acting Archbishop  
of The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea; Bishop of The Diocese of Aipo Rongo.

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**The Parishes of Convoy, Monellan and Donaghmore**

Rector: Vacant

In charge during the vacancy: The Reverend Canon David Ferry.

**MISSION FOCUS – CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY IN DR CONGO**

**Pray for parishes** who worship in uncompleted church buildings and thank God for the CMSI link parishes who partner with The Diocese of Bukavu to develop these buildings for their communities.

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / CHRISTMAS EVE**

**The Episcopal Church in the Philippines**

The Most Reverend Brent Alawas, Prime Bishop of The Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**The Raphoe Group of Parishes: Saint Eunan's Cathedral, Raphoe,  
Raymochy (Manorcunningham) and Clonleigh (Lifford).**

The Very Reverend Liz Fitzgerald, Rector and Dean.

**MISSION FOCUS – THE LEPROSY MISSION IN NORWAY**

**TLM Norway consists of five volunteers who mainly raise funds for TLM India and TLM Nigeria.**

TLM Norway is the newest Member of TLM's Global Fellowship, having joined in 2021.

TLM Norway was restarted after a 12 year break and we are glad to be maintaining Norway's legacy of leprosy care.

**Praise God** for the start-up of TLM Norway. Pray that He will finish what He has started in helping us to defeat leprosy.

**MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
CHRISTMAS DAY / THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

**TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
THE FEAST DAY OF SAINT STEPHEN**

**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
THE FEAST DAY OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

**THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
THE FEAST DAY OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S EVE**

**Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda (The Anglican Church of Rwanda)**

The Most Reverend Laurent Mbanda, Archbishop of The Anglican Church of Rwanda;  
Bishop of The Diocese of Shyira.

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**Pray for Diocesan Council and associated Boards.**

**Pray for all clergy and lay people who volunteer to serve in this way.**

**MISSION FOCUS – CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY IRELAND**

**Give thanks for Megan Totten (Administration Co-ordinator)** and the positive contribution that she makes to the staff team in her administrative role. Pray for a relaxing time off during Christmas and the New Year, and for renewed stamina and strength for the busy year ahead.

**MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024 / NEW YEAR'S DAY  
THE FEAST DAY OF THE NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS**

**SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024  
THE FEAST DAY OF THE EPIPHANY**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024**  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**The Scottish Episcopal Church**

The Right Reverend Mark Strange, Primus of The Scottish Episcopal Church;  
Bishop of The Dioceses of Moray, Ross and Caithness.

**The Church of Ireland / The Diocese of Armagh**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Dioceses of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**The Church of The Province of South East Asia**

The Most Reverend Melter Jiki Tais, Archbishop of The Church of The Province of South East Asia; Bishop of The Diocese of Sabah.

**The Church of Ireland / The Diocese of Armagh**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> – THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**THE OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**The Church of South India (United)**

The Right Reverend K Reuben Mark, Acting Moderator, The Church of South India (United);  
Bishop in The Diocese of Karimnagar.

**The Church of Ireland / The Diocese of Armagh**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**MISSION FOCUS – CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY IN BURUNDI**

**Give thanks for the church planting initiative in The Diocese of Gitega with 15 new churches currently under construction.** The local Christians invest greatly in outreach and while the initial building work is complete please pray for help to meet the huge outlay on iron sheets for roofing.

**THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**THE FEAST DAY OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024**

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / WORLD LEPROSY DAY**

**The Anglican Church of Southern Africa**

The Most Reverend Dr Thabo Makgoba, Primate of The Anglican Church of Southern Africa;  
Archbishop of The Diocese of Capetown.

**The Church of Ireland / The Diocese of Armagh**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.** The Right Reverend Andrew Forster.

**THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

**THE FEAST DAY OF SAINT BRIGID**

**FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

**THE FEAST DAY OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT / SEXAGESIMA**

**The Anglican Church of South America**

The Right Reverend Brian Williams, Acting Primate of The Anglican Church of South America;  
Bishop of The Diocese of Argentina.

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of The Diocese of Armagh;  
Primate of All Ireland and Metropolitan.

**The Diocese of Clogher.** The Right Reverend Ian Ellis.

## Obituaries .....

### **Albert Percy Hamilton** **18<sup>th</sup> July 1940 – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

We meet on this afternoon in the Cathedral Church of Saint Columb to thank Almighty God for Albert Percy Hamilton, to remember his life, his contribution to his country and society, and to give thanks for the friendship and fellowship that we enjoyed with him.

Albert Percy Hamilton, the son of Albert Percy and Mabel Hamilton of 29 Fountain Place, Londonderry was born on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1940.

He was baptised in this Cathedral Church on 11<sup>th</sup> August 1940 by the Dean, The Very Reverend Richard George Salmon King.

At the time of his birth his father was serving as a Gunner with the 9<sup>th</sup> (Londonderry) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment (Royal Artillery).

It may have been this association with things military that gave Percy a working interest later in life.

In 1960 he joined the North Irish Horse and in 1969 he joined the Royal Signals, leaving in 1990, having reached the role of Sergeant Major and serving as a Radio Operator. Percy found employment as a carpenter with Robert Keys and Co., but the attraction of another shore beckoned and for many years he lived and worked in London as a Stage Set builder for West End theatres.

He told me once that he never met many famous people because most of his work was behind the scenes, but his workmanship was needed and appreciated in all of those well-known places of musical entertainment.

Outside of his work Percy had a keen interest in football, supporting Chelsea Football Club not only from the comfort of his own home but often making the trip to England to see the Club playing.

Percy was a seasoned traveller and every year at Remembrance-tide he would travel to London to take part in the Remembrance-tide ceremonies; and in the month of June he would attend the Irish Regiment Association in England.

A member of this parish for 83 years, Percy seldom missed a Sunday service. Arriving well before 11.00 a.m. and sitting close to the front on the pulpit side of the main aisle.

He was a long-time member of the Men's Society and enjoyed the talks and the fellowship afterwards and the occasional trips to London or Dublin.

We are going to miss him in the Cathedral and particularly on a Thursday morning.

Every Thursday morning from 10.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. from April until September Percy – along with Maurice – was a volunteer tourist guide.

We will miss that familiar greeting to visitors from near and far, spoken in Percy's unique style, **"Where are you from?"**.

He would then find a brochure in the language of that tourist and point out, **"You are here"** and direct the tourist to the other places of interest in the Cathedral.

Percy had a respect for people and always referred to them in correct terms.

I was always referred to as **"Mr Dean"** – a term that has taken some time to get used to!

We find it somewhat difficult to comprehend that only a few weeks ago Percy was active in this place. His illness was rather sudden and sadly no cure could be found. Percy accepted the prognosis and tried to enjoy whatever time was left. Over the weekend just past things got worse and on Monday afternoon in the company of his close friends – and just about an hour after I had visited him and prayed with him – he drew his final breath and journeyed to his home in Heaven.

Today, we are sad that we will not enjoy his company any longer here on earth but we are grateful that Percy was spared any more suffering.

Today, he is in that place described in Scripture as a place where pain and suffering are unknown; where tears and death and separation are things of the past; and where everyone is safe and happy because they are protected by Jesus the Chief Shepherd.

Scripture also tells us that those who live their lives on earth in the presence of Jesus are guaranteed a place in Heaven when they die.

So, we await the day when once again we will be able to renew fellowship with Percy and with all those whom we knew and loved who have gone before us.

**Maisie Claudine Haslett**  
**13th December 1928 - 20th November 2023**

The Dean kindly suggested that given the fact that I have known Maisie for a considerable number of years it would be appropriate that, today, I should deliver a reflection on Maisie's enormous contribution to the liturgical, pastoral and spiritual life of this Cathedral Church, its people and the wider community. As I reflected on the many memories of my shared ministry with Maisie in this ancient and sacred place, I found myself drawn to the words penned by Charles Wesley in one of his many wonderful hymns. This hymn is based on the Revelation to John Chapter 4: Verses 9 – 11 and Chapter 5: Verses 11 – 14. These words encapsulate for me the person I knew and the mother you loved. Listen to these lines from Verse 1: "Ye servants of God, your master proclaim, and publish abroad his wonderful name: the name all-victorious of Jesus extol; his kingdom is glorious, and rules over all".

Two words jump off the page in this verse namely 'servant' and 'proclaim'. Please allow me to add yet another word 'humility'. For me these three words personify the core, the foundation of Maisie's faith namely: to serve her Creator God, to proclaim Christ crucified, Christ risen, Christ ascended, Christ will come again and to do His work in a totally self-effacing manner drawing no attention to herself or seeking adulation for her contribution or endeavors.

Maisie served for many years as a Parish Reader, her attention to detail, particularly with regard to the liturgical practices set down in the Book of Common Prayer, were exemplary. She had a great love for and understanding of the rich patterns of worship developed over many centuries. She found great solace and inspiration from the many services and offices set out in the Prayer Book. Not one to criticize she would, on occasions, express her sadness as she witnessed a decline in Liturgical standards across the Church of Ireland. In her capacity as Parish Reader Sunday by Sunday the occasional prayers or intercessions were constructed with diligence, care and a keen insight into the day-to-day woes of the world and its people. Frequently she would reflect during our conversations surrounding public and private prayer "Canon, we are too quick to ask of God and too slow to give God our thanks".

Maisie was heartbroken by the death of Sydney her husband; I would say she never really came to terms with that loss. Typically, however, in the midst of her grief she thought of others who had lost their husbands. She approached Dean Orr with the seed of an idea that she might set up, under the auspices, of the Mothers' Union a Widows' Club. He supported and encouraged her and the Widows' Club was formed with monthly meetings in Maisie's home, a guest speaker, beautiful food and fare provided by herself. I can bear testimony to this as I had the opportunity as a guest speaker to share in this feast. I feel that I can say, with confidence, that this outreach was unique to Templemore Branch of the Mothers' Union. The choral tradition within this Cathedral Church was enjoyed and appreciated by Maisie and in support of this she was a proactive member of the Ladies Choir. She enjoyed the choir practices held in the Deanery and I'm sure she would have been delighted in the recent establishment of The Cathedral Girls' Choir.

The Tuesday morning Celebration of the Holy Communion, with intercessions for the sick, is central to the pattern of services held in this church. Not alone was Maisie a constant member of the congregation the weekly supply of freshly baked pancakes produced by her were eagerly awaited by the assembled congregation.

At a personal level a cooked breakfast in Maisie's home following an early Sunday morning of celebration of Holy Communion was something to be looked forward to.

I feel, in many ways that this is a less than adequate insight into the life of a woman who lived out her faith in so many and varied ways. This is because much of what Maisie did was done quietly, without fanfare and the benefit of her good works were known only by the grateful recipients. I can vouch for this and I'm sure previous Deans, and Curates would concur with this.

We celebrate and give thanks today for Maisie's life, witness and outreach and we pray that we might be enabled to emulate and maintain the example she has left us. As we remember today her outstanding contribution to St. Columb's Cathedral, we are very conscious that for you her family this is a day of great sadness and loss as you say an earthly farewell to a much-loved Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. We share in your loss, you will be in our prayers as you continue your journey without her presence, love and support. Please allow me to return to Wesley's hymn and verse 2: which I hope will give you a degree of solace:

"God ruleth on high, almighty to save; and still, he is nigh, his presence we have;  
the great congregation his triumph shall sing ascribing salvation to Jesus the King".

## *With Heartfelt Sympathy*

### **STEWART**

We remember the family and all of the relatives of **Robert John (Robbie) Stewart**, formerly of Avish Gardens, Waterside, Londonderry who died, peacefully at Daleview Care Home, Londonderry on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Robbie was the dearly beloved husband of the late Marina (nee Robb); the loving brother of Margaret and Christine (England); a dear uncle and great uncle; a dear brother-in-law of Robert and Dave.

Robbie was a brother-in-law of the late Anna Molloy (the husband of her sister Marina); the uncle of Pauline Doherty and her husband Brian, Stoneypath, Newbuildings, Londonderry to whom, and to whose family Paul and Mark, we also express our sympathy.

Robbie was also the uncle of the late Doreen Molloy, and of the late Norma Glenn, to whose husband Trevor and sons Richard and Andrew we also express our sympathy.

### **McCORKELL**

We remember George and Nuala (parents), Robin (brother), Alexander (son) and all of the relatives of **Dermot McCorkell** who died in England on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Dermot was a nephew of Andy and Kathleen McCorkell, Woodburn Park, Londonderry; of David and the late Carol Bell, Hayfield Park, Newbuildings, Londonderry; of the late Sally and Michael Barfoot- Mills; and of the late Samuel McCorkell – to whom and to whose families we also express our sympathy.

### **TRIMBLE**

We remember Ruby Trimble and her family, Paul, Nigel and Jane, and all of the relatives of **(The Reverend Canon) Thomas Henry (Harry) Trimble**, late of Lurganboy Road, Castlederg, who died, peacefully at Silverdale Care Home, Castlederg

on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Harry was the dearly beloved husband of Ruby; the devoted father of Paul (Sonia), Nigel (Margaret) and Jane (Stephen); the cherished papa of Stephen, Craig, Lauren, Sam, Rachel and Mark, and a dear brother of Dr Bill Trimble.

The Reverend Canon Harry Trimble, ordained in 1982, was the Rector of The Donegal Group of Parishes (Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey) 1990-2001.

He was a Canon of Saint Eunan's Cathedral, Raphoe 1993-2001.

### **SHARPE**

We remember Michael Sharpe and his sons Stephen and James and all of the relatives of **Maureen Sharpe** (nee Merrick) who died in Yorkshire, England on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Maureen was a sister of (The Reverend Canon) John and a sister-in-law of Roberta Merrick (Dunfanaghy) to whom, and to whose family, we also express our sympathy.

We also express our sympathy to Maureen's sister Wilma Merrick (Dunfanaghy) and to the family of her late sister Ruth McElhinney (Portnablagh).

### **HAMILTON**

We remember Marion Hamilton and her family and all of the relatives of **Robert James (Roy) Hamilton**, Summer Hill, Prehen Park, Londonderry who died, peacefully at Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Roy was the much loved husband of Marion; the loving father of Peter and his wife Audrey and of Mark and his partner Karen; the devoted grandad of Adam, Amber and Kathryn and the dearest brother of Billy and his wife Hazel.

Roy was a well-known local historian but he was also known to many members of The Parish of Templemore through his active involvement over many years as Scout Leader with the Cathedral Scout Troop.

### **MARSHALL**

We remember the family and all of the relatives of **Hazel Elizabeth Marshall** (nee McCloskey) who died, peacefully at Cornfield Care Home, Limavady on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Hazel was the much loved wife of the late James (Jim) Marshall; the devoted mother of Trevor and the dear mother-in-law of Doreen; the loving sister of the late Kenneth and Vola.

## *With Heartfelt Sympathy*

Hazel was an aunt by marriage of Doreen Sidebottom, Clearwater, Londonderry to whom, and to whose husband Peter and their family, we also express our sympathy.

### **BROWN**

We remember Gloria Brown and her family, Nicola and Cheryl, and all of the relatives of **Kenneth Alexander Brown**, Ardverness Cottage, Cashel Road, Macosquin, County Londonderry who died, peacefully at home, on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Kenneth was the much loved husband of Gloria; the dearly loved father of Nicola and Cheryl; the father-in-law of Raymond and Anthony; the grandfather of Dillon, Chloe, Emma, Isabella and Emily-Rose and the brother of Valerie.

Kenneth was an uncle by marriage of Bobby Sloan, The Beeches, Drumahoe to whom, and to whose wife Geraldine and their family, we also express our sympathy.

### **HASLETT**

We remember the family and all of the relatives of **Maisie Claudine Haslett**, Belmont Park, Belfast and formerly of Rossey, Londonderry who died, peacefully at home, on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Maisie Haslett was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.

The Service was conducted by The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart and by The Reverend Canon John Merrick who also gave a short Address / Reflection.

The Scripture readings (Revelation 21: 1-7 and Saint John 14: 1-6) were read by Maisie's sons Lindsay and Mark, the Eulogy was given by Maisie's daughter Moyra.

Members of The Cathedral Choir and of The Cathedral Girls' Choir led the singing of the hymns ('Be thou my vision', 'The King of love' and 'My song is love unknown'), and also sang 'The Lord Bless you and Keep you' by John Rutter and the Canticle 'Nunc Dimittis'.

As Maisie's coffin was leaving the church a CD of 'I Was Glad' by Hubert Parry was played. The Organist was Mr Nicky Morton. He was assisted by Mr Louis Fields.

Nicky's father, The Very Reverend William Morton, Dean and Ordinary of The Cathedral Church of Saint Patrick, Dublin played music before the service and also played some of the hymns (chosen by Maisie).

Maisie was the beloved wife of the late Sydney (died 14<sup>th</sup> July 1987); the much-loved mother of Alan, David, Lindsay, Mark and Moyra; the mother-in-law of James, Marie, Susie and John; the devoted grandmother of Katharine, Rosalind, Sophie, Kate, Maeve, James, Joshua, Anna, Conor, Owen and Laura and the great grandmother of Henry, Maggie, Harris, Florence and Poppy.

The Service of Committal at Altnagelvin Cemetery, Londonderry was conducted by The Reverend Brian Stewart, Rector of The Parish of Saint George, Belfast where Maisie had been worshipping in recent years.

Refreshments were served in Glendermott Parish Church Hall where thanks were expressed by Maisie's son Alan.

### **HAMILTON**

We remember the relatives and friends (Hugh and Jennifer Lynch and their family, Ian Bartlett and Maurice Brown) of **Albert Percy Hamilton**, Jack Allen Court, Londonderry who died, peacefully, at Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Percy Hamilton was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.

The Service was conducted by The Reverend Canon John Merrick and by The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart who also gave the Address.

The Service of Committal at Glendermott New Cemetery, Londonderry was conducted by The Reverend Canon John Merrick.

*With Heartfelt Sympathy*

## **DOUGHERTY**

We remember the family and all of the relatives of **James Dougherty**, Heron Way, Londonderry who died, peacefully at home, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. James was the beloved husband of the late Delia Dougherty; the loving father of James, Jason, Jonathan, Jennifer, Delia and Darren; the dear father-in-law of Elaine and Lauraine; the devoted grandfather of Anona, Darryl, Erica, Aaron, Alex, Dylan, Evan and Jonah, and the great grandfather of Travis and Macie. James was the father of Jason, the father-in-law of Lauraine and the grandfather of Erica and Aaron Dougherty, Lincoln Courts, Londonderry to whom we also express our sympathy.

## **Parish Register**

### **Holy Baptism**

*“Go and make disciples of all nations*

*baptising them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Lilah Eva Alexandra Harding,**

the daughter of Justin Adam Harding and Leah Nicole Totton, St George’s Heights, Claremont Lane, Esher.

Lilah’s godparents are Zoey Horner, Jodie Totton and Adam Matthews.

Lilah is a great granddaughter of Mrs Helen Jones, Shearwater Way, Londonderry.

Following The Rite of Holy Baptism Mrs Elizabeth Fielding, a member of The Templemore Branch of The Mothers’ Union, presented a Dorcas Pack to Justin and Leah for Lilah.

### **Burial**

*“The Lord is my Shepherd.”*

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023**

**Albert Percy Hamilton,** Jack Allen Court, Londonderry  
**Glendermott New Cemetery, Londonderry**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023**

**Maisie Claudine Haslett,** Belmont Park, Belfast  
and formerly of Rossbay, Londonderry  
**Altnagelvin Cemetery, Londonderry**







# In Memoriam



£

## **FABRIC FUND**

### **In memory of Joan Hamilton**

From Shirley & Morris Forbes

25.00

From Alison Howe

30.00

### **In loving memory of Mrs Joan Hamilton**

From Sylvia McIntosh

25.00

From Frank & Adrienne Simpkin

20.00

From Brian & Pauline Doherty

25.00

From Charlotte, Andrew & Catherine Russell

100.00

From the Wilson Family, Woodburn Park

25.00

### **In memory of our friend, Joan Hamilton**

From James & Margaret Kidd, Newtownabbey

25.00

### **In memory of our dear friend, the late Joan Hamilton**

From Mrs Anne Speer & family

100.00

### **Precious memories of my husband Trafford McIntosh**

From Sylvia & family

50.00

### **In loving memory of my parents, George & Violet Stewart**

From Sylvia McIntosh

25.00

### **In loving memory of our Mum, Margaret Moore**

From Lynn, Alison & Suzanne

30.00

### **In memory of our parents, John and Lily Skeet and Sam and Annie Hughes**

From Joan and Roland

100.00

### **In memory of James & Jessie Jefferson**

From their daughter, Ann

50.00

### **In memory of Uncle Norman Jefferson**

From Michael Tweedie & Alison Beddoes

50.00

### **In loving memory of George Martin Mace B.E.M.**

### **Christmas memories of a much-loved husband, father and grandfather and also on his birthday on 7th January**

From wife Ray, daughter Joanne, son David, son-in-law Paul  
and granddaughters Poppy and Phoebe xoxo

100.00

### **In loving memory of my parents, Nan & Leslie Laverty**

From David Laverty

25.00

### **In memory of my parents, Jack H & Mary E Bartlett**

From their son, Ian

100.00

### **In loving memory of Mum & Dad, Meta & Herbie Street and brothers Herbie, Lexie Raymond & sister-in-law Sylvia**

From Freda Burnside

30.00



# In Memoriam



	£
<b>80th Birthday Greetings to Sylvia McIntosh on 15th December</b>	
From Nan & Winston Carson	20.00
<b>Birthday Greetings on 3rd December to Nan Carson</b>	
From her husband, Winston & family	100.00
<b>In loving memory of my dear husband Billy Walker and daughter Sharon Slater</b>	
From Marion Walker	200.00
<b>In loving memory of my parents Andrew &amp; Lavina Hetherington</b>	
From Marion Walker	50.00
<b>In loving memory of John F (Eric) McLaughlin</b>	
From his wife, Sadie, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren	200.00
<b>In loving memory of our parents Billy &amp; Ruby Adams and Archie &amp; Chris McSparron</b>	
From Audrey & Gordon McSparron	100.00
<b>Precious memories of our parents, Robert &amp; Jenny Wilson, brothers and sister</b>	
From Noreen, Lynne & Sharon	100.00
<b>Cherished memories of our children Ryan &amp; Trudy Wells</b>	
From Leslie & Sharon	25.00
<b>In memory of all my loved ones</b>	
From Lil Wilson	250.00
<b>In memory of Percy Hamilton</b>	
From June Fields & family	30.00
From Jim Trotter & family	20.00
From Una Copestake, Ava and Ewan	20.00
From Daphne & Gerry Gallick	30.00
From Muriel Hamilton	25.00
From Ian Bartlett	30.00
From The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart	50.00
From Marion Walker	25.00
From Eileen Hamilton	25.00
From Morris & Shirley Forbes	25.00
From Eileen & Noel Branter	25.00
From Lil Wilson	30.00
From Maurice Brown	25.00
From Ray Mace	25.00
<b>In memory of a beloved mother who was such a servant to the Cathedral</b>	
From David Haslett	1,000.00
<b>In memory of Maisie Haslett</b>	
From Bertie and Margaret Faulkner	100.00
From Muriel Hamilton	25.00
From Robert Wilson, Eglinton	80.00
From Mrs Heather Haslett	200.00

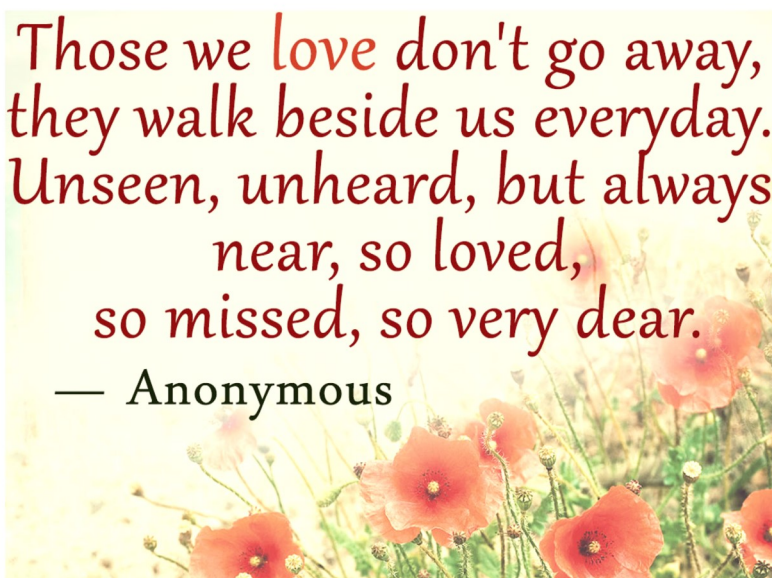


# In Memoriam



	£
From The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart	50.00
From Audrey & Gordon McSparron	30.00
From Morris & Shirley Forbes	25.00
From Alison Howe	30.00
From Elizabeth & Aubrey Fielding	30.00
From Lil Wilson	50.00
From James Keith Haslett	100.00
<b>In memory of Maisie Haslett, an inspiration with her generosity and strength of faith xxx</b>	
From Dr Ruth Forgie	30.00
<b>CHOIR FUND</b>	
<b>In loving memory of Ronald Dobson at Christmas time</b>	
From his wife Etta Dobson	300.00
From daughter Joanie Lovell and family	40.00
From daughter Rosaleen Green and family	40.00
<b>DONATION</b>	
<b>Donation in respect of Private Holy Communion</b>	
From Mrs Helen Jones	50.00
From Karen Jones	20.00
<b>THANKOFFERING</b>	
<b>Thankoffering for the Baptism of Lilah Eva Alexandra Harding</b>	
From her parents, Leah Totton & Justin Harding	300.00
From her Godparents Adam, Jodie & Zoey	60.00

Those we love don't go away,  
they walk beside us everyday.  
Unseen, unheard, but always  
near, so loved,  
so missed, so very dear.  
— Anonymous



The Very Reverend Raymond J Stewart M.A.  
The Rector of The Parish of Templemore & Dean of Derry  
The Deanery, 30 Bishop Street, Londonderry BT48 6PP  
Tel: 028 7126 2746 Email: deanofderry@stcolumbs.net

Pastoral Assistant: 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](http://www.stcolumbscathedral.org)**

# Saint Columb's Cathedral

**SUNDAY SERVICES:** 8.00 am Holy Communion  
11.00 am (1st & 3rd Sunday of the month) Choral Eucharist  
(2nd Sunday of the month) Choral Matins  
4.00 pm Choral Evensong  
**4th SUNDAY:** 11.00 am Family Service  
**EACH TUESDAY:** 10.30 am Holy Communion

**Services held Monday to Friday at 10.30 am**

## Organist & Master of the Choristers

Dr Derek Collins

## Assistant Organist

Mr Nicky Morton

## Rector's Churchwarden

Mr Morris Forbes

(Email: [morrisforbes@btinternet.com](mailto:morrisforbes@btinternet.com))

## People's Churchwarden

Miss Muriel Hamilton

## Hon Treasurer

Mr Louis Fields

[treasurer@stcolumbs.net](mailto:treasurer@stcolumbs.net)

## Assistant Treasurer

Mr Alan Thompson 12 Torrens Avenue

(Email: [alan@stcolumbs.net](mailto:alan@stcolumbs.net))

Miss Muriel Hamilton 28 Lansdowne Road

*(All Donations/Thankofferings)*

## Parish Administrator

Robert McGonigle BEM

Tel: **07794666754**

Email: [robert@stcolumbs.net](mailto:robert@stcolumbs.net)

## Office Hours

(Tuesday & Thursday 2pm-6pm)

## Parish Secretary/Webmaster

Mrs Linda McGonigle

Email: [linda@stcolumbs.net](mailto:linda@stcolumbs.net)

## Hon Secretary

Mrs Ray Mace Tel: **028 7134 4236**

## Sunday School Superintendent

Mrs Irene Hewitt

Email: [irenechewitt@outlook.com](mailto:irenechewitt@outlook.com)

## Safeguarding Trust Panel Members

The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart

Mrs Elizabeth Fielding BEM

Mr Malcolm Hewitt MBE



Fire alarm

**Sounding Fire alarm - Vestry members report  
to the churchwardens immediately**



To website

## FEBRUARY 2024 Magazine

Please submit your contribution/s to [linda@stcolumbs.net](mailto:linda@stcolumbs.net)  
before SUNDAY 21st January 2024.

**The Publication will be available from SUNDAY 28th JANUARY**



For donations