



### The Purple Candle of Peace

The fourth week of Advent the final purple candle is lit. Sometimes know as 'the Angel's Candle' it symbolizes Peace.

**'Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you all'**

(2 Thessalonians 3:16)

### **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 visitors and members to remain seated at the end of the service until directed to leave by an usher.

It would be also appreciated if when entering church for the service that you sit in the pew as directed by the ushers and not request another seat – this arrangement is to ensure safety and social distancing. Please do not stop to chat in the church pews or aisles as you enter or leave church but you may do so in the church grounds, obviously observing social distancing and wearing your mask.

### **YOUTH BIBLE CLASS CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

This morning we would thank the Young People's Bible Class for conducting the service and Peter Macmillan for leading the epilogue. Theme: 'A Super Christmas'

### **CANDLELIGHT ORDER OF SERVICE**

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

### **CHURCH OFFERINGS**

As the offering cannot be collected in the usual way during current services there are collection plates in the Church Vestibule and McIntyre Suite for your use.

### **CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS**

'World Development' (for PCI Moderator's Appeal) and 'Cregagh Christmas' (for Mission Projects) envelopes are in the pews for your use at any of the Christmas services.

### **YOU ARE INVITED.....**

Coffee Bar will be open in the Allen Hall after this morning's service.

Christmas Refreshments will be served in the Allen Hall after this evening's service. Please remember to wear your face covering when moving around the hall and please only enjoy your refreshments when seated.



### **ZOOM BIBLE STUDY**

The Zoom Bible Study will take place on Monday at 7.00 p.m.

### **BLOBS**

The final Blobs meeting of 2021 will be held on Tuesday at 9.30 a.m. in the McIntyre Suite.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

There will be no Office Hours until the New Year. Any matters requiring urgent attention may be referred to Rev Edward McKenzie (07809 674068) or Michael Graham, Clerk of Session (07548 635075)

### **OPEN CHURCH**

The church will not be open for private prayer and meditation on Friday morning (Christmas Eve) but will be each Friday from New Years Eve, 31<sup>st</sup> December from 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon.

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

The Christmas Day Family Service will be held at 9.00 a.m. Refreshments will be served in the Allen Hall after the service.

### **BOXING DAY – NEXT SUNDAY**

The service at 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December will have as its theme: 'Christmas Day Leftovers'

### **NEW YEAR COMMUNION**

The New Year Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 11.00 a.m.

Retiring Offering for the Benevolent Fund.

### **EVENING PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY**

Our monthly Evening Prayer and Bible Study will resume on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January at 6.30 p.m. in the church. (2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians)

### **CONGREGATIONAL FINANCES**

Members are asked to note that there is only one more Sunday on which to bring their 2021 WFO, Building Fund and United Appeal contributions up to date.

The congregational financial books will close promptly next Sunday.

### **FLOWER CALENDAR**

The Flower Calendar for 2022 is on display in the Church Vestibule and McIntyre Suite. Those who normally supply church flowers throughout the year are asked to inspect the calendar and advise Maureen Mulligan or Dennison Mahood of any changes or queries as soon as possible as any such changes may not be possible later in the year.

### **EMMANUEL MINISTRIES CALCUTTA**

"I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped in any way to enable a total of 57 Christmas Door Decorations to be made. From those providing foliage, those who helping arranging, everyone who placed orders and all those who gave donations. A total of £1124 was raised and will make an incredible difference to EMC's work with the Street Children, the Children who live on the Railway, the Slum Areas and the Boys and Girls in the Residential Homes.

Thank you all so much" (Maureen Mulligan)



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MINISTER



We are pleased to announce that Rev Edward McKenzie has been appointed and commissioned as a Chaplain with the 2<sup>nd</sup> N.I. Battalion Army Cadet Force with effect from the New Year. The role involves working with teenagers and instructors across the province teaching and providing spiritual instruction and pastoral support.

We wish Edward every support and blessing as he commences this extension of his Christian ministry.

## WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

Over the next two weeks the News Sheet will be printed on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> December for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

## COVID UPDATE

In Cregagh we wish to create a worship environment that is both safe and welcoming.

While we would actively encourage all members to come to worship, believing it is safe to do so with the measures we have taken, we would also wish to highlight that no one should come to services if they have COVID symptoms. PCI have advised that one meter social distancing during services of worship be observed. Doors will open at 10:30am for 11.00 a.m. services and 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. services so ushers can guide folk to their seats. It is again now mandatory that face covering have to be worn at all times during services – entering and singing in church as well as when seated. Members are asked to register, due to ‘contact tracing’ and to ensure space and availability of seating by contacting the Clerk of Session, Michael Graham, on email: michaelgraham112@gmail.com or phone 07548635075. As before those who have registered will be asked to inform Michael if for whatever reason someone cannot attend so that the register can be as accurate as possible. It is strongly requested that members register by Thursday of each week.

KidZone warmly invite the children of the congregation to come along, this is an additional reason why registering by Thursday is helpful, so required preparations can take place. Crèche is available, but we would ask for the time being that a parent/carer accompany their child and wear a face covering while in the crèche room.

Bibles and hymnbooks have now been returned to the pews for your use. Unfortunately, by advice from Presbytery, pastoral visitation from the Minister is still to be limited to emergencies, bereavements or at special request. Indoor activities may take place in church buildings providing the necessary risk assessments are adhered to. Organisations are requested to contact our Congregational Secretary, Jim McCurry so that the risk assessments are adequate and confirmed.



## **WEEKLY NEWS SHEET** **19<sup>th</sup> December 2021** **The Fourth Sunday in Advent**



*“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined”*

Isaiah 9:2

*“Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill toward men”*

Luke 2:14

## **TODAY'S SERVICES**

**Morning Service at 1100 a.m – Young People's Bible Class Service**  
**Scripture Readings: Matthew 1: 18-25 and Isaiah 9: 2-7**

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

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