

28th FEBRUARY 2016

Lent 3



WELCOME To all newcomers and visitors.

WORSHIP Let us gather together to worship and focus on our Lord.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Dear God, help us to give of ourselves in heart and mind as we strive to attend to your word. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

LIVING FAITH Service tonight in St Patrick's at 6.30 pm.
Speaker: Revd Canon Brother David Jardine.

HEALER PRAYER GROUP Tuesday 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP Meet on Tuesday at 8.00 pm in the Robing Room.
Everyone welcome.

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

PRAYER SUPPORT Team Leader - Doreen Cowan,
Tel No. 2586 8278.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday, 4th March in the Methodist Church, Ballymoney Road, Ballymena, at 8.00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

BHOP Prayers of Blessing for the town. Friday, 4th March, in the Methodist Church from 12.45 pm - 1.30 pm. All welcome.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER After morning and evening services in St Patrick's in the prayer space.

Email - kilconriola@btconnect.com Web address - www.ballymena.connor.anglican.org
Northern Ireland Charity number: NIC103115

WITH EACH OTHER

JUMBLE SALE CLB Jumble Sale in St Patrick's Hall on Friday, 4th March at 7.00 pm. Any items for the sale can be left at the hall on Thursday night or at any time on Friday. Anything needed to be collected please contact Alan Ross: 2589 2740.

PRESENTATION TO ST COLUMBA'S ORGANIST Sunday, 6th March at Family/Mothering Sunday Service there will be a presentation made to Sandra Montgomery who was St Columba's Organist for 26 years. This service will be followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome to attend.

REGISTERED? If you have not already done so, please register to vote in church elections. Forms at back of Churches.

WITH THE WORLD

BLOOD TRANSFUSION St Patrick's Hall - Tuesday and Wednesday from 1.30 pm - 4.00 pm and 5.15 pm - 8.00 pm.

MR & MRS EVENING St Columba's 5th Ballymena Scout Group are hosting a "Mr & Mrs Evening" (meal included) at St Columba's on Friday, 8th April at 7.00 pm. Tickets £12 (under 12's £6). Proceeds to be shared between Scouts and Parish funds. Tickets available from Church Wardens, Scout Leaders or Liz Hughes.

FOOD BANK Thank you for all your donations please keep them coming.

REFRESHMENTS After morning service today.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for caring for each one of us. Please help us to care for other children who are not as fortunate as us. Amen.



READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM
Isaiah 55: 1-9 page 696
St Luke 13:1-9 page 72

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Lent 3 - St Columba's

28th February 2016

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah Chapter 55
beginning at verse 1

We can hear these ancient prophetic words as a summons for ourselves to put God first, to seek him and listen to him.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the gospel according to St Luke chapter 13 beginning at verse 1

The need for repentance. A parable suggests that God always allows us second and third chances to turn to a truly fruitful life.

There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”’

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THANKS BE TO GOD

Lent 3 - Ballyclug

28th February 2016

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians chapter 10 beginning at verse 1

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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