

23rd December 2018

Advent 4



WELCOME

To all visitors and especially those home on holiday.

WORSHIP

The shepherds and wise men come to the manger.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Dear Lord Jesus, as your birthday draws near, may we open our minds to receive your Son into our hearts. May your Holy Spirit bring joy and peace to all your people throughout the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MAKING FRIENDSHIPS

WITH GOD

TONIGHT

Nine Lessons and Carols in St Patrick's at 6.30 pm. Everyone will be most welcome. Come along and bring a friend.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

St Patrick's - Christmas Eve - Holy Communion Form 1 at 11.30 pm.

CHRISTMAS DAY

St Patrick's 8.15 am Holy Communion Form 2
10.30 am Christmas Family Communion Form 2

Ballyclug 9.30 am Holy Communion Form 1. Revd Canon Ken Ruddock will conduct this service.

St Columba's 10.30 am Christmas Family Communion Form 2

St Patrick's There will be no New Life Service at 10.00 am and no Evening Prayer Service in St Patrick's on 30th December.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Watchnight Service at 11.15 pm in St Patrick's.

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Tuesday, 8th January at 8.00 pm in the Choir Vestry. All welcome.

MID WEEK

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

NEW LIFE & SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starts again on Sunday, 6th January, 2019.

'THE WAY' YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, 13th 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 23rd 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, 6th 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 - Adelaide Nimick: Tel No. 2564 0865.
- 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** Wednesday, 9th January - Branch meeting "New Year Memories" in the Minor Hall at 8.00 pm.
- YOUTH CLUB** The Youth Club will start again on Saturday, 12th January 2019.
- FLOWER LIST** The 2019 Flower List for St Patrick's is now available at the back of church.
- 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

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

READINGS IN ST PATRICK'S AT 11.30 AM

Philippians 4:4-9 (Page 196) and St Luke 1:39-45 (Page 54)

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Northern Ireland Charity number: NIC103115

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A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews Chapter 10
beginning at verse 5

When Christ came into the world, he said,
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God"
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken
pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and
sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then
he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the
first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's
will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the
body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD

A reading from gospel according to St Luke chapter 2 beginning at verse 22

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

This is the word of the Lord

THANKS BE TO GOD