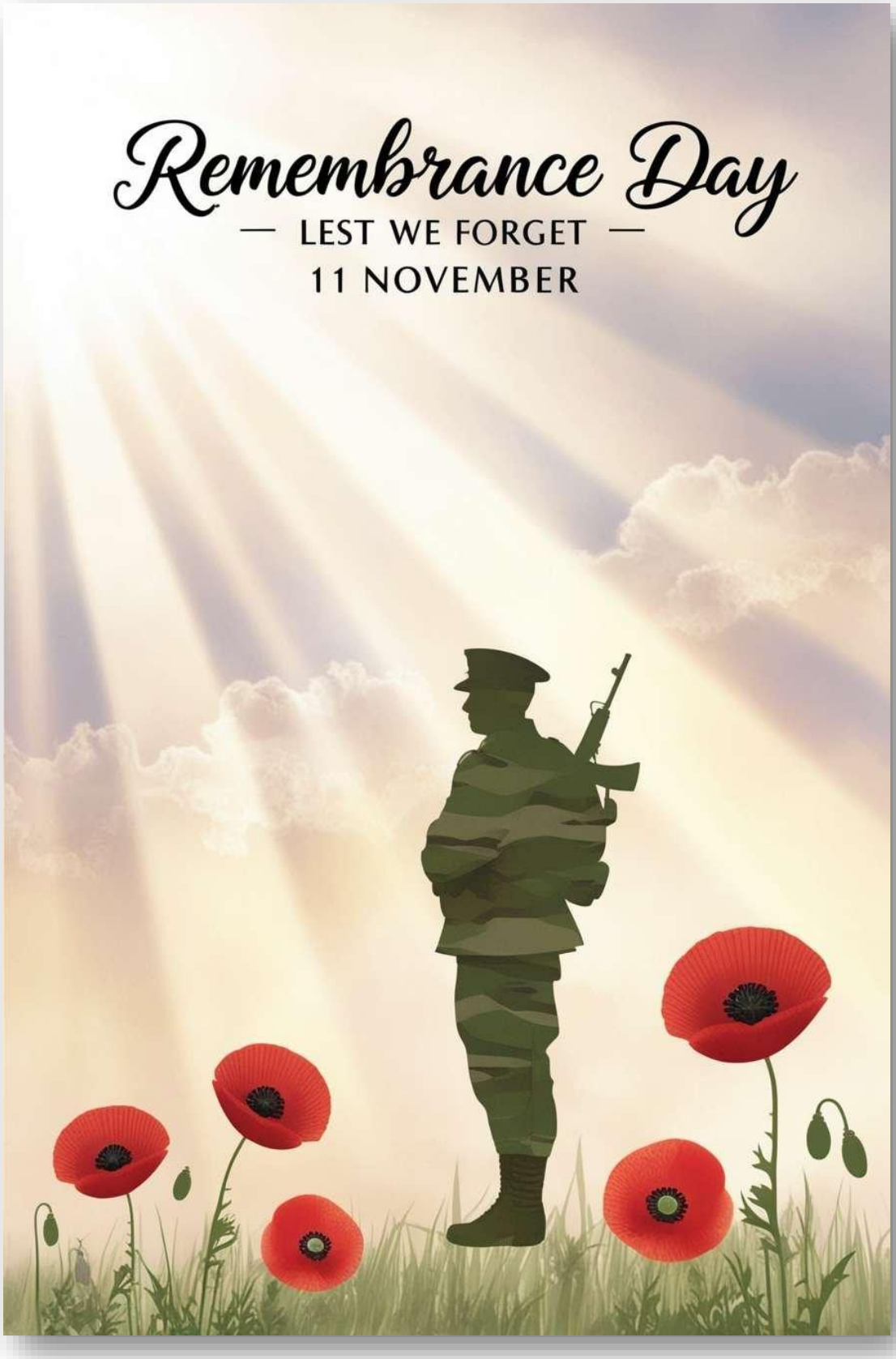
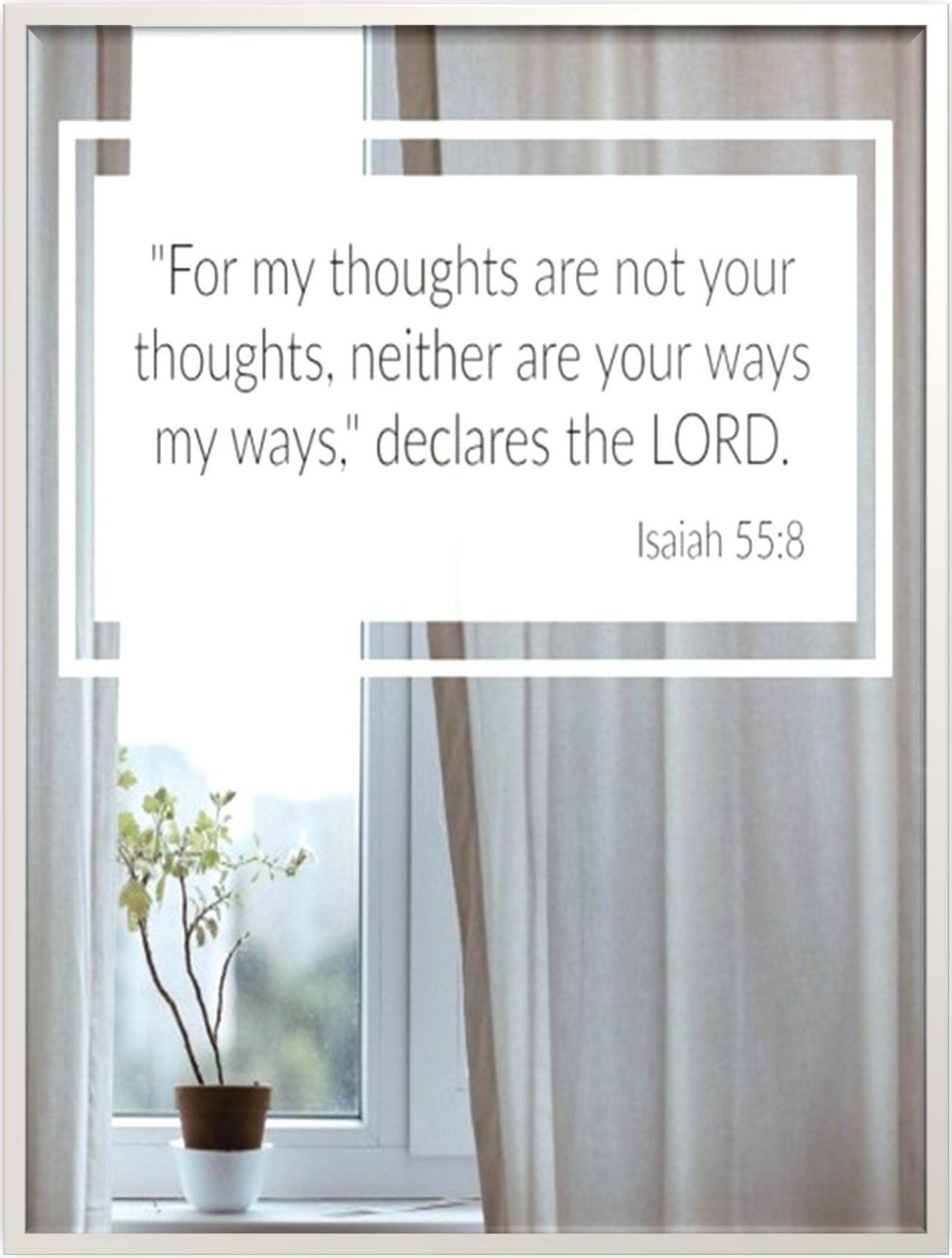
ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH



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NOVEMBER 2026


"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.
Isaiah 55:8

From the Dean …….

As we move into November, I find myself reflecting on what has been another busy and rewarding month in the life of our parish grouping. October has been a time of thanksgiving, celebration and fellowship, and I want to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed so much to the life of our churches.

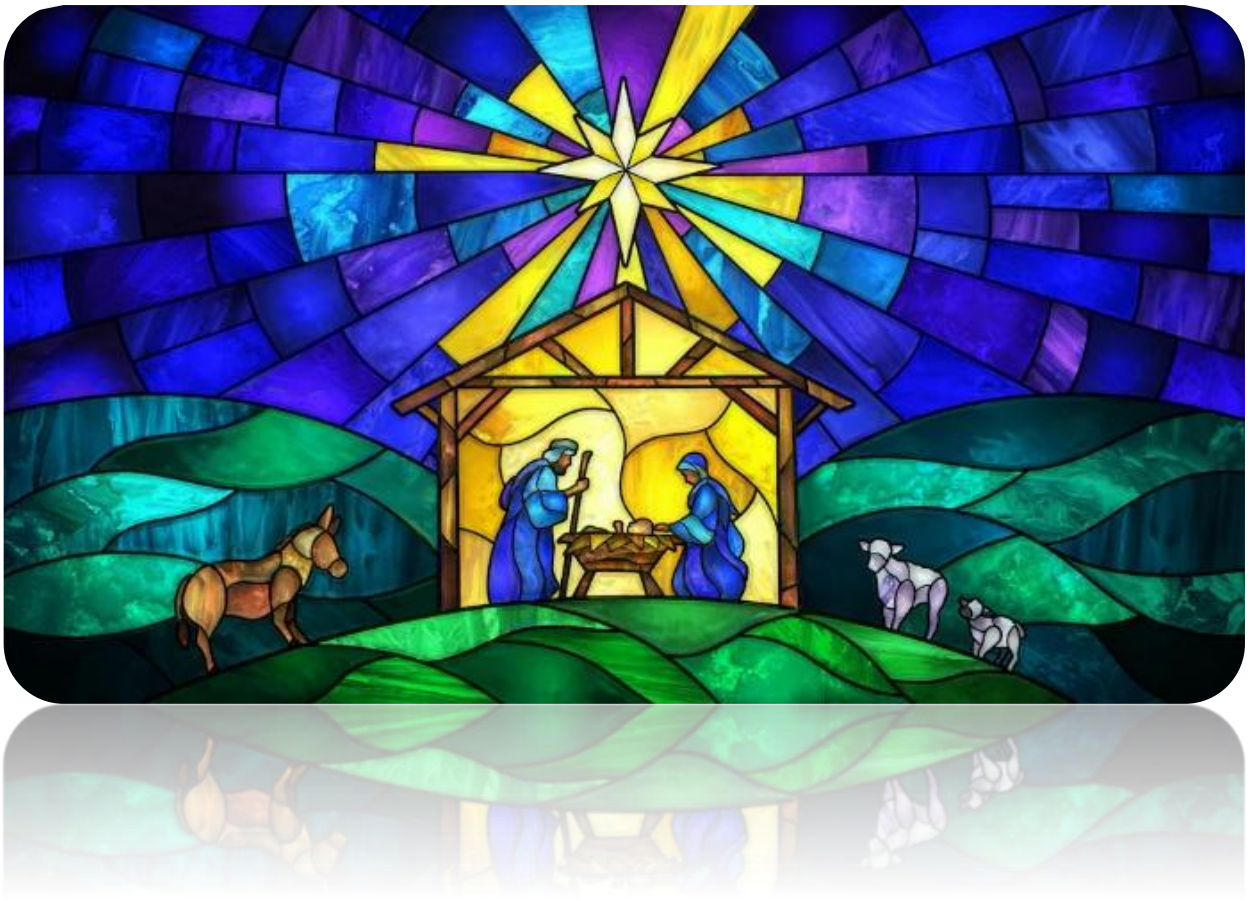
Our Harvest Thanksgiving services were beautifully enhanced by the decorations in both churches, and I am enormously grateful to all who gave their time, energy and creativity to make them so special. Thank you, too, to everyone who worked behind the scenes to ensure that our various services throughout the month went so well. One particular highlight was the installation service for our new Archdeacon which took place in the Cathedral, followed by a welcome opportunity for fellowship and refreshments in St Augustine's Halls. These occasions remind us that the life of the Church is sustained not only through our worship but also through the generosity and commitment of so many people.

Our latest block of Bible Study has now concluded, and I would like to thank everyone who participated, as well as Bob Amor for so ably leading us. These opportunities to explore Scripture together are an important part of growing in faith and understanding, and I hope that all who attended found them both stimulating and encouraging.

November promises to be equally busy. On Sunday 1st November, All Saints' Day, the Cathedral will host a special Choral Evensong at 4.00pm to mark the 500th anniversary of the Tyndale Bible, with the Archdeacon of Raphoe, the Venerable David Huss, preaching. At the same time, St Augustine's will welcome the City of Londonderry Grand Orange Lodge for its customary Evening Prayer service commemorating the failure of the Gunpowder Plot, led and preached by the Reverend Sean McClafferty. Later that evening, the annual interdenominational *Walk in the Light* begins at Long Tower at 7.30pm, bringing Christians together to share the light of the Gospel on our city streets following the Hallowe'en festival. It would be great to have a goodly representation from both churches for these various services on 1st November. The following Saturday, 7th November, St Augustine's will then host its annual coffee morning - details to follow.

Remembrance will rightly occupy our thoughts during the first part of the month. This year, the War Memorial in the Diamond will be rededicated on Sunday 8th November following its refurbishment, immediately before the main Act of Remembrance. Earlier that morning, wreaths will be laid at St Augustine's at 9.30am, with the Britannia Concert Band leading the praise. The Cathedral will then observe its usual arrangements for the morning service following the proceedings at the Diamond.

Later in the month, the Cathedral Christmas Festival opens on Monday 23rd November, a much-loved event in the city's preparations for Christmas. Volunteers are warmly invited to offer their help. Finally, Advent Sunday falls on 29th November, when our Cathedral Advent Procession begins at 7.30pm. With the full choirs and the beautiful symbolism of light spreading from east to west, this is a wonderful way to begin our spiritual journey towards Christmas.



With so much to look forward to, Christmas will be upon us before we know it! In the meantime, may God bless us all as we prepare our hearts to welcome the coming of Christ.

The Very Reverend Nigel Cairns

Dean of Derry

Rector of Templemore and St Augustine's

THE PROBLEM WITH MY PERFECT PLAN (article by Lysa Ter Keurst)

'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,' declares the LORD. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts'" (Isaiah 55:8-9, NIV).

I am a planner. A problem solver. When I bring my struggles to the Lord in prayer, I also tend to bring my carefully thought-out ideas and suggestions He can choose from.

But the longer I walk with Him, the more I'm discovering that simply isn't the way God works. Isaiah 55:8-9 tells us, *"'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,' declares the LORD. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.'"*

Today I also want to introduce you to another Old Testament friend who has something to teach us about God's ways: Joshua.

In Joshua 6, we find him and the Israelites experiencing a problem of epic proportions. There was a massive wall preventing them from moving forward into Jericho, part of their promised land. I'm sure there was no shortage of ideas on how they should tackle the wall, but God didn't ask anyone for their opinion. Not even Joshua, Israel's leader.

Instead, God asked for His people's complete and unwavering obedience. Obedience to a battle plan that would have made no sense to their rational minds. A plan that actually involved no "battle" whatsoever.

All God wanted them to do was march. For six days straight, they were to march around the walls of Jericho. Then, on the seventh day of marching, they were to end with trumpet blasts and a great shout. God declared this mighty sound would bring the walls down.

Step after step after step they obeyed.

Even though nothing appeared to change… even though there wasn't a single sign of cracking or crumbling in those massive walls… they kept marching.

Isn't it hard when we don't see God moving the way we thought He would? It's difficult to trust He's working behind the scenes.

So, what do we do when He asks us to move in ways that don't make sense to us? How do we keep marching when the situation still looks hopeless?

We make the same choice the Israelites made. We choose to walk by faith, not by sight. We take God at His word and hold fiercely to His promises.

The victory of God's people never hinged on their ability or any of their well-thought-out plans. It was solely dependent on their unwavering obedience offered to a loving and mighty God.

I don't know what steps of obedience God is currently calling you to take that don't make sense to you. But let me be the gentle whisper in your ear encouraging you to keep going. Keep trusting. Keep taking step after step after obedient step.

In which areas of your life have you been hesitant to move in obedience to God? What steps of obedience might you need to take even though you feel weary?

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY (8th NOVEMBER)

Rather than combine services, we've come up with a new plan for St Augustine's which will continue to respectfully remember the fallen who were associated with our church. At 9.30am, there will be a short service of remembrance in the church with hymns, readings, prayers and the laying of wreaths. We are very pleased that the Britannia Concert Band will lead the hymns and music in the church. It is hoped that the congregation would then have a quick cup of tea together before joining the main act of remembrance at the war memorial should they so wish.

This year we will have the pleasure of rededicating the war memorial following its refurbishment. It would therefore be advisable to attend ten minutes earlier than usual. We are really looking forward to welcoming the Britannia Concert Band which has a longstanding association with St Augustine's and its families.

COTTAGE

The cottage is beginning to take shape now. The plastering (inside and outside) is well advanced and the finishes for the interior have been chosen and ordered. We are excited that this project is almost there – if feels like a long time ago since it all started. A huge thank you to the management team for its ongoing work and monthly (sometimes weekly!) meetings with a rather long 'to do list' between each meeting. We pray that it will complete in the very near future.

NEW APPOINTMENT TO THE RCB

At the recent Synod Meeting held in the city, Mr Drew White was appointed as a lay representative from the Diocese of Derry and Raphoe to the Representative Church Body of the Church of Ireland. Congratulations to Drew!

CHURCH EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Sunday 1st Nov		**All Saints' Day**
	10.20am	Holy Communion 2, Kidzklub, STAY
	4.00pm	Evening Prayer (St Augustine's)
		Tyndale 500 (St Columb's)
	7.30pm	Walk in the Light (beginning at Long Tower)
Mon 2nd Nov	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting (Zoom)
Tues 3rd Nov	10.30am	Holy Communion 1
Wed 4th Nov	7.30pm	Choir
Sat 7th Nov		COFFEE MORNING 10:30am – 12:30pm
		Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 8th Nov	**9.30am**	Hymns, Prayers & Act of Remembrance
Mon 9th Nov	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
Tues 10th Nov	11.30am	Holy Communion 1 (Church)
		Remembrance LEAH Lunch (give names to Ivan)
	7.30pm	Templemore Mother's Union
Wed 11th Nov	7.30pm	Choir
Thurs 12th Nov	7.30pm	Men's Society, First Derry
		Captain Sean Fitzgerald – 'Mercy Ships'
Sunday 15th Nov		**The Second Sunday before Advent**
	10.20am	Morning Prayer, Kidzklub, STAY
Mon 16th Nov	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting

Tues 17th Nov	10.30am	Holy Communion 1 (Canon Howe Room)
Wed 18th Nov	7.30pm	Choir
Sunday 22nd Nov	**10:20am**	**The Kingship of Christ** Morning Prayer
Mon 23rd Nov	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
Tues 24th	10,30am	Holy Communion 1 (Canon Howe Room)
Wed 25th	7.30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 28th		Church Café
Sunday 29th Nov	**10.20am** **7.30pm**	**The First Sunday of Advent** Readings, Antiphons and Meditations for Advent Advent Procession – St Columb's Cathedral
Monday 30th	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 1st	10.30am	Holy Communion 1 (Canon Howe Room)

'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,' declares the LORD. (Isaiah 55:8)

All Sunday Morning Church Services are live-streamed to our Facebook and Youtube channels.

Find us on Facebook

YouTube

BIBLE READINGS

DATE	READING	TITLE
1st November	Psalm 110	Now and not yet
2nd November	Jeremiah 40: 1 - 41: 3	Reigning in hell?
3rd November	Jeremiah 41: 16 – 42: 22	Should I stay or should I go?
4th November	Jeremiah 43: 1 – 13	"As I was saying …."
5th November	Jeremiah 44: 1 – 30	"God don't like it"
6th November	Jeremiah 51: 33 – 64	The biter, bit
7th November	Jeremiah 52: 1 – 34	So, to sum it up ….
8th November	Psalm 111	What humility does
9th November	Ephesians 1: 1 – 14	Here for a reason
10th November	Ephesians 1: 15 – 23	More than a concept
11th November	Ephesians 2: 1 – 10	Unending grace
12th November	Ephesians 2: 11 – 22	A new human species
13th November	Ephesians 3: 1 – 13	The vital connection
14th November	Ephesians 3: 14 – 21	Taking it all in
15th November	Psalm 112	Gifts scattered freely
16th November	Ephesians 4: 1 – 16	Living the truth
17th November	Ephesians 4: 17 – 32	All change!
18th November	Ephesians 5: 1 – 20	Lights in the street
19th November	Ephesians 5: 21 – 33	Home as temple
20th November	Ephesians 6: 1 – 9	Extended households
21st November	Ephesians 6: 10 – 24	The spiritual struggle
22ndNovember	Psalm 113	The incomparable God
23rd November	Proverbs 10: 1 – 22	Follow and lead
24th November	Proverbs 11: 1 – 11	Integrity compass
25th November	Proverbs 15: 1 – 33	Pack light, pack right
26th November	Proverbs 16: 1 – 33	Route map
27th November	Proverbs 17: 1 – 28	Keeping wisdom in view
28th November	Proverbs 18: 1 – 24	Walk and talk
29th November	Psalm 114	Thirsty and tired?
30th November	Matthew 23: 1 – 12	Do as I say ……

IN MEMORIAMS

In Loving Memory of Betty Moore

£20.00 from Drew & Irene White

£30.00 from Bobby Miller

£200.00 from Norman & Rhoda Miller

£20.00 from the Dean

In Loving Memory of Reta & Jim Neely

£100.00 from Margaret Neely, David & family

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Elizabeth (Betty) Moore (nee Miller) – St Augustine's Church

Passed away 16th October 2026 - Laid to rest 19th October 2026

Stephen Duffy – St Columb's Cathedral

Passed away 6th October 2026 - Laid to rest 9th October 2026

†

'I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord'

HOLY BAPTISM

Beth Mitchell – Sunday 18th October 2026 (St Augustine's)

Charlie Jonathan Thompson – Sunday 11th October 2026 (St Columb's)

'Let the little children come to me'

DONATIONS

£30.00 from Arthur Carland - for Church Magazine

£40.00 from Alwyn & Ida Robinson – for Harvest Thanksgiving

£50.00 from Austin & Cynthia Smith – for Harvest Thanksgiving

FLOWER LIST

1st November	Cynthia Smith
8th November	Chloe Guthrie
15th November	Elizabeth Ferguson
22nd November	Brenda McPherson
29th November	The McDowell family

INFORMATION AND EVENTS ACROSS THE PARISH GROUPING

Sunday 1st	St Columb's – Tyndale 500 Celebration – 4pm
	St Augustine's - City of Londonderry Grand Orange – 4pm
	Walk in the light, beginning at Long Tower – 7.30pm
Mondays	Prayer meetings continue at 6.30pm
	Bell Ringing …. new members always welcome – 7.30pm
Tuesday 3rd	St Columb's Select Vestry – 7.30pm in the Diocesan Centre
Friday 6th	Britannia Concert Band Anniversary Concert 7.30pm – St Columb's
Saturday 7th	St Augustine's Coffee Morning (10:30am)
Sunday 8th	Remembrance Sunday 9.30am – St Augustine's Hymns, Prayers and Laying of Wreaths 10.35am – Rededication of War Memorial and Act of Remembrance 11.30am – St Columb's Cathedral Remembrance Service
Tues 10th	LEAH Lunch – give names to Ivan Taylor Mothers' Union, 7.30pm – Diocesan Centre
Thurs 12th	Men's Society (note the change of date and venue) First Derry, 7.30pm – Captain Sean Fitzgerald, 'Mercy Ships'
Fri 13th & 14th	Luminare Presents Martyn Joseph (St Augustine's)
Sunday 15th	Canon in Residence
Saturday 21st	Fever Up Concerts (St Columb's)
Sunday 22nd	Family Service with Infant Baptism (St Columb's)
Monday 23rd	Christmas Festival Opens at St Columb's
Sunday 29th	Antiphons, Readings and Hymns for Advent (St Augustine's) Advent Procession (7.30pm - St Columbs)

FINANCE

Where has this year gone? Another busy year for our finances. As we approach our Church end of year can I ask that you have your weekly envelopes to our team by Sunday 27th December as our financial audit prepares from early January 2027. We have a short window to prepare all financial documents for our auditors so your continuing help will be greatly appreciated.

On another note, maybe January 2027 is a good time to look at your weekly/monthly donations? As costs continue to increase year on year any additional support you can give will be greatly welcomed.

Drew White – Honorary Treasurer
(Mobile: 07894 262349)

SAFEGUARDING

The Safeguarding Panel continues to meet regularly, and our policies and procedures are compliant with the Safeguarding Trust of the Church of Ireland. Remember if there are any safeguarding concerns, they should be shared with –

St Augustine's - Mrs Deirdre Amor, Mrs Irene White, Mr Marshall Kilgore, The Dean

St Columb's – Mrs Elizabeth Fielding, Mr Malcolm Hewitt, The Dean

Additionally, there is a comprehensive suite of Safeguarding and Health & Safety Policies which is available in hard copy, upon request.

SALT

I would like to thank all the ladies of our SALT group for all their support and encouragement. We will have finished our poppy display by the end of the month and will have it in place for Remembrance Sunday. Such a tremendous effort by all the ladies of the SALT group.

The November meeting will be on the **18th of November** when we will be organising for the tree festival in St Columb's Cathedral. We are knitting and crocheting decorations for our SALT Christmas tree for that festival. All contributions will be gratefully received.

COFFEE MORNING

Our **Coffee Morning** will be taking place on **Saturday 7th November from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm**. Entry of £5 will include coffee/tea, scones and tray bakes. I would be grateful if you would share this with your family and friends. All proceeds will go to the church. We would also be very grateful for any donations of cakes or tray bakes for our cake stall. These donations can be brought to the hall on Friday 6th November between 3pm and 4 pm or first thing on Saturday 7th November. Thank you.

LEAH LUNCH

This month we will have a Remembrance lunch on **Tuesday 10th November.** As usual there will be Holy Communion in the church at 11.30am followed by lunch in the Canon Howe room.
Please let us know if you will be attending - either have a word with Sheira or alternatively give Ivan a call/text on 07980667713. Please do try to attend this important part of the church's Fellowship Ministry.

NOVEMBER CHURCH CAFE

The Church Cafe will take place on **Saturday 28th November** kicking off at 10.00am**.** We'll have our full selection of goodies on offer from scones and cakes/traybakes to soup and hot food for breakfast/brunch and lunch. Try to make a point of visiting us and supporting this worthwhile SA venture. Remember every £ you spend goes straight to church funds. We look forward to welcoming you.





CONGRATULATIONS TO IVAN TAYLOR



Ivan recently entered two Chutneys and a Pickle into the Giant Bake-off at the Salmon & Whiskey Festival in Bushmills.

- Tomato & Sweet Potato Chutney

- Apple and Fennel Chutney

- Onion, Cucumber & Red Pepper Pickle.

Out of a total of 20 entries in the JAMS & PRESERVES category Ivan took the top 3 places. The Tomato & Sweet Potato Chutney was a winner and the other two were highly recommended.

LUMINARE PRESENTS



On **Friday 13th November** we welcome Welsh folk singer/songwriter **Martyn Joseph** to St Augustine's Church.

"A master storyteller with a voice that can move and inspire, Martyn's concerts are renowned for their passion, humour and stunning musicianship."

Tickets available from www.musiccapital.org

BRITANNIA CONCERT BAND CONCERT

On **Friday 6th November in St Columb's Cathedral** the Britannia Concert Band will be giving a concert to celebrate their 160th anniversary. The Londonderry Musical Society will also be taking part along with various soloists to provide a wonderful night of music including some classic band favourites. The evening is free and there will be light refreshments.



CHOIR FESTIVAL

The **14th City of Derry International Choir Festival** took place from 22nd -25th October, bringing together world-class choirs, acclaimed artists and audiences from across the globe for four unforgettable days of music-making. The music was enjoyed by all and the various choral offerings across the city gave an enhanced touch of vibrancy for the duration of the festival.

We were delighted to welcome visiting choirs in both churches and on Sunday 25th October we had **The Continuettes (Ireland)** who joined us for morning service to lead the singing and also perform several choral pieces.



FIRST DERRY MEN'S CLUB

The next Men's Club meeting will be on **Thursday 12th November** in First Derry Presbyterian Church Hall when the speaker will be Captain Sean Fitzgerald who is an ambassador for "Mercy Ships". This is an international charity founded in 1978 by Americans Don and Dayton Stevens, and committed to bringing hope and healing to parts of sub-Saharan Africa where thousands of people do not have access to modern health care. This should be a very interesting talk and everyone is very welcome.

KIDZ KLUB AT HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE





The children at Kidz Klub really enjoyed preparing items for the Harvest window. They also worked very hard practicing to sing their harvest song and everyone read their prayers confidently at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service. We are all very proud of them.

(Catherine Finlay)

THE ANNUAL INTER-DENOMINATIONAL

Walk IN THE Light 2026



"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light"

Isaiah 9:2

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2026
7.30PM

Gather at Saint Columba's Church, Long Tower

As Christian pilgrims from different denominations and backgrounds, we gather behind lighted lanterns to walk together in a spirit of peace.

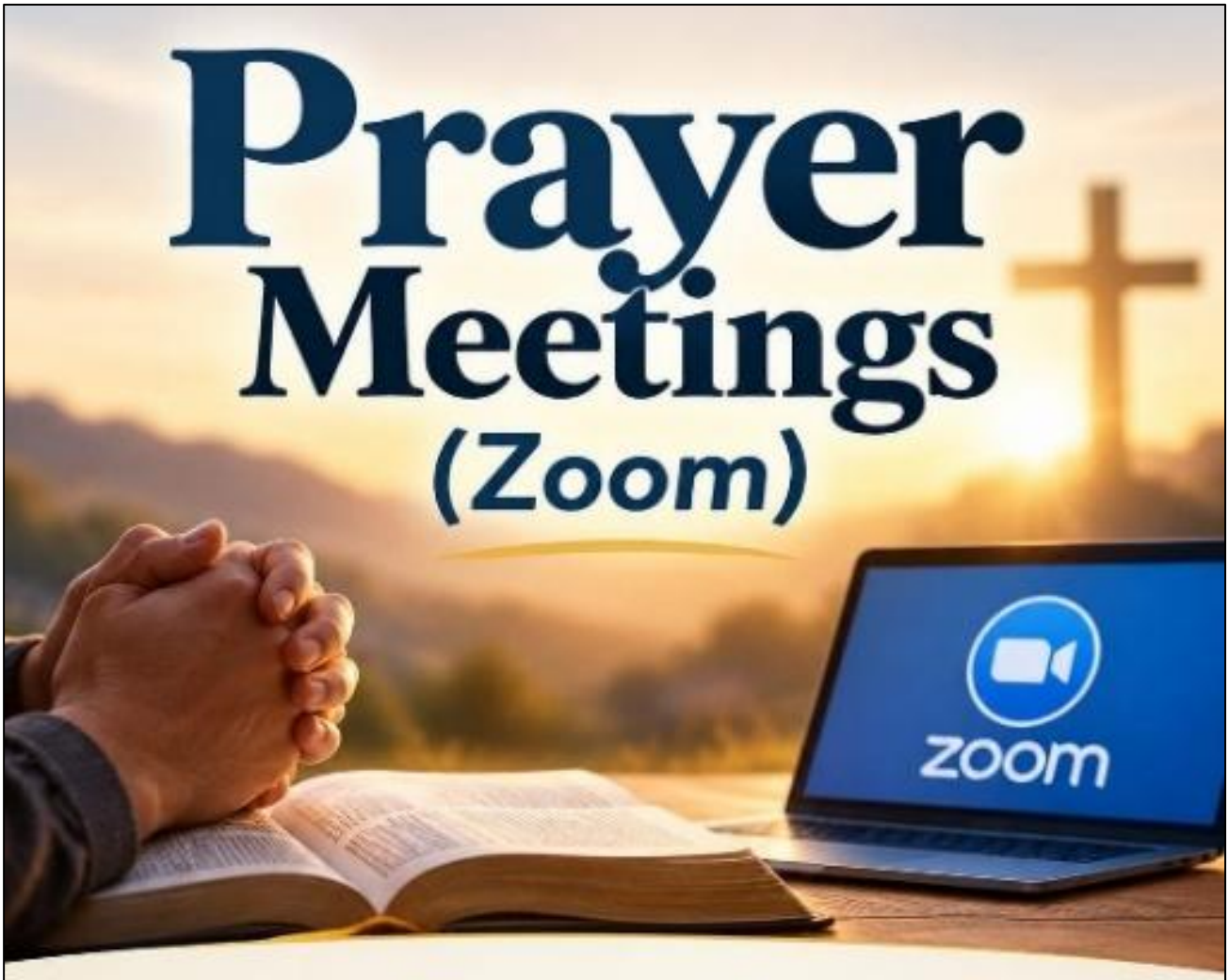
THE WALK

1. **Saint Columba's Church, Long Tower**
   Gather at 7.30pm.
2. **First Derry Presbyterian Church**
   Via Bishops Gate to Magazine Street.
3. **Saint Columb's Cathedral**
   Via Butcher Street, through the Diamond and up Bishop Street.
4. **The Salvation Army Church, Carlisle Road**
   Via Pump Street, Ferryquay Street and Ferryquay Gate.

The hour-long walk ends at The Salvation Army Church, where refreshments will be provided.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Prayer Meetings (Zoom)



These meetings continue each Monday evening at

6.30pm.

If you would like to receive an invitation, please give your name to either Noel Glen or to the Dean.

BIBLE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

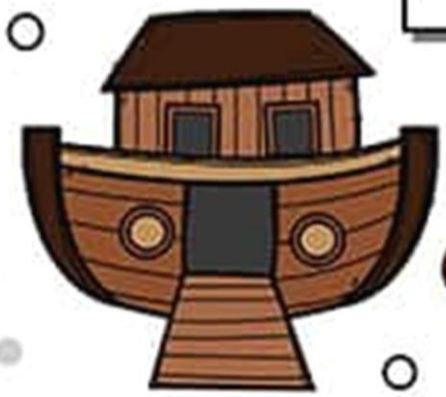
















Across

4. The first man God created
6. The giant David fought
7. The boat Noah built
8. The first woman God created

Down

1. God's book with many stories
2. He built a big boat to save the animals
3. The big fish that swallowed Jonah
5. Jesus's mother

FESTIVAL OF

Christmas Trees



St. Eunan's CATHEDRAL

RAPHOE CO. DONEGAL

Friday 27th November - Sun 29th November 2026

Opening Times:

FRI 27TH NOV	SAT 28TH NOV	SUN 29TH NOV
12 NOON TO 6PM	10AM - 7PM	2PM TO 6PM
7PM EVENING PRAYER LED BY DEAN LIZ	CLOSING WITH LATE EVENING OFFICE LED BY DEAN LIZ	7PM COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

Donations towards Cathedral Funds

Everyone very welcome!

THE VERY REVEREND NIGEL CAIRNS
DEAN OF DERRY
RECTOR OF TEMPLEMORE AND ST AUGUSTINE'S
Email: weechurch@btinternet.com
dean_derry@stcolumbs.net

RECTOR'S CHURCH WARDEN

Mrs. Maureen Neely

PEOPLE'S CHURCH WARDEN

Mrs. Sheira Peacocke

PARISH READERS

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

CHURCH FINANCES

Hon. Treasurer – Mr. Drew White
Hon.Secretary / Donations Secretary – Mrs. Deirdre Amor MBE

CHURCH ORGANIST

Miss Lauren Duncan

SAFEGUARDING TRUST PANEL

Mrs. Deirdre Amor MBE , Mr. Marshall Kilgore MBE
Mrs. Irene White, Dean Nigel Cairns

PARISH NURSE

Mrs. Alison Cairns

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Mr. Alan Neely

St Augustine's

Coffee Morning

(7th November)

St Augustine's will have its usual coffee morning on **7th November**

From 10.30am-12.30pm

Admission £5



Everyone will be most welcome.