

NEWSLETTER



To the greater glory of God
St ALOYSIUS' CHURCH
a local church founded in 1508

5th WEEK OF EASTER

5th SUNDAY of EASTER 2nd May

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

5th Week of Easter

Monday 3rd May – Saturday 8th May

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

6th SUNDAY of EASTER 9th May

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

Email: Staloysius.garnethill@rcag.org

www.staloysiusglasgow.org

Weekly Sunday Mass on YouTube

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

This Week...

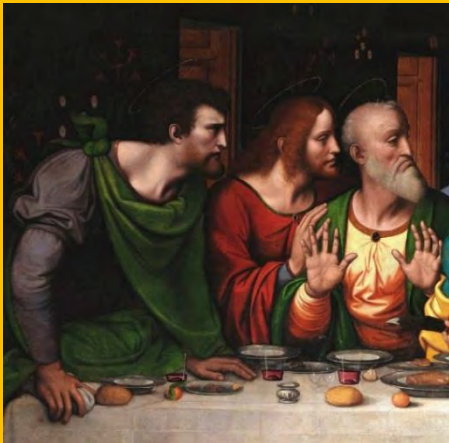
Easter remains the over-riding theme in the liturgy, with just one day emerging differently and that is **Monday 3rd May** which is the feast of **Sts Philip & James**.

Philip (see an imaginative portrait by Rubens to the right) was born at Bethsaida on the edge of the Sea of Galilee and started-out as a disciple of John the Baptist, before moving over to follow Jesus. Philip's Greek name made him a natural conduit for Greek-speakers in Israel to make contact with Jesus – which happened on one occasion in John's Gospel. This "Philip" (the Apostle) is not to be confused with a different Philip (the Evangelist) who appears in **The Acts of the Apostles** and was one of the first 7 Deacons. That Philip came from Caesarea Maritima – the port on the coast of Israel – and according to Acts he was the person who famously converted The Ethiopian (in Acts 8.26-40) and he had "four unmarried daughters who had the gift of prophecy"...

So, I suspect, not a quiet household...



But if you thought that Philip was confusing, try James...



The **James** we celebrate on Monday was, like Philip, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus and is named in the Gospels as '**James, the son of Alphaeus**'. Beyond that we know nothing about him, although legends abound. He is sometimes known as **James the Less** because the more famous "James" among the Twelve was **James**, the brother of John – the 'sons of Zebedee' – fishermen on the Sea of Galilee. *The painting to the left (by Giampietrino after the style of Leonardo da Vinci) shows (l-r) Bartholomew, James, son of Alphaeus & Saint Andrew.*

There was yet another **James** who also appears in **The Acts of the Apostles** and called 'a brother of the Lord' (a relation of Jesus?) who became the leader in the early Church in Jerusalem. There is also a **Letter of James** in the New Testament, but whether it was written by any of the above, or is a 4th James is a point much-debated by Bible scholars.

Time for a quick lie-down in a darkened room.

Church Regulations Update

The upper-limit of numbers to attend **Mass at St Aloysius will be around 75 people**. We have rearranged the white squares ■ around the central body of the Church to expand to the natural limit. We are still required to observe 2m distancing, wearing of face-masks, with the regime of registration at the door & cleaning of the Church after each service etc... The **Side-Chapels**, the **Ogilvie Centre** and the **Toilets** remain off-limits until further notice. **Weddings**, **Baptisms** & **Funerals** can all now technically have an upper limit of 50 people; but because of the associated regulations & cleaning requirements a lower number than 50 might be required.

Our thanks to all those who have been volunteering for the reception and cleaning details – your efforts have kept us open! If there is anyone who could be a regular help with reception & cleaning for the THURSDAY Mass, please let us know!

A Retreat in May..?

...from the Glasgow Jesuit Centre at the ISC

www.onlineprayer.net



Mary in Scripture

Ten stories in the life of the mother of Jesus
With music, art, reflections and Scripture
Get to know the real Mother of Christ through prayer and reflection.

www.onlineprayer.net

Also available on the ISC Online Prayer App

GET IT ON Google Play Download on the App Store

Available from the 1st of May
Jesuits in Scotland - Ignatian Spirituality Centre

Blessed Jose from Venezuela



South American beatifications appear to be like buses... weeks go by with nothing, then suddenly, with the Guatemalans last week, they all turn up at once. We can now add to their numbers with **Dr José Gregorio Hernández** from Venezuela. He was renowned as a doctor during the Spanish Flu Pandemic in 1919 and since the time he died in that same year he has had a huge local devotion to his cause. In 1964 the Venezuelans even devoted a stamp to him.

A nice in-depth report on the life of Blessed Jose in the BBC news...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-56929767>



Cameroon



Not often mentioned in our British news, but there is has been a violent conflict escalating in Cameroon for many years now. **The National Catholic Reporter** (in the US) interviewed several Catholic bishops in Cameroon's English-speaking regions who have sharply criticised the Cameroonian President's campaign to quell an independence movement in those regions. "Violence only begets violence" says retired **Archbishop Cornelius Eua** to the NCR. "The moment the government started using live bullets on peaceful protesters, it was evident that things would simply go out of hand."

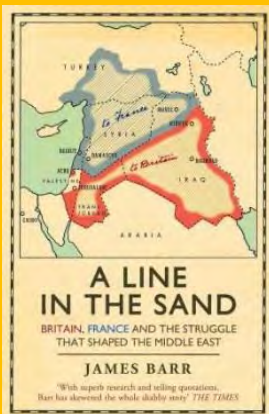
<https://www.ncronline.org/news/justice/cameroon-bishops-criticize-violent-campaign-quell-independence-movement>



A Line in the Sand?

The Cameroon problems illustrate the problems caused in Africa by the European Powers dividing up the globe into spheres of influence, so it might be interesting to read (on **The Jesuit European Social Centre website**) a review of a recent book called "**A Line in the Sand**" which analyses the 1916 **Sykes-Picot** division of the Middle East by the French and the British Empires from which many of the present Near Eastern conflicts find their roots.

<https://jesc.eu/a-line-in-the-sand/>



Stand with Stan



Last Monday **Jesuits of the British Province** and members of the **Jesuit Missions** team (photo left) gathered outside the Indian House to express their support for **Fr Stan Swamy SJ** and to hand over some 2000 birthday cards (photo below) to the Indian High Commission. They were not accepted. So, Jesuit Missions will now be sending them directly to India in the hope that Fr Stan will be able to receive some of them in his prison cell. **Thank you for all at St Aloysius who wrote a card!** The campaign on behalf of Fr Stan (and the hundreds detained by similar draconian laws in India) is now international and has been reported by the press around the world, including **The Times of India**, **The Economist** and **The Washington Post**. Even the Vatican website is reporting Stan's birthday...

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-04/stan-swamy-india-94th-birthday-in-prison.html>



Laudato Si'

There is a valuable little series on BBC radio entitled "[39 Ways to Save the Planet](#)". Planned with the **Royal Geographic Society**, the BBC is highlighting problems and potential solutions

which each of us can be conscious of and perhaps help steer our world into a more healthy environment. One episode, for example, focusses on **FRIDGES**. The world's freezers, fridges and air conditioning units are chilled by gases that are hundreds (or even thousands) of times more damaging than carbon dioxide. Disposed of properly they're not a problem, but they are often dumped or recycled and the gases vent into the atmosphere. One coolant gas, called R12, has a global warming potential almost 10,000 times that of CO₂. A single 30lb canister of this gas contains the equivalent of 131 tonnes of CO₂. That is the equivalent of an average UK car driving just over a million kilometres. Have a listen...



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000v89m>

Michael Collins RIP

Astronaut **Michael Collins** died from cancer this week aged 90. Collins was the quietly-spoken pilot of the **Apollo 11** Command module ("Columbia") that orbited the Moon whilst Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walked on the Moon in 1969. Collins contributed an essay to **The National Geographic** in 2019. It is an engaging meditation on the relationship between himself and the Command Module, which he helped bring-to-birth in its manufacture and which then carried him safely on his lunar orbits. It says a lot about how we, as humans, instinctively connect with 'inanimate' world...

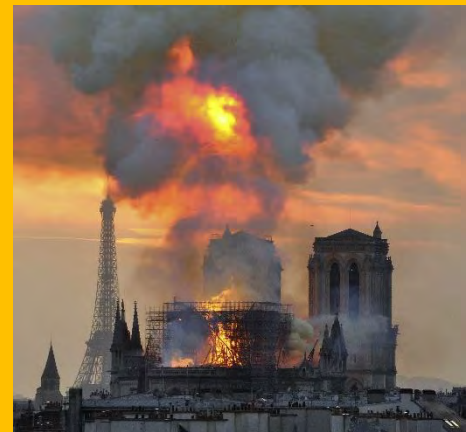
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/article/dear-columbia-apollo-11-astronaut-michael-collins>



The Night Notre Dame Burned

Hidden away on the back-pages of the iPlayer is a rather gripping **BBC Storyville** documentary that tells the dramatic tale of the fire on 15 April 2019 at **Notre-Dame Cathedral** in **Paris**. The French documentary makers – the Naudet Brothers – who recorded the collapse of the Twin Towers on 9/11 in New York – were at the scene and their film follows the unfolding disaster with the team of firefighters as they face the challenges & dangers. The film weaves in interviews with the Mayor, the firefighters, the medics, the architects and the priest-in-charge.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000pic9>



Why is Our Lady Knitting?

Like many traditional domestic crafts, knitting has experienced a huge surge in popularity in the 21st century and especially in lockdown.. But the **history of hand-knitting** is still relatively obscure. The oldest knitted artefacts are Coptic socks (!) found in Egypt dating from the 4th Century AD... but although they look like modern-day knitting, they're actually made using a technique called 'nalebinding' or 'needle-binding'. Isn't this Newsletter an education?

So, what then are the real origins of knitting? Why does it go up and down in fashion? How did it develop differently in Peru (below) & the Fair Isles in Shetland? Did it help Norway to gain independence? And why in Medieval paintings is Mary often seen to be knitting?

(see to the left the beautiful **Buxtehude Madonna** painted by Master Bertram of Minden around 1400)

A recent episode of the **BBC World Service** series "**The Forum**" decided to draw in a panel of experts together and explore these questions... <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3ct1rlo>

With a little more detail on **Our Lady knitting** this link might also be of interest...

<http://needleprint.blogspot.com/2011/05/sacred-history-of-knitting-and-free.html>

