

St Canice's News

23 March 2025



Lent 3

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP



Lent is about a journey towards a cross. There will be suffering, both for Jesus and for those of us who follow him, not only at the end of the journey, but also along the way. Today we explore the question, "Why is suffering such a feature of the world we live in, and what should we expect God to do about it?"

NEXT SUNDAY

Remember that the clocks go forward next weekend!

10am: JAM children's activity in the mobile.

11am: Mothering Sunday Service

CHOIRS CONCERT

The Joy of Easter – sacred and popular music with the choirs of Broadbridge Primary School and Faughanvale Community Choir at Star of the Sea Church on Tuesday 8 April between 1:30 to 2:15 pm. All very welcome.

BIBLE STUDY

Our study of Ruth continues tomorrow at 2pm in the Mobile - open to everyone.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please keep free the date for the following:

Music in May Concert – Wednesday 14th May 7:30pm With Laura Sheerin and Benito Rodriguez and supporting programme.

YOUTH

Spark Youth Fellowship meets 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month - 6:30 – 8:00pm for everyone of secondary school age.

Junior Fuel Youth Group for everyone in P5, P6 and P7 is 6.00pm – 7.00pm on the 4th Sunday of every month.

Senior Fuel Youth Group for secondary school age 7.00pm – 8.30pm also on the 4th Sunday

All groups meet in the Presbyterian Hall.

DRY Youth Weekend 28th-30th March at Gartan. Please see the Rector for details.

PRAYER CHAIN

Many people value the support of our prayer group in times of sickness or need. We'd like to expand the number of people involved. It simply involves praying in your own homes for those notified to you. If you're interested in finding out more, please speak to the Rector.

EASTER GENERAL VESTRY

Our annual meeting is just two weeks away, on Sun 6th April. If you're not sure if you're registered as a general vestry person, please speak to Elaine Way, Secretary to the Vestry or email her on elaine.way25@gmail.com, and she can check.

"BUY A BRICK"

This week the Diocesan Communications Officer, Paul McFadden, made a short video relaunching our Buy a Brick appeal to the wider community. In it the Rector thanks people for their support to date, shows the progress with the building, and explains how they can support it financially now that we have a Just Giving page set up. If you haven't seen the video, it's available on the church's Facebook page. Thank you Canon Paul.

THE CANICE CENTRE

Following Diocesan support, the Select Vestry last week approved the start of phase 2 of the Canice Centre. As a result, work has started on the internal fitting out of the building. We thank God for guiding us thus far. We look forward to opening the Centre later this year to glorify Him.

PRAYER INITIATIVE FOR LENT

Bishop Andrew leads a special diocesan prayer initiative this Lent. Six services of prayer and reflection will be made available on Facebook at 4.00pm each Sunday in Lent.

STEPPING INTO SPRING!

On Friday 11th April, our Thrift Shop is organising a Fashion Show to be held in the Presbyterian Church.



An Evening Tea will be served, and there will be a Musical Interlude with The Mood Swings. Tickets are £12.50 - available in church or from the shop. It promises to be a fun evening, so please support it. We are putting a call out for people of all ages and sizes who would be willing to model. If you have volunteered to model, and have not yet selected your outfits, please come to the Thrift Shop either on Wednesday evening between 7.00 – 9.00pm or on Friday afternoon up to 5.00pm. Thanks.

LENT: A TIME FOR REFLECTION

"For years I thought my assignment or the Church's assignment was to articulate the Gospel and nothing more. Now I believe that if we don't support the verbal expression of the Gospel with physical demonstration of compassion, we are not imitating Jesus."

Max Lucado

Bestselling Christian author

SPRING CONCERT

On Thursday 27th March, the U3A choir is offering a free concert in Christ Church, Infirmary Road – 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Lots of musical favourites to enjoy, under the direction of Jim Goodman, BEM.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

A meeting to think about how Eglinton can best take part in the "Best Kept" village 2025 will be held in the Cricket Club on 2nd April at 7pm. All are very welcome.

OCCASIONS

Happy birthday last Thursday to Jim Sinclair, and to Iris Wilson, and Maureen Miller. Please let us know of your special occasions.

The Collect and Readings

Merciful Lord, Grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1 Cor. 10: 1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Luke 13: 1-10

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.' Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

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