

# Saint Columb's Cathedral Magazine



February 2024

Volume 31

Issue 2

Photo credit: New Gate Arts and Culture Centre



## The Dean writes



## Dear Parishioners and Friends

Sitting as I often do on a Sunday morning or afternoon, and at other times too, in the Vestibule of Saint Columba's Cathedral I am conscious of two eminent figures looking down on me.

One is Saint Columba, the Patron Saint of The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.

The other is Saint Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland.

Many scholars - including the late Archbishop George Otto Simms in a little booklet 'Commemorating Saints and Others of the Irish Church' – indicate that there were three patrons saints of Ireland. Patrick and Columba and one other. Who is this one other and why is he/she not recognised and commemorated in our Diocesan Cathedral?

The saint who is missing is Brigid, the Abbess of Kildare, whose Feast Day is celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

Archbishop George Simms writes that Brigid was regarded as the second patron saint of Ireland. And it is important to note that her earthly remains are interred alongside those of Patrick and Columba in Downpatrick.

Some facts are known about Brigid but the lack of any writings by her has led to many stories and legends.

We know that Brigid was born at Faughart, County Louth in 452. Her father Dubhtach was a chieftain in Leinster. Her mother Briocsech (Brocca) was a slave and a Christian who came to faith through Saint Patrick's preaching of the Gospel.

Brigid founded a monastery under an oak tree in Kildare (Cill Dara - the church of the oak). This monastery quickly grew to become a full-scale monastic community for both men and women.

It was attended by many people who studied religion, writing and art.

As the head of a community that became Ireland's centre of learning, Brigid was an important leader in the ancient world and in the Church. She assumed the role of bishop – an unusual position for a woman in fifth-century Ireland.

An eighth-century text "Life of St Brigid" claims that her ordination was actually an accident and that, while receiving her nun's veil, the bishop (St Mel of Longford) read the wrong passage from his book, thereby consecrating Brigid as a bishop.

Brigid was a bishop in all but name and is always depicted with a crozier to which she would have been entitled as an abbess of the double monastery in Kildare that she oversaw with the aid of Conleth. (Reference 'Through The Year with the Irish Saints' by Stella Durand).

Brigid died in 524. This means that we commemorate the 1500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death this year.

The Republic of Ireland has set aside the Feast Day of Saint Brigid (1<sup>st</sup> February) as a public holiday and many civic and church events will be held in the County and Diocese of Kildare this year.

Apart from within the Diocese of Kildare, of which Brigid is the patron saint, very little recognition is given to her ministry as a bishop from The Church of Ireland as a whole.

Perhaps, in this significant year this omission could be addressed and Brigid could be given her rightful place alongside Patrick and Columba and be remembered not only in the Diocese of Kildare but throughout the whole of Ireland.

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.

## A DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION DAY

for those who wish to be presented for Confirmation in 2024 will be held in Christ Church Halls, Limavady on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024

and in Saint Eunan's Halls, Raphoe on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024.

This is an opportunity for young people and adults to meet together.

I would encourage our young people and adults to consider attending one of the venues.

Doors open at 11.00 a.m. with registration and refreshments. Please be there by 11.25 a.m.

Our programme runs from 11.30 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.

Cost: Free

Wear Casual Clothes; a coat is suggested if we do games outside.

Food: All food provided. Please ensure that all dietary requirements are mentioned.

Transport: Please arrange with your own parish.

We would recommend that each person brings their own Bible with them.

All young people must attend with their own group and leaders.

Leaders will be asked to lead group discussions throughout the day.

Consent forms can be emailed or messaged to parents to be filled in.

Final numbers for Limavady are due by Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February

and for Raphoe by Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

## THE BISHOPS' APPEAL FOR WORLD AID AND DEVELOPMENT

Thank you to those parishioners who contributed to The Bishops' Appeal for World Aid and Development. **£545.00 was received.**

## THE LONDONDERRY PROTESTANT ORPHAN SOCIETY

The retiring offering in support of The Londonderry Protestant Orphan Society at the service on Christmas Eve and at the services on Christmas Day totalled **£301.00.**

Thank you to all who contributed and supported the work of the Society.

## CHAPTER NEWS

The Preacher on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at Eucharist (Order One) will be

The Reverend Canon David McBeth, the Rector of The Parish of Clooney, Londonderry.

## 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 was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

The Speaker was Ms Joanne Briggs, National Director of The Leprosy Mission Northern Ireland.





Sunday School is on the move: we are returning to the Diocesan Centre which is a beautiful building. The children will have to remember their folders and they will take home the worksheets that they have completed on that morning.

Since returning from our Christmas break our numbers have been quite low. We hope to see you all back soon as you are missed.

The Family Service saw us welcome Joanne Briggs from The Leprosy Mission and will be completing our leprosy work on World Leprosy Day. We all really, really enjoyed her presentation. Well done to Molly and Alesha for reading the Bible lessons so well.

**Irene**

### **FEBRUARY**

- 4th Sunday School meets in the church porch to walk to The Diocesan Centre
- 11th **HALF TERM**
- 18th Sunday School meets in The Diocesan Centre
- 25th Family Service

### **MARCH**

- 3rd Sunday School meets in The Diocesan Centre
- 10th Mothering Sunday Service with The Rite of Holy Baptism
- 17th Saint Patrick's Day
- 24th Palm Sunday
- 31st Easter Sunday

**HAPPY  
FEBRUARY  
BIRTHDAY**

**Sean Graydon  
Chukwuebuka Agoha**



Our orientation meeting took place in January and our three teens found out where they will be going to. Sam & Elliot are going to Tennessee and Joseph is going to Greenville. We have events planned to support the boys' fundraising efforts.

The first is a Table Quiz Tuesday 20th February in the White Horse Hotel. £5 per person (all of which goes to the teen you are supporting).

It is always a great night's craic! Come and join us.

**Malcolm**



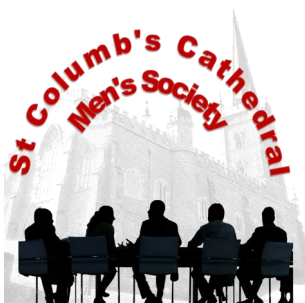
## THE VENERABLE ROBERT MILLER

The first Sunday of the new year was also, Bishop Andrew Forster said on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January, the first Sunday of the County Borough of Londonderry having the Archdeacon of Derry, Venerable Robert Miller, as His Majesty King Charles III's High Sheriff for the County Borough (City) of Londonderry 2024.

Bishop Andrew acknowledged the significance of the appointment and paid tribute to the new High Sheriff of the Borough. "It's a wonderful recognition of you as a person and of your commitment to your home city," Bishop Andrew told the Rector. "I know that you will bring both commitment and ambition to a very historic and important role in the civic life of the city."

## THE REVEREND CANON MERVYN PEOPLES

Reverend Mervyn Peoples has been appointed a Canon of Saint Eunan's Cathedral in Raphoe. The appointment was made by Bishop Andrew Forster and fills the vacancy in the Cathedral Chapter following the retirement of Reverend Canon Judi McGaffin.



The Men's Society has endured a very sad time with the loss of 5 members since November, two of them being founder members. We have lost Aubrey Fielding MBE (Treasurer for 20 years), Percy Hamilton, Albert Austin, Werner Scheel and Gordon Mills. The thoughts and prayers of all our members go to all their family and friends and I am sure we would all agree, we have lost great friends who were the heart of our group for many years.

Sixteen members met for breakfast at The Belfray Country Inn on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 10:00am, and this was a lovely pre-Christmas event in very good company. Aubrey and Albert were both in attendance for this and they thoroughly enjoyed it.

January traditionally starts with a dinner and this year we will all meet once again at The Belfray Country Inn on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30pm.

Our February meeting will be back at Cathedral House on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February, and our guest speaker will be Captain Bill McCann from the Foyle Port.

Dr Keith Munroe will be our guest speaker on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

**Robert McGonigle**  
**Secretary**

I am writing this while looking out at a pretty snow-covered scene with flocks of small birds stocking up on seeds to get them through another cold night. I hope you have all managed to stay warm and safe through this cold snap and by now are seeing the first green shoots of Spring appearing.

Our first meeting of 2024 was held on the morning of Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January in the Diocesan Centre where we were welcomed with hot drinks and home made goodies by our new Office bearers, Jacqui, Doreen and Valerie. Jacqui had prepared crocheted stars, each with a word on the back which we picked at random. This word could then be used as a guiding light throughout the year. We were also given cards to send to those who might need a lift during the dark days of winter. Unfortunately Jacqui had to leave for an emergency dental appointment, so Doreen outlined what promises to be a very interesting programme for the coming year and Valerie reminded us that the dues are now due!

Since our meeting we heard that Lil had a bad fall at home but is now recuperating in Rectory Fields. In spite of her injuries, she retains her indomitable good spirits but would appreciate your prayers for a speedy recovery.

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January we learnt of the death of Elizabeth's dear husband Aubrey. A friend to all in Mothers' Union he was a staunch supporter of all the Cathedral organisations and encouraging to Elizabeth in all her MU endeavours, which were wide and varied throughout his lifetime. The members were delighted when he received his MBE for services to bell ringing in Northern Ireland. A true gentleman, he will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him. We remember Elizabeth and her family in our prayers. The next meeting on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm will be an online Zoom meeting to celebrate the 1,500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Saint Brigid, patron saint of Ireland and of many other things including poetry, learning and healing. The speaker will be Kelley Bermingham. This will be an open meeting for all those who would be interested. If anyone would like the zoom link please contact Doreen at [sdoreen245@gmail.com](mailto:sdoreen245@gmail.com).



### **MU Making a Difference - Spotlight on Burundi**

Burundi is one of the world's poorest countries and faces immense challenges, still suffering from the effects of a civil war that lasted 12 years (1993-2005). This conflict devastated communities, disrupted family relationships, interrupted access to education and exacerbated gender disparities.

The Mothers' Union Burundi Literacy and Financial Programme has been running since 2000 to combat poverty, promote gender equality and women's empowerment. This transformational programme has so far assisted:

- 165,400 participants, of whom 77% were women, have benefited from the programme
- 144,000 people, of whom 89% were women, have learnt to read and write to a nationally approved standard through this community-led programme, enriching their lives and empowering their communities.
- 6,200 savings and loan associations have been mobilised.

*"The programme is life changing... it gives you a new (lease of) life. We have learnt to read and write so it has opened our eyes. We make money and can feed and clothe ourselves and our children. We have bought land and have built our own houses. We (women) have become the light of our families."* A Mothers' Union leader from the Diocese of Matana, Burundi.

## **THE SELECT VESTRY**

A meeting of the Select Vestry 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.

## **THE CATHEDRAL MAGAZINE**

Notes / Articles for the March 2024 issue of the Cathedral magazine are due by Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024.



Well here we are in 2024. Another new year!

First of all may we extend our sincere sympathy to Elizabeth and Family on the death of Aubrey, a true gentleman who will be sadly missed by everyone regarding his work within our church.

The youth club once again is fully operational offering many new programmes for all age groups. Our classes are aimed at all age groups as we are aware that at this time of year people can get a bit down and feel isolated.

For those who use Facebook we have all programmes on view but for anyone who prefers I have listed classes and contact number (028 7126 0483).

### Monday

10.30am - 12.30pm Women Into Irish History Facilitated by Trevor Temple. A great opportunity to learn about local Irish History of all aspects, good banter and meet new friends.

After Schools Drop In for Juniors and Seniors 2.00pm - 8.00pm.

Programmes both Educational and Recreational.

### Tuesday

Tai - Chi 1.30pm - 2.30pm. Look Good Feel Good Six-week programme. All Welcome.

After Schools Homework Tuition and Support Club Primary and High School age group.

Tips on using your Air Fryer 5.00pm - 7.00pm. Four-week programme for Adults.

### Wednesday

Praxis Adult Group 10.00am - 3.00pm. Workshops for people with disabilities.

Drop in After School Craft workshops and games 2.00pm - 8.00pm

Guitar Lessons Facilitated by Norman Rosborough. Suitable for beginners 4.30pm - 5.30pm

Can't Cook, Won't Cook for young people 6.00pm - 8.00pm

### Thursday

Jo Jingles Mother and Toddler 12.30pm - 1.30pm

Adults Art Class Facilitated by David Faghey. Well known artist. 11.00am - 1.00pm

After Schools Fun in The MUGA. 4.00pm - Young people's Crafts and music 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Craft Classes adults 7.00pm - 9.00pm A wide variety of classes regarding Crochet, knitting, needlework, glass painting, and Basket Making.

### Friday

Essential Skills ICT 10.00am - 12 noon Facilitated by North West Regional College

Friday Fry - Seven Piece treat for the small price of £5 (I includes tea / coffee)

Art delights with Asma age 4years - 8years.

Monday to Thursday all young people enjoy a Tea Time disco and treats 5.30pm - 6.30pm.

Our Cafe Davy's Diner is open daily from 11.00am - 2.00pm. Come along and enjoy a treat.

We encourage everyone to come along and enjoy these programmes.

Regards

Jeanette

## 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.

# Christmas Tree Festival

## 17<sup>th</sup> November - 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2023



What a wonderful success the Christmas Tree Festival turned out to be! With a total of 77 magnificent and diverse 'trees' provided by community groups, schools, bands and commercial outlets from right across the city, the response from the public was so encouraging and way beyond our expectations. Add to that the magical and oh so popular Christmas Village in the Baptistery provided by George Keys and entertainment from 11 School Choirs, 5 Adult Choirs, 2 instrumental ensembles and 3 bands, it all added up to a wonderful occasion in many aspects and all held over 5 weeks and 1 day!

We even managed to fit in a very successful Coffee Morning on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

We had visitors from all over the city and people travelling by train, bus and car from all parts of the province, with all

in awe of what they saw, and quite a number returning a number of times. Some people had never been in the Cathedral before, and some thought they wouldn't have been allowed in!! They all went away with a very different and positive outlook and most said they would be back to visit in the summer.

Marketing/promotion was initially done by flyers and social media but the real momentum was by 'word and mouth' as the weeks progressed and was an invaluable boost to the success of the festival. Having said that we would also thank Keiron Tourish and BBC Newsline for their coverage of the launch which could not have worked better. The Girls' Choir appearing with a background of the festival on Paula McIntyre's Hamely Kitchen went out on 22<sup>nd</sup> December and was also great promotion for the Cathedral. A lot of people said they would have loved to be a part of it if we did it again and that will have to be taken into consideration when a review is carried out by the Events Working Group. A very large part of the community was certainly left talking about it, which was a tremendous boost for the Cathedral.

Another very positive aspect was the amount of very willing helpers/volunteers across the 5 week period.







We were unsure if we could open every day over the full period due to manpower and in the end our 'army' of volunteers responded magnificently. This included a number from outside the Cathedral and we are indebted to them for their help, we could not have done it without you. We also had our 'construction team' who looked after the electrical installation and shelving prior to the 13<sup>th</sup> November and dismantled it all on 10<sup>th</sup> January. They did a great job, which helped us to run this massive event on a shoestring budget.

The festival was thankfully dismantled over three days, with all contributors responding to our request to come back for their trees.

From a financial aspect the final total was £17,150 before expenses, an amazing amount and as the expenses were kept to minimum, this element was also a success.



Finally, a huge thank you to all those who gave of their valuable time and worked tirelessly at a very busy and pressurised time of the year, from the start of construction on 13<sup>th</sup> November to full dismantlement on 10<sup>th</sup> January, a period of 8 weeks and 2 days. We really cannot thank you all enough.

**EVENTS WORKING GROUP**



## CHRISTMAS THANKS

The Dean, Patricia and Dione thank their parishioners and friends who sent / gave them cards and gifts at Christmas. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and kindness.

**CANDLELIGHT ADVENT PROCESSION / 'DARKNESS INTO LIGHT'**  
was held on Advent Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. Thank you to Dr Derek Collins, Mr Nicky Morton and the Cathedral Choir for leading the singing.

The readers were Miss Muriel Hamilton (People's Churchwarden), Ms Jacqui Armstrong (Parish Reader), Mr David Bell (Diocesan Reader), The Reverend Canon John Merrick (Pastoral Assistant), The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart (Rector and Dean), and The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe. The Retiring Offering (£429.50) was in support of our unique Choral tradition.

## THE JOINT EMERGENCY SERVICES NORTHWEST COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

Supported by The Royal Foundation of The Prince and Princess of Wales was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

This Service recognised the work and contribution to society of the Emergency Services, many of whom were represented at the Service.

The Dean welcomed Mr Ian Crowe MBE, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of The County Borough of Londonderry, Mrs Alison Millar, Lord-Lieutenant of The County of Londonderry, Mr David McCorkell, Lord-Lieutenant of County Antrim, Mr Gawn Rowan-Hamilton, Lord-Lieutenant of County Down and Mr Neville Orr, representing the Lord-Lieutenant of Tyrone. He also welcomed The Chief Officers from PSNI, Northern Ireland Ambulance Service, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, The Western Health Service and the representative from The Royal Foundation.

He gave a special welcome to the members of Ebrington Primary School Choir and the members of Foyle Down Syndrome Choir, and to the members of Saint Columb's Cathedral Girls' Choir.

(The Cathedral Girls' Choir sang 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter' (Harold Darke) and 'Brightest and Best' (Malcolm Archer).

Ebrington Primary School Choir sang 'A Christmas Wish' and was joined by Foyle Down Syndrome Choir to sing 'Jingle Bell Rock' with Conor Collins on Saxophone.

The Bidding Prayer was read by The Reverend Dr Stephen Skuce, Chairperson of The Northwest Methodist Mission.

The Lessons were read by Ian Crowe MBE, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of The County Borough of Londonderry, Edward Lord OBE, JP, Deputy Governor of The Honourable The Irish Society, Damien Walsh, Sergeant PSNI Neighbourhood Policing, Michael Bloomfield, CE Northern Ireland Ambulance Service, Andy Sinclair, Area Commander Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and Martin O'Neill, Foyle Search and Rescue.

The Christmas Gospel was read by The Reverend Gordon McCracken, Moderator of Derry and Donegal Presbytery.

A closing prayer was read by The Most Reverend Dr Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry. The Blessing was pronounced by The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe.

The offering of £940.00 was in support of Foyle Down Syndrome, Foyle Search and Rescue, Air Ambulance Northern Ireland and Foyle Food Bank.

Following the Service refreshments were served in The Masonic Hall.

## FESTIVAL SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

This service is the traditional celebration of the Nativity of our Lord in words and music. Thank you to Dr Derek Collins, Mr Nicky Morton, The Cathedral Girls' Choir and The Cathedral Choir who led the singing.

Thank you to **Miss Muriel Hamilton** (People's Churchwarden), **Ms Jacqui Armstrong** (Parish Reader), **Mrs Heather Fielding** (Parish Reader), **Mr Simon McGonigle** (Parish Reader), **The Reverend Canon John Merrick** (Pastoral Assistant) and **The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart** (Rector and Dean) who read the Lessons and to **The Right Reverend Andrew Forster**, Bishop of The Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe, who read the Christmas Gospel.

## **CAROLS OF THE EPIPHANY**

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

**Thank you to Dr Derek Collins and The Cathedral Chamber Choir for leading the singing.** The readers were **Miss Muriel Hamilton** (People's Churchwarden), **Ms Jacqui Armstrong** (Parish Reader), **Mr Simon McGonigle** (Parish Reader), **The Reverend Canon John Merrick** (Pastoral Assistant) and **The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart** (Rector and Dean) to whom we offer our thanks and appreciation.

## **FOUNTAIN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Fountain Primary School held a Christmas Carol Service in Carlisle Road Presbyterian Church on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The Service was led by The Reverend Ross Kernohan.

**Prayers were said by The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart and The Reverend Colin Jones.**

**The Children's Address was given by Phoebe Nugent.**

The boys and girls of Fountain Primary School participated by singing Christmas themed songs. In his closing remarks the Principal, Mr Stephen Torney, paid tribute to the pupils, parents and teaching staff.

There was a special mention of Mrs Spence, P1 Classroom Assistant, who has served the School for 21 years and is now retiring from her roles.

## **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.

# Bible Readings for February 2024

DAY	READING	THEME
Thursday 1	Jonah 3:1-6	Called and called again
Friday 2	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Jeremiah, called and empowered
Saturday 3	Matthew 4:18-22	The disciples, called by Jesus
Sunday 4	Romans 1:1-6	Set apart for the gospel
Monday 5	Acts 13:1-5	Sent by the Spirit and the church
Tuesday 6	Galatians 5:22-26	In step with the Holy Spirit
Wednesday 7	Matthew 11:25-30	Easy discipleship or learning from play?
Thursday 8	Isaiah 45:22-25	Moving in, moving out
Friday 9	1 Peter 2:18-21	Revolution or survival?
Saturday 10	Ephesians 1:15-23	The hope to which we are called
Sunday 11	1 Peter 2:4-5	Stones and sacrifices: what makes a church?
Monday 12	Hebrews 3:1-6	Holy partners in a heavenly calling
Tuesday 13	Ephesians 4:1-6	A life worthy of the calling
Wednesday 14	Genesis 2:1-17	God is love
Thursday 15	1 Corinthians 13:1-7	Love gives us a choice
Friday 16	Genesis 3:1-13	Wrong choices have consequences
Saturday 17	Genesis 3:14-24	Separation and distortion
Sunday 18	Genesis 7:17-24	God could have destroyed humanity
Monday 19	Genesis 11:1-8	God could not ignore their sin
Tuesday 20	1 Corinthians 13:8-13	God will redeem
Wednesday 21	Genesis 11:27-32	A people in a place
Thursday 22	Exodus 24:9-18	The law
Friday 23	1 Samuel 8:4-20	The plan rejected
Saturday 24	1 Kings 10:1-13	The plan works ... briefly
Sunday 25	2 Chronicles 36:11-20	The kingdom divided
Monday 26	Psalms 126:1-6	Children of the dream
Tuesday 27	John 1:1-14	God comes, but isn't recognised
Wednesday 28	John 20:11-18	Two gardens

# 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.**

## 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.**

# Music List February 2024



<p>Sunday 4 11am</p>	<p>The Second Sunday before Lent - Sexagesima Choral Eucharist (Order Two) The Cathedral Girls' Choir and The Gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir Festival Eucharist, Noel Rawsthorne Ave Verum, Edward Elgar</p>
<p>4pm</p>	<p>Choral Evensong The Cathedral Chamber Choir Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D major, Herbert Brewer Never weather-beaten sail, Charles Wood</p>
<p>Sunday 11 11am</p>	<p>The Sunday before Lent - Quinquagesima Choral Matins The Cathedral Choir Benedictus in C major, Charles Villiers Stanford How beautiful upon the mountains, John Stainer</p>
<p>4pm</p>	<p>Choral Evensong The Gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G major (ATB), Herbert Sumsion View me Lord, Charles Wood</p>
<p>Sunday 25 11am</p>	<p>The Second Sunday in Lent Family Service The Cathedral Choir Dear Lord and Father, Hubert Parry</p>
<p>4pm</p>	<p>Choral Evensong The Cathedral Girls' Choir Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Thomas Morley A Clare Benediction, John Rutter</p>

## ASH WEDNESDAY / THE BEGINNING OF LENT

WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

Holy Communion (Order One)

in Archbishop William Alexander Chapel

at 10.30 a.m.

Choral Eucharist (Order Two)

in Saint Columb's Cathedral at 7.30 p.m.

## LENT 2024

There will be a devotional service  
(An Order for Compline)  
with an Address on each Wednesday evening at 7.30 p.m.

### LENT BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

The Dean is planning to conduct a series of talks during Lent.  
The series will be held in The Parish Office on Wednesday afternoons at 3.00 p.m.,  
beginning on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

### LENT LUNCHTIME TALKS

It is hoped to hold a series of talks in the Cathedral  
on Thursday afternoons in Lent.  
(1.05 p.m. – 1.50 p.m.)

# **PARTNERS IN PRAYER 2024**

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

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

**People throughout the world turn to God's Word in times of difficulty, loss, pain and uncertainty. The Bible provides comfort, hope and encouragement. For people in Ukraine who have endured brutality and loss as a result of the Russian invasion and the resulting war the Bible has been a powerful tool as they cope with all that is going on. The Bible Society in Ukraine has distributed millions of Bibles, New Testaments and portions of Scripture to men, women and children. Millions have lost their homes and have had to move to find shelter and safety to other parts of Ukraine or in other parts of the world. Families are separated and need the comfort that only God can provide.**

**THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024  
THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT / QUINQUAGESIMA (TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY)**

**The Province of The Episcopal Church of South Sudan**

The Most Reverend Justin Badi Arama,  
Archbishop and Primate of The Province of The Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop 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 SOUTH SUDAN**

**Pray for the ongoing impact of the community peace and reconciliation programme in The Diocese of Ibba that took place in January. Pray for those who have suffered as the diocese supports them to move forward in hopefulness and peace.**

**WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 / ASH WEDNESDAY**

**SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 / THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

**The Province of The Episcopal Church of Sudan**

The Most Reverend Ezekiel Kumir Kondo,  
Archbishop of The Province of The Episcopal Church of Sudan;  
Bishop of The Dioceses of Khartoum.

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop 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 SOUTH SUDAN**

**Pray for (The Reverend) Andrew Quill and his wife Joanne as they are commissioned this evening in preparation for Mission Partnership service in The Diocese of Ibba, South Sudan. Pray that it will be a wonderful celebration of God's leading, provision and protection as they step out in faith in serving Him.**

**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 / THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

**The Anglican Church of Tanzania**

The Most Reverend Dr Maimbo Mndolwa, Archbishop of The Anglican Church of Tanzania;  
Bishop of The Diocese of Tanga.

**The Church of Ireland**

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop 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 SOUTH SUDAN**

**Thank God for the funds received to assist in securing the Vocational Training School compound in The Diocese of Yei. Pray for this important project as the diocese aims to provide a safe and welcoming place for returning refugees to study income generating skills.**

**FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2024 / WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2024 / THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**The Church of The Province of Uganda**

The Most Reverend Stephen Kaziimba, Archbishop of Uganda;  
Bishop of The Diocese of Mityana.

**The Church of Ireland**

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

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

**MISSION FOCUS – THE BIBLE SOCIETY IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Now into its third year of distribution 'Bibles for Babies' provides children with Bibles in Northern Ireland. Already more than 3000 homes have received a Toddler Bible when their child turned One.**

**Participants will also receive birthday cards on their 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Birthdays and a Children's Bible on their 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday.**

The project has also gathered a committed group of volunteers who meet to wrap Bibles, write cards and pray for the families of the little ones each Thursday at The Bible Society in Northern Ireland offices in Belfast. Volunteers have benefitted from getting to know new people and also impacting families all over Northern Ireland.

We believe that it is important to read the Bible every day and this project equips families to build the habit of Bible reading into their own routine.



## Obituaries ....

### **Jeannie (Jean) Pomeroy** **8<sup>th</sup> March 1934 - 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

I don't know about you, but when I think of Jean Pomeroy, my mind's eye takes me to a lady who was unassuming in character, impeccably dressed, well turned out, hair always sitting to perfection, sparkling eyes, a warm smile, a healthy glow - due (in part at least) to her many holidays in the sun. A lady who was energetic and sociable, a good friend, an avid reader, an active bowler, (indeed a champion bowler!), and fully involved in all the various musical and artist activities in the Woman's Institute and the U3A. I know, of course, that Jean's health had deteriorated somewhat in recent times, but that was certainly the Jean I knew over the last forty or so years, and I think most here can relate to that picture of her.

Life for Jeannie McCauley began on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 1934, and she was the second child in the household, with an older brother Billie who passed away in 2020, and a younger sister Hazel. Jean was brought up in the Rosemount area – Lewis Street to be precise, and when she was a child, her father served in the army.

Jean attended The Model Primary School, walking to school via Brooke Park; and then upon finishing primary school she went to secretarial school with the renowned Miss Loughery. It was there that Jean learnt the skills which enabled her to get her first job – and that was no mean feat, because apparently Jean wasn't with Miss Loughery all of the time, because she reportedly skipped the odd class to see her beloved husband to be, Will, whom she met on the evening of 11<sup>th</sup> July 1950 on bonfire night in the Fountain. Romance blossomed, and although there is some ambiguity over who chased whom the most, Jean would later have said that that night, she met her soulmate. The young happy couple were married in Great James' Street Presbyterian Church in June of 1955 when Jean was just 21 years old. They honeymooned in the Isle of Man, and then began their married life living with Jean's parents, before purchasing their first home in Rosemount Avenue. After about six years, Jean and Will started their own family, three sons – Philip, Allister and Grahame. With all three boys being under the age of three, you can imagine that Jean had her hands full to say the least. Although she was mild natured, Jean had exacting standards, and a look from their mum would leave the boys in no doubt that something had displeased her. They occasionally liked to remind Jean of the time she called upon Will to exercise some control ..... poor Jean felt guilty about this event until she found out some years later what really happened - Will rolled up a newspaper and told the boys to cry out as he hit his own hand with it! Eventually Jean and her family decided it was time to leave Rosemount and relocate to the Waterside – they moved initially to Cherryburn Gardens, then to Deanfield, Judges Road and in retirement downsized to the bungalow at Grovemount. In the intervening years, Jean worked in Longs at Woodburn, the stores at Gransha and then took up a position in medical records which she held until she took early retirement in her mid-fifties. She enjoyed her working life and made many good friends. In the midst of this, Will also had secured a senior position within the Trust, and I know Jean was a great support to him not only in his demanding professional role but also in the pursuit of his various hobbies which included banding and golf.

In the fullness of time, Jean's family circle grew as she welcomed daughters in law and then grandchildren and of course great grandchildren. I know that Jean was very proud of her family, and I know also that she loved them dearly, and was loved dearly in return. It was a tremendous blow to everyone in the family when Grahame passed away at the beginning of 2021, and this sad loss was something which, naturally enough, troubled Jean greatly. Despite this however, she was very thankful for the happier memories she had of family times together, not least travelling to Hongkong to be with Grahame and Adelle. In fact, talking about Jean's travels and holidays was one of the little strategies the staff in Deanfield employed if she ever became a little bit down.

Will and Jean did indeed travel extensively, quite often with Hazel and Raymond. Cruises, the Mediterranean and, if I remember rightly, Santa Ponsa got more than it's fair share of visits – all a fair step up from the family holidays in the boys' younger years which were usually to Portrush, Dun Laoghaire or Arklow.

In terms of her Christian faith, Jean was raised a presbyterian (which was no doubt something that was the subject of the odd joke from Will); but after they were married Jean attended St. Columb's Cathedral and although Cathedral style worship took a little bit of getting used to, she became a faithful and loyal parishioner. Church was an important part of Jean's routine, and when she developed back problems which made it difficult to sit through the principal morning service, she attended the early morning Holy Communion service instead. She and Will enjoyed continued contact with their church through visitations from the Dean and Canon Merrick, and I know it is a matter of regret for both of them that neither were able to be here to conduct Jean's funeral service this afternoon. Notwithstanding that, I know the entire family circle remain firmly in their prayers.

In the last few years, Jean's health dipped quite a little bit and she was very well cared for by Will, by the wider family circle and also by the carers who would have assisted them in Grovemount. Just under two years ago, Jean and Will made the decision to move to Deanfield, and I know that the family would like me to express, on their behalf, a word of thanks to all those who looked after Jean so attentively over the last few years.

Sadly, for those who were closest to Jean, her earthly pilgrimage came to a peaceful end as she slipped away in the small hours of Tuesday morning, with Will by her side.

And so, as we give thanks to God for Jean, we recall fondly all the various aspects of her life, but most of all we're thankful for the ways in which her life touched everyone else's ... a loving wife and mother, devoted grandmother and greatgrandmother, a family member, a special friend and neighbour. And hopefully in the midst of these memories and as we say our goodbyes to Jean, we will also draw some comfort in the fact that she had a long and fulfilling life, and that now she is at rest in the nearer presence of God. **Amen.**

**Werner Scheel**  
**31<sup>st</sup> December 1943 – 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

We meet on this afternoon in The Cathedral Church of Saint Columb to thank Almighty God for Werner Scheel, to remember his life, his contribution to this church and parish and to society, and to give thanks for the friendship and fellowship that we enjoyed with him. We have heard John McCrossan speak about Werner and his contribution to this City through 40 years association with The Rotary Club of Londonderry. His association with Rotary was much more than a passing association. His involvement was at every level and it made a real difference in so many ways to this City and its people.

Werner's family have shared their memories with me and it would be foolish of me to try to edit their thoughts or to incorporate them into my Address. So, let me read what they have written. They knew him so much better than I ever could.

And I will now read a short message sent today from Werner's brother Gunther in Germany. And now let me add some thoughts from the perspective of this parish and Cathedral.

While health permitted Werner was a regular attender at worship services. He played an active part in the life of this church, serving as a member of the Select Vestry from 2020-2022, and also being a member of The Men's Society.

Werner liked to keep myself and Canon John updated on his health issues and as recently as July he emailed us with detailed information about how his health had deteriorated. He always hoped that his next email would bring better news.

On Christmas Eve of last year we received an email apologising that he would not be at any of the services over Christmas – because he and members of his family would be spending Christmas in Portrush, and he added that he was aiming to be back in the Cathedral on New Year's Day.

So, like so many other people our memories are personal and we, too, are going to miss Werner as a parishioner and as a friend.

He was always so appreciative of the ministry of myself and of Canon John, especially when he was a patient in Altnagelvin Hospital.

As we approach Christmas we are reminded that in many ways this is a time for joy; a time when families meet together and enjoy each other's company. It is a time to spend valuable time together.

And yet we are acutely aware that for many people across the world Christmas can often be a sad time of the year. It is a time to which they do not look forward, due to financial pressures and the absence of loved family members who shared Christmasses in years past.

As you come to terms with the death of Werner, it is obvious from what has been shared with us that Werner would want you to celebrate his life; to hold on to cherished memories; and to remember the many good times that you shared with each other over a long number of years.

At Christmas we read of many words or names associated with Jesus.

One of my favourite names is Emmanuel.

This name means '**God is with us**'.

And it reminds us that whatever we face in life, whatever trials come our way, we never have to face difficult times alone.

God is with us. He comes to us in the person of His Son, Jesus.

But we can find God and His reassuring presence in other places and people too.

Within the family of the Church; and I hope that in whatever place you worship you will find a welcome, a listening ear, a sympathetic voice.

God speaks to us in many different ways and we can find His presence and His love in the people whom we meet. Those who stand alongside us in those difficult times such as you are facing today.

So, in all of these ways - through the compassion of God, the presence of Jesus and the support of family, neighbours and friends I hope that you will remain steadfast and resolute on this day and in the days that lie ahead for you.

**Aubrey Dukes Fielding M.B.E.**  
**27<sup>th</sup> December 1931 – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

The surname 'Fielding' is synonymous with The Parish of Templemore and Saint Columb's Cathedral.

The Fielding name has appeared in the Cathedral records for over 100 years.

And when we mention the name of Aubrey Fielding it would take quite a number of hours to allow us to talk about all of the aspects of Cathedral, City and Community life in which Aubrey was engaged during the last 92 years.

**Aubrey Dukes Fielding** was born on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1931.

He was the fourth of six sons born to George Fielding of Dublin and Florence Henderson of Kilskeery. His parents lived at 116 Fountain Street, Londonderry.

Aubrey's siblings were Arthur, George, John, Raymond and Maurice.

Aubrey was baptised in this Cathedral Church on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1932

by The Reverend David Joseph McClure, the Curate-assistant.

From a very early age Saint Columb's Cathedral Choir played a significant part in the life of Aubrey and of his brothers, and later in the life of his four sons.

At one time all six brothers were members of the Choir at the same time.

When Aubrey was 5 years old he approached the Organist,

Mr John T Frankland, to be enrolled. Mr Frankland asked him, "Are you married?"

and then told Aubrey to come back when he was.

This did not deter Aubrey and he was admitted as a chorister on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1938 (86 years ago).

He served under ten organists and could relate many stories about each one of them. He moved from the Boys' Choir when he was 18 years old and became an Alto in the Men's Choir.

When he retired from the Choir he had served as an Alto for 72 years and 9 months. What a record! Another area of Cathedral life in which Aubrey was engaged for much of his life was Bell Ringing. He joined the team of bell ringers in 1948.

It was obvious that he was a competent ringer and was enrolled on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1951. Up until a few weeks ago – 75 years later - Aubrey was still ringing the bells.

During his time 37 people were trained by Aubrey – some were able to master the technique and others just did not have the skills or the determination to continue.

For services to bell ringing in Northern Ireland, Aubrey was awarded the M.B.E.

And perhaps one of his proudest moments in recent times was ringing the Cathedral bells for the service to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

He was delighted to have been interviewed on that occasion for the national media.

Aubrey was a founder member of the Cathedral Men's Society and was its Treasurer for many years; also enjoying the occasional outings and Breakfasts and Dinners during the year.

Aubrey was a member of the first 'Young People's Vestry' in the Cathedral and served as churchwarden for a year.

Another proud moment was when he was commissioned as a Parish Reader and would assist at Choral Matins and Choral Eucharist.

He would also read the Daily Office on Thursday and Friday morning.

In this ministry he was a great help to me and to the previous Deans.

In 1987, on the death of Sydney Haslett, Aubrey took up a post in The Derry Rural Deanery Youth Project where he continued into the Millennium putting the Cathedral Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths onto computer and creating a database.

He became very competent in this work and got to know a lot of people who contacted him seeking information about their family history. 37 years later, his initial work continues to bring family history alive for many people.

I know that another area of parish life in which he played a very active part was in the Church Savings Scheme. This scheme, now long closed, encouraged many families and individuals to save, and Aubrey's involvement was a key part of this.

Aubrey was a life-long member of this Parish and he had a great love for this Cathedral and would often put someone half his age to shame. I was privileged to assist him with cleaning and tidying the Chancel a few months ago and whenever I looked around he was away to the Basement Toilets with flower holders and oasis.

His particular task when it came to a major cleaning of the Cathedral in preparation for some important services was to polish the 250 pew heads. I can still see him polishing the pew heads with 'wood silk' polish.

Aubrey's life story shows that he was a very busy man, involved and interested in so many different aspects of life in this Cathedral and City.

Outside of Cathedral life he was an active member of St John Ambulance Brigade in the 1950's. A member of the Cathedral Cub Pack and Scouts.

A keen supporter of Everton Football team.

He also played hockey for the Cathedral teams and remembers tough opposition on the pitch from – believe it or not – members of the clergy team!

He was a local runner and ran in various Northern Ireland events.

It is good to note that his grandson Christopher is following in his footsteps and we wish Christopher well in his forthcoming endeavours for Northern Ireland later this month.

Another important part of Aubrey's busy life was his association with Londonderry Proboscis for which he was awarded a lifelong membership on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

His involvement with City life found him on the Board of Directors of Derry Youth and Community Workshop; and he also was a volunteer since 2005 in Foyle Child Contact Centre. Aubrey had a good circle of friends, including James Stewart who collected him for Probus meetings on a Wednesday morning; and Robert McGonigle who collected him on a Friday morning for coffee and a scone when they 'sorted out' the affairs of the world, the city and the Cathedral!

Another of Aubrey's pleasures was to 'go for a wee run' to enjoy the coffee and refreshments in many of the cafes. A popular destination would be Muff Glen or Three Trees in Lough Foyle where he would look out for red squirrels or ringed plovers.

His interest in nature and bird life was also closer to home with his own blackbirds in his garden that reacted favourably to his voice.

Aubrey, although 92 years old, was very much young at heart.

He had a spritely step and only for the misfortune of his heart attack a short while ago he would, I believe, have been entertaining us with stories and fellowship for some years to come.

To return to the beginning of Aubrey's life story:

He received his early primary education at the Cathedral Schools with Mr Beattie and when it came to him leaving school he was sent to Miss Loughrey's classes for a shorthand and typing course.

He gained employment as a trainee shirt cutter in McIntyre, Hogg and Marsh City Factory. He later moved to Hogg and Mitchells' Shirt Factory, eventually becoming Manager at Rosemount Factory.

When I visited Aubrey in hospital on last Friday it was fascinating listening to him recalling his working experience in the shirt factories of this City.

It was in Hogg and Mitchell's Shirt Factory that Aubrey caught the eye of a young lady named Elizabeth. A rather long courtship lasting 80 months followed and Aubrey and Elizabeth were married in Faughan Reformed Presbyterian Church, during the annual shirt factory holidays, on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1966.

Elizabeth and Aubrey were blessed with four sons: Stephen, John, Andrew and James; Four daughters-in-law: Julia, Anona, Nancy and Heather; Four granddaughters: Beth, Sarah, Emily and Lily; and four grandsons: Christopher, William, Ian and Jakob.

To all of you we express our sympathy on the death of a much loved husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather.

I know that you will have many memories of Aubrey and I hope that they will bring you comfort in the days that lie ahead.

Many tributes have been posted on the Cathedral Facebook page since the news of Aubrey's death was shared. And in many of the comments one word stands out.

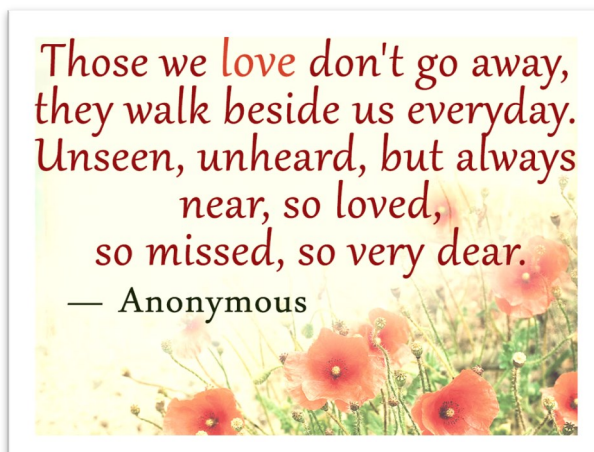
**That word is encourager or encouragement.**

To many people who knew him Aubrey Fielding was someone who encouraged; whether it was in the Choir with younger members starting out in life or just taking time to stop and talk with someone on a Sunday morning.

These small gestures were important and are what many people remember today when they mention the name of Aubrey Fielding.

*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



## *With Heartfelt Sympathy*

### **FORSTER**

We remember the parents and siblings of **Sean Forster**, from England, who died suddenly while on holiday in Egypt. Sean was a grandson of Raymond and Oonagh Todd, Jeffrey Avenue, Brigade, Londonderry to whom we also express our sympathy.

### **MILLS**

We remember June Mills and her family, and all of the relatives of **Gordon Maker Mills**, Rushcroft Close, Lisnagelvin, Londonderry who died, peacefully, at his home on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

Gordon was the much loved husband of June; the devoted dad of Thomas, Alan and Judith; the loving father-in-law of Ian and Marty; the adored granda of Stephen, Matthew, Kate, Hannah, Okan, Paddy and Dafydd.

Gordon was a member of Saint Columb's Cathedral Men's Society.

### **POMEROY**

We remember Will Pomeroy and his family and all of the relatives of **Jeannie (Jean) Pomeroy** (nee McCauley) who died, peacefully, at Deanfield Nursing Home, Londonderry on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Jean was the beloved wife of William (Will); the loving mother of Philip, Allister and the late Grahame; the dear mother-in-law of Janice and Adelle; a devoted grandmother and great grandmother of Keri, Jodie, Rebeckah, Alex, Ryan, Ben, Sophie, Theo, Parker and Elliot. A sister of Hazel and the late Billie.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Jean Pomeroy was held at Adair and Neely Funeral Home, Foyle Road, Londonderry on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The Service was conducted by The Reverend Nigel Cairns, the Rector of Saint Augustine's Church, Londonderry.

Following the Service Jean was buried at Altnagelvin Cemetery, Londonderry.

The Dean and The Reverend Canon John Merrick are most grateful to The Reverend Nigel Cairns, the Rector of Saint Augustine's Church, Londonderry for his co-operation.

The Dean was indisposed and Canon John Merrick had a family bereavement / funeral.

### **McELHINNEY**

We remember the family and all of the relatives of **Francis McElhinney**, Portnablagh, Dunfanaghy, County Donegal who died at The Lake House Nursing Home, Portnablagh on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Francis was the husband of the late Ruth McElhinney (nee Merrick) who died November 2016; a brother-in-law of (The Reverend Canon) John Merrick to whom, and to whose wife Roberta and their family, we also express our sympathy.

We also express our sympathy to Wilma Merrick (Dunfanaghy) and to Michael Sharpe and his family (Yorkshire, England).

### **GRAHAM**

We remember Rita Graham and her family and all of the relatives of **William Graham**, Forquar, Milford, County Donegal who died, peacefully, at Letterkenny University Hospital on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

William was the loving husband of Rita; the father of Karen, Sandra, Helen and Kenny; the father-in-law of Declan and Sharon; a grandfather and great grandfather; the brother of David, John, Victor and Daphne, and of the late Martha and May.

We also express our sympathy to (The Reverend Canon) John Merrick (who is a cousin of William's wife Rita), to his wife Roberta and their family; to Wilma Merrick and to Michael Sharpe and his family.

## *With Heartfelt Sympathy*

### **SCHEEL**

We remember the family and all of the relatives of **Werner Scheel**, Waterfoot Park, Londonderry who died, peacefully, at Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Werner was the loving father of Kerstin, Marcus and Heidi; the devoted grandfather of Clara, Isaac, Genevieve and Adaline; the former husband of Marian; the dear brother of Gunther, brother-in-law of Uta and cherished uncle of Martin and Carsten.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Werner Scheel was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The Service was conducted by The Reverend Canon John Merrick and by The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart who also gave the Address. A Tribute was given by Mr John McCrossan, President of The Rotary Club of Derry / Londonderry. Following the Service, a private Service of Cremation was held at Lakelands Crematorium, Cavan.

### **McINTOSH**

We remember Lourdes McIntosh and all of the relatives of **Frederick (Freddie) McIntosh** (formerly of Fountain Place, Londonderry) who has died at his home in Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada.

Freddie was the devoted husband of Lourdes; the beloved son of the late James and Jane, formerly of Fountain Place, Londonderry.

He was the much loved brother of James (Junior), Kathleen, Maureen and the late Lexie, Joe, Trafford, Anna, Jessie and Bill.

He was a loving brother-in-law and uncle.

His funeral took place in Kamloops on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, with interment of ashes at a later date.

### **O'DWYER**

We remember Peggy O'Dwyer and her family, Sean, Ann, Mary, Paul, Mark and Colm, and all of the relatives of **Sean (Jack) O'Dwyer, CBE**, Derry and formerly of Drumdowney, Slieverue, County Kilkenny and Drombane, County Tipperary who died, peacefully, at Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Sean was the beloved husband of Peggy and the loving father of Sean, Ann, Mary, Paul, Mark and Colm.

Jack will be forever loved and very sadly missed by his family, including daughters-in-law Catriona, Tanja, Araceli and Cathy; sons-in-law Shaun and Eamon; granddaughters Sarah, Katie, Emma, Orla, Rachel, Sasha and Tara; grandsons Jack, Oscar, Hugo, Leo, Liam, Rory and Mika; sisters Mary, Margaret, Eileen and Josephine; brothers Bill and Tom; sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews; extended family and friends. Jack is predeceased by his sisters Kay and Brigid and brothers Denis, Ned, Fr Paddy and Stephen.

### **FIELDING**

We remember Elizabeth Fielding and her family, Stephen, John, Andrew and James, and all of the relatives of **Aubrey Dukes Fielding M.B.E.**, Knockwellan Park, Altnagelvin, Londonderry who died, peacefully, at Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Aubrey was the dearly beloved husband of Elizabeth; the loving father of Stephen, John, Andrew and James; a father-in-law to Julia, Anona, Nancy and Heather; the devoted grandfather of Christopher, Sarah, Beth, Jakob, Lily, Will, Ian and Emily.

He was the brother of Maurice and the brother-in-law of Eileen and the brother of the late Arthur, George, John and Raymond.

## *With Heartfelt Sympathy*

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Aubrey Fielding was held in Saint Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The Service was conducted by The Reverend Canon John Merrick and by The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart who also gave the Address. One of the Scripture readings (Isaiah 61: 1-3) was read by one of Aubrey's sons, The Reverend Canon Stephen Fielding, the Rector of The Parish of Malone, Belfast.

The Choir sang 'The Lord Bless you and Keep you' by John Rutter and the Canticle 'Nunc Dimittis' by Stanford in C.

'The Farewell in Christ' was led by The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of the Dioceses of Derry and Raphoe.

Following the Service Aubrey was buried at Burt Presbyterian Church Burying Ground, County Donegal.

### **AUSTIN**

We remember Florence Austin and her family, David and Dawn, and all of the relatives of **Albert Charles Austin**, Rockport Park, Londonderry who died, peacefully, at Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

Albert was the dearly beloved husband of Florence; the loving father of David and Dawn; the dear father-in-law of Leigh and the devoted grandfather of Matthew.

Albert was a member of Saint Columb's Cathedral Men's Society.

## **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 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024**

**Theo Jax Gillespie,**

the son of Stephen James Gillespie and Joleen Elizabeth Jackson, The Fountain, Londonderry. Theo's godparents are Wanda Gordon and Reece Wason.

Following The Rite of Holy Baptism, The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart presented Stephen and Joleen with a Dorcas Pack for Theo.

### **Burial**

*"The Lord is my Shepherd."*

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Jeannie (Jean) Pomeroy,**

Deanfield Nursing Home, Londonderry.

**Altnagelvin Cemetery, Londonderry**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Werner Scheel,**

Waterfoot Park, Londonderry.

**Private Cremation at Lakelands Crematorium, Cavan.**

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Aubrey Dukes Fielding M.B.E.**

Knockwellan Park, Altnagelvin, Londonderry.

**Burt Presbyterian Church Burying Ground, County Donegal**





# In Memoriam



£

**In loving memory of Mrs Maisie Haslett**

- a dear friend from June Fields & family	50.00
- a long term friend & colleague from Hugh & Elizabeth Lindsay	50.00
From Ernest Lawson & family (Paul, Louise, Timothy & Fiona)	50.00
From James Keith Haslett	25.00
From Elizabeth Whiteside	40.00
From Brian & Pauline Doherty	25.00
From the members of Templemore Mothers' Union	30.00
From Betty Haslett	100.00
From Georgina Dunseith	30.00
From Doreen & Peter Sidebottom	25.00
From Lorraine Bradley	10.00

**Cherished memories of my dear sister, Norma Jean Glenn (Molloy),  
Died 11th February 1994**

From Pauline & Brian Doherty	100.00
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**In memory of my parents, Charles & Ella Hewitt**

From Geoff, Janice & family, Bangor & Larne	25.00
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**In memory of Werner Scheel**

From Dean Raymond Stewart	40.00
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**In loving memory of my dearest friend Billy Wilson**

From Anne McCullough	200.00
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**In memory of Freddie McIntosh**

From Stanley & Sharon McCombe	20.00
From the Armstrong family c/o Mrs Ann Payne	20.00

**In loving memory of our parents, Jim & Emily Thompson**

From Joy, Ann & families	50.00
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**In memory of the late Joan Hamilton**

From Albert Smallwoods	40.00
From Georgina Dunseith	30.00

**In memory of Percy Hamilton**

From William Lynn	30.00
From Lorraine Bradley	10.00
From George & Shiela Wylie, Eglinton	50.00
From Georgina Dunseith	30.00
From Doreen & Peter Sidebottom	25.00
From Hugh & Jennifer Lynch	50.00

**In memory of all my loved ones**

From Lorraine Bradley	40.00
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# In Memoriam



	£
<b>In memory of our families</b> From Val & Maurice Brown	100.00
<b>In loving memory of my sister Jean Pomeroy</b> From Hazel Crockett & family	100.00
<b>In loving memory of Jean Pomeroy</b> From David & Carolyn Laverty, Welford on Avon	20.00
From Mr and Mrs D Payne	20.00
From Robert & Linda McGonigle & family	20.00
From Kathleen & Albert Warke, Hillsborough	20.00
From Pearl Mowbray	50.00
From Frank & Adrienne Simpkin	50.00
From Elizabeth & Kenny Mills	30.00
From Alex & Joan Birney	20.00
From Commercial Masonic Lodge No. 164 c/o Robert Montgomery	25.00
<b>In loving memory of my parents, Mr &amp; Mrs S Walker, brother Billy and sisters Dorothy &amp; Ann</b> From Andrew Walker	100.00
<b>Christmas memories of all our loved ones</b> From Junior & Grace McIntosh & Maureen Foster	100.00
<b>In memory of all our loved ones</b> From Charlie, Joan, Cathleen, Lisa & Gail (Ferguson)	100.00
<b>In memory of Hazel Hamilton</b> From Georgina Dunseith	30.00
<b>In memory of Aubrey Dukes Fielding MBE</b> - my Granda from Emily Fielding	50.00
- my uncle Aubrey, he will be sadly missed from Mrs Dorothy McHugh	50.00
- A very special man Love from Richard and Sharon Smith and family	50.00
- on the death of our dear friend from Victor & Jennifer Irwin	50.00
- Bellringer and Gentleman from James & Jayne Buchanan	100.00
- fond memories from Winston & Eileen Lynch & family	50.00
- a dear brother-in-law from Phyllis Quigley	50.00
- Thinking of Elizabeth and the family circle from Malcolm, Irene Hewitt & family	30.00
- a dear friend who will be sadly missed from Robert & Linda McGonigle & family	50.00
From Heather Dougherty	50.00
From Miss Maxine Judge, Belfast	20.00
From Dorothy & Deidre Malley	30.00
From Robert & Geraldine Sloane	30.00
From Martin Doherty	25.00
From June Fields & family	50.00
From Doreen & Peter Sidebottom	50.00
From Muriel Hamilton	30.00



# In Memoriam

	£
From Alison Baldrick & Suzanne Callen	30.00
From The Reverend Canon Mervyn & Mrs Dianne Peoples	30.00
From The Very Reverend Raymond Stewart	50.00
From Brian & Pauline Doherty	30.00
From Jacqui Armstrong & James Sarsteiner	200.00
From Morris & Shirley Forbes	50.00
From Mildred Deans	30.00
From Alison Howe	30.00
From Charlie & Joan Ferguson	25.00
From Ian Bartlett	25.00
From Ray Mace	25.00
From Sylvia McIntosh	20.00
From Ken and Joan Doherty	50.00
From Garth Doherty	60.00
From Joy & Billy Begley	40.00
From Gwen & David Higgins	50.00
From Fred and Sandra Simpson, Castlerock	25.00
From Lorraine Bradley	20.00
From Ken Gamble	50.00
<b>Thankoffering for Private Communion</b>	
From Winston & Nan Carson	20.00
<b>Thankoffering for Christmas Holy Communion</b>	
Anonymous	10.00
From Emily Hepburn	20.00
From Helen Jones	50.00
From the residents of Somme Park	12.00
<b>Bell Inspection Fees</b>	
From the Cathedral Bellringers	200.00
<b>DONATIONS</b>	
To Fabric Fund - Anonymous	30.00
Anonymous	500.00
<b>CHOIR FUND</b>	
Donation in memory of Aubrey Fielding	
From William & Elma Lynn	50.00

**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

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



To website

## **MARCH 2024 Magazine**

**Please submit your contribution/s to [linda@stcolumbs.net](mailto:linda@stcolumbs.net)  
before SUNDAY 25th February 2024.**

***The Publication will be available from SUNDAY 3rd March.***



For donations