

17th December 2017



Advent 3

WELCOME A special welcome to all newcomers and visitors.

WORSHIP We worship our Lord.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Dear Lord, at this special time may your people be blessed with joy and hope and may you find in our hearts a dwelling place for you. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

TONIGHT Lessons and Carols in St Patrick's at 6.30 pm and St Columba's at 7.00 pm.

HEALER PRAYER GROUP Tuesday 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

MID WEEK Holy Communion on Wednesday at 10.30 am in St Patrick's.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS Ballymena Church Members Forum. St Patrick's Church on Thursday from 12.30 pm - 1.15 pm.

PRAYER SUPPORT Team Leader - Patricia McWhirter - Tel No. 077 1611 0045.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER After morning and evening services in St Patrick's in the Prayer Space.

WITH EACH OTHER

CHRISTIAN AID FAMILY APPEAL

St Patrick's Sunday School teachers and children will receive envelopes to enable them to give donations towards the Family Appeal instead of the giving and receiving of presents.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Next meeting will take place on the evening of Thursday, 1st February 2018.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

St Patrick's Sunday School Teachers enjoyed a lovely meal at the Millside, Gracehill, last Wednesday night. Many thanks to the person who anonymously donated towards this event.

VISITING THE SICK

Please inform the Clergy if you know of anyone who is sick and requires a pastoral visit either in hospital or at their home.

WITH THE WORLD

ACTION CANCER BIG BUS

St Patrick's on Friday, 5th January 2018. Bookings can be made via www.actioncancer.org/appointments or by calling Action Cancer on 028 9080 3344. The two services provided by The Big Bus are Breast Screening and MOT Health Checks.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY

The Castle Players will perform the Sam Cree play "The Mating Season" in the Braid Arts Centre on 19th & 20th January 2018. Tickets will be available from the Braid Centre in January 2018.

**READING IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM
St Luke 2:8-12 (Page 56)**

Advent 3 - St Columba's

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A reading from the Letter of St James Chapter 5 beginning at verse 7

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

**Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to
St Matthew, chapter 13 beginning at verse 31**

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.