

# SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER

19 April 2020



## Eaglais Easbaigeach na h-Alba san Eilean Dubh The Scottish Episcopal Church on the Black Isle

Charity Number SC010781

St Regulus' Cromarty + St John's, Arpafelie + St Andrew's, Fortrose

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### RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

#### EVERYONE WHO IS BAPTISED IS WELCOME

to share with us in Communion at all services.

There is no need to be a member of the Episcopal Church. Please feel free to celebrate with us.

If you are not baptised or would prefer, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing

(simply come forward with hands together and head bowed as a sign to the priest).

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### ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

#### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

##### Easter Collect

Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever.

+ First Reading : Acts 2:14a,22-32

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;

moreover my flesh will live in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption.

You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

#### + Psalm 16:5-11

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me, night after night.

I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the Pit.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

+ **Second Reading** : 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-- being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**Gradual Hymn**

+ **The Holy Gospel** : **John 20:19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My

Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

For grace to be Jesus' hands, feet, voice, eyes & heart in the world...that we all may LIVE and BE the GOOD NEWS.

**OUR WORLD**

For all suffering with Covid 19, for all our healthcare workers, for all working for a cure, for all shop workers, lorry drivers, all we are depending on for our safety, health and protection and all living in fear of it. For healing and peace among all nations. For an end to terrorism and hatred in all its forms. For our fellow Christians and all who are persecuted for their faith.

**OUR COMMUNION**

Pray for the peace and unity of the Church. Pray for our sisters & brothers of the Church in Ireland.

**OUR DIOCESE**

For all our brothers & sisters in the Porvoo Communion of Churches. For Janet S, David T, Jaime W, Rachael W, Sandra W, Bp Kevin, Dr John MS, Fr Ian B, their families and all who are studying for Ordination or Readership...for their instructors & all who support them. For Mark, our Bishop. For our brothers & sisters of St Maelrubha, Poolewe, the Courtholly Chapel, Kishorn & St donan's, Lochalsh. For Inverness Street Pastors. For our sister Dioceses (Quebec, Canada & Tuam, Killala and Achonry, Ireland).

**OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY**

**FAMILY & FRIENDS**

For one another as we live through this challenging time...especially those who are experiencing a profound loneliness. For the good health and safety of all. For Grace to keep a Holy Lent. For Isaac & family. For Mark W & loved ones. For Janet S as she studies for ordination. For those whose relationships / marriages are struggling. Pray for our Granny in Guatemala: Santos De La Cruz Mendez. Pray for our Sunday Club in St Regulus'. For our Teen Gatherings. For James and his work in Biblical translation in Nigeria. For all we know to be in need of our prayers.

## A DAILY PRAYER for the WEEK

Let us pray to Christ, the way, the truth and the life.

– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

We pray for all the ministers of your Church: may they be nourished and sustained as they break for their brothers the bread of life.

– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

We pray for the whole Christian people: may they be faithful to their calling and hold fast in bonds of peace the unity of the spirit.

– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

We pray for those who govern our country that they may exercise their office with justice, courage, love and compassion; help them to promote the peace of the world.

– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

Make us worthy to adore you in the communion of saints; grant eternal joy to all the departed, whom we entrust to your care.

– *Son of the living God, bless your people.*

*In a moment of silence, call to mind the concerns of your own heart with those listed above and lift them up to God. Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.*

## THE BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL



Bishop Mark has indicated that funds raised over this Lent will be sent in support of **Inverness Street Pastors**...a most worthy cause that

touches the lives of many in our Highland Capital! Please give generously! (Please forward cheques to Peter? And he will forward to the Diocese...It would be good to know how much we, as a Join Charge raise!)

## LET US UNITE IN PRAYER FROM OUR HOMES

Dear All,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Here we are, "Doubting" Thomas Sunday! It is all so unreal, isn't it! I don't know about you, but I am really missing everyone. I am fortunate enough to be able to get out and enjoy the garden and my early morning stroll to the light house and back. Wonderful thing is, I am finding people a little more friendly! EVERYONE shouts hello and we all giggle about social distancing and carry on our way. But there seems to be more smiling and perhaps that is marking a positive change within us.

I read the following over the past week and it really made me think. It speaks of concerns re our school children but, really, it speaks to us al...

"What if???" ❤️❤️❤️

If they cancel the rest of the school year, students would miss 2.5 months of education. Many people are concerned about students falling behind because of this. Yes, they may fall behind when it comes to classroom education...

But what if... ❤️❤️❤️

What if instead of falling "behind", this group of kids are **ADVANCED** because of this? Hear me out... ❤️❤️❤️

What if they have more empathy, they enjoy family connection, they can be more creative and entertain themselves, they love to read, they love to express themselves in writing. ❤️❤️❤️

What if they enjoy the simple things, like their own backyard and sitting near a window in the quiet. ❤️❤️❤️

What if they notice the birds and the dates the different flowers emerge, and the calming renewal of a gentle rain shower? ❤️❤️❤️

What if this generation are the ones to learn to cook, organize their space, do their laundry, and keep a well run home? ❤️❤️❤️

What if they learn to stretch a dollar and to live with less? ❤️❤️❤️

What if they learn to plan shopping trips and meals at home. ❤️❤️❤️

What if they learn the value of eating together as a family and finding the good to share in the small delights of the everyday? ❤️❤️❤️

What if they are the ones to place great value on our teachers and educational professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers like truck drivers, grocers, cashiers, custodians, logistics, and health care workers and their supporting staff, just to name a few of the millions taking care of us right now while we are sheltered in place? ❤️❤️❤️

What if among these children, a great leader emerges who had the benefit of a slower pace and a simpler life to truly learn what really matters in this life? ❤️❤️

What if they are **AHEAD**? ❤️❤️❤️❤️

What is we all are?

**RE DAILY PRAYER...**

**FACEBOOK** : many have been joining me daily as I stream the Morning and Evening Offices live on Facebook from my home...I think we have to be friends in FB for you to access that but I will certainly welcome you!

ALSO:

I share, once again, information re how to join with me in prayer each day during this time...

If you have a tablet, computer or smart phone you are able to join me. The Offices are found at :

***universalis.com***

Look up Office of Readings, Morning Prayer etc on the site....and even the daily Eucharist readings.

**I will be offering these prayers at:**

7am : Invitatory & Office of Readings

9:am : Morning Prayer

6pm : Evening Prayer

10pm : Night Prayer aka Compline

It is part of my duty as a priest to pray the Office and to offer the Mass for you....so that will not cease! Please join me, if you can, from your homes for even one of those prayer times.

Also, the Sunday Readings will be included, like today, in the emailed Newsletter.

**PLEASE**, let us all do what we can to be safe and sound....**BUT**, let us also do all we can to support and encourage one another.

**IN THE MIDST OF  
THE CURRENT CRISIS**

**Let's not forget to love  
and take care of one another.**

**We are a community...a good one...**

**Let loving kindness  
and generosity**

**be our rule...as always!!!**

**If you need anything or just a friendly voice,  
ring me at 01381 622 241 (or 07780 512  
990)...and I will do my utmost!**