



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We always happy to have visitors with us in Cregagh and we welcome any who may be worshipping with us on this the First Sunday in Advent. We invite our Visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Porch, giving full postal address.

Any parents with young children are invited to make use of the Creche (in the Session Room) for babies or KidZone for 3 year old upwards (in the Stewart

Hall) who leave church after the children's address and hymn.

This morning our Church Choir is in St Columbas Parish Church for the Advent Carol Service. Here in Cregagh we are delighted to welcome and thank our guests this morning, Rev Ben Walker who is conducting the service and Mr Alan Robinson who presides at the piano.

## COFFEE BAR

Everyone is invited to remain behind after this morning's service for some refreshments which will be served in the Stewart Hall.

## TODAY'S FLOWERS

The Pedestal flowers are provided by Mrs M Hughes, Silvergrove, Montgomery Road The Porch flowers provided by David Scott and Deborah Strain are 'In Memory of Myrtle and Cecil'

## WALK AND TALK

The Walk and Talk group will meet on Tuesday at 10.00 a.m. at the church for a visit to the Titanic Centre. All welcome.



## OFFICE HOURS

The Clerk of Session will be in the Minister's Room on Thursday from 7.30-8.30 p.m. Any matters requiring urgent attention or the services of a minister during the vacancy period may be referred to Dennison Mahood – tel: 90789 9307 or

Email: [dmahood@btinternet.com](mailto:dmahood@btinternet.com)

## CHRISTMAS DECORATION

The Allen Hall will be decorated for the Christmas Season on Friday from 7.00 p.m. Gifts of holly and greenery would be appreciated and may be left in the back corridor any morning or evening from Tuesday to Friday.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE GIFT SERVICE

The Children's 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 (toys, books, sweets etc.) – unwrapped to the Christmas Tree. The gifts will then be taken to the Belfast City Mission for distribution to needy children and families in the city.



## SESSION AND COMMITTEE

A short joint meeting of Session and Committee will be held in the Session Room after the service next Sunday morning.

## CRAFT GROUP

Handmade cards and items for Christmas will be on display next Sunday morning.

## NEXT SUNDAY EVENING

The service next Sunday evening at 7.00 p.m. will be conducted by Rev Wilfred Orr (Minister Emeritus of St Johns, Newtownbreda Presbyterian Church)

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Evergreens and Presbyterian Women are having a joint Christmas Lunch on Wednesday week, 13<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30 p.m. in the Barbour Hall. Entertainment is by Amy Chambers and Christmas Greetings brought by Rev Hastings McIntyre.

## READING CIRCLE

Almost time for Christmas dinner and book review! The Reading Circle will meet on Friday week, 15<sup>th</sup> December at 21 Ormiston Drive, where turkey and all the trimmings will be enjoyed. The book to be discussed is 'Hotel on the corner of bitter and sweet' by Jamie Ford. Looking forward to a full house!

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS SERVICE

 The Youth Fellowship Christmas Service will be held on this day fortnight, 17<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00 a.m.

## OKAY BREAKFAST

The OKAY group invite you to come and enjoy a light breakfast on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00 a.m. before the Youth Fellowship Christmas Service. If you plan to come please add your name to the list at the back of the Allen Hall.

## FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be held on this day fortnight, Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 p.m. The lessons will be read by representatives from some of our congregation's organisations; and as usual the Church Choir and Junior Choir will sing the carols. The service will be conducted by the Rev Hastings McIntyre. A Christmas Supper will be served in the Stewart Hall after the service.



## CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

'World Development' (for PCI World Development 2017 Appeal) and 'Cregagh Christmas' (for the Building Fund) envelopes will be on the chairs for your use at any of the Christmas service.

## LEPROSY MISSION

Mission boxes and any donations towards the work of the Leprosy Mission should now be given to Rebecca Day to be included for 2017.

## PRESBYTERIAN HERALD

The Presbyterian Herald is the monthly magazine of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Containing news, features and general information about our Church's work, both at home and overseas, it is a useful way to keep up to date with what is going on in PCI. Why not give someone a subscription for Christmas this year or think about taking a subscription out for yourself. A yearly subscription of 10 issues costs just £10 through our congregational agent. For a single copy or to subscribe please contact Joan Taylor (9064 1262)

## VACANCY NOTICES

**VOTERS LIST** The Voters List is available for inspection at the back of the Allen Hall and in the Stewart Hall and will be until Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Any objection to the inclusion or omission from the list of any name, with reasons given, should be given in writing to the Clerk of Session not later than Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**VOTERS** \*Voting members are communicants on the roll of the congregation who are listed as having contributed to stipend or weekly freewill offering of the congregation in the last financial year.

- In addition, a wife shall be qualified on a husband's contribution, and vice versa, where both are communicants. Where the contributor is not a communicant the spouse shall be qualified providing he or she is a communicant. If neither husband or wife is a communicant, their contribution shall qualify the eldest child, residing in the family, who is on the communicant's roll.

- Those who have been added to the communicant's roll of the congregation since the close of the last financial year, shall be qualified as voters, upon confirmation by the Treasurer that they have contributed during the current year.

### INVITATION TO SUBMIT NAMES OF POSSIBLE CANDIDATES

- It is the responsibility of Kirk Session to draw up a list of properly qualified ministers who may be possible candidates to fill the present vacancy. An opportunity is being given to all members of the congregation to suggest possible candidates for the Kirk Session's consideration.

- Names should be submitted in writing to the Clerk of Session or Vacancy Convenor. You should sign your name on the list to be submitted. You should NOT contact any minister regarding this vacancy; that is the responsibility of the Vacancy Commission, and will be done at the appropriate time.

### **DECEMBER DUTY ROTAS**

**KIRK SESSION** – Elaine Molyneaux, Richard Molyneaux, Beth McNair, Robert McNair, Avril Pollock, Anne Graham and Michael Graham (Team Leader)

**CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE** – Ivan Taylor, James McCormick, Jim Hill, Dorothy Elliott, Peter Armstrong, Andrew Todd, Bobby Irvine (Deputy Leader) and Ruth Hill (Leader)

**CRECHE** – (3<sup>rd</sup>) Denise McCune and Gail Beattie (10<sup>th</sup>) Claire Cochrane and Caroline McMillen (17<sup>th</sup>) Cathy McCormick and Jenny Mooney (24<sup>th</sup>) Avril Pollock and Dorothy Elliott.

**FLOWER DELIVERY** – (3<sup>rd</sup>) Lily Taylor and Sheena Stewart

### **ADVENT**

Advent is the season when Christians make spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Celebrating with an Advent Wreath is a popular custom in many Christian traditions. Each candle on the wreath represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ. Set in the branches of the Advent Wreath are five candles. As a whole, these candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world. Each week of Advent a particular coloured candle is lit, each of the first four standing for 1000 years, to total the 4000 years from the time of Adam and Eve until the birth of the Saviour. The final white candle is lit on Christmas Day.



**CREGAGH  
PRESBYTERIAN**  
*Love God and Love Your Neighbour*



## **WEEKLY NEWS SHEET** **The First Sunday in Advent** **3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017**

*The First Candle of Advent*



*The Purple Candle of Hope*

**We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, and one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit"**

TODAY'S SERVICE at 11.00 a.m.

Rev Ben Walker

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9: 2-7 and Luke 2: 1-14

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