

1st DECEMBER 2013

Advent Sunday



WELCOME

We extend a welcome to visitors and any newcomers.

WORSHIP

In this season of preparation we are reminded in our worship of the need of preparation now for the Second Coming or Advent of Christ.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Loving God, gather us now from our own concerns, from the busyness of our lives and open our hearts and our minds to your word and your challenge - for we are your people in this place. Amen.

THIS WEEK

TODAY

Confirmation for 18 young people and 2 adults at 6.30 pm in St Patrick's. Please remember our bishop, The Rt Rev Alan Abernethy and the candidates. Today, Advent Sunday we enter on a new Church year, and a new cycle of reading. Churches throughout the world use a 3 year cycle - A, B and C. From today we use A and A concentrates on St Matthew's Gospel.

MONDAY

St Columba's Committee meeting at 8.00 pm.

TUESDAY

Healer Prayer Group - 7.15 - 8.00 pm.
Bible Study - informal - 8.00 pm. Everyone welcome.

WEDNESDAY

Advent service in Ballyclug at 8.00 pm.

Blood Donation - St Patrick's 1.30 pm - 4 pm and 5.15 pm - 8 pm.

THURSDAY Interchurch Advent reflection - Methodist Church 12.30 - 1.15 pm.
Blood Donation - St Patrick's (as before).
Christmas Gospel Concert - presented by Dunclug Partnership, Salvation Army and St Vincent de Paul - this evening at 7.30 pm in All Saints. Proceeds to Christmas Family Appeal.

FRIDAY High Kirk will co-host with Ballymena House of Prayer the second lunchtime prayers of blessing for the town on Friday in High Kirk from 12.45 pm - 1.30 pm.

SATURDAY Prayer time and Breakfast 8.00 am.

EACH WEEK

MINISTRY OF PRAYER This takes place after the 11.30 am service and the 6.30 pm service in St Patrick's.

PRAYER SUPPORT Team Leader - Heather Barr, Tel. No. 2564 1047.

PLEASE NOTE The Mothers' Union coffee morning which was held last Saturday raised £428.20. A big thank you to all those who supported this event.

FOR THE FUTURE

NEXT SUNDAY Gifts for 'Christmas tree' to be distributed by Salvation Army to children in need - these to be brought next Sunday.
Mothers' Union Christingle Service, Sunday, 8th December at 3.30 pm in All Saints' Parish Hall, Antrim.

READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S

Romans 13:11-14 (Page 158) and St Matthew 24:36-44 (Page 26)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God - Thank you for this season of Advent.
Help us to use it to welcome Jesus. **Amen.**



ADVENT SUNDAY - St Columba's

01 December 2013

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah chapter 2 beginning at verse 1

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the Gospel according to St Matthew chapter 24 beginning at verse 36

Jesus spoke to his disciples: ³⁶‘About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

ADVENT SUNDAY - Ballyclug

01 December 2013

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans
chapter 13 beginning at verse 11

¹¹You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; ¹³let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

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