

**22<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY after PENTECOST**  
**29 October 2023**



**The Scottish Episcopal Church on the Black Isle**  
**Eaglais Easbaigeach na h-Alba san Eilean Dubh**  
Charity Number SC010781

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

The Most Rev'd Mark Strange,  
Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness  
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**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**(Assigned readers listed below. St John's to do prayers of the people)**

**Collect**

O Lord, in your mercy: grant to your faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

**+FIRST READING: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 (Reader from St Regulus')**

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

**+PSALM 1 (Reader from St John's)**

The Lord knows the way of the righteous.

**The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**  
Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on his law day and night.

**The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**  
They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**  
It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

**The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**  
Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**  
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed.

**The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**

**+SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 (Reader from St Andrew's)**

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

**+Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46**

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord

said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

### **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (30-4)**

**MON:**

**TUE: 7:00pm Eucharist in St Regulus'**

**WED: 9:00am Celtic Morning Prayer via**

**Zoom (to join please contact**

[annegillianneyman@gmail.com](mailto:annegillianneyman@gmail.com))

10:00am Charity Shop

10:00am Bible Study Group

**THU: 10:00am Eucharist in St Andrew's**

**FRI:**

**SAT: 10:00am Charity Shop**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**23rd Sunday after Pentecost**

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST (ALL SAINTS)**

**11:30 in St Andrew's with Fr Laurence**

(Readings: Rev 7.9-17: Ps 34.1-10: 1 John 3.1-3:

Matt 5.1-12)

**RESERVED SACRAMENT**

**9:45 in St Regulus with Jill & Simon**

**9:45 St John's with Isla & Donald**

(Readings: Mic 3.5-12: Ps 43: 1Thesalonians 2 9-

13: Mt 23.1-12)

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

### **OUR WORLD**

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. For all those affected by the recent actions in Israel & Gaza and for those in Ukraine and those in Afghanistan continuing to experience earthquakes.

### **OUR COMMUNION**

Pray for the peace and unity of the Church. Pray for our sisters and brothers of The Anglican Church of Melanesia.

### **OUR DIOCESE**

For our brothers & sisters in the Porvoo Communion of Churches. For all who are studying for Ordination or Readership. For their instructors & all who support them. For Mark, our Bishop, and all priests, lay readers and Eucharistic Ministers, helping to maintain our cycle of worship during the interregnum. For the congregations of Christ Church, Huntly; Holy Trinity, Keith; Gordon Chapel, Fochabers; St. Michael, Dufftown and St. Marnan's, Aberchirder: Michael Last, Peter Shaw. Lay Reader: Megan Cambridge. For our sister Dioceses of Québec, Canada & Tuam, Limerick & Killaloe, Ireland.

### **OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY FAMILY & FRIENDS**

For our three congregations, those who can join us in public worship and those joining us in spirit at home. For our local farmers as they struggle against the elements at this crucial harvest time. For the Eilean Dubh care home & all care homes and for our church members who are living in them. For Laura S, Stuart T & all studying for ordination & readership. For Igor, Oleksii & Families. For all who are ill in mind, body, or spirit. Pray for our Granny in Guatemala: Santos De La Cruz Mendez. 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 concerns... then pray:*

The will of Christ is for us all to be saved. Let us pray that this will be done.

- *Draw all people to yourself, Lord.*

Lord, by your sacrifice on the cross you redeemed us from the slavery of sin: lead us to the freedom and glory of the sons and daughters of God.

- *Draw all people to yourself, Lord.*

Be with our bishop Mark, and all the bishops of your church: grant them courage and compassion in their ministry.

- *Draw all people to yourself, Lord.*

Help those who seek the truth to find it: let them be consecrated in truth.

- *Draw all people to yourself, Lord.*

We pray especially for peace in family life, and for those orphaned and widowed: Comfort them in your love.

- *Draw all people to yourself, Lord.*

May our departed brothers and sisters come to the heavenly city: there, with the Father and the Holy Spirit you will reign forever.

- *Draw all people to yourself, Lord.*

*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.*

### **HOLY DAYS THIS WEEK**

**Richard Hooker**

**(3 Nov)**

Richard Hooker (1553 or 4 - 1600) was an English Theologian and legal scholar. His major work, *Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* (1593-1662), quickly became the authoritative text legitimating the Elizabethan Settlement and defending it from Catholic and Puritan attacks. Hooker, born near Exeter, entered Corpus Christi College, Oxford under the sponsorship of Bishop John Jewel. He remained at Oxford until 1584, becoming a fellow, teaching logic and Hebrew, and becoming an Anglican priest.





Hooker was appointed master of the Temple in London, one of the premier English centres of legal study and training. As master, he began his public defence of Anglicanism against Puritanism, delivering his sermons to the Temple congregation in the morning only to be rebutted by the afternoon lectures of his colleague Walter Travers, a prominent Puritan scholar. Hooker resigned as master in 1591, to devote himself to the composition of his *Laws*. In 1595 the crown rewarded Hooker's 1593 publication of Books 1–4 of the *Laws* with residency in Bishopsbourne, Kent. There he continued to work on the *Laws* until his death. in 1600. The English Puritanism opposed by Hooker in the *Laws* asserted that there is only one true law, God's law; that Scripture clearly and adequately states this law; and that this law has exclusive authority in all things. Hooker responded that Scripture clearly is neither intended nor sufficient to address matters of ecclesiastical or civil government. Where Scripture was found wanting, recourse must be made to tradition and human reason. In England, Scripture, tradition, and human reason supported the 1559 Elizabethan Settlement, which established Anglicanism as the state religion and adopted for it the Book of Common Prayer.

**St Zenobios & St Zenobia (30 Oct)**

*And a second offering this week, of a less well-known saint but one whose story is an example of the persecution of Christianity during the reign of Roman Emperor Diocletian.*

Zenobios and his sister Zenobia were raised in the Christian faith by their parents in Cilicia in the third century AD. They lived pious and chaste lives. When adults, shunning the love of money, they gave away their inherited wealth to the poor. Zenobios trained in

medicine. God had also given him the gift of healing, and many were healed. Because of their love of Zenobios, the Christian community in Aegea chose him to be their bishop.



As Bishop he zealously spread the gospel among the people of Cilicia. When the Emperor Diocletian (284-305AD) began the persecution of Christians in 285 AD, Bishop Zenobios was the first one arrested and brought to trial before the governor Licius, who said to Zenobios "I shall only speak briefly with you, for I propose to grant you life if you worship our gods or death if you do not." Zenobios answered, "This present life is nothing without Christ. It is better that I prepare to endure the present torment for my Creator, and then live with him eternally, than renounce him for the sake of the present life and then be tormented eternally in Hades." By the order of Licius, he was nailed to a cross, and the torture began. His sister seeing his suffering confessed her own faith in Christ and was tortured and killed by being beheaded also. The priest Hermogenes secretly buried the brother and sister in the same grave.

**JOINT PRAYER MEETING FOR THE BLACK ISLE CHARGE**



The next prayer meeting will be on 6<sup>th</sup> November at Rev Christine's house in Fortrose.

Remembrance Sunday  
12/11/2023



Dear Friends,

Remembrance Day will soon be upon us and more than ever our brave veterans and their families and dependants need our help. Times are tough for so many people at the moment and the dreadful situation in Ukraine, the conflict in the Middle East, as well as far too many other countries facing oppression and attack from outside forces, remind us how fortunate we are to live in a country where we enjoy freedom thanks to the ultimate sacrifice made by so many in the past.

I will be laying down the Poppy Crosses at Fortrose Cathedral I have kept for some of you over the past few years, but I will also be asking for donations to Poppy Scotland via the Black Isle Branch of the Royal British Legion. If you would like to purchase a Poppy Cross, please let me know; the suggested donation per Poppy Cross is £5.

Payment: It would be preferred if payment for the crosses or for poppies could be cash placed in the poppy tin at the back of St. Andrew's church, Fortrose. If you wish to place cheques, they should be made out to The Earl Haig Fund Scotland HT A/C.

Thank you.

Diana Hamilton-Jones

**OPERATION SHOEBOX – UPDATE**



The scarves for men have now been lovingly made, and finished off this afternoon (Monday), at the Craft club at Elizabeth Waters. The sewing kits and scarves for the women are still in the production line!! So.... This Friday, 27th we will be able to fill the 100 boxes for the men, then on November 3rd, God willing, we will fill 100 boxes for the women, and with the few baby boxes too, we will have wrapped, made, fundraised for and filled over 500 boxes of love, winter essentials, toiletry essentials, and gifts that are personal and practical, and showing God's love to those in need. We are Jesus's hands and feet on this beautiful earth, so let us join together in helping those who need the help and support in their times of need.

If you would like to come along to the Filling Stations and help, we are at the Seaforth Lodge from 12 - 4pm this Friday 27th and November 3rd for this year, after which you are invited to join us on November 7th at the home of Elizabeth Waters from 2pm when the boxes will be blessed before they are collected by the Blythswood team and lorry for their onward journey to those in need. We are a very hospitable group, so refreshments always provided, along with laughter and great discussions always. We are welcoming donations of hats, scarves, and gloves as they are now in the shops!!

Please continue to pray for all those in poverty and need.

*Jan MacLennan*

**TALKING PANTS!!!**

So!! Many of you are aware that I also am involved with 'Smalls for All'. For the Ladies amongst us, (bra wearers), I am able to send our gently laundered bras to this wonderful charity. Charity shops per se cannot and will not receive bras (understandably), but I can!! Don't send them to landfill, give them to me, either personally, or via the charity shop in Fortrose, Wednesday, or Saturday 10 - 13.00 as I have a dedicated box there, (as well as Blythswood donations (quick advert)!!!! Along with pants (but these must be new also understandably)!! If you've outgrown or



lost weight or been brought bras that are just not you, give them to me!! Below is an update email from Smalls for All, and please look them up if you wish, great works again. When I collect enough, I parcel them all up and post to the charity. Not only is it helping with reducing landfill, (and we must), also helping towards net zero, but also helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

Talking Pants October 2023.



45,000 pairs of pants and new and gently worn bras to NPAC destined for Africa.

1,500 pairs of pants and new and gently worn bras to the North Luangwa Conservation programme in Zambia (thank you to NPAC for delivering them)! 60 pairs of pants to Days for Girls (North Herts) to be included in their hygiene kits going to Africa.

1,800 pairs of pants and new and gently worn bras to Chifundo UK to be given to schoolgirls around Blantyre Malawi.

557 pairs of pants and new and gently worn bras to Life Support, an organisation based in Zambia.

540 pairs of pants to the Tumaini Fund Scotland to be included in their hygiene kits and distributed to girls and women in Kagera, NW Tanzania.

509 pairs of pants to the West Lothian Financial Inclusion Network to be distributed as part of their community clothing chest and Christmas Boxes.

1,300 pairs of pants to Baby Bank Scotland, a baby and clothing bank based in Hamilton.

330 pairs of pants and new and gently worn bras to The Nelson Trust for their women's centre in Swansea.

So don't put your bras in the bin, think of those who can wear them again!!

God Bless You  
**Jan Maclennan**

**Jesus grew in WISDOM and in stature and in favour with God and people. Luke 2:52**

James 3:17 says that the wisdom that is from above is first pure, it's uncontaminated and unmixed, clear, and undisguised; then disposed towards peace, not domineering, and careful not to damage, willing to be entreated, full of forgiveness, and it produces good fruits, healthy, life-giving, beneficial outcomes; it is not wrongly influenced by partiality nor is it hypocritical, acting out a pretence. (amplified) How we see Jesus with all these qualities of wisdom in the human encounters, whether with opposition or friends, that he had!

And we are in the business of growing into his likeness with God's Spirit as our counsellor and as our teacher, as we meditate on Jesus' example in the gospels. "...lovingly speaking the truth, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, which is Christ."(Ephesians 4:15.). Amen.

**Sally Ann**

### **THIS WEEK'S NEWS FROM AROUND THE CHARGE**

This week we have our fifth Sunday gathering at St John's at 11am and a bring and share lunch to follow. I hope many of you will be able to join us for this service and lunch.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to ask people what they do (& do not) appreciate about this newsletter. Especially during the interregnum, it is an important way to maintain contact and know what each church community is doing. So, what do you want from it? What do you read and what do you not read? Please talk to me on Sunday or send me an email with your thoughts.

**Jean (jeanmedavis@gmail.com)**

### ***"The Information Bit"***

***If you want to receive the newsletter regularly by email and currently do not do so, please contact Isla Cruden (isla@ricruden.net) who will arrange to add you to the circulation list.***

***Or you can bookmark it online at <https://episcopalblackisle.scot> A reminder to get any information you want in the newsletter to me by email by noon on Tuesday.***

***For the FB page, information about St Regulus' activities should go to Stuart Thomson, St Andrew's, to Alison Garraway & St John's to me. If anyone is housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion or simply a visit, please contact a member of the Ministry team of your local church who will be happy to arrange. If you want a particular person mentioned here in our prayers, please let me know & I will add them for the remainder of that calendar month.***