

NEWSLETTER



To the greater glory of God
St ALOYSIUS' CHURCH
a lebanon church founded in 1858

2nd WEEK OF EASTER

2nd SUNDAY of EASTER 11th April

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

LOW WEEK

Monday 12th April – Saturday 17th April

Open for registration & Confessions at 11.45am with Mass at 12.15pm

3rd SUNDAY of EASTER 18th April

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

St Aloysius, 25 Rose Street, Glasgow, G3 6RE

Tel 0141 332 3039

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www.staloysiusglasgow.org

Weekly Sunday Mass on YouTube

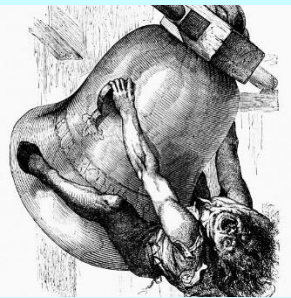
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-GPlEOdFrbicLVmqTVgllg>



Low Week?

There are plenty of names for this time of year. We have just come to the end of **Easter Week**; but for the Eastern Orthodox Church, Easter Week is known as **Bright Week** which comes to a close on **Thomas Sunday**!

Since 2000 in the Catholic Church, the Second Sunday of Easter (on the suggestion of Pope St John Paul II) has become known as **Divine Mercy Sunday**, but traditionally it is known as **Low Sunday** – probably to contrast it with the highpoint of Easter Sunday. For this reason the Second Week of Easter is also known as **Low Week**.

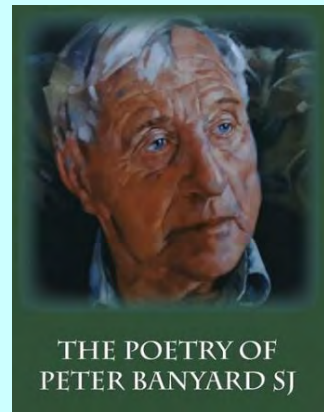


In some parts of Europe, the Second Sunday of Easter is still referred to as "**Quasimodo Sunday**" because the Entrance Antiphon at Mass begins with the words "Like new-born babies, (*Quasi modo geniti infans...*) you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia" (which is from 1 Peter 2 :2). The character from Victor Hugo's story "*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*" was named Quasimodo because, as an abandoned baby, he was found in the church on Low Sunday...

Now, don't you feel that the Newsletter was worth reading just for that fact? ☺

The Poetry of Fr Peter Banyard SJ

Those of you who have copies of the 2021 **Calendar** will have seen some of the poems of **Fr Peter "Bertie" Banyard**. With great care, Mr Ronnie Renton has gathered, edited and produced a beautifully textured book of Bertie's poems arranged in chronological order - from his early years in the Jesuits until his final years in Glasgow. From this print-run there are just 200 copies of the hard-back book available and the hope is that any monies raised by their sale might generate some funds for the education of children in Southern Africa.

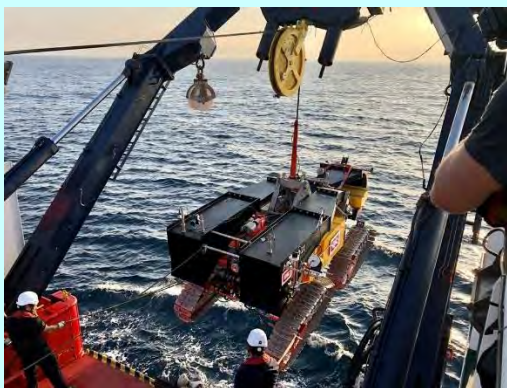


With the recent revamping of the Southern African Jesuits, see <https://jesuitssouthern.africa/> **Jesuit Missions** in London is hoping to develop a fund targeting specific educational needs of some children - in school or in apprenticeships etc, The project's working-title is **Jesuit Opportunities for Education in Southern Africa** (JOESA). Inquiries and requests for a copy of Fr Bertie's book please write to jesuitresidence70@hotmail.co.uk Please make any donations for the book to the JOESA project through the special link on the St Aloysius Parish website at <https://www.staloyusglasgow.org/poetry/>

Laudato Si

In an interesting report from the BBC's Science Editor, **David Shukman**, the alarming drive to engage in deep-sea mining of the ocean bed for nodules of precious metals is being resisted - on environmental grounds - by some major businesses (e.g. BMW, Volvo and Samsung) whom you might have thought would benefit most from such a move. The metals (manganese, cobalt etc...) are important for the new breed of electric car-batteries and mobile phones. Have a read of this piece...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-56607700>



Fr Hans Kung

The Swiss Theologian, Fr Hans King, died in the last week. He was 93 and had been ill for a couple of years. Kung was one of the most influential Christian academics in the 20th Century. He coupled a remarkable breadth & depth of scholarship with a thirst to preach the Word of God and a gift to communicate. With his German contemporary, Fr Joseph Ratzinger, he was an influential presence in the Second Vatican Council while yet in his thirties, but often found himself at loggerheads with Pope St John Paul II in the 1980s. The two links below come from the Vatican website, with a longer piece from the National Catholic Reporter in the US. May he rest in Peace. <https://www.ncronline.org/news/people/hans-k-ng-celebrated-and-controversial-swiss-theologian-has-died>



<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-04/hans-kung-theologian-death-93-switzerland-vatican-council.html>

A Bird's Nest & Healing

The Vatican has teamed-up with Harvard University to host a virtual Symposium on preventing & healing child sexual abuse. Curiously it is an event which grew out of a bird's nest presented by Jennifer Wortham to Pope Francis in 2018... see the photo to the left! For some more information about this multi-faith forum read the piece on the Vatican website where there is also an interview with Jennifer herself.



<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2021-04/vatican-harvard-symposium-healing-sexual-abuse-jennifer-wortham.html>

Was Jesus white?

When you think about it, it is likely that Jesus would have had dark eyes, dark hair and dark skin and more resembled Yasser Arafat than Robert Powell. Why, then, do we imagine him as white with blue eyes? **Anna Swartwood House** (a Professor of Art History) writes an interesting piece on **The Conversation** website as to how unconsciously our visualisations of Jesus have been strongly shaped by European art... starting with the Greeks.

<https://theconversation.com/the-long-history-of-how-jesus-came-to-resemble-a-white-european-142130>



The Pivotal Players

Those of you who know of the communications ministry of the American Bishop, **Robert Barron** won't be surprised that he is tackling another big series! **Catholicism: The Pivotal Players** looks to be an interesting project in that he is making a series of full-length videos of key-players in the development of the Catholic Faith. The Bishop has just completed one on **St Ignatius of Loyola** – the founder of the Jesuits – and it is being screened FREE until **Wednesday, 14th April**. Spiritual Viewing for Easter!

As you would expect of the Bishop, the production values are excellent and he gives insights into Ignatius, the Jesuits and the Spiritual Exercises, all the time giving wonderful drone footage of places of importance – like Loyola! <https://videos.wordonfire.org/stignatiusfilmscreening>





Gonzaga

St Aloysius' family name was GONZAGA. Whereas in Europe parishes & colleges tend to use the Saint's first name as the dedication, in the US the surname is more frequently employed – as in the Jesuit's **Gonzaga University** in Spokane in Washington State.

St Aloysius' mission to 17th Century plague-victims provoked this strangely off-beat reflection in Religion Unplugged on the Jesuit University's unexpected success in Basketball in times of Covid...
<https://religionunplugged.com/news/2021/3/30/march-madness-why-its-fitting-that-gonzaga-is-favored-to-win-the-ncaa-title-during-a-pandemic>

(What Bishop Barron would make of it is yet to be seen...)

Shirley Williams



In a series in **Unherd** on **The Best Prime Minister We Never Had**, broadcaster **Jenni Murray** (left) chose **Shirley Williams** (right). "I have interviewed a number of leading politicians in my lifetime, and I have never looked forward to those encounters as much as I did when I knew it was Shirley Williams who would be sitting in front of me. I once described her as *"having the word integrity stamped through her like a stick of Blackpool rock"*. I could have added charm, warmth, humour, honour, humanity, knowledge and wisdom to her list of qualities." There is also an interesting link to BBC Radio 3 when **Joan Bakewell** interviews the politician about her beliefs and the way Catholicism has shaped her life.



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01f67zc>

<https://unherd.com/2021/04/the-prime-minister-women-needed/>

Harry Connick Jr

American singer-songwriter **Harry Connick Jr** is another of life's unexpected practicing Catholics. During lockdown he has produced an album of religious music. Jewish roots through his mother have been important to him:

"I think the church manifests itself in my life through the people who have set the best examples for me, like my dad, my sister. My mother—who was raised Jewish and by the time I came around didn't really have a particular church—knew more about the Catholic church than 99 percent of the Catholics I know. And her actions were Christian actions. The kind of faith in God that she and my father had, honestly that probably shaped me more than the church did growing up. Because I learn by observing. I learn more by an example that's been set than by doctrine or the words that are being spoken."

Harry has been interviewed about his new album by various people in the last few weeks. Here are two...

<https://www.americamagazine.org/arts-culture/2021/04/06/harry-connick-jr-catholic-faith-album-pandemic-240395>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/stevebaltin/2021/03/14/sunday-conversation-harry-connick-jr-explores-his-faith-on-thoughtful-and-inspired-new-album>



India's Oldest Political Prisoner



That dubious record goes to the Jesuit priest, **Fr Stan Swamy SJ** who is 84 on the 26th April. To the increasingly intolerant Government of India his work for social justice is a threat. Just before he was arrested he said to colleagues *"What is happening to me is not unique. Many activists, lawyers, writers, journalists, student leaders, poets, intellectuals, and others who stand for the rights of Adivasis, Dalits, and the marginalised... are being targeted and put into jail."* **Jesuit Missions** in London is asking Jesuit Parishes around the UK to write cards & messages for his birthday which they will present to the **Indian High Commission** in London on his birthday make a point to the Indian Government. In **St Aloysius next weekend** we'll try to organise some writing send a packet of cards down to Jesuit Missions...

Could you write something – a card, a postcard, an Easter/Happy Birthday note?