**SUNDAY 9TH MARCH** **Carryduff & Killaney Lent 1**

**O GOD OF BETHEL Hymn 657**

O God of Bethel, by whose hand thy people still are fed;
who through this earthly pilgrimage hast all thy people led;

**2** Our vows, our prayers, we now present before thy throne of grace;
God of our fathers, be the God of their succeeding race.

**3** Through each perplexing path of life our wandering footsteps guide; give us each day our daily bread, and raiment fit provide.

**4** O spread thy covering wings around, till all our wanderings cease,
and at our Father’s loved abode our souls arrive in peace.

**5** Such blessings from thy gracious hand our humble prayers implore; be thou to us, O Lord our God, our portion evermore.

**FIRST READING** Jeremiah 31:7-14

A Reading from Jeremiah chapter 31 verse 7

 7 This is what the Lord says: “Sing with joy for Jacob; shout for the foremost of the nations. Make your praises heard, and say, ‘Lord, save your people, the remnant of Israel.’
8 See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth. Among them will be the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labour; a great throng will return.
9 They will come with weeping; they will pray as I bring them back.
I will lead them beside streams of water on a level path where they will not stumble, because I am Israel’s father, and Ephraim is my firstborn son.
10 “Hear the word of the Lord, you nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’
11 For the Lord will deliver Jacob and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they. 12 They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the Lord—
the grain, the new wine and the olive oil, the young of the flocks and herds. They will be like a well-watered garden, and they will sorrow no more. 13 Then young women will dance and be glad, young men and old as well. I will turn their mourning into gladness;  I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow.
14 I will satisfy the priests with abundance, and my people will be filled with my bounty,” declares the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

**CHILDREN'S SONG 483**

Jesus went to worship in the synagogue;
with his friends and neighbours sang his praise to God.
We, like Jesus, worship in the church today;
still, with friends and neighbours, sing our songs and pray.

When the service ended, Jesus took his praise
into streets and houses, spelling out God's ways.
People came to Jesus, frightened, hurt and sad;
helping them to worship, Jesus made them glad.

Holy Spirit, help us when this service ends,
still to follow Jesus, still to be his friends.
When our neighbours meet us, may they, with surprise,
catch a glimpse of Jesus rising in our eyes.

**Luke 4:1-13** A Reading from Luke chapter 4 verse 1

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. 3 The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” 4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’ 5 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. 7 If you worship me, it will all be yours.” 8 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’
9 The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. 10 For it is written:
“‘He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;
11 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. 12 Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 13 When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

**PSALM 91** **Remaining seated**

1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
**will rest in the shadow of the Almighty**

2 I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress,
**my God, in whom I trust.”**

9 If you say, “The Lord is my refuge,” **and you make the Most High your dwelling,**

10 no harm will overtake you,
**no disaster will come near your tent.**

11 For he will command his angels concerning you
**to guard you in all your ways;**

12 they will lift you up in their hands, **so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.**

13 You will tread on the lion and the cobra;  **you will trample the great lion and the serpent.**

14 “Because he loves me,” says the Lord, “I will rescue him;
**I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.**

15 He will call on me, and I will answer him; **I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him.**
16 With long life I will satisfy him
**and show him my salvation.**

**GOD IS OUR STRENGTH** **Hymn 12**

God is our strength and refuge, our present help in trouble;
and we therefore will not fear, though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble, though swirling floods are raging, God the Lord of Hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river, within God's Holy city;
God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given, thrones vanish at his presence,
God the Lord of Hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our maker, learn of his deeds all powerful
wars will cease across the world when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator, uplift him in the nations;
God the Lord of Hosts is with us evermore!

**WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE** **Hymn 627**

**1** What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!

**2** Have we trials and temptations,
is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness:
take it to the Lord in prayer.

**3** Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Jesus is our only refuge:
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer:
in his arms he’ll take and shield you,
you will find a solace there.

**I STAND AMAZED** **T&P 57**

**1** I stand amazed in the presence
of Jesus the Nazarene,
and wonder how he could love me,
a sinner, condemned, unclean.

**How marvellous! How wonderful! and my song shall ever be:** **how marvellous! How wonderful** **is my Saviour’s love to me!**

**2** For me it was in the garden he prayed –
‘Not my will, but thine’;
he shed both tears for his own griefs,
and sweat-drops of blood for mine.

**3** In pity angels beheld him,
and came from the world of light
to comfort him in the sorrows he bore
for my soul that night.

**4** He took my sins and my sorrows,
he made them his very own;
he bore my burden to Calvary,
and suffered and died alone.

**5** When with the ransomed in glory
his face I at last shall see,
my joy will be through the ages
to sing of his love for me.

**AMAZING GRACE**  **642**

Amazing grace (how sweet the sound!)
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

**2** ’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved:
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

**3** Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
’tis grace that brought me safe thus far
and grace will lead me home.

**4** The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

**5** Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.