

# 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

**August 2023**

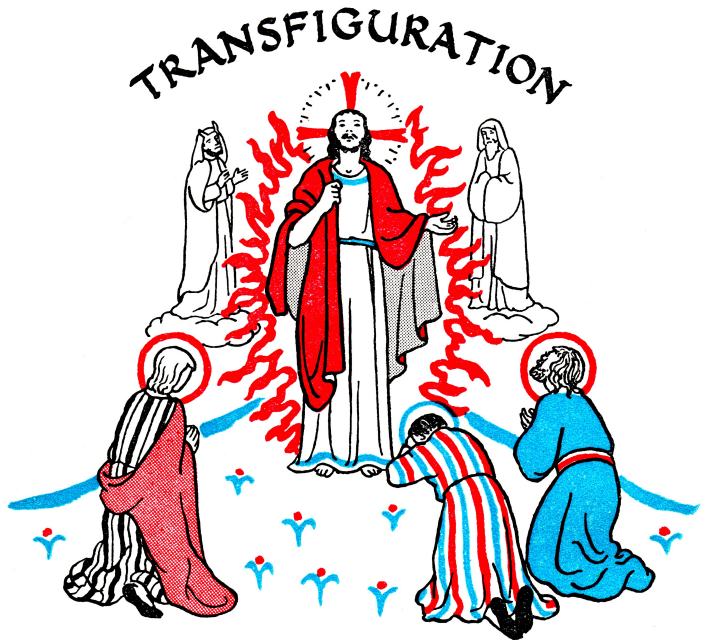
## Message from Fr David

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write this on the Feast of St James, Apostle and Martyr. The Gospel at Mass today is Matthew 20:20–28. In it, a pushy Jewish mother petitions Jesus for places of importance for her two sons, James and John. Perhaps such impetuosity, or even a fiery temper, was in the genes because Jesus nicknamed the two brothers, “Boanerges – sons of thunder”! They were among the earliest followers of Jesus from Galilee, along with Peter and Andrew. When Jesus had come upon them in a boat fishing with their father Zebedee and he called them, they immediately got out of the boat and followed him. And, James and John formed an inner circle along with Peter whom Jesus included at pivotal or intimate moments such as the Transfiguration and his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. But they’d also suggested to Jesus that they call down fire from heaven upon a Samaritan town which had rejected him. (Luke 9:51–56) “Sons of thunder”, indeed!

As recounted in the Acts of the Apostles, St James was executed by king Herod Agrippa I in AD 44 at the time of Passover.

Although St James is celebrated with some pomp in Santiago de Compostela in Spain and the pilgrimage to Santiago (Spanish for St James) is still very popular, there is no evidence that he was ever there. However, it is possible that his relics, or some of them, were indeed translated to Compostela and are present in the Cathedral there. It’s a bit like Christmas in the sense that we all know



Christ was not born on December the 25<sup>th</sup>. But the importance of the festival lies in the fact of the celebration and our interior disposition, rather than whether it’s the correct date for the birth of the Messiah. So, it is good that they venerate St James in Compostela, whether or not he ever went there in life or in death.

It’s always reassuring to bring the Apostles to mind in all their imperfection. It reminds us that, for all our faults and failings, we can be disciples, too. May we, like them, be impetuous for Christ, witnesses to his presence in the Holy Eucharist, and his presence in our daily lives.

*Oremus pro invicem* – let us pray for one another.

Bless you all!,

Fr David

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## Prayer for the Feast of the Transfiguration

*O God, who on the holy mount didst reveal to chosen witnesses thy well-beloved Son wonderfully transfigured: Mercifully grant unto us such a vision of his divine Majesty that we, being purified and strengthened by thy grace, may be transformed into his likeness from glory to glory; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Canadian Prayer Book



## Services in August

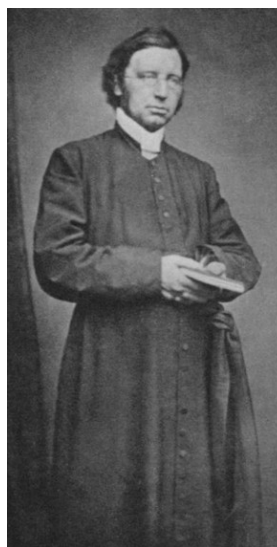
Wed 2	Feria	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
<b>Sun 6</b>	<b>Transfiguration</b>	<b>Sung Mass</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>
Wed 9	John Mason Neale	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
<b>Sun 13</b>	<b>Trinity X</b>	<b>Sung Mass</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>
Wed 16	St Mary the Virgin (tr)	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
<b>Sun 20</b>	<b>Trinity XI</b>	<b>Sung Mass</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>
Wed 23	St Bartholomew (ant)	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.
<b>Sun 27</b>	<b>Trinity XII</b>	<b>Sung Mass</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>
Wed 30	John the Baptist beheading (tr)	Low Mass	10.00 a.m.

## Saints' and Special Days for August

### Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> August – Transfiguration of the Lord

The Transfiguration of Jesus reveals that salvation is for all, and that the Son of God is the One who brings that salvation. The testimony of the Law and the Prophets to Jesus are given by the presence of Moses and Elijah, and the event also pre-figures the Resurrection, giving a foretaste of the life of glory.

### Wed., 9<sup>th</sup> August – John Mason Neale, Priest



John Mason Neale was born in 1818 and, whilst an undergraduate at Cambridge, was influenced by the ideas of the Tractarians. He was a founder of the Cambridge Camden Society, which stimulated interest in ecclesiastical art and which played a major part in the revival of Catholic ritual in the Church of England. Whilst Warden of Sackville College, East Grinstead, a post he held

from 1846, Neale founded the Society of St Margaret, which grew into one of the largest Anglican women's religious communities. Neale is remembered as an accomplished hymn-writer and his influence on Anglican worship through hymnody has been considerable. He suffered frail health for many years and died on the feast of the Transfiguration in 1866.

### Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> August – St Mary the Virgin

The Church customarily commemorates saints on the day of their death, and although the date and place of the Blessed Virgin's death are unknown, for centuries today has been celebrated as her principal feast. In the East, today's feast is entitled 'The Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Virgin'; in the Roman Catholic Church, reflecting its distinctive doctrinal emphasis, it is called 'The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary'. Both are equally ancient titles for this festival, when the Church celebrates the reunion of Christ with His Mother.

### Thu., 24<sup>th</sup> August – St Bartholomew, Apostle

It has long been assumed that Bartholomew is the same as Nathanael, 'bar Tolmai' being a Jewish surname, however, this identification is by no means certain. Nathanael was described as an Israelite worthy of the name, as he was an upright man who, as the Gospel account tells us, came to recognise Jesus as the Son of God and the King of Israel. Some later writers connect Bartholomew's career after Pentecost with Armenia, where he is said to have been flayed alive, but there is no reliable historical evidence for this.



### Tue., 29<sup>th</sup> Aug. – Beheading of St John the Baptist

The main celebration for John the Baptist is on 24 June, the date observing his birth, but John was also the forerunner of Christ in his death, which followed his denunciation of immorality and his call to repentance.

According to the New Testament, Herod Antipas, ruler of Galilee under the Roman Empire, had imprisoned John the Baptist because he had publicly reproved Herod for divorcing his first wife and unlawfully taking his sister-in-law (his brother's wife) as his second wife Herodias. He then ordered him to be killed by beheading.

Wikipedia

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