



## LOGIE & ST. JOHN'S (CROSS) PARISH CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 8th August 2021

### **Preparation and Perseverance**

I guess we've all seen some of the Olympics this week?  
I wonder what your favourite event has been? Has it been a team event or a solo sport?  
Whether it's been as nail-biting as the BMX or as punishing as the boxing.

I've no idea how much **preparation** athletes have to do to attain that level of achievement.  
How much training to hone their skills and gain the strength required.  
How much mental exercises to deal with tactics and challenges.  
How much emotional preparation required to support them in tough times.

Certainly, they've have had to do an awful lot of **preparation**.  
But **perseverance** is also required.  
How to stand up again when you've fallen or been knocked down.  
How to continue when you've been injured or hurt?  
How to keep on trying when the scoreboard is stacked against you?



Paul also writes about the preparation and perseverance we require in our ordinary daily lives as followers of Jesus.

In Ephesians chapter 6:11-17, using the image of a Roman soldier, he describes **preparation**, the putting on of the whole armour of God, and lists all the pieces a soldier needs to wear.

But he goes on (v18) to talk about the **Perseverance**, the alertness or endurance, required of a Christian soldier, "Pray in the Spirit on all occasions ... to that end keep alert with all perseverance," ie, Pray and keep on praying. *Keep on Keeping on*.

Encouragement to persevere is perhaps what we all need. Perhaps it's easier to prepare than to persevere. Sometimes the words of a hymn help us to understand a message. I imagine it's some time since we've may have sung the hymn, "Oft in danger, oft in woe" (MP 533). The hymn describes how the Bible can help us in our daily struggles, "Fight the fight, maintain the strife, Strengthened with the Bread of life"; and assures us of our eventual win, "Onward then in battle move, More than conquerors we shall prove; though opposed by many a foe, Christian soldiers, onward go".

### **SUNDAY SERVICE 11 am**

The Rev. James Wilson, our Interim Moderator, will lead our morning service again this week.

Although the Scottish Government is about to move Covid-19 restrictions to beyond Level 0, we will still be required to wear face coverings (unless medically exempt) and the Church of Scotland recommends that we stick to the 1 metre rule.

We'll continue to have 'bring your own coffee' outside after the service.

For those unable to join us on Sunday the service from Invergowrie Parish Church will be available online at [www.logies.org](http://www.logies.org).

### **PASTORAL CARE**

If you, or anyone you know, is in need of pastoral care then please contact our Session Clerk, Mike Duffy, by emailing [sessionclerk@logies.org](mailto:sessionclerk@logies.org) or by leaving a message on the church answerphone T: 01382 668514



## THE ELDERS Last Sunday

In between holidays, family visits and weddings, we managed to get our Kirk Session all together in person last Sunday.

From the left – Alex, Ramanee, Tommy, Catherine, John, Mike, Fiona, Pam, Alison, Jenny, Bill, Glyn, Frances.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

We can now confirm that Rev Grant Maclaughlan will preach as sole nominee on Sun 29<sup>th</sup> August.

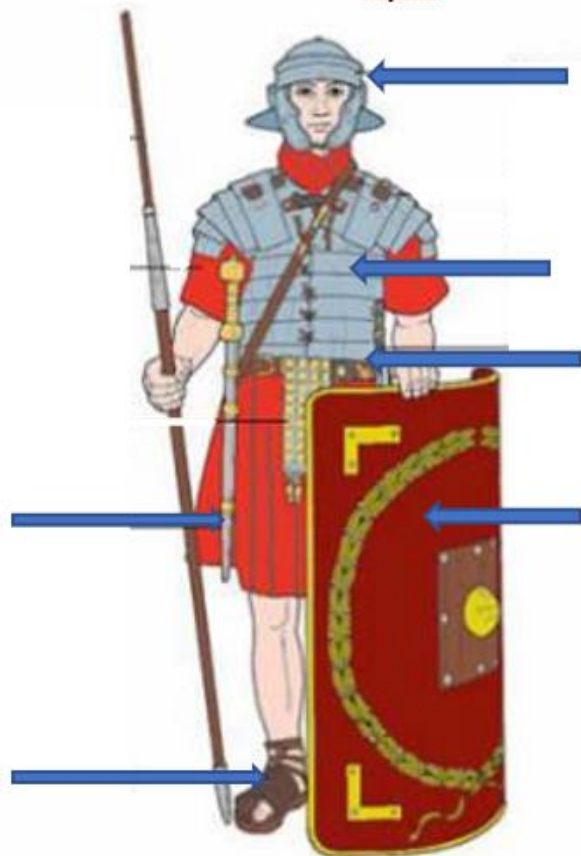
CONNECT WITH A CUPPA will next gather on Wed 18<sup>th</sup> August

### THANKS TO OUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Many thanks to Fiona Low, our regular weekly editor since March 2020. Fiona and Gordon are having a well-deserved holiday this week.

### FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Like the Olympic athletes soldiers need to be prepared. As Christian soldiers Paul says that we need these special pieces of armour. Read [Eph 6:13-17](#) to see where they go.



Add these words to the correct part of the soldier's armour:

- Faith
- Righteousness
- Gospel of peace
- Truth
- Salvation
- Spirit/Word of God