



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

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 invite our visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Vestibule, giving name and full postal address.

This morning any parents with young babies are invited to make use of the Creche. This evening we are delighted to welcome our guest speaker, Mr Andy Frazer who is an Elder in the Ards Presbytery is also an Accredited Preacher and a candidate for the Ministry with PCI.

GIFTS UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE

The gifts placed under the Christmas Tree this morning will be taken on Monday to the Belfast City Mission for distribution to needy children and families in the city.

COFFEE BAR – In the Allen Hall after Morning Service

PRE-SERVICE TEA AND TOAST – In the McIntyre Suite before Morning Service

MORNING WATCH

Morning Watch will meet on Tuesday at 10.45 a.m. in the Session Room.

CAROL SINGING

Due to the inclement weather last week the congregational carol singing in the local area was postponed until this Tuesday, meeting at the church at 6.30 p.m. The Church Choir will be taking part, however everyone of all ages in the congregation is welcome to come along.

OFFICE HOURS

There will be no Office Hours over the Christmas/New Year period. Rev McKenzie will next be in the Minister's Room on Thursday 17th January.

OPEN CHURCH

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

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Evergreens and Presbyterian Women are reminded of their joint Christmas Lunch on Wednesday at 12.30 p.m. in the Barbour Hall.

COMMUNITY CAROLS

Our neighbours from the Salvation Army invite the members of Cregagh to join them in the Belfast Temple, Cregagh Road next Sunday at 4.30 p.m. for their annual community carol singing.

The Third Sunday in Advent
The Pink Candle of Joy

When the Angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her she was filled with joy. She sang a song that began with these words:
"My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour"



HANDBELL CHOIR CHRISTMAS SERVICE
SUNDAY 23rd DECEMBER at 11.00 a.m.

Our Handbell Choir have had a very busy year playing at various venues and churches, and we look forward to their annual Christmas service here in Cregagh next Sunday.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
SUNDAY 23rd DECEMBER at 7.00 p.m.

We look forward to one of the most popular services of the whole year when the Christmas Message is presented in word and music in a traditional Christmas setting. The Church and Junior Choirs will provide the music, and the lessons read by representative members of the congregation.

A Christmas Supper will be served in the Allen Hall after the service for all our members, their friends and visitors.



CHRISTMAS EVE IN CREGAGH
TUESDAY 24th DECEMBER at 11.30 p.m.

Join us and the many visitors who faithfully attend this beautiful service each year as we greet Christmas Morn in God's House in a very atmospheric act of worship which is by candlelight.

The service lasts about 45 minutes.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN CREGAGH
WEDNESDAY 25th DECEMBER at 9.00 a.m.,

The Cregagh Family, young and old, meet to celebrate the Birth of Christ. Children are encouraged to bring their toys from Santa.

Christmas refreshments will be served in the Allen Hall after the service.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

'World Development' (for the PCI World Development Seeking Safety Appeal) and 'Cregagh Christmas' (for the Building Fund) envelopes are in the pews for your use at any of our Christmas services.



LEPROSY MISSION

This is the time of the year when Leprosy Mission boxes and any donations towards the work should be given to Rebecca Clarke.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP NI

Anne and Michael Graham would thank the members of Cregagh who provided gifts of food and sundries which were made up into hampers for distribution. Please pray that the recipient families will be touched by the outpouring of love offered.

MALAWI

“Thank you for a Christmas Party in Chifundo. Thank you that the children at Chifundo3 Childcare Centre will enjoy chicken and rice instead of porridge at their Christmas Party this week. On Thursday 800kg of fortified porridge was delivered to the church at Ndirande too so at least 40 families will have a months supply of nutritious Likuni Phala.”

“SCHOOL FEES – For those who lend their support to children in Malawi through the payment of school fees for the new term which commences in January can be paid anytime and if possible by Sunday 13th January at the latest.

Proverbs 11: v25 reminds us that ‘The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed’ Many thanks” (Sheena Stewart)

GUIDES AFTERNOON TEA PARTY

“Thank you to everyone who supported our ‘Afternoon Tea Party’ I must start by saying how proud we were of the Guides and how they made the afternoon a big success not only with the service they provided but in their baking skills. I would like to also thank everyone in the congregation who baked and supported us in the preparation before and after the event, there are so many of you to name individually, but you all know who you are. I was completely blown away with the number who supported the event not only from our own congregation, this gave them the opportunity to see around our lovely church. One thing Cregagh is famous for is working together! I am delighted to tell you we raised £885.00 and there are still a few donations to come in which is just amazing. Not only will the Guides benefit from this but also the Guides can support our Church Building Fund. We are also fortunate that we will be able to get this amount matched through Santander’s Charity Trust Fund. Thank you once again” (Gillian Simons – Guide Leader)

CHURCH PUBLICATIONS

Annual subscriptions and new orders should now be arranged for Presbyterian Herald (£15) to Joan Taylor and Wider World (£6) to Dorothy Platt.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

Members are asked to note that there are only two more Sundays on which to bring their 2018 WFO, Building Fund and United Appeal contributions up to date.

The congregational financial books will close promptly on Sunday 30th December.

CALLING ALL ORGANISATIONS

Organisation leaders/secretaries are asked to submit their activity reports for 2108, numbers on rolls and contact details (names of leaders, office bearers, telephone numbers and email addresses) to David Gillespie, and financial reports to Dawn Johnston not later than Sunday 13th January



WEEKLY NEWS SHEET The Third Sunday in Advent 16th December 2018

The Third Candle of Advent



The Pink Candle of Joy

*May the Christmas gifts remind you of God's greatest gift, His only begotten Son.
May the Christmas candles remind you of Him who is the 'Light of the World'
May the Christmas trees remind you of another tree upon which He died for you.
May the Christmas cheer remind you of Him who said 'Be of good cheer'
May the Christmas bell remind you of the glorious proclamation of His birth.
May the Christmas carols remind you of the son the angels sang, 'Glory to God...'
May the Christmas season remind you in every way of Jesus Christ your King.*

MORNING SERVICE at 11.00 a.m.

KidZone Children's Christmas Tree Gift Service

Scripture Readings: Luke 2: 8-20 and Psalm 150

EVENING SERVICE at 7.00 p.m.

Youth Fellowship Christmas Service – Andy Frazer

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9: 2-7 and Matthew 1: 18-25

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