

# 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018

## Advent 3



**WELCOME** To newcomers and visitors.

**WORSHIP** We come to be with our Father.

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord Jesus, at this time we pray that you will bring peace to our hearts and give light to our world. May you give comfort to those who are troubled, peace of mind to all and may we show to the world your love by our actions. 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.

**ADVENT SERVICE** Mid-week Advent Service in Ballyclug Church on Wednesday at 7.30 pm. Please come and prepare for Christmas. Everyone welcome.

**DAILY BREAD** The Daily Bread Bible Reading Notes are now available. An envelope for your subscription payment of £18 is included. This is required for audit purposes and needs to be returned, with your payment, by the end of January 2019.

**ADVENT REFLECTIONS** Ballymena Church Members Forum. Methodist Church on Thursday at 12.30 pm. All welcome.

**NINE LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICES** Tonight at 7.00 pm in St Columba's. Next Sunday in Ballyclug at 10.00 am and St Patrick's Church at 6.30 pm.

**NEW LIFE & SUNDAY SCHOOL** Starts again on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.

**'THE WAY' YOUTH FELLOWSHIP** Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 6.30 pm in the Revd Dennis' house.

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP** New Bible Study Group starting in St Columba's in the New Year on Wednesday evenings at 8.00 pm in the Church. Our first time together will be 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.

- ALPHA COURSE** We would like to give notice of an Alpha Course for all interested which will be based in St Columba's on the six Wednesday evenings before Palm Sunday. Our first Alpha night being Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 8.00 pm.
- CONFIRMATION** Anyone wishing to be included in our next Confirmation (normally held during December), would you please register your interest along with contact details with the Parish Office during the month of January 2019.
- 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.
- 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

- SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS** Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 pm in Rococo, Ballymena.
- YOUTH CLUB** The Youth Club will start again on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019.
- WATCH OUT!!!** In order to keep our grounds safe for all and following a few minor motoring incidents, the Vestry have approved a one-way system for St Patrick's Church. A diagram will be drawn up and more information will appear in the Church Magazine and on future notice sheets. The Vestry want to keep everyone safe, so watch this space.

### WITH THE WORLD

- CHRISTMAS TREES OF MEMORIES** Memory trees will be located in the Tower Centre Mall from 14<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> December. If you wish to remember a loved one you can write a message onto a yellow ribbon attached to a tree. Suggested donation £2 per ribbon which will go to Macmillan Cancer Support, Good Morning Ballymena and local charities supported by the Rotary Club.
- MOVIE & DESSERT EVENING** Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM**  
St Luke 2:8-12 (Page 56)

# Advent 3 - St Columba's

16<sup>th</sup> December 2018

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.

*This is the word of the Lord*  
**THANKS BE TO GOD**

## Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to St Luke, chapter 3 beginning at verse 7

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

***This is the Gospel of the Lord.***

**PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

# Advent 3 - Ballyclug

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