

25th November 2018

The Sunday before Advent



WELCOME To everyone here today.

WORSHIP Praise to God our Saviour.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the way, help us not to stray from you. You are the truth, help us to put our trust in you. You are the life and give us all that we need. May we praise your name with thankful hearts. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

'THE WAY' YOUTH FELLOWSHIP Tonight at 6.30 pm in the Revd Dennis' house.

LIVING FAITH Tonight at 6.30 pm in St Patrick's Church Hall. Speaker: Rick Johnston. Subject: Listening to God.

HEALER PRAYER GROUP Tuesday 7.15 pm in Clergy Vestry.

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP Tuesday at 8.00 pm in the Choir Vestry. This will be the last meeting of the Bible Study until 2019.

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

ADVENT REFLECTIONS Ballymena Church Members Forum. St Patrick's Parish Church on Thursday from 12.30 pm.

GOOD BOOK CLUB Friday at 7.00 pm in the Choir Vestry. All welcome.

PRAYER SUPPORT Team Leader - Heather Barr: Tel No. 2564 1047.

INSTALLATION OF REVD M McCONNELL AS A CANON OF LISBURN CATHEDRAL Our Rector will be installed as a Canon of Lisburn Cathedral on Tuesday, 4th December at 8.00 pm in Lisburn Cathedral. A 29-seater bus has been ordered to take parishioners. If you wish to travel by bus please sign your name on the sheet at the back of Church.

REMEMBRANCE & THANKSGIVING

A service will be held in St Patrick's Church on Sunday, 9th December at 6.30 pm. Central to this service will be the theme of giving thanks to God for loved ones lost. As we near the end of the year this service will provide an opportunity for quiet remembrance and thanksgiving. If this is suitable for you, or someone you know, please do pass the word around and come along.

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

MOTHERS' UNION

For those planning to attend the 16 Days of Activism Vigil tomorrow, please meet at the City Hall at 4.45 pm. Entrance from Donegal Square South.

LADIES' CIRCLE

St Columba's tomorrow night at 8.00 pm. The speaker is Cheryl Sinclair - demonstrating Origami.

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH CHOIR

If you would like to sing with the Choir at this year's Christmas Carol Service, please speak to Adrian or a member of the Choir. You need only attend 4 practices starting on Thursday, 29th November and ending on Thursday, 20th December. Your help would be most appreciated.

2019 ENVELOPES

Envelopes are now available at the back of each Church for distribution by deliverers. Parishioners living in outlying districts please ask the Church Wardens for your box of envelopes. Please note parishioners holding envelope numbers 650 - 720 have been reallocated a new number for 2019.

WITH THE WORLD

ENGAGE CONNOR CHRISTMAS CRACKER & GIVEAWAY

Christmas Party - Saturday, 1st December 7.00 - 9.30 pm in Broughshane Parish Church.

MOVIE & DESSERT EVENING

Saturday, 5th January, 2019, in St Patrick's Hall from 7.00 - 10.00 pm, showing the Christian Award Winning Film '*I can only imagine*'. All welcome. Tickets £7.50. Proceeds in aid of youth funds. Tickets available from Lucy or Parish Office.

FOOD BANK

Please bring donations for the Christmas Foodbank to Church before 2nd December. Thank you.

READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM

1 Samuel 16:4-13 (Page 268) and St John 18:33-37 (Page 110)

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Northern Ireland Charity number: NIC103115

The Sunday before Advent - St Columba's

25th November 2018

A reading from the Book of Joshua chapter 5 beginning at
verse 13

Once when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, 'Are you one of us, or one of our adversaries?' He replied, 'Neither; but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.' And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshipped, and he said to him, 'What do you command your servant, my lord?' The commander of the army of the LORD said to Joshua, 'Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy.' And Joshua did so. Now Jericho was shut up inside and out because of the Israelites; no one came out and no one went in. The LORD said to Joshua, 'See, I have handed Jericho over to you, along with its king and soldiers. You shall march around the city, all the warriors circling the city once. Thus you shall do for six days, with seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, the priests blowing the trumpets. When they make a long blast with the ram's horn, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and all the people shall charge straight ahead.' On the seventh day they rose early, at dawn, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times. And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, 'Shout! For the LORD has given you the city. The city and all that is in it shall be devoted to the LORD for destruction.

This is the word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Chapter 4 beginning at verse 17

Now this I affirm and insist on in the Lord: you must no longer live as the Gentiles live, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of their ignorance and hardness of heart. They have lost all sensitivity and have abandoned themselves to licentiousness, greedy to practise every kind of impurity. That is not the way you learned Christ! For surely you have heard about him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus. You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

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THANKS BE TO GOD

The Sunday before Advent - Ballyclug

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