

# NEWSLETTER



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

## PENTECOST SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

## 8<sup>th</sup> Week of the Church Year

Mon – Sat

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

## TRINITY SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Staloysius.garnethill@rcag.org)

Website: [www.staloysiusglasgow.org](http://www.staloysiusglasgow.org)

## Weekly Sunday Mass on YouTube

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

## This Week...

To get a taste of the distinctly unique traditions attached to **PENTECOST**, the Catholic website 'The Pillar' offers a colourful set of insights & customs associated with this day that brings Easter to a close:

... **Rose petals, the Upper Room, the Fire** ... and **The Three Kneeling Prayers** (!) of the Byzantine Liturgy...

<https://www.pillaratholic.com/p/the-time-for-pentecost-was-fulfilled>

With the passing of Pentecost our liturgical colours go back to 'normal'... or as the liturgy of the Church describes it (rather unromantically) as '**Ordinary Time**'. Visually the past 6 months have been changing with **Advent** (violet), Christmas (white), **Lent** (violet) **Easter** (white & gold) and **Pentecost** (red) dominating, it will be a shock to move into **GREEN**. But Trinity Sunday (next week) and Corpus Christi (the week after) will somewhat delay that dynamic on Sundays as they are both **White** vestments!

In this coming week, **St Philip Neri** (the cheerful and laid-back contemporary and friend of St Ignatius) has his Memorial on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May.

## Bigotry in Scotland..?

In **The Tablet**, (the British Catholic Weekly Magazine) **Andrew Brady** writes a challenging piece stimulating people to be less passive when encountering public bigotry...

<https://www.thetablet.co.uk/blogs/1/1795/why-it-s-time-to-call-out-anti-catholic-bigotry-in-scotland>

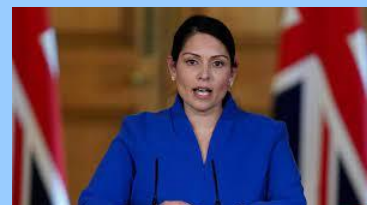
THE  
TABLET

## Refugees...

The events in **Pollockshields** last week, where staff from the Home Office's **Immigration Enforcement** department were thwarted by local Glaswegians in attempting to remove two long-term refugee residents, highlighted how Government policies can actually be at odds with a more nuanced public mood. This interesting piece by **The Conversation**...

<https://theconversation.com/how-british-community-groups-are-helping-refugees-integrate-and-the-government-is-making-it-harder-151968>

...Meanwhile, the **United Nations** has warned that UK Home Secretary, **Priti Patel**, that her recently-announced '**New Plan on Immigration**' will 'damage lives' and 'undermine international cooperation'. The warning- issued by the **UNHCR** follows on criticisms of the Home Secretary's proposals, with the Law Society of England & Wales also highlighting the 'serious threat' posed to the rule of law. The UN's refugee agency has 'deep concerns' regarding the proposed two-tier asylum system, and has labelled the approach 'discriminatory'. It has also asked the Home Secretary to rethink the plans. See <https://assessments.org.uk/un-issues-warning/>



## "The Truth Will Set You Free..."

"In our country the lie has become not just a moral category but a pillar of the state." This quote from Russian dissident Alexander Solzhenitsyn is cited by the Benedictine **Sr Joan Chittister** in her reflections on the ousting of US Senator, Liz Cheney (right), from a senior role in the Republican Party because she would not perpetuate a lie.

Sr Joan points out that there are wider implications for Truth in our contemporary politics...

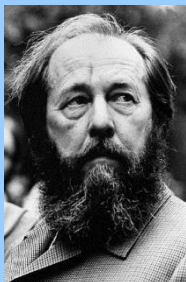
<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/where-i-stand/liz-cheney-challenges-us-whom-shall-we-stand>



## Fr Stan Swamy failing...

A recent report from **The Hindu** shows the 84 year old imprisoned Jesuit to be in very poor health... Also UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, **Michelle Bachelet** particularly expressed concern over three "vaguely defined laws" that are "increasingly being used to stifle these voices". Criticizing the **Unlawful Activities Prevention Act** that has been widely criticized for its lack of conformity with international human rights standards, Bachelet's office urged the Indian government to "release people charged under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act for simply exercising basic human rights that India is obligated to protect".

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/activist-stan-swamy-seeks-interim-bail-says-he-cant-walk-or-eat/article34613077.ece>



“First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist.  
 Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade unionist.  
 Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew.  
 Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.”

Martin Niemöller



## Scottish Bishops & The Care of Creation

It is not often that the Scottish Bishops get mentioned on the Vatican website, but it happened a few days ago when they flagged-up the news that the BCOS had announced that a **Care of Creation Office** is being established.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-05/scotland-bishop-establish-care-of-creation-office.html>



## Visiting the Pope...

In Rome itself, Senator John Kerry (President Biden's Special Envoy for the Climate) was seeing the Pope and was interviewed about the visit and the preparations for November's COP 26 Meeting in Glasgow... This was a short Vatican video interview with the veteran politician...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9j2bcOloiA>



## For Peat's Sake

This gently academic piece might is a timely article on getting good eco-composting materials for a garden without encouraging the destruction of the delicate Peat bogs...

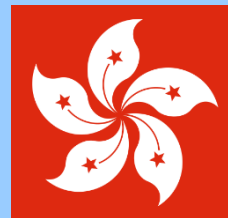
<https://theconversation.com/peat-compost-to-be-banned-luckily-green-alternatives-are-just-as-good-for-your-garden-160315>



## A Poisoned Chalice...?

Given the precarious state of democracy, the erosion of human rights and the fragility of the Chinese Government's relationship to Christianity, it must be one of the most difficult and potentially hazardous leadership roles in the contemporary Church: Pope Francis has named the Chinese Jesuit Provincial, Fr Stephen Chow SJ, (left) as the next **Bishop of Hong Kong**.

The Vatican news gives a short biography – keep him in your prayers.  
<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-05/pope-francis-names-chow-sau-yan-bishop-hong-kong.html>





## 500 years

In **May 1521**, while defending the citadel of Pamplona from the invading army, **Iñigo López de Oñaz y Loyola** lost an argument with a French cannon-ball and it marked the place and time when his life changed. Internationally the Jesuits are using the coming year to reflect on this momentous event in the life of the man who became **St Ignatius of Loyola**.

Perhaps to have a glance at this engaging little video of his life? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oeq8p687RIY>

## The DSS & the O.T.

**The Old Testament** comes down to us in two different ways – through the **Hebrew** version (sometimes known as the Masoretic text) and through the **Greek** version (known as the Septuagint). Although we instinctively might think that the Hebrew is the 'better' version, the Greek translation (done by Jewish scholars 200 years before Jesus) is sometimes more reliable – and, in fact, when people like St Matthew and St Luke quote the Old Testament in their Gospels they often do it from the **Greek Septuagint**. A regular Bible question is: how do the **Dead Sea Scrolls** (see one left) assist in the exploration of the Old Testament?

This short piece from the Biblical Archaeology website might be of interest...

<https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/biblical-topics/bible-versions-and-translations/the-original-bible-and-the-dead-sea-scrolls/>

## People of the Book

**Fr Columba Stewart OSB** is a Benedictine monk and he lives & works at **St. John's Abbey** in Collegeville, Minnesota, where he is a professor of theology at St. John's University and the executive director of the **Hill Museum & Manuscript Library** (HMML), the world's largest online repository of ancient Christian and Islamic texts. Over the past 20 years his work has taken him from the Balkans to the Himalayas, from the Sahel region of Africa to the Middle East, placing him into the heart of some of the world's most dangerous conflict & disaster zones dodging various rebels and religious extremists.

**The Smithsonian Magazine** has just published a wonderful profile of Fr Stewart and his ministry to help Buddhists, Muslims and Christians rescue some of the world's precious manuscripts (such as the Armenian Gospel of St Mark, above right) from decay and destruction.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/mission-father-stewart-180977698/>

## The Puppet Master of Gaza

The conflict in Israel/Palestine over the last couple of weeks once more finds the homeless, the rootless, the voiceless & the poor suffering at the hands of people who worship power. For a parallax view to what is going on, this piece from the **Comboni Sisters** might give a few insights into things on the ground...

<https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/comboni-sister-jerusalem-escalated-violence>

But for something gently uplifting, go no further than this video from **America Magazine** about the **local puppeteers** trying to soothe the traumatised children in Gaza...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXilobbMjY>

