

**23rd FEBRUARY
2014**

2nd Sunday before Lent



Sexagesima

WELCOME

We trust that all including visitors and newcomers will feel at home in the worship today.

WORSHIP

In the midst of our hopes and fears we worship the God who underpins our lives.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Heavenly Father as we come to worship you help us to focus on you and to let go of all our anxieties. May we give of ourselves in worship and thus be affirmed in our faith and strengthened to face into the challenges of life. We ask it through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THIS WEEK

TONIGHT Living Faith Service in St Patrick's at 6.30 pm.

MONDAY Ladies' Circle meet in St Columba's at 8.00 pm when there will be a speaker from the Guide Dogs for the Blind.

TUESDAY Healer Prayer Group - 7.15 - 8.00 pm in Clergy Vestry.
Bible Fellowship at 8.00 pm in Choir Vestry.

Email - kilconriola@btconnect.com

Web address - www.ballymena.connor.anglican.org

WEDNESDAY Holy Communion in St Patrick's at 10.30 am followed by tea/coffee.

THURSDAY Start of Exploring Christianity Course at 7.45 pm in Minor Hall.

SATURDAY Prayer time at 8.00 am in Jubilee Room, followed by breakfast.

NEXT WEEK

FRIDAY Annual CLB Jumble Sale. Donations of Bric-a-brac, clothes, furniture, books, toys, groceries and cakes will be greatly appreciated. Contact Alan Ross (2589 2740) for collection.

Women's World Day of Prayer Service at 8.00 pm in St Columba's. The speaker will be Mrs Joan Christie OBE, Lord Lieutenant of Co. Antrim. Everyone is most welcome.

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.

VESTRY PERSONS Opportunity for those who have not already done so to sign up as a registered vestry person. Forms at back of churches.

LOOKING AHEAD Sunday, 16th March. Ministry Sunday - special appeal using St Patrick's tide envelope to support ministry especially addition of new curate.

READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S
Isaiah 49:8-16a (Page 689)
St Matthew 6:24-34 (Page 6)

CHILDREN'S PRAYER



Dear God, help us not to worry but to trust you and to rely on you. Amen.

2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT - Ballyclug

23 February 2014

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians chapter 4 beginning at verse 1

My brothers and sisters: ¹Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they should be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgement before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive commendation from God.

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the Gospel according to St Matthew chapter 6 beginning at verse 24

²⁴Jesus taught his disciples, saying, 'No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

²⁵'I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you - you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT - St Columba's

23 February 2014

A reading from the Book of Exodus chapter 15 beginning at verse 26

²⁶He said, 'If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in his sight, and give heed to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will not bring upon you any of the diseases that I brought upon the Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals you.'

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from Psalm 107 beginning at verse 19

¹⁹ Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress;
²⁰ he sent out his word and healed them,
and delivered them from destruction.
²¹ Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the Gospel according to St Matthew chapter 8 beginning at verse 5

5 When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him ⁶and saying, ‘Lord, my servant is lying at home paralysed, in terrible distress.’ ⁷And he said to him, ‘I will come and cure him.’ ⁸The centurion answered, ‘Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, “Go”, and he goes, and to another, “Come”, and he comes, and to my slave, “Do this”, and the slave does it.’ ¹⁰When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, ‘Truly I tell you, in no one* in Israel have I found such faith. ¹¹I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, ¹²while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹³And to the centurion Jesus said, ‘Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.’ And the servant was healed in that hour.

14 When Jesus entered Peter’s house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; ¹⁵he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him. ¹⁶That evening they brought to him many who were possessed by demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick. ¹⁷This was to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, ‘He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.’

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD