

4th March 2018

Lent 3



WELCOME To all newcomers and visitors.

WORSHIP We come to give thanks to our God.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of mercy and compassion, as we worship you here today may we be blessed by you. As we listen to your word may we give you thanks for all your love and care. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

HEALER PRAYER GROUP Tuesday 7.15 pm in the Clergy Vestry.

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP Meet on Tuesday at 8.00 pm in the Choir Vestry. Everyone welcome.

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

LENTEN REFLECTIONS Ballyclug Church on Wednesday at 7.30 pm - 'Big Words for Lent - Holiness'. All welcome.

CMSI PROJECT Crossing Bridges - CMSI boxes are available at the back of Church.

BALLYCLUG CHURCH This month Holy Communion will take place on Sunday, 18th March.

PRAYER SUPPORT Team Leader - Eleanor Burnett - **075 1736 5589**.

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

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

WITH EACH OTHER

ST COLUMBA'S COMMITTEE Tomorrow night at 7.45 pm.

SUMMER MADNESS Fireside quizzes are available at back of Church in aid of Summer Madness.

SOUP LUNCH Thanks to all involved in the Soup Lunch. £500 was raised for Summer Madness. Thank you for your support.

WITH THE WORLD

WILLIE DRENNAN TRADITIONAL MUSIC Will perform at Gracehill Moravian Cennick Hall, on Friday, 9th March at 7.45 pm. Tickets £10.

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT CONCERT AND SUPPER Tickets are on sale from the Church Office, Church Wardens and Good Morning Ballymena for the St Patrick's Night Concert on Saturday, 17th March at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall. You may pay at the door, but for catering purposes it would be helpful if you could buy your ticket/s in advance. Programme includes a Castle Players' sketch, featuring Canon Stuart Lloyd and Evelyn Riddel.

ST PATRICK'S DAY BROUGHSHANE St Patrick's Church, Broughshane, is hosting a Family Day from 11.00 am - 4.00 pm on 17 March. This will include an Exhibition of St Patrick's Life, timed performances of the story trail, craft workshops, Irish dancing, Irish harpist, café. All welcome.

FOSTER CARE Foster Carers needed urgently for this area. If you can help, see the poster at the back of church.

FRIDAY NIGHT FEEDING STATION AND FRIENDS OF VISPA Homeless Outreach feed and clothe rough sleepers and provide beds in Belfast on Friday nights and meals each day. They have requested donations of clothes, footwear, coffee, food, toiletries, etc. Friends of Vispa a Christian Mission based in Cullybackey, supports a school in Kisumu, Kenya and have asked for old spectacles. If you can help either of these causes, please leave your donations at Reception in the Northern Regional College, Trostan Avenue, Ballymena or contact Jenna Andrews, GFS Leader and Junior Youth Fellowship Leader. Tel No. 075 1075 1440.

READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM

Hosea 6:1-6 (Page 853) and St Matthew 9:9-13 (Page 8)

Email - kilconriola@btconnect.com Web address - www.ballymena.connor.anglican.org

Northern Ireland Charity number: NIC103115

Lent 3 - St Columba's

4th March 2018

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians chapter 1 beginning at verse 18

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe?

Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from gospel according to St Luke chapter 18 beginning at verse 18

A certain ruler asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; Honour your father and mother." ' He replied, 'I have kept all these since my youth.' When Jesus heard this, he said to him, 'There is still one thing lacking. Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But when he heard this, he became sad; for he was very rich. Jesus looked at him and said, 'How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.'

Those who heard it said, 'Then who can be saved?' He replied, 'What is impossible for mortals is possible for God.'

Then Peter said, 'Look, we have left our homes and followed you.' And he said to them, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not get back very much more in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.'

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