

3rd MAY 2015

5th Sunday After Easter



WELCOME To visitors and newcomers.

WORSHIP We worship a God who encompasses all our hurts and hopes and would still lead his people into kingdom life.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God, creator and vine grower, receive the fruits of our worship and be glorified; ripen the fruits of our longings and be glorified; gather the fruits of our prayers and be glorified today and always. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

FAMILY SERVICE Next Sunday in St Columba's.

HOUSE GROUP This Friday at 7.30 pm in Apt 6, Park Manor.

HEALER PRAYER GROUP Tuesday at 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

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

IN JOYFUL HOPE Thursday at 7.30 pm in Methodist Church. An opportunity with other Christians to join together to experience Holy Communion in the Methodist format.

PRAYER SUPPORT Team Leader - Alex McKay.
Tel No. 2564 4698.

WITH EACH OTHER

Email - kilconriola@btconnect.com

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

COFFEE MORNING This Saturday 10.00 am - 12.00 noon. With Health Fair, Craft and Cake Sale. In aid of Good Morning Ballymena.

ST COLUMBA'S COMMITTEE Meeting on Wednesday at 7.45 pm.

WITH THE WORLD

NEPAL We have received a flow of information from our partners in Nepal outlining needs. They request prayer and monetary assistance to begin to meet these needs.

Retiring Collection today - any who Gift Aid, please put donation in envelope supplied with details. Any cheques made out to St Patrick's Church.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK From next Sunday. Soup and Cheese lunches in St Patrick's and St Columba's after morning services.

Any more volunteers for door to door collection would be very much appreciated. List at back of church.

NORTH BALLYMENA COMMUNITY CLUB All over 55s in the north area of the town are invited to join their luncheon club on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The lunch takes place between 12.00 and 2.00 pm. A bus will pick you up at the Co-op Dunclug at 11.30 am and High Kirk Church at 11.45 am. If interested please contact Emma on 077 7834 5526.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, help us to value our close friendship with Jesus and to please Him by being good to others.
Amen.



READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S

1 John 4:7-21 (Page No 238)

We must recognise how great is God's love shown in Jesus and live as those united by that love both to God and one another.

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John 15:1-8 (Page No 106)

Jesus uses the metaphor of the vine to describe the way his life works in us and how this bears fruit in loving action.

Fifth Sunday after Easter - St Columba's

3rd May 2015

A reading from Psalm 22 beginning at verse 25

In a psalm that began in a very negative tone, the psalmist now gives praise and looks positively to the future.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live for ever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him. Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the First Letter of St John chapter 4 beginning at verse 7

We must recognise how great is God's love shown in Jesus and live as those united by that love both to God and one another.

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

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Fifth Sunday after Easter - Ballyclug

3rd May 2015

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy chapter 4 beginning at verse 32

Reflecting on the past the Jewish people must recognise that the Lord is God above all gods and they must keep His commandments.

Moses said to the people: Ask now about former ages long before your own, ever since the day that God created human beings on the earth; ask from one end of heaven to the other: has anything so great as this ever happened or has its like ever been heard of? Has any people ever heard the voice of a god speaking out of a fire, as you have heard and lived? Or has any god ever attempted to go and take a nation for himself from the midst of another nation, by trials, by signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by terrifying displays of power as the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes? To you it was shown so that you would acknowledge that the LORD is God; there is no other besides him. From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth he showed you his great fire, while you heard his words coming out of the fire. And because he loved your ancestors, he chose their descendants after them. He brought you out of Egypt with his own presence, by his great power, driving out before you nations greater and mightier than yourselves, to bring you in, giving you their land for a possession, as it is still today. So acknowledge today and take to heart that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other. Keep his statutes and his commandments, which I am commanding you today for your own well-being and that of

your descendants after you, so that you may long remain in the land that the Lord your God is giving you for all time.

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

**A reading from the Gospel according to St John chapter 15
beginning at verse 1**

Jesus uses the metaphor of the vine to describe the way his life works in us and how this bears fruit in loving action.

Jesus said to the eleven: ¹‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.’

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD