

Daily Bread

Feria of 22nd Week of Ordinary Time

Monday, 2nd September

1 Corinthians 2: 1-5;
Luke 4: 16-30

Tuesday, 3rd September

1 Corinthians 2: 10-16;
Luke 4: 31-37

Wednesday, 4th September

1 Corinthians 3: 1-9;
Luke 4: 38-44

Thursday, 5th September

1 Corinthians 3: 18-23;
Luke 5: 1-11

Friday, 6th September

1 Corinthians 4: 1-5;
Luke 5: 33-39

Saturday, 7th September

1 Corinthians 4: 6-15;
Luke 6: 1-5

Sunday, 8th September

16th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 35: 4-7a; Psalm 146;
James 2: 1-10, 14-17;
Mark 7: 24-37
Eucharist (St Serf's Church),
10.30am



Announcements

Next Sunday, 8 September: There will be a 1982 Eucharist at St Serf's Church at 10.30am (no service at St John's). All are welcome.

Morning Prayer will be livestreamed at 9am on Facebook on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Cheese & Wine Night: There will be a Cheese and Wine Night at **St Serf's** on **Saturday, 21 September** at **7pm**. There is no charge for this event so why not come along and enjoy a relaxing social evening with your friends and family. All are welcome

Time Off: The Revd Tess will not be available from Thursday, 5 September to Saturday, 21 September.

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GLASGOW EAST END EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

**(Incorporating St John's,
Baillieston; St Kentigern's,
Dennistoun and St Serf's,
Shettleston)**

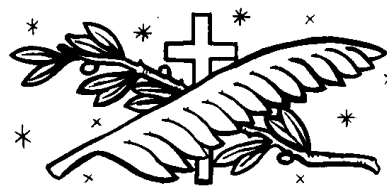
15th Sunday after Pentecost

1st September 2024

Welcome to our church for this Sunday's service; do stay for tea or coffee afterwards, we look forward to meeting you. If the morning service is the celebration of the Eucharist, all are welcome to make their communion here. Or if you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward to the rail with arms by your sides.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God, by whose grace alone your faithful people offer you service and praise: grant that we may hasten without stumbling towards the things that you promise; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.



Lectionary

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13

A reading from the book of the Song of Solomon

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.'

Psalm 15

R The just will live in the presence of God, live with God for ever.

Who shall dwell in the heights with you?

Those who walk without fault; all who walk in the ways of justice; people whose hearts are true.

R

Do not harm your neighbour's name; those who honour my name, cast no slur on your neighbour's ways, on all those who fear the Lord.

R

Keep your promises, come what may, take no profit from loans;

take no bribes if you walk my ways;
stand firm as you walk my ways.
**R The just will live in the presence
of God, live with God for ever.**

James 1: 17-27

A reading from the letter of James.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act – they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is

this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' Jesus said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines." You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.' Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit,

licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

Post Communion

Almighty God, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May your holy food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessions

Please pray for healing and comfort for:

Dorothea, David, Alex, Elizabeth, Valerie, Ina, Joseph, Liz, Harry John, Danut, Mihaela, Alan, Janet, Christina, John, Sarah and Ashley.

Faithful departed anniversaries:

June Gordon, Ernest Cryer, Anne Sanders, Ann Izzett and Maureen Owens.

Today's Readings

Second Reading - James 1: 17-27

James calls his readers to be active in their faith, to hear the word and bear fruit in their lives. Not merely to hear the word but also to do the word.

Gospel - Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Jesus scolds the Pharisees for their interest in insincere rituals of external purity which, he argues, mask impurity from within the human heart.

Reflection

It is the heart that matters:

It is not clean fingernails, or clean teeth, or a clean skin that makes a person clean in the sight of God. To be truly clean is to be clean of heart.

For the heart is what I am deep down.

It is the real me.

And while we are all capable of deception, a corrupt heart will sooner or later show itself in the face.

At the same time, a clean heart, like a clean mountain lake, shines in the face.

Jesus looked at the Pharisees and said to them:

"These men are no better than white-washed tombs:

they are clean on the outside, but inside they are full of corruption". But he looked at Nathanael and said: "Here is a true Israelite, a man in whom there is no trace of deceit".

In other words, here was a transparent person.

Here was a man who was clean of heart, and therefore clean all over.

