

7th May 2017

Easter 4



WELCOME

We trust that all newcomers and visitors will feel welcome.

WORSHIP

We give thanks to God for our freedom to worship Him.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord of compassion and mercy, accept the prayers that we offer not only for ourselves but for all who are in need. Bring reconciliation where there is discord and peace of mind to all who are in distress. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

HEALER PRAYER GROUP Tuesday 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

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

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

PRAYER SUPPORT Team Leader - Sandra Thompson,
Tel No. 2564 1630

YOUTH ALPHA TO CONTINUE Our Youth Alpha Course has proved very successful with around 25 secondary school children meeting every week to explore the fundamentals of the Christian Faith. We are now extending the course for another 4 weeks from Sunday 30th April to 21st May. Please be sure to join us again.

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

WITH EACH OTHER

ST COLUMBA'S COMMITTEE Tomorrow at 7.45 pm.

- DEFIBRILLATOR** Training for the 12 people who have volunteered tomorrow at 7.00 pm in the Robing Room.
- CHORAL EVENSONG** Choral Evensong will be held on Sunday 14th May in All Saints Parish Church, Antrim. This service will include the joint Choirs from All Saints and St Patrick's. There will be no evening service in St Patrick's on this date but we will welcome the choir and congregation from All Saints to St Patrick's on Sunday, 21 May.
- SUMMER MADNESS FUNDRAISING** Thank you to all who helped with the preparations, attended the Coffee Morning and to those who donated traybakes/cakes, etc. The final total raised was £726.20, which was a tremendous effort and we were delighted with the **support** that we received from the Parish. Please pray for all our young people who will be attending the event and for the plans and preparations that will take place over the next month.
- SELECT VESTRY** Tuesday at 7.30 pm.
- WITH THE WORLD**
- CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** The door-to-door collection for Christian Aid Week begins on Monday, 15th May. If you can help please telephone Mary Campbell: 2564 6701 or email: mer2201@ymail.com or contact the Parish Office: 2563 0741 and leave your name and contact details. A Soup and roll lunch will take place after morning service in St Columba's and St Patrick's on Sunday, 14th May. Everyone welcome.
- LIFE CHANGES** Free Conference for those working with children and young people with learning disabilities and their families. Saturday, 3rd June, 9.30 am - 3.30 pm in Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church, Bangor. Anyone wishing to attend, please contact Lucy Tel. No. 077 5995 0497, as soon as possible.

READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM

**1 Peter 2:19-25 (Page 231)
St John 3:16-21 (Page 90)**

Easter 4 - St Columba's

7th May 2017

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians
chapter 4 beginning at verse 10

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. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews chapter 12 beginning at verse 1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children— "My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, or lose heart when you are punished by him; for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves, and chastises every child whom he accepts." Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as children; for what child is there whom a parent does not discipline? If you do not have that discipline in which all children share, then you are illegitimate and not his children. Moreover, we had human parents to discipline us, and we respected them. Should we not be even more willing to be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share his holiness. Now, discipline always seems painful rather than pleasant at the time, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

Easter 4 - Ballyclug

7th May 2017

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah chapter 9 beginning at verse 6

Ezra said: 'You are the Lord, you alone; you have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. To all of them you give life, and the host of heaven worships you. You are the Lord, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham; and you found his heart faithful before you, and made with him a covenant to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite; and you have fulfilled your promise, for you are righteous. 'And you saw the distress of our ancestors in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea. You performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted insolently against our ancestors. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day. And you divided the sea before them, so that they passed through the sea on dry land, but you threw their pursuers into the depths, like a stone into mighty waters. Moreover, you led them by day with a pillar of cloud, and by night with a pillar of fire, to give them light on the way in which they should go. You came down also upon Mount Sinai, and spoke with them from heaven, and gave them right ordinances and true laws, good statutes and commandments, and you made known your holy sabbath to them and gave them commandments and statutes and a law through your servant Moses. For their hunger you gave them bread from heaven, and for their thirst you brought water for them out of the rock, and you told them to go in to possess the land that you swore to give them.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the gospel according to St John chapter 10 beginning at verse 1

Jesus said to the Pharisees, 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD