"O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Your Advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight."

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are always happy to have visitors with us in Cregagh; and we welcome any who may be worshipping with us today. We would invite visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Vestibule, giving full name and postal address.

We would welcome and thank Malone Presbyterian Church Choir as they join with our own Cregagh Church Choir for this morning's Service of Advent Music and Readings. **TODAY'S FLOWERS**

The flowers today are provided by Mrs.D.Law, Cregagh Road.

FIRST SUNDAY COFFEE BAR

The First Sunday Coffee Bar is open in the Allen Hall after this morning's service and all are invited for some refreshments and a chat.

The Craft Table will display hand made cards and Christmas craft items.

The Book Stall will also be in the Allen Hall during coffee time.

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE

Members of the Congregational Committee are asked to collect their district supplies of 2011 WFO envelopes and 'Church News' from the Allen Hall today and make distribution during the week if possible.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Ladies of P.W.G. going to the 'Evening of Christmas Music and Verse' in Bloomfield Methodist Church tomorrow night should please meet at Cregagh Church at 7.15 p.m.

MORNING WATCH

The Morning Watch will meet on Tuesday at 10.45 a.m. in the Session Room. **PUPPY PARTY!**

Our dog classes finish for Christmas on Tuesday night with a 'Puppy Party' at 7.00 p.m. in the Allen Hall. Members of the congregation are welcome to call in with or without a dog. Any spare doggy gifts, toys or treats can be given to Karen McCurry and they'll be passed on to an animal Sanctuary.

CRÈCHE

Crèche leaders are reminded of the meeting on Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. in the Session Room **ADVENT BIBLE STUDY**

The second session of a three week bible study series with the theme 'How God prepared for Christmas – the prophecies in the Old Testament' will be held on Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. in the Sleith Youth Centre.

BODY, SOUL AND MIND GROUP

Members of the Body, Soul and Mind Group are reminded of the Christmas Lunch on Thursday at Shandon Golf Club. Members do <u>not</u> come to the church as cars will collect each one at home at 12.30 p.m. approx. Any queries to 07789486123.

OFFICE HOURS

Rev. McIntyre will be in the Minister's Room on Thursday from 7.30 - 8.30 p.m. **OPEN CHURCH**

The church will be open for private prayer and meditation on Friday from 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

CHURCH DECORATION

The church will be decorated for the Christmas Season on Friday from 7.00 p.m. Any member of the congregation would be very welcome to come along and help. Gifts of holly, ivy, cupresses, pine, etc. would be of great help as it takes quite a lot of greenery to decorate the church – this may be left at the church any evening this week.

ADVENT QUIET MORNING

'Creating space for God in all the busyness of the season' A quiet morning will be held on Saturday from 9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. at Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne. Anyone wishing to attend should please sign their name on the sheet in the Vestibule today. Lifts can be arranged.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE GIFT SERVICE

The Christmas Tree Gift Service will be held next Sunday at 11.00 a.m. All children (and adults if they wish) may bring their gifts (unwrapped) which will be distributed to needy children and families in the city The Belfast City Mission request that no soft toys are given this year but suggest the following: educational type toys for 1 - 3 year olds, football or sports socks (not linked to any team), sweets or selection boxes, toiletries, Lego, stationery items and Glee accessories.

Y.F. CHRISTMAS SERVICE

The Youth Fellowship Christmas Service will be held next Sunday at 7.00 p.m. The Praise Group and instrumentalists will take part. Refreshments for the congregation will be served in the Allen Hall after the service and then the Y.F. will have their Christmas Party in the Sleith Youth Centre. This will be the last Y.F.meeting until the New Year.

STEAM AND CAROLS

The much anticipated 'Steam and Carols' event will take place on Thursday week, 16th December when the steam train departs Central Station at 6.40 p.m. (returning approx. 10.30 p.m.) The Church Choir will sing carols at three different locations. Fare is £20 and tickets are available today in the Allen Hall or from David Thompson (9267 7039) or Rosemary Thompson (07989970191) Don't miss this evening with a difference – book today!

OTHER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

Handbell Choir Christmas Service - Sunday 19th December at 11.00 a.m. Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols - Sunday 19th December at 7.00 p.m.

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- Christmas Eve in Cregagh
- Christmas Day Family Service
- Friday 24th December at 11.30 p.m. Saturday 25th December at 9.00 a.m.
- St.Stephen's Day Service
- Sunday 26th December at 11.00 a.m.
- New Year Communion
- Sunday 2nd January at 11.00 a.m.

2011 PUBLICATIONS

'Presbyterian Herald' and 'Reach Out' – new or changed orders may be placed with Margaret Thompson (9073 8258)

'International Bible Reading Notes for 2011' – new or changed orders may be placed with Barbara Dunlop (9045 3829)

'Reach Out Calendar for 2011' – sample in Vestibule – orders to Margaret Thompson as soon as possible.

FOOD STORE

You may remember earlier in the year we collected food items to help out with the 'food store' run by Willowfield Parish Church. This was greatly appreciated. We have decided to assist them again in making up Christmas hampers. Collections will be held today and next Sunday in the Vestibule. Items specifically requested are coffee, tea bags, mince-pies, cereal, jam, Pringles, biscuits, tinned tuna, tinned fruit, rice, pasta and Schloer drinks Further information available from Heather Sharpe (9045 3147)

THANK YOU

"A big 'thank you' to everyone who supported the Guides and Brownies <u>'Big Breakfast</u> <u>Morning</u> when we raised £420, which is fantastic. I would like to thank everyone who came along and supported this event and to Philip Armstrong from Coffey's Butchers who supplied the sausages and bacon" (Gillian Simons)

"Thank you to all who supported the recent <u>'Harry Potter Evening'</u> when £1,500 was raised" (Louise Michael).

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE SUPPER

Help is required for the Candlelight Service Supper on this day fortnight, 19th December. Shortbread, small Christmas cakes and Schloer are required – please add your name to the list in the Vestibule or see Anne Graham today.

FLOWER CALENDAR

The Flower Calendar for 2011 will be in the Vestibule today and next Sunday. If your name is on the list to supply church flowers <u>please check your details and date</u> as it may be difficult to make changes later in the year.

CHURCH CLEANING

A deep clean of the church and halls is going to take place from week commencing 4^{th} January 2011. We would ask organisations not to resume activities until the following week, as it is anticipated that the cleaning will take at least 5 - 7 days.

Any queries please see the Congregational Secretary, Mr. Jim McCurry.

CALLING ALL ORGANISATIONS!

Organisations leaders/secretaries are asked to submit their Activity Reports for 2010, Financial Reports for 2010, Numbers on Roll, and contact details (names of leaders and secretaries, telephone numbers and email addresses etc.) to Jim McCurry (emailed or written copy left in Secretaries pigeon hole) not later than Sunday 16th January 2011. **DECEMBER DUTY ROTAS**

KIRK SESSION – J.Taylor, B.McCluskey, T.McCluskey, C.Mee, M.Thompson, B.McNair, R.McNair and L.Ferguson (Team Leader)

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE – J.McConnell, I.Sheppard, D.Pollock, S.McCormick, K.Glover, C.Sharpe, M.Spiers, A.Todd, H.Stewart (Leader) and N.Platt (Deputy Leader)

CRÈCHE - (5^{th}) E.Gillespie and C.Gillespie. (12^{th}) J.Taylor and C.Taylor. (19^{th}) H.Wilkins and A.Patton. (26^{th}) to be arranged.

KIDZONE – K.McCurry, J.McCurry, B.McNair, A.Watson and L.Watson. FLOWER DELIVERIES – (5th) L.Taylor and H.Sharpe.

"Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they do when they stick together!"

<u>Weekly News- Sheet</u> Sunday 5th December 2010 The Second Sunday in Advent

"I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in His word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning. Let Israel hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption." Psalm 130. 5-7.

> MORNING SERVICE at 11.00 a.m. in the Church Advent Carol Service

EVENING SERVICE at 7.00 p.m. in the Transept

Cregagh Presbyterian Church 102 – 104 Cregagh Road Belfast BT6 9ER Tel: 028 9045 5160