

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)

May is the month of Mary!

May has always been a special time for us in the Catholic corner of the Anglican communion to pay special homage and honour to our blessed mother Mary. May was chosen as it used to be an ancient Grecian whole month-long festival 'Tricesimum' of new-birth fecundity and blooming flowers. She is often depicted in art with roses or lilies.

We continually need to gently remind some other of our Christian friends that we do not 'worship' Her but seek to give Her due reverence in our Christian faith.

Even in biblical terms, she was specially blessed and chosen to be the mother of our Lord, acceded to God's will, and from cradle to cross, Her life was one of humility, service and loyalty to Jesus.

She gave us an example of perfect obedience and service to God and Christ. Throughout her life she points to Jesus, and not to Herself, and our devotion to Her does not obstruct our worship of Christ.

Our devotion to Her should not be mistaken for adoration. She suffered the sorrows of seeing Her son dying on the Cross. She lived a life full of grace (Luke 1:28). When St Paul tells us (1 Timothy 2:5) that there is only one mediator between God and Man, namely Jesus, it is worth remembering that 'one' is equally translated as 'the first'. Mary too is a mediatrix and dispenser of graces and we can



pray through her. We can ask for Her prayers that God grant them. If you haven't already, just give it a try! For example by praying 'the Memorare'.

Remember, o most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

During May it is traditional in church to place a crown on Mary's statue in Her honour and decorate it with roses. Her special place in our liturgical life is marked at the end of the month on 31st May when we celebrate the Feast of the Visitation when Mary visits Elizabeth, John the Baptist's mother (Luke 1:39–56) and exclaims the Magnificat, a canticle glorifying God.

May your month of May be full of Her graces, blossoming flowers and answered prayers.

Father Andrew

Saints' and special days this month

O Spirit of the living God, who dwellest in us; who art holy, who art good: Come thou, and fill the hearts of thy faithful people, and kindle within them the fire of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Liturgy of the Catholic Apostolic Church

S. PHICIP & S. JAMES

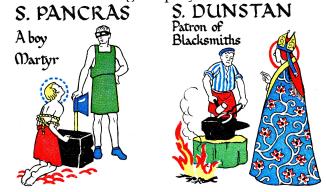


Saturday, 1 May – Ss. Philip and James, Apostles, original disciples of Jesus.



Sunday, 2 May – St Athanasius, Bishop and T. **Wednesday, 5 May – St Asaph**, Welsh Bishop, friend of St Kentigern of Glasgow, hymn tune named after him.

Saturday, 8 May – Julian of Norwich, 14th century female (Julian was her religious name) anchorite whose cell can still be seen there, first woman writer of English prayers.



Wednesday, 12 May – St Pancras, 14-year-old boy beheaded in AD 287 by Emperor Diocletian for giving shelter to Christians.

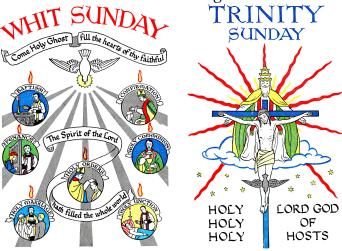
Wednesday, 12 May – Thomas Rattray, 18th century Bishop of Brechin, the other episcopal Bishops didn't want him to have the job!



Thursday, 13 May – Ascension of our Lord, Jesus rises bodily to Heaven.

Friday, 14 May – St Matthias, Apostle, substitute replacement for Judas.

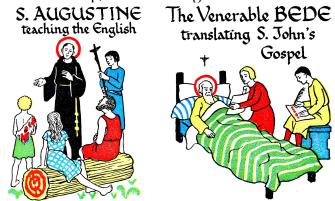
Wednesday, 19 May – St Dunstan, Archbishop, 10th century Bishop of Worcester, found vocation after friends threw him in a bog.



Friday, 21 May – St Helena, Protector of the Holy Places, Emperor Constantine's mother who found the true Cross in Jerusalem.

Sunday, 23 May – Pentecost (Whitsunday), 50 days after Easter, the descent of the Holy Spirit. Sunday, 23 May – St William of Perth, Martyr, settled in Kent, killed by his adopted son.

Tuesday, 25 May – The Venerable Bede, Monk & T., Northumbrian scholar & church historian. **Wed., 26 May – St Augustine of Canterbury**, 6th c. first Archbishop, of Italian origin.



Sunday, 30 May – Trinity Sunday, celebrating the Holy Three in one, Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

Monday, 31 May – Feast of the Visitation, The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth.

Most additional text supplied by Fr Andrew Murphy

Vestry news

The Vestry will be meeting the bishop in early May to explore our immediate future. We have high hopes for a new and positive strategy. M.A.