



The King's Award for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

INDEX OF CONTENTS

3. The Rector writes
6. Palm Sunday - Presentation of the KAVS Award
10. Bible Readings
11. Church Flower Rota
12. LEAH / Church Café
13. Luminare Presents - Suzanne Savage
14. Baby Ollie Visits St. Augustine's Church
15. Exodus Fundraiser / SALT / Pew Cushions
16. Church Services / Events
18. Maundy Thursday Service for Readers & Clergy
19. The Men's Group
20. Tourist Ministry / Spare Bibles / Safeguarding
21. In Memoriams / Donations
22. Children's Colouring Page
24. Creevagh House Garden Open
25. The Big Sing with Joyful Together
26. Finding Peace In A Troubled World Booklet
27. Contact Information
28. Foyle Hospice Garden Party Open House



St. Augustine's Church Website

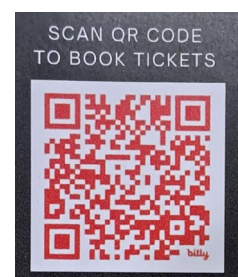


**The King's Award
for Voluntary Service**

The MBE for volunteer groups



Derry & Raphoe Diocese



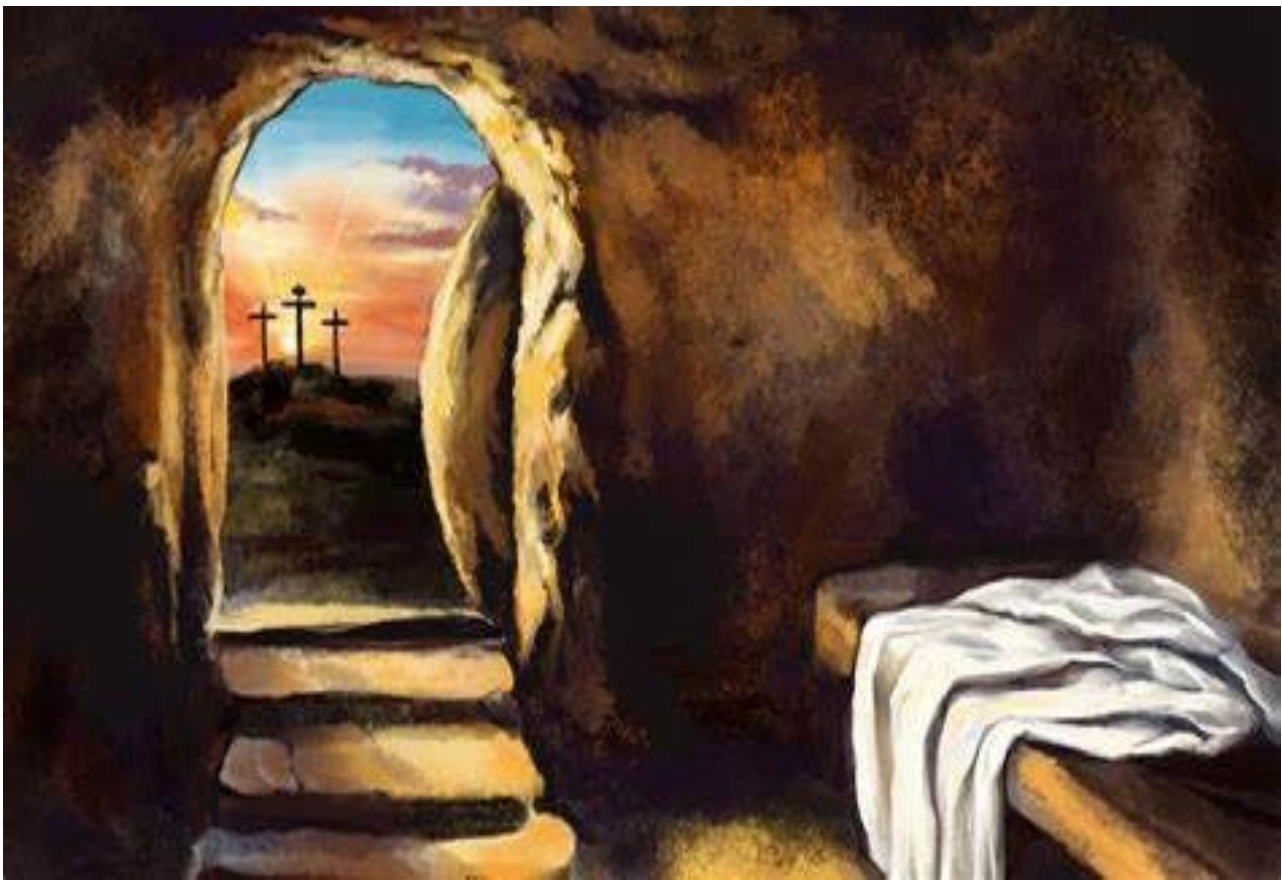
Music Capital Concerts

""With great power the apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all.' Acts 4 v33

The Rector writes

A huge thank you to everyone who faithfully supported the Lenten Services. They were ably led by one of our readers, Alan Neely, and on the occasions that I was away, Sandra McConnell delivered the address. Thanks to the other readers too who read the scriptures and to Lauren for providing musical accompaniment for the hymns.

I'm sure you will agree that the usual Holy Thursday and Good Friday services were suitably poignant, and now we're in a whole new season of joy at the truth of the good news of the resurrection of Jesus.



As Lent came near an end, usually Palm Sunday is a slightly more up-beat service before the intensity of Holy Week. Of course, for us, Palm Sunday was quite a day indeed. We had a magnificent service which welcomed civic dignitaries, friends, guests, volunteers and Bishop Andrew gave a most inspiring sermon. At this service we received the King's Award for Volunteering.

What an historic moment in the life of the wee church! After the service we enjoyed a buffet lunch together, and it all seemed to go down a treat. Well done once again to all of our volunteers past and present, and here's to building upon the welcome our church is famed for.

""With great power the apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all.' Acts 4 v33

At time of writing, the Easter General Vestry hasn't quite taken place yet, but I thank once again the outgoing members of the Select Vestry together with our principal officers and other supplemental officers. And on the other side of that same coin, I pray that anyone who will be nominated into new positions will be willing to serve in these various capacities.



Recently you may have heard that we have been successful in our funding application to provide much needed renovations to the cottage. A huge word of thanks to Alwyn Robinson, Drew White, Peter Kelly (consultant) and David Graham (architect) for their sterling work in securing this grant. There are a few hoops to go through both at diocesan level and at the RCB, however we hope we can successfully receive the necessary permissions to progress as soon as practicable.



The icing on the cake is that this generous funding should free up some of our own parish resources in order to progress some of the work we have been 'threatening' for the last little while – redecorating the main hall and treating some of the dampness in the hall corridors to name but a few. As all of this takes significant investment for future generations I would appeal for your continued generosity to the building fund.

Regarding our church finances, I offer a sincere word of thanks to our weekly 'counters' and to Drew White, Linda Allen and our auditors for their good financial governance over the past year. The Hon Treasurer will make his report at the Easter General Vestry, but a couple of headlines –

- ♦ We are very blessed to receive grant aid to renovate the cottage. Otherwise it would have to be sold off and the asset would be lost to us.
- ♦ The church is in a reasonably sound overall financial position in the short term.
- ♦ We need £7500 per month to operate as we are doing.

HOWEVER

- ♦ Since November 2024, weekly and monthly free-will offerings are lower than the equivalent period last year. This is an interesting statistic because, overall, attendances were higher.
- ♦ Out of about 180 households who receive envelopes **79** have not contributed anything. It goes without saying that this is a very worrying and unsustainable statistic which does not bode well for the long-term future. If you really want St. Augustine's to be in good shape for the next generation, then it's time to commit to it both through attendance and financial giving via the FWO and gift aid schemes.
- ♦ Please reinforce these key messages to any family members and friends who are currently not supporting their church as they might.

Finally, as part of this magazine, you will notice a little leaflet entitled 'Stepping out in faith together.' This leaflet gives a flavour of how the partnership with the Diocese of Kondoa is shaping up, and also provides some pointers on how we can help. I commend this to you.

Wishing you every blessing

Rev'd Nigel



PALM SUNDAY SERVICE - 13th APRIL 2025

THE PRESENTATION OF THE KING'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE









BIBLE READINGS - MAY 2025

DATE	BIBLE READING	TITLE
1 st May	Exodus 23 : 1 - 19	Godly routine
2 nd May	Exodus 23 : 20 – 33	Listen carefully
3 rd May	Exodus 24 : 1 – 18	The God of Israel
4 th May	Psalms 36	God is our refuge
5 th May	Hebrews 1: 1 – 4	Unquestionably unique
6 th May	Hebrews 1 : 5 – 14	Not just an angel !
7 th May	Hebrews 2 : 1 – 9	Ignorance – not a bliss!
8 th May	Hebrews 2 : 10 – 18	Paths of glory
9 th May	Hebrews 3 : 1 – 6	Focused and faithful
10 th May	Hebrews 3 : 7 – 19	A mandate to be good
11 th May	Psalms 37	Who are you talking to ?
12 th May	Hebrews 4 : 1 – 11	Divine destinations
13 th May	Hebrews 4 : 12 – 16	Severe and sympathetic
14 th May	Hebrews 5 : 1 – 10	Humbled when elevated
15 th May	Hebrews 5 : 11 – 6: 3	Grow up, child !
16 th May	Hebrews 6 : 4 – 12	Admonished and encouraged
17 th May	Hebrews 6 : 13 – 20	Assurances of hope
18 th May	Psalms 38	Being in pain
19 th May	Isaiah 40 : 1 – 11	God of comfort
20 th May	Isaiah 40 : 12 – 31	Incomparable God
21 st May	Isaiah 41 : 1 -29	God in control
22 nd May	Isaiah 42 : 1 – 9	God who is a gentle Saviour
23 rd May	Isaiah 42 : 10 – 25	God who brings judgement
24 th May	Isaiah 43 : 1 -13	God who loves us
25 th May	Psalms 39	God who hears our cries
26 th May	Isaiah 43 : 14 – 28	God of all time
27 th May	Isaiah 44 : 1 - 8	God who gives us his Spirit
28 th May	Isaiah 44 : 9 – 23	God who hates idolatry
29 th May	Isaiah 44 : 24 – 28	God who will for ever reign
30 th May	Isaiah 45 : 1 – 8	God who brings light
31 st May	Isaiah 45 : 9 – 25	God we can trust

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

FLOWER LIST - MAY 2025



4th May Cynthia Mills

11th May The Whiteside family

18th May June Peoples

25th May Noel Glenn

There are some vacancies in the flower rota. If you are interested in helping out please speak to Mrs Elizabeth Montgomery on 02871 301432

LEAH LUNCH

May's LEAH Lunch will be held on **Tuesday 6th** starting with Holy Communion in the church at 11.30am followed by lunch in the Howe Room at 12.15pm.



Fellowship Meal

PLEASE let us know **by Sunday 4th May** if you will be attending. Just give your name to Maureen or any of the catering team or alternatively my mobile number is - **07980667613**. LEAH is now in its 17th year and we look forward to carrying it through to our 18th with your continuing support. Many thanks.

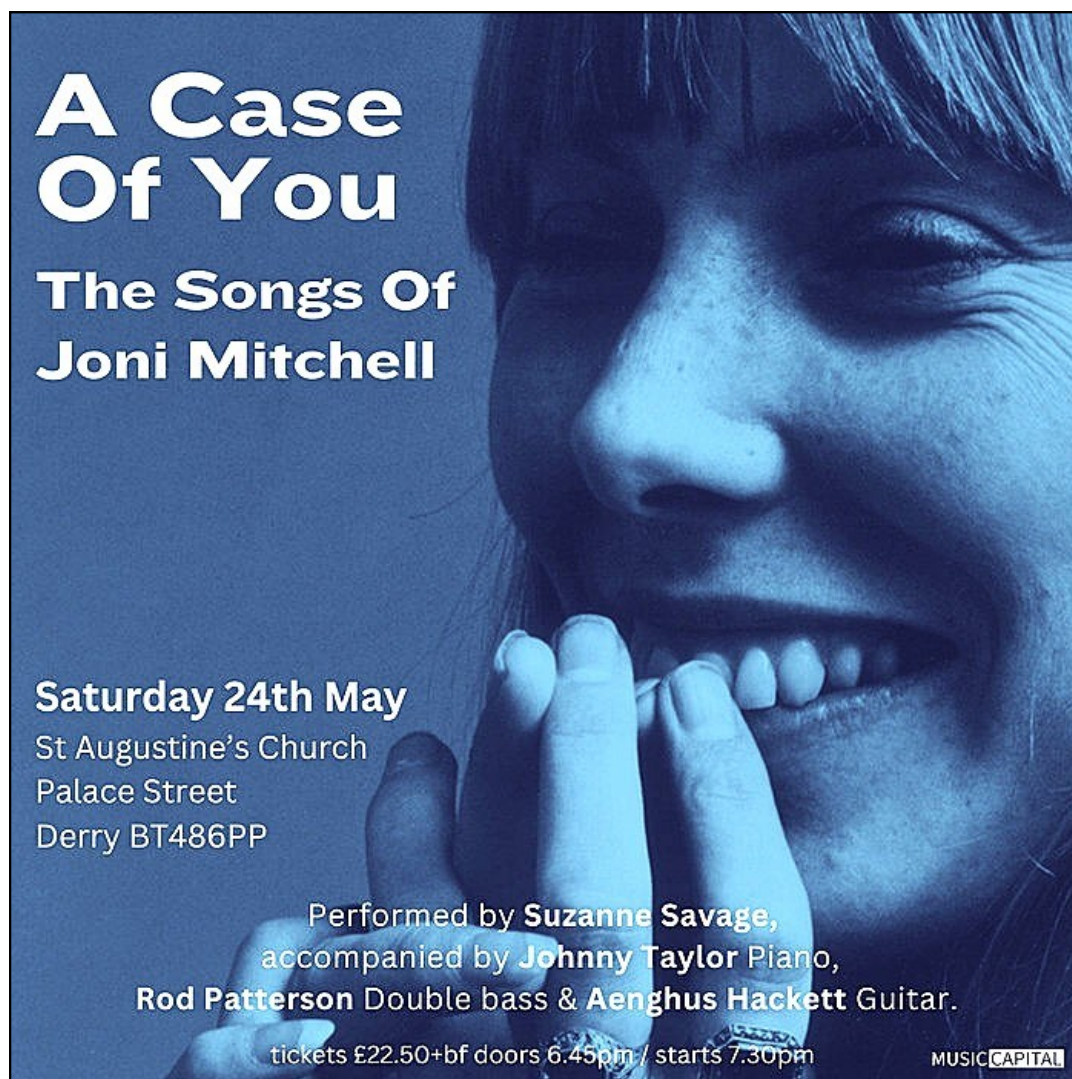
CHURCH CAFE

Our May Cafe will take place on **Saturday 31st from 10am to 4pm**. If you're out and about on that date try and come along and support us. Every £ you spend in the cafe continues to raise much needed funds for our church's coffers. All the usual homemade goodies will be on offer from scones to traybakes, breakfasts to lunches and much more. We look forward to seeing you there for a bite to eat & a bit of a chat 'n chew!!



LUMINARE PRESENTS

Suzanne Savage returns to St Augustine's on **Saturday 24th May**, this time performing the songs of Joni Mitchell in her show "A Case of You", featuring songs such as 'A Case of You, Both Sides Now, Carey, This Flight Tonight, Circle Song' and many more ... It's one not to be missed!!



As always our thanks go to **Kieran Dunlop** and **Music Capital** for bringing such talent to the 'wee church on the walls'. (www.musiccapital.org for further details)



BABY OLLIE VISITS ST. AUGUSTINES

Four generations of the Moore family who attended St. Augustine's on Easter Sunday to witness the Blessing by Rev'd Nigel of baby Ollie - the most recent addition to the family.



Great-granny Betty, Granny Velda, Mum Megan and Dad Sean with Ollie and Rev'd Nigel pictured after the Blessing.



EXODUS FUNDRAISER

This year Megan's Exodus Team are taking the gospel message to Spain. The usual efforts to fundraising are underway, amongst them we are thinking about having a 'movie night' in the church hall on **Saturday 10th May 2025**.



It will be a family movie – pop corn provided! – and the evening will be free of charge with a voluntary donation towards the Team. Please support if you can!

SALT

The SALT ladies have all been working so hard to produce fidget muffs for dementia patients, blankets and items for premature babies. I am so proud of everyone involved.



Our next meeting will be on the 21st May not the 14th May at 2pm in the Canon Howe room. We are hoping to go out for our June meeting and will make plans for that in May. Looking forward to catching up .

Deirdre

PEW CUSHIONS

The pew cushions were dedicated at our family service on Mother's Day. They have been a wonderful enhancement to the church building. Thank you to everyone who donated or contributed to this most worthwhile project.

CHURCH EVENTS—MAY 2025

Sunday 4th May	11:00am	The Third Sunday of Easter Holy Communion Kidzklub & STAY – Off for Bank Holiday Weekend
Monday 5 th May		No Prayer meeting
Tues 6 th May	11.30am 12.15pm	Holy Communion 1 LEAH Lunch
Wed 7 th May	7.30pm	St. Columb's Cathedral - VE80 Service
Thurs 8 th May	7.30pm	Men's Club (First Derry) VE Talk
Friday 9 th May		General Synod of the Church of Ireland begins
Sat 10 th May		General Synod of the Church of Ireland
Sunday 11th May	11am 7pm	The Fourth Sunday of Easter Morning Prayer Kidzklub & STAY Vestry Service – for all church wardens and vestry members and safeguarding panels in our rural deanery area
Mon 12 th May	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting on Zoom
Tues 13 th May	10.30am	Holy Communion 1
Wed 14 th May	7.30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sat 17 th May		Wedding in the church

Sunday 18th May	11.00am	Fifth Sunday of Easter Morning Prayer Kidzklub STAY
Monday 19 th May	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 20 th May	10.30am	Holy Communion 1
Wed 21 st May	2.00pm 7.30pm	SALT Choir Rehearsal
Sunday 25th May	11.00am	The Sixth Sunday of Easter Morning Prayer Kidzklub & STAY
Monday 26 th May		No Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 27 th May	10.30am	Holy Communion 1
Wed 28 th May	7.30pm	Diocesan Finance and General Purposes Meeting Diocesan Glebes and Property Meeting Choir Rehearsal
Sat 31 st May		Church Café Diocesan Family Fun Day (Castlerock)
Sunday 1st June	11am	The Seventh Sunday of Easter The Sunday after the Ascension Holy Communion 2 Kidzklub & STAY



***All church services are
livestreamed to our
social media platforms***



MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE FOR READERS & CLERGY

There was a good representation of our Parish Readers at the renewal of commissioning vows service in St. Columb's Cathedral on Maundy Thursday. At this service readers, deacons and priests all had the opportunity to reaffirm their vows of service and ministry. The Bishop conducted the service, and was assisted by Rev'd Canon John Merrick and Cathedral Reader Jacqui Armstrong.



The Mens Group

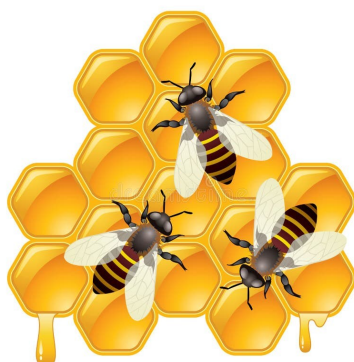
FIRST DERRY MEN'S CLUB

The next meeting of the joint churches Men's Club will take place in First Derry Church Hall on **Thursday 8th May at 7:30pm**. The speaker will be Mr Richard Doherty who will talk on VE and the Battle of the Atlantic. This is a very topical theme as we remember VE80. All are very welcome to attend.



ST. COLUMB'S CATHEDRAL MEN'S SOCIETY

The next meeting of this group will take place on **Tuesday 20th May at 7:30pm** in the Diocesan Centre, London Street. The speaker will be Mr Bob Sloane who will give a talk on Beekeeping. There is the usual cup of tea and opportunity to have a chat afterwards.

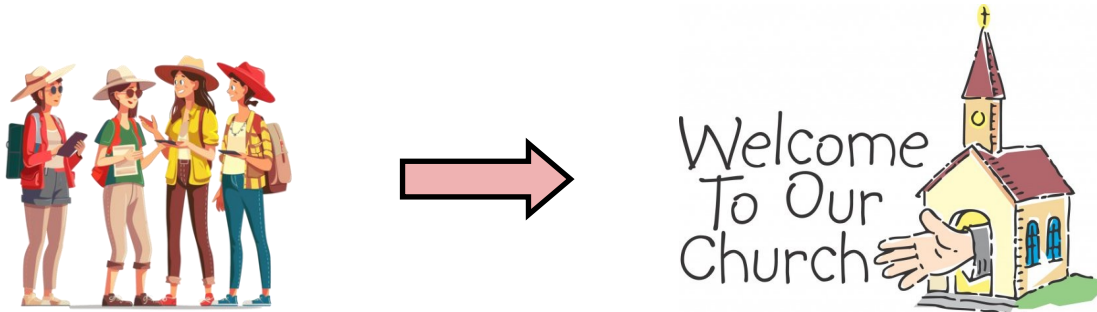


If you are interested in attending you will be made very welcome as they are always looking for new members.

(Contact Mr Robert McGonigle BEM Parish Administrator, St Columb's Cathedral on 028 7137 1633 or mobile 07794 666754)

TOURIST MINISTRY

The tourism ministry starts on **Monday 28th April**. This is a huge undertaking on the part of our volunteers, and we always need more help to keep things running smoothly. If you could spare a couple of hours per week, or a couple of hours per month, or anything at all really, we would love to hear from you.



There is always the need for covering holidays so don't be shy! Please speak to Hazel, Maureen or the Rector about this. Additionally if any young person is looking for volunteering opportunities for EPIC awards or Duke of Ed, then this could be an excellent opportunity. Tourist ministry is very rewarding and you have the opportunity to meet some very interesting people from all parts of the globe.

Also - be assured that a detailed knowledge of the history of the church is not required – all the tourists need to know will be on the pop up banners, flyers and the virtual tour!

SPARE BIBLES

I'm sure many households could almost sell bibles! If you have any spare ones that you would be willing to donate to YWAM (Young People with a Mission), they are collecting them for onward distribution to Logos Ministries International. Ultimately, the bibles will be sent to Africa for any family or community who wants to have a bible for themselves and read God's word.

SAFEGUARDING

The Safeguarding Panel continues to meet regularly. Remember if there are any safeguarding concerns, they should be shared with Mrs Irene White, Mr Marshall Kilgore or the Rector. There is a comprehensive suite of Safeguarding and Health & Safety Policies which are available in hard copy, upon request.

""With great power the apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all.' Acts 4 v33

IN MEMORIAMs

In memory of my father Rev'd Canon Dr Leslie Maconachie

£100.00 from Deirdre Amor

In loving memory of Thomas & Annette Hetherington

£40.00 from Norma & Gordon Robinson

DONATIONS TO PEW CUSHION FUND

In memory of my husband Lionel Mills

£50.00 from Cynthia Mills

DONATIONS TO BUILDING FUND

£100.00 from Dr Alison Howe

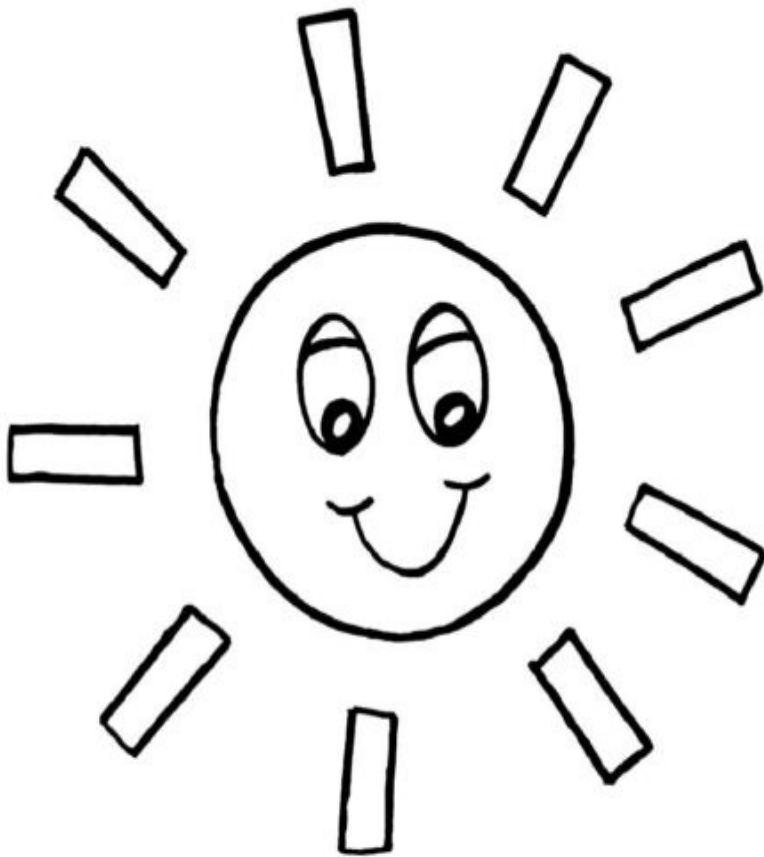
£600.00 from anonymous

£10.00 from anonymous

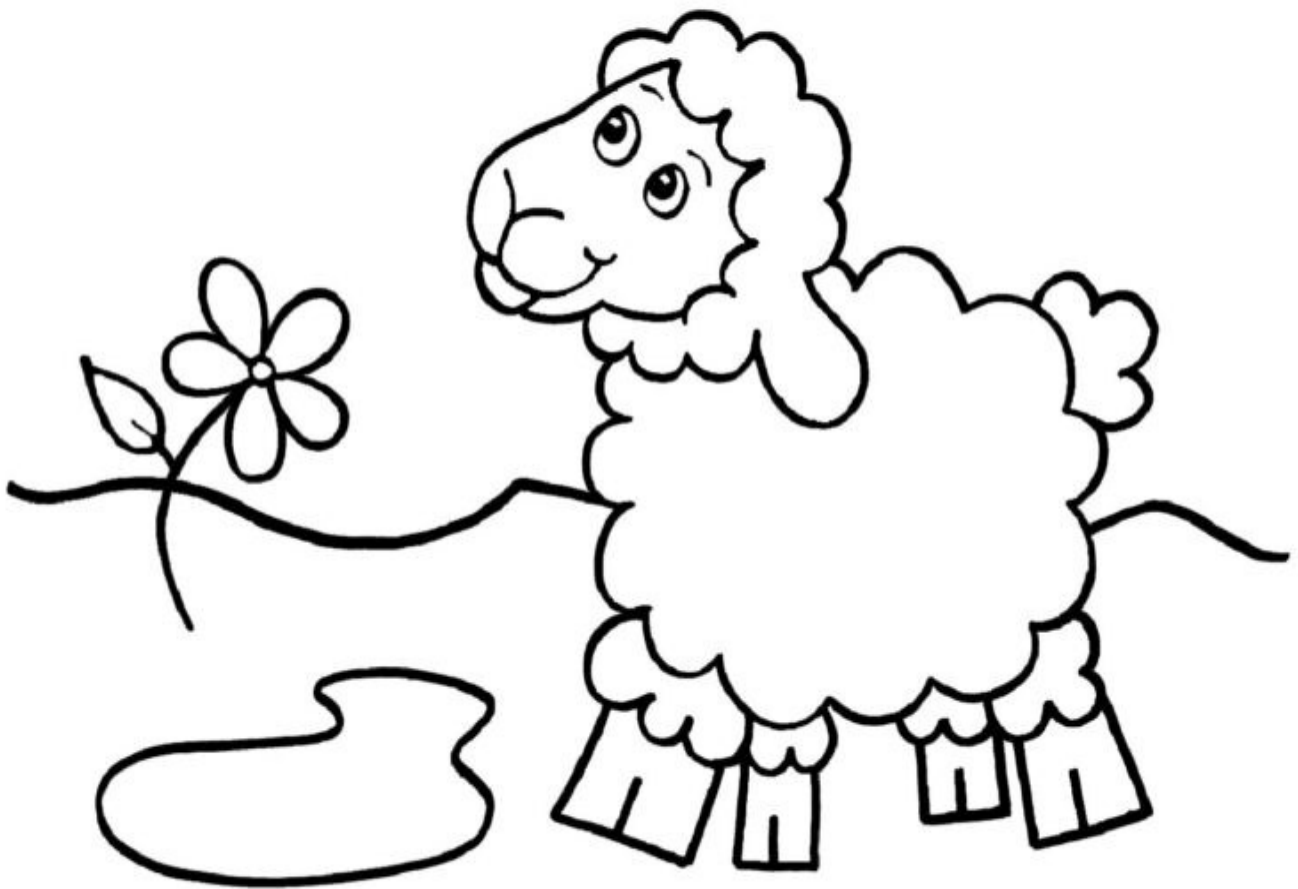
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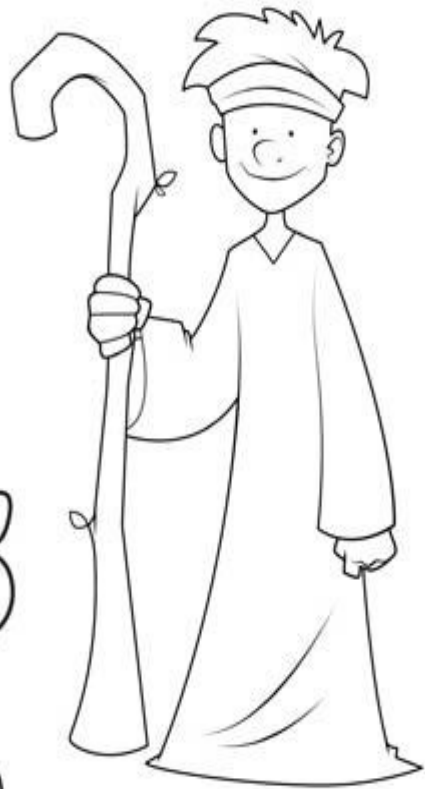
""With great power the apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all.' Acts 4 v33



The Lord
is my
shepherd.
I have
all that I
need.
Psalms 23:1



GOD
knows
His plan
for each
of us.



Jeremiah 29:11

Creevagh House Garden

Open GARDEN 2025



63 Letterkenny Road
Londonderry/Derry BT48 9XQ

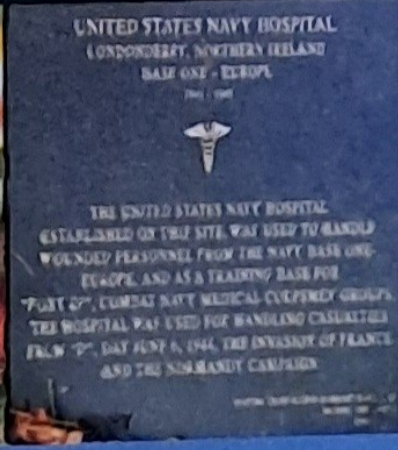
Creevagh House is registered with the National Garden Scheme this year.

The NGS oversees gardens open to the public with a **£7 per adult admission (Children free)**.

Creevagh House Garden, home of William & Elma Lynn, is open **BY APPOINTMENT** to individuals or small groups from 21st April to 31st May. Telephone to book – **07771608084**.

The garden is in its majesty in the month of April/ May with azaleas, rhododendrons, magnolias and bluebell walks. It is wheelchair accessible and there are picnic tables.

All funds go to medical charities including Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Parkinson's UK, amongst others. Last year NGS raised over £3 million of which Northern Ireland Gardens raised £50,000.



The Big Sing

With Joyful Together



Combine forces with Joyful Together in singing some of their favourite spiritual songs in the beautiful Carlisle Road Methodist Church

7 June 2025

2pm-4pm

Carlisle Road Methodist Church



Free admission

Doors open at 1:30 and tea and coffee will be provided

This will be a participative, inclusive, relaxed, and cross community event. **No need to be a brilliant singer or to read music.** Prior knowledge of songs not required. Song sheets and projection of words provided

Joyful Together are not a choir, but an enthusiastic group of singers and musicians inspired by Wesleyan tradition, obsessed by all things tuneful, ancient and modern.



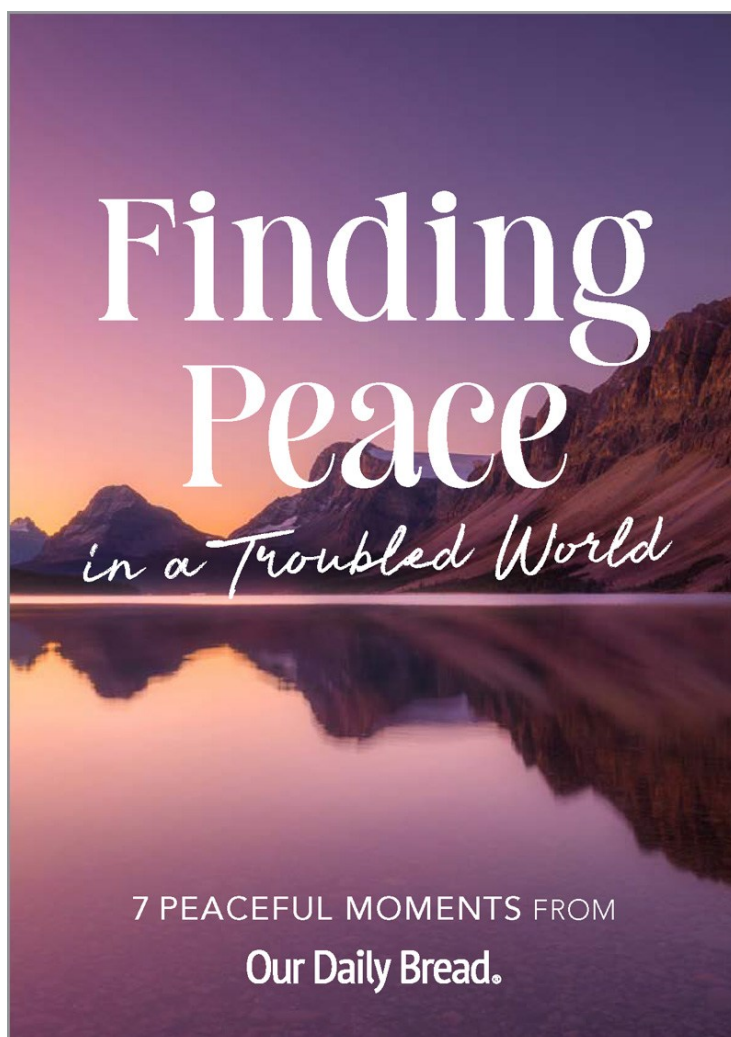
It's going to be a good one!



Email Jim Simpson to confirm attendance at
james.alfred.simpson@gmail.com



FINDING PEACE IN A TROUBLED WORLD



Is it even possible to feel at peace when the world and even our own homes can be so turbulent? What does peace in the midst of chaos even feel like?

These *Our Daily Bread* reflections, prayers, journalling pages and calming Bible-based meditations will help you draw near to your heavenly Father to experience the peace He promises to those who surrender every situation to Him in prayer. No matter what season you are facing, in Christ you can access the peace that is infinitely stronger than everything else.

Read the full booklet and order your print copy for free below!



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Email : weechurch@btinternet.com

Safeguarding Trust Panel

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Mr. Marshall Kilgore MBE - 02871 342461

Mrs. Irene White - 07547 305562

Rector's Church Warden: Miss Chloe Guthrie

(Mobile No. 07849 793717)

People's Church Warden: Mrs. Maureen Neely

(Mobile No. 07446 370000)

Organist : Miss Lauren Duncan

(Mobile No. 07742 102868)

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Drew White

(Mobile No. 07894 262349)

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Deirdre Amor MBE

(Mobile No. 07788 146676)

Donations Secretary: Mrs. Deirdre Amor MBE

(Mobile No. 07788 146676)

Magazine Editor: Mr. Alan Neely

(Mobile No. 0779 1414165)

Parish Readers

Mrs. Deirdre Amor MBE, Mrs. Alison Cairns,
Mrs. Maureen Neely, Miss Sandra McConnell,
Mr. Drew White, Mr. Robert Lynch, Mr Alan Neely



GARDEN PARTY

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday 10th May 2025 | Noon to 3pm

Stroll our Gardens, meet our staff, celebrate our 40 years!

Light refreshments provided

Foyle Hospice, 61 Culmore Road, BT48 8JE

RSVP Diane at 028 7135 1010 or dianedivin@foylehospice.com

