#### 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 invite our visitors to sign the Visitor's Book in the Vestibule, giving name and full postal address. This morning any parents with babies are invited to make use of Pebbles Crèche

#### **ORDER OF SERVICE**

This morning we are delighted to have our children from KidZone leading the service today. A big thank you to Karen, Jim and the leaders for their work today and across the year

#### **COFFEE BAR**

The Coffee Bar is open in the Allen Hall after this mornings service. Everyone is invited to stay for a cuppa and a further time of fellowship.

#### CAROLS IN THE CARPARK

We look forward to our time of Christmas worship alongside our friends from Cregagh & Glenburn Methodist and Belfast Temple Salvation Army at 4pm. Please come along and enjoy the singing followed by refreshments. We will meet inside the church if it is raining.

#### PRE SERVICE PRAYER

Each Lord's Day a short prayer meeting takes place in the prayer room, located beside the Church Vestibule at 10:30am, all are welcome

#### **OPEN CHURCH**

The church will be open on Fridays from 10am–12.00 noon for private prayer and meditation

#### BELFAST CITY MISSION CHRISTMAS APPEAL

All toys and gifts provided today will be taken to the Belfast City Mission for distribution to needy children and families in Belfast. Thank you for your generosity!

## BELFAST HOMELESS SERVICES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Grateful thanks to everyone who kindly donated to this most worthy charity Christmas appeal. The final collection was made by BHS on Wednesday and they are absolutely delighted with the gifts including toiletries, hats, scarves, gloves, socks, sweets and chocolates. This will bring joy to so many vulnerable people this Christmas and please remember those less fortunate in your thoughts and prayers this festive season. (Elaine Molyneaux)

## $\mathbf{PW}$

PW and Evergreens Christmas lunch provided by Cafe Nicole will be held on Monday 15th December at 1pm in the Allen Hall. Anne Stevenson will be there to entertain us

#### **BLOBS**

Blobs 1 will next meet on Tuesday 16th December at 9.30am in the McIntyre Suite

#### **BREWS BROTHERS**

Brews Brothers Will next meet on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 12:30pm for Christmas Dinner. **BIBLE STUDY GROUP** 

The next meeting of the Wednesday Bible Study Group will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30 a.m. in the home of Robyn McCullough. New comers are most welcome

#### 'BIG NIGHT'

Youth Big Christmas Night and Christmas Jumper Competition will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 7:30-9pm. All p7 and secondary school age young people are invited!

#### LEPROSY MISSION NI

The Leprosy Mission have produced Advent Devotionals for 2025, written by staff and supporters of The Leprosy Mission. The link is available on our website <a href="https://cregaghpresbyterian.org/advent/">https://cregaghpresbyterian.org/advent/</a> Prayer Diaries for 2026 are also available in the McIntyre Suite. Please do take a copy.

#### PRESBYTERIAN HERALD

The Presbyterian Herald is the official magazine of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Herald contains news items, reflection pieces and articles from a wide range of sources. Contributors come from many spheres, including academics, ministers and fellow Presbyterians. As your 'Herald' agent, could I ask those who do not already receive a copy to give serious thought to subscribing. The Herald is issued 10 times in the year and the cost is £20. New subscribers or anyone wishing to change their order please contact Joan Taylor (07791150354) before 21st of December.

#### **BIBLE NOTES 2026**

If anyone would like to order IBRA Fresh from the Word, Scripture Union Daily Bread or Day by Day with God (written for women) speak to Barbara Dunlop

#### 2026 FLOWER CALENDAR

The Flower calendar will be available from Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> for anyone who wants to make changes or add their name to pay for the flowers for a date in 2026.

#### CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

'World Development' (for PCI World Development Appeal) and 'Cregagh Christmas' (for Congregational Mission Projects) envelopes will be in the pews over the Christmas period (14<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> December)

## **CREGAGH 125 CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Why not pick up some of our new 125 Anniversary Christmas Cards to send to your nearest and dearest at home or further away, to give them a seasonal reminder of Cregagh. They are available today on our Merchandise table and will cost £4 for 5 cards. Come and have a look.

#### **CREGAGH 125 CHRISTMAS MERCHANDISE**

Some of our 125 Merchandise has had a makeover for Christmas and has now been packed in bundles ideal for Christmas gifts or has been displayed in festive packaging ready to give. All the normal merchandise is still available, but these added Christmas options could be an ideal solution for those on your Christmas present list. The Christmas Table is on display in the Welcome Suite. (card payment is available)

#### 125th ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER

Booking is now open for the final social event of our 125 Anniversary year. Our Gala Dinner is on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.00pm in the Grand Ballroom, Stormont Hotel. Dress code is formal and the cost is £49 per person.

To book please contact Elaine Gillespie, Tel: 07990 610918 or see her at the 125 merchandise table after church.

You can pay in full up front, or else pay a deposit of £10 per person to secure your place with the balance to be paid by the end of March 2026. Payment by credit or debit card is welcome and menu choices will be sent out to guests nearer the time.

#### DIRECTORY AND STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2025

Organisations are asked to send their annual reports for 2025, including venue for meeting, day, time, leaders names, contact details and numbers attending to David Gillespie at <a href="mailto:d.gillespie@ntlworld.com">d.gillespie@ntlworld.com</a> no later than Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026 please

#### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

## Sunday 21st December

11am Handbell Choir service led by the Bible Class

7pm Lessons and Carols by candlelight

## Wednesday 24th December 11.30pm

Christmas Eve Service

# Thursday 25th December 9am

Christmas Morning Service

# Sunday 28th December 11.am

Last Service of 2025

## Wednesday 31st December

4pm Last Light service at Cregagh Methodist

## **VOTE OF THANKS**

May I give a personal vote of thanks to everyone who pulled together to make last Sunday a great success. Thank you for coming along to support our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary service, it meant a lot to me as it did for so many to be together as a church family thinking about the past, present and future. It was a blessing to see visitors who spoke warmly of their association with this place. It was a good thing to have the Rev Nigel Craig share with us such an appropriate and uplifting message. While I will miss someone, can I thank a number of people- John and the augmented choir as well as Kathryn and members of the Praise Group for leading us in praise, Anne and those who helped to provide such a lovely spread, Don and Nigel for preparing the ground for our anniversary rock to be placed, Karen and Jim for sourcing the rock and ensuring it was here on time; alongside so much else they did behind the scenes. Thank you to everyone who helped in whatever way. I look forward to the remaining 125 services and events as we entrust ourselves to the Lord for the road ahead. God bless. (Rev. McKenzie)



# WEEKLY NEWS SHEET Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Third Sunday in Advent

'JOY'



'Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near'

Philippians 4: 4-5

MORNING WORSHIP at 11 am in the church Kidzone Christmas Tree Gift Service

CAROLS IN THE CARPARK-4pm

Cregagh Presbyterian Church 102-104 Cregagh Road Belfast BT6 0ER Tel: 028 9045 5160

Website: cregaghpresbyterian.org

Minister: Rev Edward J B McKenzie

Tel: 07809 674068

Email: emckenzie@presbyterianireland.org

