

St Canice's News

3rd November 2024



4th before Advent

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

Today we are especially glad to welcome Judith and James McKnight as they bring their youngest son, George, for baptism – along with big brothers, Harry and Sam, and other members of their family and friends. Today we continue to consider the letters of the risen Lord Jesus to his church in Revelation – this week in chapters 2 & 3. We discover that the letter to the church in Smyrna has particular relevance to all who are baptised.

NEXT SUNDAY: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



10am: JAM children's activity in the mobile

11am: A Service of Remembrance

DAYBREAK

Our next 10am Daybreak service will be on 17th November. This takes the place of JAM that week. Please plan to be there as a family.

SPARK

Our SPARK youth club meets tonight between 6:30 and 8.00pm in the Presbyterian Church Hall. All of secondary school age are welcome.

ORGAN MARATHON

Thank you, Canon Paul, for a wonderfully uplifting fundraising event, hugely appreciated by many in the wider community. With sponsorship money still coming in, an amazing £6,650 has been raised so far – twice the amount raised back in 2018.

MIDDLE EAST APPEAL

The Church of Ireland launched a fresh appeal to help provide humanitarian aid for people in need across the Middle East through the Bishops' Appeal, its world aid and development programme. All parishes are being encouraged to support this initiative, with a focused time of prayers for peace and the opportunity to give to the appeal particularly on Advent Sunday (1st Dec). Funds raised will be shared equally between the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem, which runs a number of schools and hospitals in the region including in Gaza, and Tearfund. For details: bishopsappeal.ireland.anglican.org Envelopes for the Bishops' Appeal are available at the back of the church today.



tearfund

Middle East Appeal 2024

Praying and giving from the Church of Ireland

CONCERT BY CANDLELIGHT

This promises to be a world class concert. On Tuesday 12th Nov at 7:30pm, Benito Rodriguez (tenor), Laura Sheerin (soprano), Jenny O'Donnell (harp & vocals), Cheryl McCay (cello), and our very own Canon Paul, will offer a great mix of musical genres, sure to suit everyone's taste. When we ran a similar concert back in 2018, it was one of the most popular concerts ever. Tickets (£15 each or £12 concessions) and flyers are available today from the Wardens.

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Open Doors  Open Doors serves persecuted

Christians around the world by providing vital support, delivering resources, and providing training. In today's sermon there will be reference to the cost that many of our fellow church members are called to pay for their faith. More than 365 million Christians worldwide face persecution and discrimination for their faith – that's one in seven believers. For an informed view of the scope of such persecution, and for some inspiring stories of individual people, please visit www.opendoorsuk.org.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5:10–12

SELECT VESTRY

Will meet on Tuesday 5th November at 7.30pm in the mobile.

THRIFT SHOP

It's time for the shop to get ready for our always very popular Christmas stock. We plan to make a start preparing the shop on Wednesday 6th November between 7.00 and 9.00pm. If you could offer even half an hour, please come to No 6 Benbow Industrial Estate. We would also welcome any donations of Christmas gifts and decorations.

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

The Exodus team will be involved in our Sunday night SPARK and FUEL events for teenagers, but we still need volunteers, just to be there. If you could help, probably just once every few months, please sign the sheet.

FREEDOM IS BACK!

Freedom, organised by Derry and Raphoe Youth, next takes place on Saturday 9th November in Richill Park Baptist Church, Waterside. This year's theme is "Faithful," and it's an opportunity to explore different people throughout the Bible, and their stories. All of secondary school age are welcome.

PRAYER CHAIN

For confidential prayer for anyone (including yourself), please call/text Ann 07547202649.

The Collect and Readings

Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: Grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Revelation 2: 8-11

"To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know about the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.

Mark 12: 28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.' Then the scribe said to him, 'You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that "he is one, and besides him there is no other"; and "to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength", and "to love one's neighbour as oneself" - this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.' When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' After that no one dared to ask him any question.

OCCASIONS

Happy birthday to Harry McKnight, who was 7 last Wednesday. Please let the Rector know of special occasions.

ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

On Saturday 9th November, the "wee church on the walls" is holding a Coffee Morning and Craft Sale between 10.30am to 1.00pm. Entrance is £5.

RECTOR

Canon Paul plans to be off on Thursday this week.



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