



1ST 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 on this the First Sunday in Advent. We would invite our visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Church Vestibule, giving name and full postal address. This morning any parents with young babies are invited to make use of the Creche or KidZone (in the Stewart Hall) for 3 year olds upwards who leave church after the lighting of the Advent Candle.

We are delighted to welcome this morning the Choir and Organist of St Columba's Parish Church joining with us for this morning's special Service of Carols and Readings for Advent.

It has also been a joy over this weekend to have so many visitors and friends with us for the Christmas Tree Festival and at the closing festival service this evening.

COFFEE BAR

The Coffee Bar is open in the Allen Hall after this morning's service and all are invited to stay behind for some refreshments.

PRE-SERVICE COFFEE BAR

You are reminded that morning coffee, tea and toast are served in the McIntyre Suite each Sunday before Morning Worship.

TODAY'S CHURCH FLOWERS

The Pedestal flowers are provided by Mrs M Hughes, Mullan Mews, Willowfield.

The Sanctuary flowers provided by Mr D Scott and Mrs D Strain are 'In Memory of Myrtle and Cecil'

MORNING WATCH

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

OFFICE HOURS

Rev McKenzie 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 am – 12.00 noon.

'CHANGES ON THE ROAD'

Would the folk who offered to assist a QUB student with his research project on 'Social change in the Woodstock/Cregagh area' please meet on Wednesday at 4.00 p.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

YOUTH BIG NIGHT

All P7s and up are invited to the 'Youth Big Christmas Night' on Saturday from 6.30 – 9.00 p.m. at the church. Pizza, games, times to be together and think about what Christmas really means!



NEXT SUNDAY

Morning Service at 11.00 a.m. in the Church

Rev Edward McKenzie. Theme: The Persecuted Church'

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

PW will meet on Monday week, 9th December at 7.30 p.m. in the Barbour Hall for their Christmas Supper and Entertainment.

PRAYERS FOR ELECTION DAY

The church will be open for prayers on Thursday week, 12th December from 12.00 noon – 2.00 p.m. This will be an opportunity to seek God's guidance for voters, candidates and those who are elected at this difficult time for our country.

CHURCH DECORATION

The church will be decorated for the Christmas season on Friday week, 13th December. Gifts of holly, ivy, greenery etc. would be very much appreciated and may be left at the church any morning (9.30 – 12.00 noon) and Monday or Thursday evening (7.00 – 8.30 p.m.)

CHRISTMAS AT CREGAGH

Sunday 15th December at 11.00 a.m.

Children's Christmas Tree Gift Service and Sacrament of Baptism

Sunday 15th December at 6.30 p.m.

Youth Fellowship Christmas Service

Sunday 22nd December at 11.00 a.m.

Handbell Choir Christmas Service

Sunday 22nd December at 6.30 p.m.

Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 24th December at 11.30 p.m.

Christmas Eve in Cregagh at 11.30 p.m.

Wednesday 25th December at 9.00 a.m.

Christmas Day Family Service

Sunday 29th December at 11.00 a.m.

Old Year Service 2019

Sunday 5th January at 11.00 a.m.

New Year Communion

CHRISTMAS CARD – MALAWI

You are reminded that Christmas cards featuring Matthews Ben, a young boy in Malawi are still available in the Church Vestibule. Suggested donation is 80p and payment can be put in the Pennies for Porridge jar. Sale of the cards will enable the Children of Chifundo3 to have some chicken with their porridge at Christmas time.

PRESBYTERIAN HERALD

The Presbyterian Herald is the monthly magazine of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Containing news, reviews and resources, it also covers articles on Church issues, theological debates and current affairs. The Herald is a voice for Presbyterians in Ireland, giving the readers the opportunity to engage with the wider church family. To take out a yearly subscription (10 issues) priced at £15, please contact Joan Taylor. Thanks to all existing subscribers for their continual support.

BIBLE STUDY COPIES

Copies of previous Sunday evening Bible Study notes by Rev McKenzie are available in hard copy or can be emailed. Anyone wishing to receive these are asked to sign their name and email address (if applicable) on the sheets in the Church Vestibule or McIntyre Suite.

SUNDAY BIBLE READING

It is the intention to have a member of the congregation reading the first scripture lesson at most morning services. If you would be willing to assist in this way please advise Michael Graham as soon as possible so that suitable dates can be arranged.

ROTAS FOR 2020

Rotas for 2020 are now being arranged and anyone wishing to volunteer to help or have their name removed from a rota should please advise the convenors within the next week or two.

Little Pebbles Creche: Cathy McCormick or Avril Pollock

Sunday Service Bible Carrying Duty: Michael Graham

Weekly Church Flower Delivery: Michael Graham

Mid-week Welcome Area Door Duty: Barbara Dunlop

TEARFUND 'THANK YOU'

Tearfund acknowledges the congregation's recent gift of £500. The donation will help Tearfund to bring the transforming love of Jesus to people around the world, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) where they are facing the second largest outbreak of Ebola in history.

IN APPRECIATION

The Late Mrs Phyllis Mooney 'Trevor and Jenny would like to thank the congregation family of Cregagh for the kind support that has been shown by them on the recent loss of their mother, Phyllis. To all who called at home, sent cards and helped through this difficult time we wish to thank the ladies of the catering committee and volunteers. Michael Graham and Rev Robert Beggs for their help at that difficult time in our lives. Thank you all so much.'

The Late Mrs Jean Smith 'Jean's family would like convey their appreciation for all your kindness and prayers at the time of her passing'

DECEMBER DUTY ROTAS

KIRK SESSION – Joan Taylor, Beth McNair, Robert McNair, Beth McCluskey, Anne Sheppard and Anne Graham (Team Leader)

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE – Ivan Taylor, Dorothy Elliott, Peter Armstrong, Lauren Fincham, Murray Dalzell, Andrew Todd, James McCormick and Jim Hill (Deputy Leaders) and Ruth Hill (Leader)

CRECHE – (1st) Elaine Gillespie and Claire Gillespie (8th) May Gordon and Karen Simpson (15th) Miriam Sheppard and Carolien McMillen (22nd) Sheila Beatie and Hilary Scott (29th) Cathy McCormick and James McCormick.

FLOWER DELIVERY – (1st) Lily Taylor and Sheena Stewart (8th) Rosemary Carlisle and Percy Chambers.

AFTER CHURCH COFFEE BAR – (1st) Mothers and Toddlers/Jenny Mooney (8th) PW/Robyn McCullough (15th) KidZone/Karen McCurry (22nd) Guides/Brownies/Rainbows/Rebecca Clarke (29th) Choir/Praise Group/Handbell Choir/Maureen Mulligan

WELCOME AREA DOOR – (4th) Harry and Sheena Stewart (5th) Elaine Gillespie (11th) Raymond and Sandra Wallace (12th) Cheryl Cowling (18th) Chris Clay (19th) Alan and Angela Watson



Weekly News Sheet The First Sunday in Advent 1st December 2019

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.

MORNING SERVICE at 11.00 a.m.

Advent Service of Carols and Readings

Choirs of St.Columba's Church if Ireland and Cregagh Presbyterian Church

EVENING SERVICE at 5.00 p.m.

Closing Service of Christmas Tree Festival

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