

12th February 2017

Third Sunday before Lent



WELCOME To all visitors and newcomers.

WORSHIP God wants to be part of all that may be going on in our lives and in our world.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Dear Lord, may we during this time of worship be strengthened by your grace and uplifted by your presence. Guide us today and in the working week that lies ahead and help us to remember that you are always there for us and are our special friend. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

HEALER PRAYER GROUP Tuesday 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

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

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

ALPHA COURSE Continues on Tuesday in the Minor Hall with tea at 6.00 pm. Everyone welcome so please come along.

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

WITH EACH OTHER

TEA After 11.30 am service in St Patrick's today.

SELECT VESTRY Tuesday in Ballyclug.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE Wednesday, 15th February at 7.30 pm.

SAFEGUARDING TRUST EVENING TRAINING Leaders of all organisations are invited to a training evening in the Minor Hall on Monday, 20th February at 7.30 pm. The evening will be hosted by PSNI and Extern and provide an update on drugs in the community as affecting young people. Should any other parishioner wish to attend please contact a member of the Parish Panel.

LADIES' NIGHT OUT Frolick Ballymena (Ice cream parlour), Wednesday, 22nd February at 7.00 pm. If you wish to attend, please contact Lucy or write your name on the list at the back of church.

CRÈCHE If you think that there should be a Crèche on Sunday mornings during the service and if you would be willing to help with supervising this, please put your name on the list at the back of church.

STILL ACTIVE Wednesday - Experiencing the Olympics - Jennifer Campbell (mother of Olympic rower Alan).

WITH THE WORLD

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

REGISTRATION OF VESTRY PERSONS New signing-in forms for the Register of Vestrypersons are now at the back of each Church. If you are not registered to vote in Church elections, now is your opportunity - your name on the form is all that is required. A review meeting of our Register of Vestrypersons will take place at 8.00 pm on Sunday, 19th February in the Minor Hall.

PSNI LADIES CHOIR Concert by the PSNI Ladies Choir will be held in St Patrick's Church Hall on Friday, 24th March at 7.30 pm. Tickets costing £8 are now available in all 3 churches (following the Sunday services) and also from the Parish Office. Proceeds in aid of church funds.

SUMMER MADNESS It is hoped to take a group of young people to Summer Madness (Friday, 30th June - Sunday 2nd July). In order to do this we have to do some fundraising to help cover the costs. Fireside Quizzes (£1) are now available at the back of church or speak to Lucy. There will also be some nice treats today after the service with a cup of tea/coffee. Donations gratefully received. Anyone P7 or upwards wanting to go to Summer Madness, please see Lucy as soon as possible as we need to book before the end of February.

STUDENT LUNCHES Every Thursday in St Patrick's Church Hall - 12.00 - 2.00 pm. Parishioners are also welcome to come for tea/coffee and a chat.

FOOD BANK Thank you again for all your donations.

READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (Page 193) and St Matthew 5:21-37 (Page 4)

3rd Sunday Before Lent - St Columba's

12th February 2017

**A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
chapter 3 beginning at verse 1**

Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labour of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

Hear the gospel of our Saviour Christ according to St Matthew chapter 5 beginning at verse 21

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not murder”; and “whoever murders shall be liable to judgement.” But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, “You fool”, you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

‘It was also said, “Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.” But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.” But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be “Yes, Yes” or “No, No”; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

This is the gospel of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

3rd Sunday Before Lent - Ballyclug

12th February 2017

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians
chapter 4 beginning at verse 4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it. Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need.

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