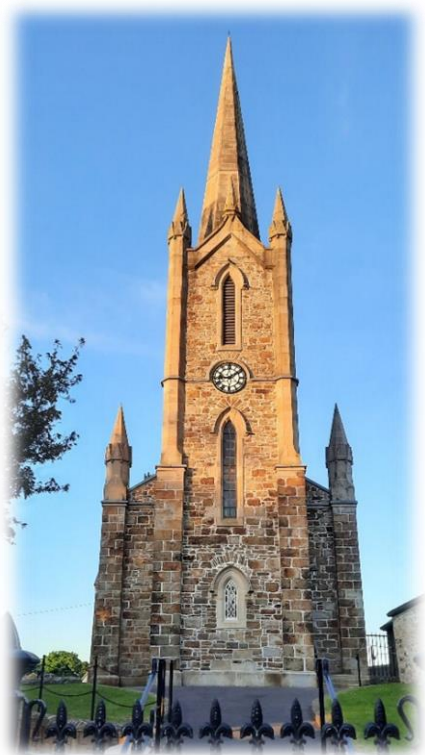


Church of Ireland ~ Diocese of Raphoe ~ Donegal Group of Parishes

A service to mark
300 years
of the Parish of Donegal
1722 – 2022



Sunday 26th June 2022 at 11.00am

HYMN 81

1. Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

2. Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

3. Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for this and every nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

4. Lord, for our world, when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

5. Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

*Words © Timothy Dudley-Smith/Hope Publishing
Music © Michael Baughen/Jubilate Hymns*

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Words of welcome and introduction from the Rector.

Musical piece: Prelude in C major by J S Bach (composed in 1722)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault;
by what we have done
and by what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

The Bishop pronounces the absolution.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT for the Second Sunday after Trinity

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of
love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives
is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake.
Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Kings 2: 1-2, 6-14

*¹ When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah
and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here;
the LORD has sent me to Bethel.'*

*But Elisha said, 'As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave
you.' So they went down to Bethel.*

⁶ Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' And he replied, 'As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them walked on.

⁷ Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. ⁸ Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?'

'Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,' Elisha replied.

¹⁰ 'You have asked a difficult thing,' Elijah said, 'yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours – otherwise, it will not.'

¹¹ As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. ¹² Elisha saw this and cried out, 'My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!' And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.

¹³ Elisha then picked up Elijah's cloak that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴ He took the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and struck the water with it. 'Where now is the LORD, the God of Elijah?' he asked. When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

BAPTISM

The Rector invites the sponsors to present the baptismal candidates.

The Bishop says to the sponsors

Parents and godparents,

will you accept the responsibilities placed upon you

in bringing *these children* for baptism and answer on *their* behalf?

By your own prayers and example, by your teaching and love,

will you encourage *them* in the life and faith of the Christian community?

With the help of God, we will.

In baptism *these children* begin *their* journey in faith.

You speak for *them* today.

Will you care for *them*,

and help *them* to take *their* place

within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

With the help of God, we will.

The Bishop says to the sponsors of the candidates

In baptism, God calls us from darkness into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all proud rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life?

I come to Christ.

The Bishop says to the congregation

You have heard these our brothers and sisters respond to Christ.

Will you support them in this calling?

The congregation answers

We will support them.

The sponsors, candidates and ministers move to the font.

A thanksgiving prayer may be said over the water.

The Bishop asks the sponsors of each candidate:

Do you believe and accept the Christian faith into which is to be baptized?

I do.

The Bishop addresses the congregation.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess, together with *these candidates* the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Bishop baptizes the candidates, saying

...., I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Those who have been baptized are signed with the cross.
Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of the cross.
Live as a disciple of Christ, fight the good fight,
finish the race, keep the faith.

**Confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
look for his coming in glory.**

The minister continues

God has called you into his Church.

**We therefore receive and welcome you
as a member with us of the body of Christ,
as a child of the one heavenly Father,
and as an inheritor of the kingdom of God.**

HYMN 642

1 Amazing grace (how sweet the sound!)
that saved a wretch; like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved:
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.

John Newton (1725-1807)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Galatians 5: 13-25

¹³ *You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.*

¹⁴ *For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'* ¹⁵ *If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.*

¹⁶ *So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.*

¹⁷ *For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.* ¹⁸ *But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

¹⁹ *The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Musical piece: Jesu, joy of man's desiring by J S Bach (composed in 1723)

GOSPEL READING

Luke 9: 51-62

⁵¹ As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; ⁵³ but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, 'Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?' ⁵⁵ But Jesus turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then he and his disciples went to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.'

⁵⁸ Jesus replied, 'Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

⁵⁹ He said to another man, 'Follow me.'

But he replied, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.'

⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.'

⁶¹ Still another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.'

⁶² Jesus replied, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE SERMON

The Right Reverend Andrew Forster, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe

SONG – What a friend we have in Jesus

Sung by members of our school and Sunday Schools

PRAYERS

Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession for the church and the world.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

HYMN 64

from Thanks & Praise

1 In Christ alone my hope is found,
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2 In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save:
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied –
for every sin on him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3 There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
then bursting forth in glorious day
up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine –
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from his hand;
till he returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

*Stuart Townend and Keith Getty
© 2001 Thankyou Music*

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and lovingkindness to us, and to all people. We bless thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life: But above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

ACT OF RE-DEDICATION

The Bishop asks

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbours as yourselves?

With the help of God, we will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, we will.

May Almighty God,
who has given you the will to do all these things,
grant you the courage and strength to achieve them
to the honour and glory of his name,
and to the good of his Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope:
and may the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 647

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-91)

Please stay for a cup of tea in the Church Hall (and hopefully outside).

~

*Organists: Mrs Joy Montgomery & Mr Jonathan Huss
Harpist: Mrs Valerie Frewen-Perri*

*Material from the Book of Common Prayer (2004).
CCLI Copyright and Streaming Licence no. 625104.*

History of the Parish

The Parish of Donegal was formed by Order in Council on 22nd June 1722 from the northerly part of the Parish of Drumholm. The first Vicar, the Revd John Robertson, was appointed on 22nd August 2022. (His son, Colonel Robertson, bequeathed money to found the schools which bear his name.)

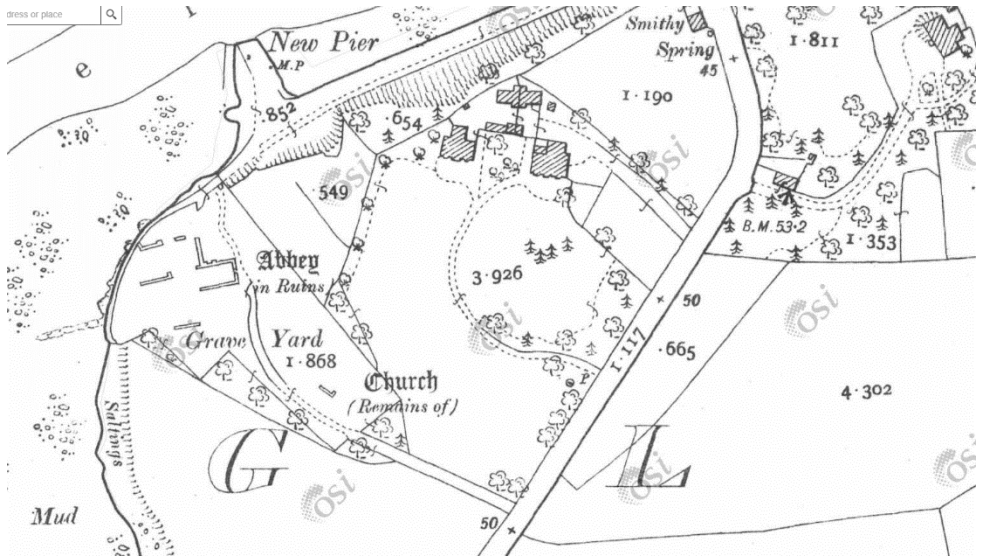
The original Church building was erected in 1722 in the area of the Old Abbey. Very little now remains of this structure. The old Glebe House (now Maldon House) is situated opposite Glebe National School. The present Church was constructed in 1828 and enlarged in 1889 and the current Rectory (formerly called Abbey View) came into use in 1964. The Church Hall or Parish Centre was constructed in 1996 beside the church.

Vicars & Rectors:

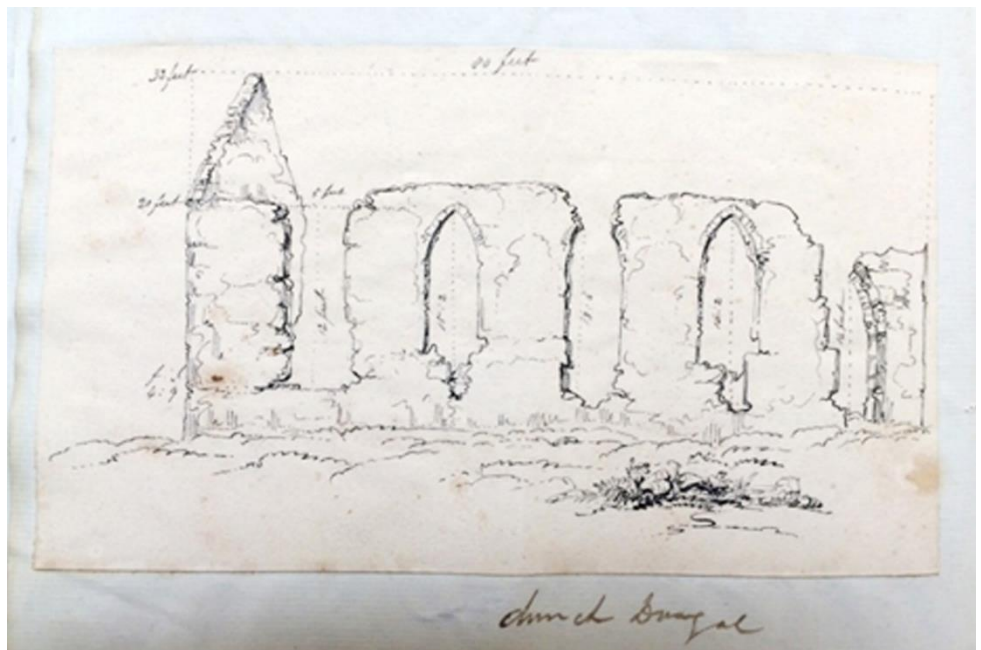
1722	John Robertson	1894	Robert Miller
1741	John Lamy	1900	William Chapman
1746	Adam Harvey	1916	Charles Fisher
1764	Thomas Burgoyne	1920	David Kelly
1770	Richard Swanne	1930	Leslie Lawrenson
1781	James Hamilton	1938	Charles Morgan
1795	Thomas Hawkins	1947	Stephen Cave
1798	Abraham Hamilton	1972	Alexander Stewart
1824	Joseph Welsh	1990	Henry Trimble
1831	Richard Homan	2002	Raymond Fox
1839	William Ewing	2011	David Huss
1866	Samuel Reed		

Several former rectors and vicars are remembered in memorials in the church, alongside those who died in wars, epidemics and tragedies. It is well worth spending some time reading the monuments and remembering these servants of God in earlier generations, as well as those whose faith and deeds, though never engraved in stone or brass, are known to God.

*Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Ps 90:1
Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Hebrews 13:8*



1890s Ordnance Survey map showing remains of old Church (built 1722).



Old Church ruins sketched in 1835 by Lieut Lancey (Royal Irish Academy).

