



# Crucis



The Magazine of St Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church  
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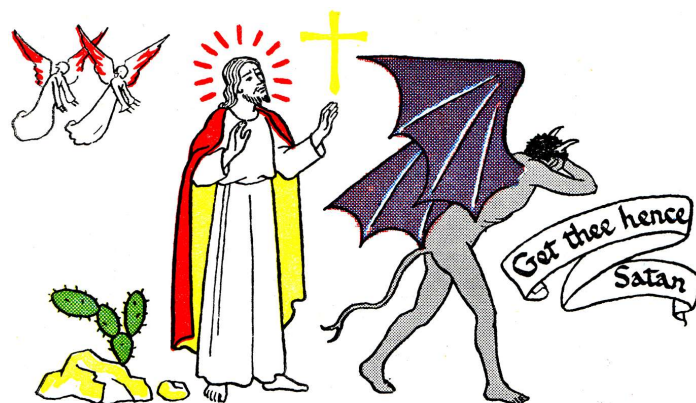
*Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of Christ,  
by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.*

Galatians 6:14

## Message from Fr Andrew Murphy SSC (Tel.: 07920 596990)

### *Nearer my God to Thee*

My friends in Christ, we are already a quarter of the way through Lent, with only thirty 'repenting' days left before Easter. With all the deprivations, isolations, sacrifices and goings-without in the past year of lockdown, it is perhaps hard to imagine being able to give up anything else to fulfil our Lenten commitment – except perhaps unnecessary impulse online purchases or TV boxed-set subscriptions! We sometimes think of Lent only in a negative way of fast, penitence and self-denial – of course all of that – but we can also think of it in a positive way of being presented with an ideal opportunity to spend more time with God and come closer to Him. We currently do not have the usual physical devotional aids to help us during this Lent, with the exclusion of church worship, Stations of the Cross, Lenten courses, missions and retreats. One thing we can do in the extra prayer time the lockdown affords us is to additionally pray the 'advocation of the saints'. It has always been Scottish Episcopal doctrine to pray for and with the saints and holy souls in heaven. The 17<sup>th</sup> century Aberdeen bishop William Forbes, whom we remember this month, promoted this Anglican theology contrary to the 39 Articles 1563, which condemned invocation of the saints. Our catholic tradition of praying with the saints is still in our SEC liturgy, although the 1982 'Blue book' has shifted its location in our Eucharist prayers. There is no doubt that reading about their lives can help us engage more deeply with our faith, and if we can't exactly imitate them, we can admire them and be inspired and motivated by them. They are already in heaven enjoying God's special favour, and the paths



they followed in their lives can uplift and lead us too, to approach God and be nearer to Him.

So, my 'recommended Lent reading list' for March is, since Christian bookshops and written literature are not readily accessible during the lockdown, is to go through the Calendar for March below, and on the appointed days, Google and learn about their holy lives, pray with them, and through Christ, draw nearer to God.

With Lenten blessings, and prayers for your Covid-free well-being. Father Andrew

### **Vestry news**

After years of water leaks and damage to paintwork between the main sanctuary and Lady Chapel, the problem worsened after the recent heavy snowfall. Last week we called in roofers to make substantial and expensive, but necessary, repairs. We hope this will fix the water ingress problem once and for all.

A useful and productive Zoom meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> February between the Bishop and several members of the Vestry to discuss church finances, the Profile, and recruitment timescale and processes.

The Diocesan Synod will be held via Zoom on 6<sup>th</sup> March, and the Bishop has agreed for me to represent St Salvador's in the absence of an official Lay Rep.

Martin Andrews

## Saints' and special days this month

*O Lord our God, grant us, we beseech thee, patience in troubles, humility in comforts, constancy in temptations, and victory over all our spiritual foes. Grant us sorrow for our sins, thankfulness for thy benefits, fear of thy judgment, love of thy mercies, and mindfulness of thy presence; now and for evermore.* John Cosin

**Monday, 1 March** – **St David**, 7<sup>th</sup> century Bishop and Patron of Wales. Renowned preacher who lived on leeks and water – *iechyd da!*

**Tuesday 2 March** – **St Chad of Lichfield**, 7<sup>th</sup> century Bishop of Northumbria.

**Wed., 3 March** – **John & Charles Wesley**, founders of the Methodists but remained Anglican priests.

**Thursday, 4 March** – **St Adrian**, Abbot & Martyr, built an abbey on the Isle of May in the Forth, murdered by marauding Vikings, and was original patron saint of Scotland before St Andrew.

**Saturday, 6 March** – **St Baldred**, Bishop & Missionary, 8<sup>th</sup> century 'Apostle of the Lothians' built a chapel on the Bass Rock, not to be confused with Blackadder's servant Baldrick.

**Sun., 7 March** – **Perpetua and Felicity**, 4<sup>th</sup> c. saints martyred in the Forum of Carthage (Tunisia).

**Mon., 8 Mar.** – **Edward King**, Bp of Lincoln, tutor at Cuddesdon where the new chapel is named after him.

**Monday, 8 March** – **St Duthac**, the most popular saint in medieval Scotland, more venerated than Ninian or Kentigern. The shrine to this 11<sup>th</sup> century saint in Tain was through Royal Patronage.

**Tues., 9 March** – **Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy**, Military chaplain in WW1, modern priest and poet (aka Woodbine Willie) who gave Woodbine cigarettes to the wounded and dying soldiers.

**Wednesday, 10 March** – **Kessog**, Martyr & Bishop in Rosshire. Kessog Bridge is named after him.

## Mothering or Refreshment Sunday



**14 March** – **Mothering Sunday**, originally when young people in service returned home to visit their mother churches – and their mothers.

**Tuesday, 16 March** – **Boniface of Ross**, Bishop, ministered in the same area as above.

**Wednesday, 17 March** – **St Patrick**, Bishop, Patron Saint of Ireland, to be sure. Begorrah!

**Thursday, 18 March** – **Cyril of Jerusalem**, Bp, taught catechumens in the 4<sup>th</sup> c., not to be confused with later namesakes Alexandria and Methodius' brother.

**Fri., 19 Mar.** – **St Joseph of Nazareth**, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**Saturday, 20 March** – **St Cuthbert**, Bishop of Lindisfarne, with shrine in Durham Cathedral.

**Sunday, 21 March** – **Passion Sunday**, the Sunday before Palm Sunday, and the beginning of Passiontide (abolished by the RC Church in 1969).

**Sunday, 21 March** – **Thomas Cranmer**, Archbishop of Canterbury and martyr, responsible for the BCP.

**Monday, 22 March** – **Thomas Ken**, Bishop.

**Wed., 24 March** – **Paul Couturier**, 20<sup>th</sup> c. French ecumenist priest who began week of Christian Unity.

## LADY DAY



**Thu., 25 March** – **The Annunciation**, Our Lady is told by Archangel Gabriel that she will bear Jesus. Our north aisle statue represents Mary at the time.

**Friday, 26 March** – **Harriet Monsell**, founded an order of Anglican nuns.



**Sun., 28 Mar.** – **Palm Sunday**, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, & start of Holy Week.

**Sunday, 28 March** – **Patrick Forbes and the Aberdeen doctors**. Forbes was a 17<sup>th</sup> century bishop in Aberdeen, not to be confused with Bishop Alexander Forbes in 19<sup>th</sup> century Dundee.

**Mon., 29 Mar.** – **John Keble**, 19<sup>th</sup> c. Divine and High Churchman. An Oxford College is named after him.

**Wed., 31 March** – **John Donne**, 17<sup>th</sup> century Dean of St Paul's (in London) and also a poet.