

6th MARCH 2016

Lent 4 - Mothering Sunday



WELCOME

To all newcomers and visitors.
Please feel free to take a parish magazine
for your information.

WORSHIP

Originally on Mothering Sunday servants were
given time off especially to return to their
Mother Church to worship

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Dear God, make us grateful to you as we gather here today. Help
us to be thankful for your goodness, penitent as we remember our
sins and give us joy as we remember your love, through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

HEALER PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

MID WEEK

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

PRAYER SUPPORT

Team Leader - Millicent McClelland,
Tel No. 077 9173 6117.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

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

WITH EACH OTHER

ST COLUMBA'S COMMITTEE

Meeting Monday at 7.45 pm

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

**VESTRY
REGISTER**

Last opportunity to sign up today. Meeting to redraw the register - Tuesday in Minor Hall at 7.30 pm.

**MOTHERS'
UNION**

Wednesday - Artist: Nigel Ellison also Bring and Buy.

**GOSHEN HOUSE
GROUP**

Friday at 7.30 pm in 7 Foxhill, Ballymena.

WITH THE WORLD

**MR & MRS
EVENING**

5th Ballymena (St Columba's) Scout Group is hosting a "Mr & Mrs Evening" (meal included) at St Columba's on Friday, 8th April 2016 at 7.00 pm. Tickets £12 (under 12's £6). Proceeds will be shared between Scouts and Parish funds. Tickets available from Church Wardens at rear of church or from Scout Leaders or Liz Hughes.

FOOD BANK

Thank you for all your donations which are very much appreciated.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Dear God, help us to be kind to each other and to be very caring to our Mothers on this their special day.
Amen.



READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM

Joshua 5:9-12 page 203

The Israelites are given a new start.

St Luke 15:1-3:11b-32 page 75

We call this parable the prodigal son but the true meaning is the loving father.

Lent 4 - Ballyclug

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A reading from the Book of Joshua chapter 5 beginning at verse 9

The Israelites are given a new start.

The LORD said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the gospel according to St Luke chapter 15 beginning at verse 1

We call this parable the prodigal son but the true meaning is the loving father.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me." So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, "How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his slaves, "Quickly, bring out a robe - the best one - and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!" And they began to celebrate.

Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound." Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, "Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!" Then the father said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

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THANKS BE TO GOD

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A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah Chapter 49 verse 15

¹⁵Can 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.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians chapter 13 beginning at verse 4

⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful
or arrogant or rude. ⁵It does not insist on its own way; it is
not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing,
but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all
things, hopes all things, endures all things.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD