

SUNDAY

2nd May 2021

Easter 5

Charity Number

SC010781

The Scottish Episcopal Church

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

The Black Isle Family of Congregations

The Rev'd Canon (Father) Mel Langille
Tha Eaglais Easbuigeach na h-Alba / The Scottish Episcopal Church
1 Dean's Road
Fortrose, Ross-shire, Scotland IV10 8TJ
Phone: 01381 622241 Email: mel@sagart.me.uk



EVERYONE WHO IS BAPTISED is welcome to share with us in Communion this morning. 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).



Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

EASTER 5 SERVICES

9:45am Eucharist in St Regulus' with Rev Christine

9:45am Eucharist in St John's with Fr Mel

11:30am Eucharist in St Andrew's with Fr Mel

(11:30am will be live streamed and the link emailed asap)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Collect

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ

is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Vestry Secretary: Ramsay McGhee, Tigh Ur, Deans Road, Fortrose.

Tel No: 01381 620110: E w.r.mcghee@btinternet.com: Mobile: 07770 37 37 72

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD cont.

+ First Reading : Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord.

+ Psalm 22:22-30

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

Praise the Lord, you that fear him; stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; but when they cry to him he hears them.

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: "May your heart live for ever!"

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations. To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

My soul shall live in the Lord, my God!

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD - cont.

+ **Second Reading : 1 John 4:7-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord.

+ **The Holy Gospel : John 15:1-8**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John:

Glory to Christ our Saviour!

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples." Give thanks to the Lord

for this his glorious Gospel.

Praise to Christ our Lord!

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 the peace of Northern Ireland. For Justice and Peace in Myanmar, Yemen and the many other troubled places in the world. For an end to nuclear armaments. For patience in the face of this Pandemic. That we may truly look out for one another and especially the most vulnerable among us. For all suffering with Covid 19, for all our healthcare workers, for all shop workers, lorry drivers, and all on whom we depend for our safety, health and protection. 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 and brothers of the Church in Jerusalem & the Middle East.

OUR DIOCESE

For our brothers & sisters in the Porvoo Communion of Churches. For Canon Graham T, Bishop Kevin, Dr John MacN S, Fr Ian B, Godwin C, Tony C, Lisa C, their families and all who are studying for Ordination or Readership. For their instructors & all who support them. For Mark, our Bishop, and for our sisters & brothers of Christ Church, Huntly; Holy Trinity, Keith; Gordon Chapel, Fochabers; St Michael, Dufftown and St. Marnan's, Aberchirder. For our sister Dioceses (Quebec, Canada & Tuam, Killala and Achonry, Ireland).

OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY FAMILY & FRIENDS

For Joyce. For Hayden & Louise. For those working with Samaritans, Mikey's Line & other help groups seeking to be there for those who are struggling. For those joining in worship online. Pray for all undergoing tests, awaiting results and undergoing treatment. Pray for all living with OCD, Asperger's, Autism and other conditions that make Covid restrictions particularly difficult. 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 the safe return of our Teens and 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

Spend a moment in silence and call to mind any particular concerns...then pray:

Rejoicing, let us pray to Christ who was buried in the heart of the earth to awake in the light of glory.

– King of glory, hear us.

We pray for bishops, priests, deacons & lay readers: may they be dedicated to their ministry; grant that they may present to you a people ready for every kind of good work.

– King of glory, hear us.

We pray for those who serve the Church as teachers of the faith: may they always seek your truth with sincerity of heart.

– King of glory, hear us.

We pray for all the faithful: may they run the great race, finish the course; let them receive the crown of victory in the kingdom of heaven.

– King of glory, hear us.

Lord, you cancelled on the cross our sentence of damnation; free us from the darkness of our sins.

– King of glory, hear us.

You descended into hell and opened wide its gates; receive the faithful and all the departed into your Father's house.

– King of glory, hear us.

Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

AS THE CHURCH DEPLOYED - LET US UNITE IN PRAYER FROM OUR HOMES

Dear All,

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

It is Wednesday of the 4th week of Easter already...time does fly! The weather has not been as fine this week as last but the rain is important if we are to expect an abundant harvest as the months goes by! In less than two weeks we will be reaching Rogationtide and asking God's blessing upon the fruits of land and sea and all who work them!

It was great to hear some good news on BBC this morning. Wonderful to hear that even one dose of the Pfizer or Astrazenica vaccines leaves us about 50% less likely to carry and transmit the Covid virus! With so many being vaccinated it should soon see the virus endemic rather than pandemic! HALLELUJAH!!!

Last Saturday I celebrated 38 years as a priest! This coming Sunday I will have been ordained as a deacon for 39 years! Again, time flies! Both ordinations, to me, are like they happened this morning! I have been so blessed by God's call to have so many wonderful people in my life...YOU are among them! YOU are a blessing!

9 May 21 : Easter 6 / Rogation Sunday

Eucharist

9:45am in St Regulus' with Fr Mel

9:45am in St John's with Fr Arthur

11:30am in St Andrew's with Fr Mel

Blessings to one and all.

And much love too.

Mel +

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!

DAILY PRAYER - I will be offering these prayers at:

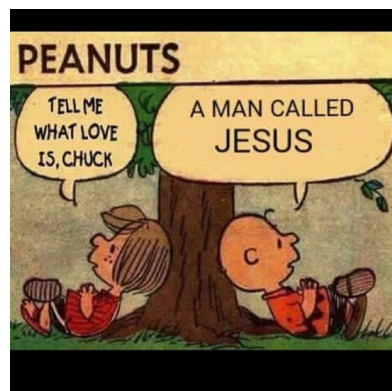
7 am : Invitatory & Office of Readings

8:30am : Morning Prayer (Facebook Live Stream)

6 pm : Evening Prayer (Facebook Live Stream)

10 pm : Night Prayer aka Compline

9:00am Fridays : Celtic Morning Prayer (Via Zoom: Contact Gillian for info: annegilliannewman@gmail.com)



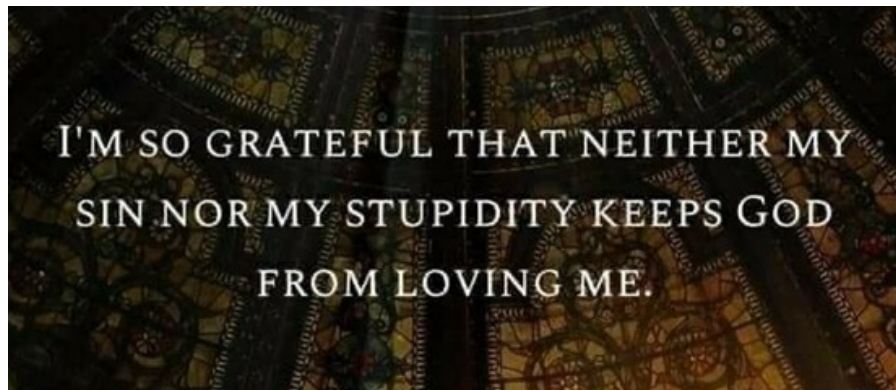
DAILY PRAYER - An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe you are truly present
in this Most Holy Sacrament
of your Body and Blood,
and since I cannot, at this time, receive you in
Holy Communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you
with all my heart, my soul, and my mind.
Let nothing separate me from you.
In whose Name I pray.
Amen.

OR

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ, cleanse me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Never let me be separated from Thee.
From the malicious enemy, defend me.
At the hour of death, call me.
And bid me come to Thee.
That with Thy saints I may praise Thee,
forever and ever. Amen.



Connecting Scotland – supporting everyone in Scotland to get online

Earlier this year, I made application to Connecting Scotland for 6 i-pads for use by members of the charge who have no way of connecting to the internet to receive newsletters or get downloads from services.

The Charge were successful in being awarded the six devices, four of which have been deployed. I still have two that have not been deployed due to change in circumstances.

It is important that we make use of the devices or they will have to be returned.

If anyone would like one of the two remaining devices, please get in touch with me. Training on how to use the devices will be given.

This is a golden opportunity to get connected if you haven't already done so.

Ramsay



Contact me on either 01381 620 110 or 07770 37 37 72

OUR CHARITY SHOP
in Saint Andrew's Hall :
Wednesdays & Saturdays,
10am -1pm.



**CHARITY SHOP AND
SATURDAY COFFEE
MORNINGS CANCELLED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

The Books and cards normally on sale at the back of St Andrew's are not available during the present restrictions.



Please help local people in Crisis

Tins of ham

Tins of corned beef

Tins of mince/stew

Tins of Potato

Tins of custard

Soap powder (small)

Washing up liquid (small)

Shaving foam/razors

TINNED VEGETABLES

The food bank team are always very appreciative of our donations, but at the moment they have excess pasta, tinned soup and tinned beans, so won't be accepting more of these at present.

The items on our list are still things that they need more of, also individually wrapped toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, sugar and toilet roll.

Thanks for all your ongoing generosity.



Thought for today

You can't retrace your steps in life. The road goes winding on.

You can't return along the track in search of what has gone.

You have to keep right on and use the light that's given you,

Your own small mission to fulfil, your purpose to pursue.

St John's Arrafeelie

Sunday 2nd May 2021

EASTER 5 SERVICES

9:45am Eucharist in St Regulus' with Rev Christine

9:45am Eucharist in St John's with Fr Mel

11:30am Eucharist in St Andrew's with Fr Mel

(11:30am will be live streamed and the link emailed asap)



Join thousands of people making a difference this Christian Aid Week. :



Christian Aid Week is coming:

10 - 16 May 2021

Once again, thanks to Covid-19, the usual activities we would see in connection with Christian Aid week, have been cancelled. However, you can still help with a donation, large or small, every penny counts.

If you can, please put your donation in an envelope, clearly marked - **Christian Aid Week** - and leave it in the collection plate in any one of our three churches or alternatively send a cheque to our Treasurer, Peter Furniss at 62 Feddon Hill, Fortrose, IV10 8SP.

Cheques should be made out to the Church account - "Black Isle Charge" - alternatively, payments can be made by Bank Transfer into the Church account - Sort code 80-06-83 - Account No 00600410 - Ref. Christian Aid.

Please note that we have not been notified of a Bishop's Lenten Appeal this year, presumably because of Covid. It was agreed by the Vestry that, as an alternative, we would focus on supporting Christian Aid.

Many thanks for your support.

Church Rotas

St Andrew's

Readers & Intercessors

R McGhee / B Oakley / J Deakin / A Garraway

Sides-men

Ann McGhee and Bill Fraser

Servers

Sacristan

Flowers

Teas

Cleaning

St John's