



Crucis



The Magazine of St Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church, Dundee (www.stsalvadors.com)

February 2021

*Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of Christ,
by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.*

Galatians 6:14

Message from Fr Andrew Murphy SSC

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Since the last copy of Crucis, we have been obliged to close our doors again due to the pandemic, although the food programme has been able to carry on in the forecourt. The dedicated volunteers carrying out this true act of Christian charity have to be greatly commended in the circumstances prevailing. I know that at least one volunteer has had a health issue, no names, but I shall ask you to pray with me for his recovery.

Last Monday, 25th January, marked the end of Christian Unity week, and in the spirit of ecumenism and out of Christian respect, I might ask you to pray for the repose of the souls of the recently departed and victims of Covid Archbishop Tartaglia of Glasgow, who was only aged 70, and retired Emeritus Bishop Vincent Logan of Dunkeld, who both died recently.

Bishop Logan was of course the previous local RC Bishop in our area, and on his ordination was one of the youngest Roman Catholic bishops to be appointed. He did a lot for the city of Dundee and was held in high esteem here in civic and religious circles. May they both rest in peace.

The horrifying daily toll of death from the Covid pandemic has surely made all of us more acutely aware than ever of the frailty of our mortality. Our natural human instinct is to fear for our own safety, and that of our near ones "Although we are mortal and we will all die, we can be sure that we were not made for death, and that death will not have the last word. We are made for eternal life, for glory and for Heaven." These are the very poignant words of the late Archbishop Tartaglia. We must always keep this in mind, that

although we have one foot on earth, our ultimate aim in life is to share in God's eternal kingdom.

There is a current Covid safety advice slogan, "Hands – Face – Space", adapting it for a Christian perspective, it might equally represent hands that pray, facing our life always to Jesus, and closing the distance between ourselves and God.

May God bless you and keep you safe in the coming days. Please remember that although we cannot at the moment assemble to worship or have clergy house visits, I am always available 24/7 to talk to you on my phone (07920 596990) over any issues, church, faith, spiritual or otherwise.

With blessings, Fr Andrew

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord



Why not say a prayer and light a candle (safely) at home to commemorate this day?

Prayer for the Presentation of Our Lord

O Lord Jesus Christ, who as a child wast presented in the temple and received with joy by Simeon and Anna as the Redeemer of Israel: Mercifully grant that we, like them, may be guided by the Holy Spirit to acknowledge and love thee unto our lives' end; who with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest God, world without end. Church of South India

Vestry news

Some emergency repairs have had to be made to some of the skylights over the kitchen and in the upper hall because of water ingress. We are also looking into the periodic leaks in the church roof between the Lady Chapel and main Sanctuary.

Final tweaks are being made to our Church Profile, which is a document that showcases our church and community, describes what we are looking for, and declares what we can offer to a new incumbent. This is part of the preparations needed before advertising the post.

There are still several vacant posts on the Vestry. If you feel called to contribute to the life of St Salvador's in this way, please let us know.

Martin Andrews

Food programme

With the bishop's agreement we are continuing to give out food bags and other items at the church gate on Sunday afternoons between 1.00 and 2.00 p.m. despite being closed to services during the lockdown. Clients are numbering between 20 and 30 each week. Well done to William Scotland and Richard Johnstone who have kept this vital programme going throughout the interregnum, often in bad weather.

We are grateful to our supporters: organisations, churches and individuals, who have donated food and money to this programme. A special mention must be made of ASDA Myrekirk, Morrisons and the Co-op, who have supplied large quantities of food items on a regular basis, kindly donated by their customers.

Contact details

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Saints' and special days this month

Mon., 1 Feb. – St Bride (Bridgit or Bridie) of Kildare, 6th century Abbess. Her cult was widely followed in West Scotland, e.g. East Kilbride. (No connection to a bridie, named after Margaret Bridie, a market pie-stall holder in 19th c. Forfar.)

Tuesday, 2 February – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas). Time to take down your Christmas tree and decorations if you haven't done it already. What a pity, our Gala Candlemas candlelit service can't be held this year!

Wednesday, 3 February – St Ansgar, Archbishop and Patron Saint of Hamburg, Germany

Thursday, 4 February – St Gilbert, only English founder of a mediæval convent in Sempringham, Lincolnshire. It also allowed lay brothers to stay at the convent – an early example of equality?

Sat., 6 Feb. – St Paul Miki & the Martyrs of Japan, Japanese native-born 16th century Jesuit along with 25 others crucified for their faith.

Wednesday, 10 February – St Scholastica, Religious, foundress of Benedictine nuns.

Sun., 14 Feb. – Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Miss., patrons of the Slavic races. Would you rather have a card commemorating them or St Valentine, 3rd century Roman martyr, who shares the same date? The RC church tried to remove him in 1969 from lack of evidence. That has not stopped people sending cards or expensive flowers!

Mon., 15 Feb. – Thomas Bray, Pr. & Miss., an English vicar who went to colonial America in the 18th century to provide impoverished Anglican clergy with books, so founding SPCK.

Ash Wednesday, 17 Feb., the start of Lent. Ashing services will regrettably not be possible this year.

Wednesday, 17 February – St Finan of Lindisfarne, Bishop – Irish monk trained at Iona.

Thursday, 18 Feb. – St Colman of Lindisfarne, Bishop – same as above.

Friday, 19 Feb. – Martin Luther, Pr. & Reformer

Tuesday, 23 February – St Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr – 1st century martyr burned and stabbed at the stake in his 80s. Said to be a disciple of St John.

Sat., 27 Feb. – George Herbert, Poet, Parson and Pr., quintessential English divine, actually born in Wales, who ministered near Salisbury Cathedral.

Additional notes by Fr Andrew Murphy