



Crucis



The Magazine of St Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church

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Passiontide – 2022

*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 David

Dear Friends in Christ,

It's one month since I was driving back through the snow from St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull, on the morning of Thursday 24th February, and was shocked to hear on Radio 4 that 'there is war in Europe'.

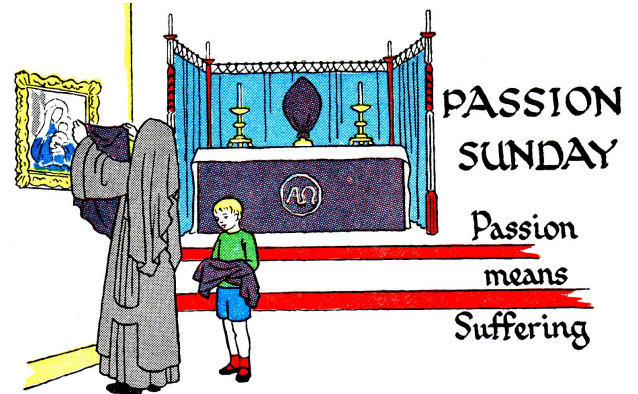
It was an experience of deep unease listening to that broadcast as I imagined all the worst possible outcomes of, arguably, the gravest conflict in Europe since 1945 – something my generation had never thought to experience except through documentaries and historical records.

In the early stages of this war, I watched the media coverage obsessively as a way of coming to grips with the reality and horror of it. However, the relentless, second-hand exposure to war and the suffering of others takes a toll and it becomes necessary to consider how best to manage the reality of war and human suffering in a country which is actually quite far away and where my ability to have an effect is extremely limited, to put it mildly.

During the month from then 'til now, my wife, daughter, and I all contracted Covid for the first time. For the best part of two weeks, we all felt horrible and were pretty much incapable of the normal routines of eating, sleeping, bathing, cooking, working, etc. We were isolated at home and reliant on others to bring shopping, medication, etc., to the house. I can't begin to imagine how much worse it could have been for us had the vaccines not been developed. Let us thank God for that!

On the back of Covid, and now the wicked Russian invasion of Ukraine, there are tough economic consequences for everyone. Just this evening, my wife and I were discussing the massive hike in our energy bills which is just around the corner. This will apply to everyone. None of us are having to look for our troubles.

However, in the Christian year, we are journeying through Lent towards Holy Week and Easter. It may not be our responsibility to solve all evils – principally



because we are largely incapable of doing so. However, it is our responsibility to be faithful. As the Buddhist contributor to *Thought for the Day* on Radio 4 said a couple of weeks ago, 'some Buddhist traditions say that we should regard difficulties as our teachers, that we should take them on to "the path [of our lives]" or even consider that they *are* the path.' ... 'The time when we can be happy, fulfilled, and at our best, doesn't happen when our problems abate. It can only occur in the midst of whatever difficulties life may have brought us.' Our Lord remained in perfect communion with the Father even, and perhaps especially, in the midst of his suffering and death. This is a vocation we are called to share, and we can always offer up our struggles and suffering in union with Christ's Passion for the redemption of the world. I've always understood that is what St Paul meant when he wrote, 'I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church' (Colossians 1:24).

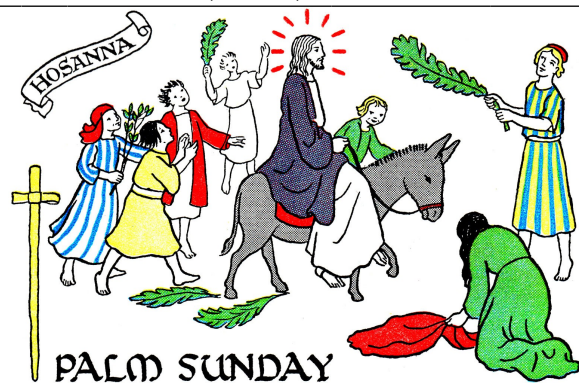
It is also the case that we need to focus our attention and energy on what we can actually control and influence, rather than that which we cannot. For each one of us our unique spiritual path is set before us. Whatever we can or cannot do to alleviate the suffering of others, we can try to be faithful disciples who pray and who have compassion; who worship and who enter into the redemptive story of Jesus who came to seek and to save the lost.

Oremus pro invicem – let us pray for one another!
With Every Blessing, Fr David

Strathclyde University Chamber Choir will be with us on Palm Sunday to help celebrate the sacred Liturgy. Please come and share in this beautiful musical and liturgical experience and give some thought to sharing in our worship as we begin Passiontide together.

Services in April

Sun 3	Passion Sunday	Sung Mass	11.00 a.m.
Wed 6	Feria	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
Sun 10	Palm Sunday	High Mass	11.00 a.m.
Mon 11	Monday in Holy Week	Stations + Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
Tue 12	Tuesday in Holy Week	Stations + Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
Wed 13	Wednesday in Holy Week	Stations + Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
Thu 14	Maundy Thursday	Sung Mass	7.00 p.m.
& Stripping of the Altar followed by the Watch until midnight			
Fri 15	Good Friday	Matins + Litany	9.00 a.m.
		Solemn Liturgy	3.00 p.m.
Sat 16	Holy Saturday	Matins + Antecomm.	9.00 a.m.
		Great Vigil	9.00 p.m.
Sun 17	Easter Sunday	Sung Mass	11.00 a.m.
Wed 20	Wednesday in Easter Week	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
Sun 24	Low Sunday	Extended Communion	11.00 a.m.
Wed 27	St Mark (transf.)	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.



PALM SUNDAY

A Prayer for Palm Sunday

O Christ, the King of glory, who didst enter the holy city in meekness to be made perfect through the suffering of death: Give us grace, we beseech thee, in all our life here to take up our cross daily and follow thee, that hereafter we may rejoice with thee in thy heavenly kingdom; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God, world without end.

Church of South India

Saints' and Special Days

Friday, 1 April – St Gilbert of Caithness, Bishop, founded Dornoch Abbey.

Sat., 9 April – Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran Pastor, Teacher, Martyr, resisted Nazis and was executed.

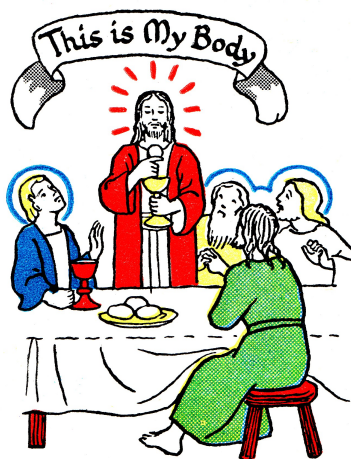
Sunday, 10 April – William Law, Spiritual Writer, 18th century Cambridge Priest sacked for support of Stuarts against Hanoverians. Founded family religious house church.

Monday, 11 April – Leo I, 5th century Pope faced up to Attila the Hun to save Rome.

Tue., 12 April – William Forbes, 17th cent. Aberdeen Bishop, supported kneeling at Communion.

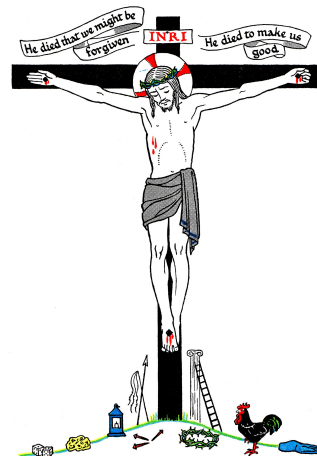
14th – Maundy Thursday

O Lord Christ, who in the days of thy flesh didst hallow bread and wine to be a perpetual memorial of thy passion, and a never-failing means of fellowship with thee: Make us so to thirst after thy righteousness that through these holy mysteries we may be filled with all the fullness of thy divine life, and be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; for thy glory's sake.



15th – Good Friday

O Lamb of God, who hast taken away the sin of the world: Look upon us and have mercy upon us, we beseech thee; and grant that those whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood may evermore be defended by thy love and power; who now livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.



16th – Holy Saturday

O God, whose loving kindness is infinite, mercifully hear our prayers; and grant that as in this life we are united in the mystical body of thy Church, and in death are laid in holy ground with the sure hope of resurrection; so at the last day we may rise to the life immortal, and be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

