

NEWSLETTER



To the greater glory of God
St ALOYSIUS' CHURCH
a Jesuit church founded in 1908

16th Sunday of the Year (18th July).

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

16th Week of the Church Year

Mon-Sat: open for registration & Confessions at 11.45am, with Mass at 12.15pm

Thursday 22nd July: St Mary Magdalene

Friday 23rd July: St Bridget

Saturday 24th July: St Sharbel Makhlof

17th Sunday of the Year (25th July)

Sunday 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: Staloyisius.garnethill@rcag.org

Website: www.staloyisiusglasgow.org

Archive of Sunday Masses on YouTube

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

This week...

As you will have heard, the Scottish Government are loosening the lockdown regulations somewhat. Glasgow moves to Level Zero (slightly confusingly, zero is not nothing... Although perhaps **Melvin Bragg** might be able to help us on this...? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p00ty234>)



Anyway... for the Churches **ZERO does not change things radically** – we still have to register names, wear masks, sanitise hands, socially distance and clean the Church – but from Monday 19th July two changes will make an impact:

1. Reducing the physical distance to 1 metre between people will raise the **St Aloysius capacity to 110 people**
2. We can start to sing – but with masks!



Mary Magdalene's Feast Day is during this coming week. "Magdalene" is not a surname, but almost certainly an indication of where she was from – **Mary of Magdala**. Magdala was a village (left) on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee which was thriving around the time of Jesus. Magdala means 'tower' and was a place where fish caught from the Lake were processed. Titus – the Roman commander and later the Roman Emperor – led a sea & land battle against the Jewish Zealot militia around AD 70 and from that time the town was left derelict. <https://ancientneareast.tripod.com/Magdala.html>



Finding God in All Things...

LOST: The Foreign Aid Vote

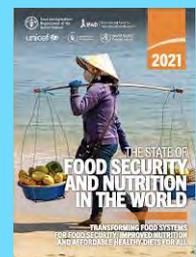
Aid agencies warn that many thousands will die as a result of harsh cuts to the UK's aid budget voted in by Westminster MPs on Wednesday last week. In spite of appeals from charities and faith leaders, there were 333 votes to 298 – a majority of 35, in favour of the government's plan to slash its international development budget.

Pete Moorey, Christian Aid's head of UK advocacy and campaigns, said: **"This reckless and controversial vote will essentially decimate aid for years to come. Rather than listening to current and former archbishops, cardinals and church leaders across the UK, this last minute vote speaks of a government trying to escape its responsibilities to the world's poorest people."** From Independent Catholic News... <https://www.independentcatholicnews.com/news/42623>



811 Million

Nearly 10% of the world population – up to 811 million people – were undernourished in 2020, said the United Nations latest edition of the **State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World SOFI** released on Monday. It projected that, due to the lasting effects of Covid-19 on global food security, around 660 million people may still face hunger in 2030 – 30 million more people than in a scenario in which the pandemic had not occurred. This piece on the Vatican website... <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/world/news/2021-07/uk-aid-budget-cut.html>



EU announces radical plans for the care of the environment

The European Union has announced a raft of climate change proposals aimed at pushing it towards its goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. As the **BBC's Environment Correspondent**, Matt McGrath, comments:

"The scale of this 12-pronged plan is breathtaking. It will likely have an impact on every citizen of Europe in almost every aspect of their lives. The scope is so huge because the target is so tough. The ambitious package will now face months of negotiations with member states, with poorer countries wary of new policies that could raise costs for consumers. The commission is betting that instead of hordes of yellow-vest protesters taking to the streets, citizens will be willing to pay a price for cleaner air, lower emissions, and more sustainable lifestyles. The rest of the world will watch this huge gamble with interest."

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-57853807>

Catholicism & Joe Biden

Media organisations can tend to get rather lost on the complexities of religious matters and often end up painting a simplified (i.e. wrong) picture which is made up of brightly coloured extremes. The BBC's **Tara McKelvey** has a valiant shot at trying to work through one of the issues that is exercising some American Catholics at the moment... <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-57825509>



Canada Schools



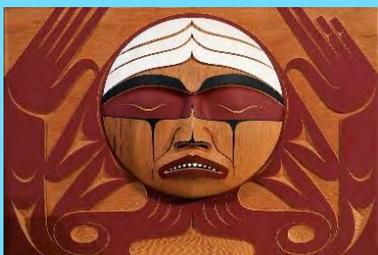
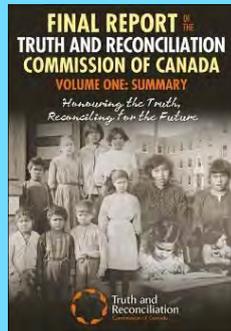
As you might know there has been a lot of disturbing reports on the news regarding the Indigenous Schools in Canada and the discovery of ‘unmarked graves’. Two valuable pieces emerged this week which shed light on both the historic story and the somewhat complex situation of present-day Canadian politics.



The [first](#) is an background piece from the [Archdiocese of Toronto](#) outlining some of the key historical facts and the unfolding stages of the present ‘revelations’ which have emerged over the last 30 years.
<https://www.archtoronto.org/en/outreach/news/archdiocesan/background-for-catholics-residential-schools/>

The [second](#) is a piece on the website [First Things](#) is by [Douglas Farrow](#) who is Professor of Theology and Ethics at McGill University. He tries to sift through the facts, the fictions and the agendas.

“...In the public mind, naturally, these things tend to run together: child seizure, child neglect, child abuse, child deaths. They need to be separated out if each is to be given the attention it deserves.



“Unfortunately, the present campaign seems more interested in manipulating public sentiment than in achieving public clarity. Information on local gravesites has been dropped piecemeal into the collective psyche, as if these finds represented new and shocking knowledge rather than confirmation of things already established. Little effort has been made to explain that what Professor Scott Hamilton called for six years ago, during the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) hearings, is finally being undertaken. Indeed, the ignorant are being left to think that we are only now discovering that a great many children died during the course of their residential school education.

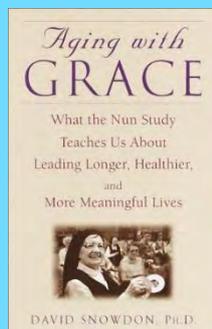
‘Lines are being blurred, categories confused... The fires this campaign has provoked and the hatred for Christians (especially Catholics) it has fanned cannot be deemed so much unfortunate collateral damage. Sentiment is a dangerous thing. Truth and reconciliation both suffer when it is weaponized.” <https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2021/07/the-history-of-canadas-residential-schools>

The Nun Study



When it comes to aging gracefully, nuns could teach the rest of us a thing or two, writes [Elizabeth Evans](#) for the [Global Sisters Report](#), as she reviews a 20 year old study done by Dr David Snowdon which is still generating interest among neurologists and other scientists looking for clues to stemming diseases like Alzheimer's. The so-called “Nun Study” relied on the donated brains of sisters who had agreed that he and other scientists could study them to learn more about the causes and effects of Alzheimer's disease on that organ. Based on 25 years of research on a population of 678 American School Sisters of Notre Dame (Snowdon notes a remarkable 66% of eligible nuns participated), the report was written in accessible prose suitable for readers eager to glean the secrets of healthy aging. The volume was titled: *Aging with Grace* and was published in 2001. (To the left, the Time Magazine cover from the story in 2001)

<https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/news/news/20-years-later-lessons-aging-nun-study-resonate-today>



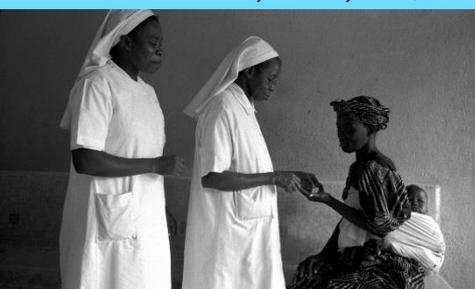
Religion in International Development



A very thoughtful essay on the Aeon website by [Manini Sheker](#), (left) who points out that suspicion (by some secular agencies and NGOs) that religion is bad actually hampers the work for the poor and the marginalised...

For the most part, the development establishment has been suspicious of religion, a nervousness only exacerbated in recent years by the rise of religious extremism...

Yet religion does not appear to be going anywhere. It remains a potent force in public life, whether it be for peasants pressing for land reforms in Brazil or women mobilising *en masse* to end civil war in



Liberia. And more crucially, for the majority of people in the world faced with suffering and the perennial uncertainties of life, religion can bring comfort, understanding and identity. In 2000, when the World Bank spoke to women and men from 60 countries about what really mattered to them, they said living in ‘harmony’ with the transcendent mattered to them. A widow from Bangladesh, for instance, said that time for prayer was as essential to her welfare as a full stomach and mat to sleep on. For some, a meaningful life might even be the most basic human need.”

<https://aeon.co/essays/is-there-a-role-for-religion-in-international-development>

a 3000 year old Jug

A pottery fragment recently found in Israel bears the name **Jerubbaal**—a nickname for **Gideon**, who appears in the Book of Judges. Archaeologists in southern Israel have found a 3,100-year-old fragment of a jug with five letters written in ink that appear to represent the name Jerubbaal. In the biblical Book of Judges, the name Jerubbaal is used as a nickname for the Judge—a charismatic leader—Gideon ben Yoash. Although it is unlikely that the name refers to the Judge, this is the first time the name has been recorded outside of the Biblical text.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/3000-year-old-jug-holds-name-biblical-judge-180978159/>



St Mungo's Museum

St Mungo's Museum of Religious Life and Art, named after the saint who brought Christianity to Scotland in the sixth century, closed due to lockdown last March. St Mungo's was created with support from Glasgow's diverse religious communities to promote mutual understanding and respect between people of different faiths and none.

Campaigners at Interfaith Glasgow are concerned that the museums operators, Glasgow Life, have not announced a reopening date for the museum despite opening other venues across the city. "This isn't the first time Glasgow City Council has tried to close St Mungo's," said Sr Isabel Smyth, who has been involved with St Mungo's since its establishment. "Last time it was saved by the city's faith communities. We can save it again."

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42641>



Faith & Football

With a nod towards the Marist roots of Celtic Football Club along the way, **Dan Jackson** explains how the England 2020 Euro squad was the most Irish, and the most Christian, for years.

"Every morning during the 1966 World Cup campaign, Nobby Stiles would rise early and walk the short distance from the England team hotel in Hendon, north London, to St Edward the Confessor's church in Golder's Green to attend mass. It's said that on the morning of the final itself he made his Confession and was therefore in a state of grace before locking horns with Franz Beckenbauer on the hallowed turf of Wembley..."

<https://unherd.com/2021/07/how-england-and-ireland-made-the-three-lions/>



Ethical Chocolate – how to do better?

Certification schemes such as Fairtrade, which aim to encourage responsible sourcing, appear to be failing. Some well-known chocolate brands such as **KitKat** have actually dropped ethical labels and self-certification has become increasingly popular, with the likes of the company which owns **Cadbury Dairy Milk**. But research suggests a solution could now be within reach, with a reliable system that tracks the journey from cocoa trees to the chocolate in your fridge. A helpful piece from **The Conversation**...

<https://theconversation.com/chocolate-a-new-way-to-make-sure-your-favourite-bar-is-an-ethical-treat-163687>



The Master

Sharp-eyed parishioners will recognise **Br Rene de los Reyes SJ** from the Jesuit community in the photo. Wading through the London floods, Rene made his way to **Roehampton University** this last week to formally graduate with an **MA in Theology, Ecology & Ethics** for which he was studying for in the 2019-20 academic year! Congratulations!

Aloha?

She was a **Hawaiian Princess** with a Scottish father who resisted the evangelical missionaries in their attempts to stamp-out surfing. She was beautiful, intelligent, a friend of Robert Louis Stevenson and she struggled against wayward politicians and corrupt businessmen in an attempt to retain the **Kingdom of Hawaii**.

She died when she was just 23.

She was **Princess Ka'iulani**.

The story is just waiting for **you** to write the screenplay...

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/hawaii-crown-princess-kauiulani-surfer>

