

# 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2015

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent Sexagesima



### **WELCOME**

A special welcome to newcomers and visitors.

### **WORSHIP**

We seek to worship not in a lack luster way but in the words of the psalmist 'with all that is within us'.

### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

**Father God, we gather from our homes into your house to praise and worship you. Help us as a family of faith to give ourselves to this act of worship and to offer of our best to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **MAKING FRIENDSHIPS**

#### **WITH GOD**

#### **LENT PROJECT**

Presentation of this C.M.S. project this afternoon in Minor Hall at 3.00 pm.

#### **DISCIPLESHIP EXPLORED**

Our Lenten series starts 18<sup>th</sup> February. Leaflets about this are available. For all who wish to move on in their faith journey - please consider being part of this initiative and sign up on the form which is at the back of churches.

#### **FAMILY SERVICE**

Next Sunday at 10.15 am in St Patrick's.

#### **COMING**

The Rev Brother David Jardine - preacher at Living Faith Service on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

#### **PRAYER SUPPORT**

Team Leader - Adelaide Nimick, Tel. No. 2564 0865.

#### **MINISTRY OF PRAYER**

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

#### **WITH EACH OTHER**

Email - [kilconriola@btconnect.com](mailto:kilconriola@btconnect.com)

Web address - [www.ballymena.connor.anglican.org](http://www.ballymena.connor.anglican.org)

- REFRESHMENTS** After 11.30 am Service in St Patrick's today.
- REGISTER NOW** If you are not registered to vote in Church elections, now is your opportunity - your name on a form at the back of church is all that is required.
- FIRST AID COURSE** Course continues at 6.00 pm on Monday in the Choir Robing Room.
- SELECT VESTRY** Tuesday at 7.30 pm.
- HEALER PRAYER GROUP** Tuesday at 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.
- BIBLE FELLOWSHIP** Meet on Tuesday at 8.00 pm in the Robing Room.
- MOTHERS' UNION** Meet on Wednesday: Gideons in Ghana (Wesley Coulter).
- C.L.B.** The C.L.B. Jumble Sale will be held on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March. Donations of bric-a-brac, clothes, furniture, books, toys, groceries and cakes will be greatly appreciated. For collection of goods, please contact Alan Ross - 2589 2740.

## WITH THE WORLD

- CONSULTATION** Discussion on 'Consultation on the N.I. Freedom of Conscience Amendment Bill' - West Church on Thursday at 7.30 pm. All welcome.
- SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS 2015** This promotion in Sainsbury's started on 28 January. St Columba's Scout Group are asking for your tokens again this year. Collection boxes are in our three churches. Your support for this project will be much appreciated.

### CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Thank you God that you never let go of us - you are always there to help us. Amen.



### READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S

Isaiah 49:8-16 (Page No 689)

The promise of the Lord is a tender love meeting our every need.

The unusual friendship of Jesus and his unconventional behaviour begin to provoke the criticism which he will face throughout his ministry.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent - Ballyclug

8<sup>th</sup> February 2015

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah chapter 49 beginning at verse 8

*The promise of the Lord is a tender love meeting our every need.*

Thus says the LORD:

In a time of favour I have answered you, on a day of salvation I have helped you; I have kept you and given you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages; saying to the prisoners, 'Come out', to those who are in darkness, 'Show yourselves.' They shall feed along the ways, on all the bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them down, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will turn all my mountains into a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Lo, these shall come from far away, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene. Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the LORD has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones. But Zion said, 'The LORD has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me.' Can a woman forget her nursing-child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.

*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 13**

*The unusual friendship of Jesus and his unconventional behavior begin to provoke the criticism which he will face throughout his ministry.*

Jesus went out again beside the lake; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax-collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax-collectors, they said to his disciples, 'Why does he eat\* with tax-collectors and sinners?' When Jesus heard this, he said to them, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.' Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, 'Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?' Jesus said to them, 'The wedding-guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. 'No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.'

*This is the word of the Lord*

THANKS BE TO GOD

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent - St Columba's

8<sup>th</sup> February 2015

A reading from the gospel according to St Mark chapter 8  
beginning at verse 22

*Jesus uses his hands to restore a blind man.*

They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, 'Can you see anything?' And the man looked up and said, 'I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.' Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. Then he sent him away to his home, saying, 'Do not even go into the village.'

*This is the word of the Lord*

THANKS BE TO GOD