

Services:

January 1st 9.30 am Early Morning worship Uta Raab
11.00 am Morning Worship Uta Raab

January 10th 11.00 am Quarterly Holy Communion Revd Jim Carson

January 17th 9.30 am Early Morning Worship Ruth Whelan
11.00 am Morning Worship Marianne Knoetze

January 24th 9.30 am Holy Communion Revd Jim Carson
11.00am Morning Worship Revd Jim Carson

January 31st 9.30 am Holy Communion Revd Jim Carson
11.00am Morning Worship Revd Jim Carson

January Office Bearers: Elders on Duty : Anne and David Walsh
Stewards : Doreen Steenson and Joanne Vance Cronin

We wish all our readers, and all our congregation in Christ Church Rathgar a very happy New Year and every gracious blessing from God our Father. It will be a most important year for our Congregation and our witness here in Rathgar to the saving power of Christ and the coming of God's Kingdom as we choose a new Minister to lead our Congregation, and **we pray** that the Kirk Session and the Congregation may be supported in all their deliberations by the wisdom and encouragement of the Holy Spirit of peace and grace.

We pray also for all those of the congregation who are suffering, and especially from illness of body or of mind, that they may be comforted and be always conscious of the presence of God's healing power working in their lives, and we think especially of Olive Eaton, Diana Glass, Jack Henderson and Terence McCaughey, and pray for strength and encouragement for those who love and support or minister to them.

NOTICES

The Congregational Committee will meet on Tuesday 12th January at 8pm in the Fletcher Room.

The **Kirk Session** will meet on Wednesday 20th January at 8pm in the Fletcher Room.

Further notices overleaf -

Vacancy News:

On December 8th after a meeting in Belfast with office holders in CCR the Linkage Commission (formerly Union Commission) decided to give CCR unrestricted leave to call a new minister. This means there will be no time limit to the duration of the appointment. (It is possible there may be a connection with a university chaplaincy, but this is to be discussed by the Commission and Presbytery.) Congratulations to Paul Fry and the team from CCR who travelled North to meet the Linkage Commission. This is excellent news for our Congregation and we must now proceed with all due haste to fill the post.

The Code of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland - the book of rules for Church procedures - is readily available on the internet and Section IV - paragraphs 189-199 - deals with the Election of Ministers. Members of CCR may wish to acquaint themselves with these rules.

The Kirk Session is now preparing a new voters list, and will meet on 20th January 2016 after which it will be better placed to announce a closing date for the submission of applications for the post.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - The service this year in our area will take place on **Sunday 24th January** in the Church of the Three Patrons at 3pm. The preacher will be Revd Lorraine Kennedy Ritchie, our interim moderator. The theme of the service will be The Salt of the Earth. We hope many of the congregation will be moved to support this service.

Bible study : The Explorers, the Sandymount Inter-Church Scripture Reading Group resumes its study of the Acts of the Apostles on **Monday 18th January**. Revd Dr John Bartlett will lead study of **The Travels of St. Paul** at the Community Room of the Mount Tabor Community Centre from 7.30-9.00 pm.

World Development Appeal envelopes remain in the pews. Please take the opportunity to support this cause while you can - CCR's support has in recent years been a little disappointing compared with smaller Congregations in Dublin.

Jill McQuillan hopes you will bring to church the front part of **Christmas and other Greetings Cards** for use with her **special needs group**. Cards may be left in a box under the table in the back porch.