

# 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014



## Advent Sunday

### WELCOME

To all especially any visitors or newcomers.

### WORSHIP

We worship a coming God - who came in Jesus, who will come on the last day and who comes to us now in our daily experiences.

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Eternal God, we would see Jesus. Be with us in this season of Advent as we watch and wait expectantly for the signs that he is near. Amen.

### MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

#### WITH GOD

**REMEMBRANCE** Service to remember loved ones tonight in St Patrick's at 6.30 pm.

**HEALER PRAYER GROUP** Tuesday at 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

**BIBLE FELLOWSHIP** Meet on Tuesday at 8.00 pm. Everyone welcome.

**ADVENT MID WEEK** Wednesday Holy Communion in St Patrick's at 10.30 am.  
Compline and talk in Ballyclug at 8.00 pm.  
Thursday - Inter Church Advent Reflections in St Patrick's from 12.30 pm - 1.15 pm.

**PRAYERS OF BLESSING** For our town - Friday 12.45 pm - 1.30 pm. Our Minor Hall. Sponsored by Ballymena House of Prayer.

**PRAYER MEETING** Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> December at 8.00 am in the Jubilee Room.

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

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

### WITH EACH OTHER

**MONDAY** Youth Steering Committee meet at 7.30 pm.

**ST COLUMBA'S COMMITTEE** Monday at 7.45 pm.

### WITH THE WORLD

**SALVATION ARMY** Children's Appeal for toys - gifts please as soon as possible.

**BISHOPS' APPEAL** For disaster relief and development work - envelopes next Sunday.

**OPEN DAY** Dunclug Primary School, Doury Road, Ballymena, will be holding their Primary One Open Day on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 11.00 am to 12.30 pm. Everyone welcome. For further information please contact Dunclug Primary School office on 028 2565 2327.

### **CHILDREN'S PRAYER**

Thank you God for all we have. Help us to remember others less fortunate in other parts of the world. Amen.



### **READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S**

Isaiah 64:1-9 (Page No 704)

A plea for God to remember his people, to intervene and to forgive.

Mark 13:24-37 (Page No 48)

Jesus speaks of a final coming and of a time of distress and a need to be vigilant and to stand firm.

# Advent Sunday - St Columba's

30<sup>th</sup> November 2014

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah chapter 64 beginning at verse 1

*A plea for God to remember his people, to intervene and forgive.*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence –  
<sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup> When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup> From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup> You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup> We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup> Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**THANKS BE TO GOD**

## A reading from the gospel according to St Mark chapter 2 beginning at verse 1

### *A paralytic is drawn towards wholeness.*

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. <sup>2</sup>So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. <sup>3</sup>Then some people came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them. <sup>4</sup>And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’ <sup>6</sup>Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, <sup>7</sup>‘Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ <sup>8</sup>At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? <sup>9</sup>Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, “Your sins are forgiven”, or to say, “Stand up and take your mat and walk”? <sup>10</sup>But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’—he said to the paralytic— <sup>11</sup>‘I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.’ <sup>12</sup>And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’

*This is the word of the Lord*

**THANKS BE TO GOD**

# Advent Sunday - Ballyclug

30<sup>th</sup> November 2014

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah chapter 64 beginning at verse 1

*A plea for God to remember his people, to intervene and forgive.*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence –  
<sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup> When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup> From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup> You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup> We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup> Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**THANKS BE TO GOD**

## A reading from the gospel according to St Mark chapter 13 beginning at verse 24

*Jesus speaks of a final coming and of a time of distress and a need to be vigilant and to stand firm.*

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,  
<sup>25</sup> and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

***This is the word of the Lord***  
**THANKS BE TO GOD**