



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 ask our members and visitors to remain seated at the end of the services until directed to leave by an usher. It would also be appreciated if when entering church for the services that you sit in the pews as directed by the ushers and not request another seat – this arrangement is to ensure safety and suitable social distancing.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

This morning, children and adults are asked to leave their Christmas gifts under the Christmas tree before the service or as they leave. The gifts will be taken to the Belfast Central Mission on Wednesday for distribution to needy families in the city.

CANDLELIGHT ORDER OF SERVICE

This evening please pick up your printed order of service in the Church Vestibule or McIntyre Suite as you enter church; and please take it home with you afterwards.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

‘World Development’ (for the PCI Moderator’s Appeal) and ‘Cregagh Christmas’ (for Mission Projects including Emmanuel Ministries and PW) envelopes are in the pews for your use at any of the Christmas services.

OFFERINGS

The offering will not be collected during the service but collection plates are in the Church Vestibule and McIntyre Suite for your use as you leave.

CHURCH DECORATIONS

The Pulpit Christmas display provided by Mr D Scott and Mrs D Strain is ‘In Memory of Myrtle and Cecil’

The Church Vestibule Christmas display is provided by Mrs M Hughes, Mullan Mews, Willowfield.

BLOBS

The Blobs group will meet on Tuesday at 9.30 a.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

MORNING WATCH

Morning Watch will meet on Tuesday at 10.45 a.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

THE EVERGREENS

The Evergreens ‘Afternoon of Christmas Cheer’ will be held on Wednesday at 2.00 p.m. in the church. Members of Tea and Talk and PW are invited. Due to current restrictions it is necessary to register not later than Monday evening – to do this please contact Carol Ferguson (07880672836 or email: carolaferguson@sky.com). Masks must be worn and hand sanitizers will be available. Please enter by the McIntyre Suite.

OFFICE HOURS

Rev McKenzie will be in the Minister’s Room on Thursday from 6.30 – 8.00 p.m. Members are requested to make an appointment by phoning 07809 674068

OPEN CHURCH

The church will be open as usual on Friday from 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon for private prayer and meditation.

NEXT SUNDAY **

The services next Sunday will be a repeat of today’s and you are requested to attend the one you were not at today.

KidZone Christmas service at 12.00 noon and

Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 7.00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY **

Our Christmas Day Family Service will be held on Friday week, at 9.00 a.m.

OLD YEAR SUNDAY **

The last services of 2020 will be held on this day fortnight, Sunday 27th December at 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon.

** Please register for all these services not later than this Thursday (17th December) at 6.00 p.m.

NEW YEAR COMMUNION

The New Year Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be observed on Sunday 3rd January at 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon.

NEW YEAR QUIET MORNING

Due to the Advent Quiet Morning having to be cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions, a New Year Quiet Morning will be held in the church on Saturday 9th January.

Details from Sheena Stewart (9079 3161) or Barbara Dunlop (07752134435)

FOOD BANK



Feeding the Community

In an effort to help the needy and disadvantaged members of our community we as a congregation are collecting items for the local food bank for distribution. It would be appreciated if members of the congregation donated longlife items (tinned vegetables, fruit, soup or rice, pasta, cereals, household items etc.) which may be left at the church any morning (Monday to Friday 9.30 – 11.30 a.m.) or on Sundays.

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES

Members are asked to note that there are only two more Sundays on which to bring their 2020 WFO, Building Fund and United Appeal contributions up to date.

The congregational financial books will close promptly on Sunday 27th December.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Reports for 2019 have just been delivered to each home in the congregation. Please note that figures reported on page 32, note 11, are incorrect due to a printing error.

If any member has a query about their details/contributions etc. please contact David Gillespie (9028 5740), Gordon Dunlop (9045 3829)

Richard Molyneux (9185 2437) or Karen McCurry (9070 5644)

Come let us
Adore
Him



CALLING ALL ORGANISATIONS

Organisational leaders/secretaries/treasurers are asked to submit their activity reports for 2020 (although activities were much restricted due to the Covid pandemic), numbers on roll, 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 10th January.

COVID UPDATE

At Cregagh we wish to create an environment that is both welcoming and safe. While we would actively encourage all members to come back to worship, believing it safe to do so with the measures we have taken, we also wish to highlight that no one should come to services if they have symptoms.

As we continue to move forward towards something more like normal it is imperative that we do so by insuring that all actions are in line with current guidelines and restrictions. With no changes to PCI guidelines regarding 2m social distance the same arrangements for services that are currently in place will continue to provide (with a few exceptions for Christmas services – see News Sheet announcements) a service at 10am and 12noon, accommodating around 60 people on each occasion. Doors will be opened at 9:30am and 11:30am so that folk can be guided and seated. The wearing of face coverings, is now mandatory when entering and exiting the building and worn throughout the service.

Members are still being asked to register, due to ‘contact tracing’, by contacting Michael Graham on email or phone, indicating which service(s), how many are ‘in their bubble’ and attending with them, as well as which time slot(s). As before those who have registered will be asked to inform Michael and if for whatever reason someone cannot attend so that the register can be as accurate as possible.

It is great that KidZone has started up again, Karen and Jim are happy to carry on covering the month of December, however it would be useful if parents could register by Friday so that appropriate preparations can be made. Unfortunately the restrictions are still extremely tight regarding Creche so it will not be available for the time being. However babies are very welcome at our services!

The issue of offering lifts to church continues to be a difficult one but the official position in terms of the guidelines is that folk should still not offer nor provide lifts to anyone outside of their bubble. Unfortunately pastoral visitation is still limited to emergencies and bereavements.

It would be anticipated that all practices would be reviewed on Monday 11th January.



Weekly News Sheet **The Third Sunday in Advent** **13th December 2020**



*Some people, when a Christmas tree they see,
may only think its just a tree
with shining lights and a star so bright
and pretty colours that gleam in the night.*

*The gifts under the tree are as nice as can be,
but the greatest gift ever is Jeus, you see,
for He came to this earth to die on a tree
as you and I from sin might be free.*

*So give him your heart and happy you will be
that His gift of life has made you free.
How pretty are these wonderful trees,
but none are as beautiful as God's Christmas Tree*
(Elizabeth Gill)

MORNING SERVICE at 12.00 noon
KidZone Christmas Tree Gift Service
Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 1-7

EVENING SERVICE at 7.00 p.m.
Candlelight Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

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