

NEWSLETTER



To the greater glory of God
St ALOYSIUS' CHURCH
a Jesuit church founded in 1528

17th Sunday of the Year (25th July).

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

17th Week of the Church Year

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

Monday 26th : Sts Joachim & Anna

Thursday 29th : St Martha, Mary & Lazarus

Saturday 31st : St IGNATIUS of LOYOLA

18th Sunday of the Year (1st August)

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

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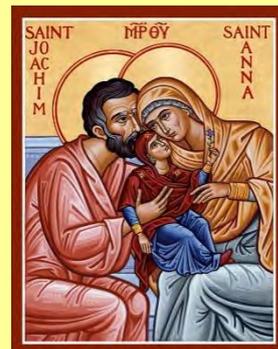
Website: www.staloysiusglasgow.org

Archive of Sunday Masses on YouTube

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

This week...

Sts Joachim & Anna are the names given (by tradition/legend) to the parents of **Our Lady**. She had parents, she was obviously well raised, so it is good to celebrate their presence in the History of Salvation even if information about their lives might have faded from recorded history.



*“Martha, Martha,
you are anxious and worried
about many things.
There is need of only one thing.
Mary has chosen the better part
and it will not be taken from her.”*
Lk 10:41-42

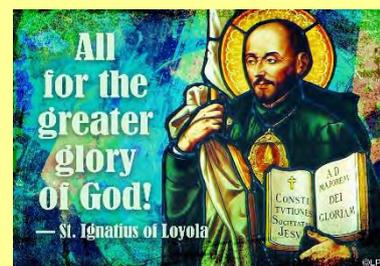
Traditionally 29th July was the feast of **St Martha**, but on 26 January 2021, Pope Francis decreed the feast should now be dedicated to **Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus**, two sisters and their brother, friends of Jesus from Bethany (John 11)

Lazarus was a quiet sort, but why was the original feast at least not Martha & Mary?

A good question. There are at least 6 distinct “Marys” mentioned in the New Testament (three of them were around the cross on the day of the Crucifixion), and this can be confusing. We tend to simplify complications: for example, in making a film about Jesus, writers reduce the number of characters and for the Marys (lest the script be so awash with Marys it becomes like Wicker Island), they often bundle all of them into just two movie characters – Mary, the mother of Jesus; and Mary Magdalene.

So, the short answer to the good question is that historically people merged **Mary of Bethany** and **Mary Magdalene** into the same person, and MM had her feast last week on the 22nd July.

On the last day of the July, next Saturday, it is the Feast Day of **St IGNATIUS of LOYOLA** the Founder of the Jesuits!



Please remember to pray for those of our parishioners who have health problems, especially...

Frank Bell ... David Chadwick ... Bernadette Donaghue

Finding God in All Things...



“Where is our shared sense of humanity?”

JRS has condemned plans put forward in Westminster of the **UK Nationality and Borders Bill** which seeks to punish people seeking safety in the UK, and risks violating international refugee law.

The Bill is a key instrument in a wider overhaul of the asylum system proposed in the Government's New Plan for Immigration, which has been widely condemned. JRS maintains that this legislation shows no respect for human dignity, justice, or the protection of human life. **Sarah Teather**, Director of JRS in the UK said: **“Punishing people seeking safety for how they travelled to the UK is a shameful violation of our commitment to international law & puts many more lives at risk. These abhorrent plans place unrealistic expectations on torture survivors and trafficking victims and treat those who are most vulnerable with deliberate contempt and suspicion. The government knows these plans are unworkable, immoral, and will ultimately build more walls to sanctuary. Where is our shared sense of humanity?”** <https://www.jrsuk.net/contact-us/our-mp/>



On this topic, see also **Seeking Sanctuary** has set out facts and figures to counter many of the misleading claims made to justify the need for yet another Bill.

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42670> While the immigration specialist **Peter William Walsh** from **Oxford University** tries to put the situation in context in **The Conversation...** <https://theconversation.com/uk-nationality-and-borders-bill-qa-how-will-it-affect-migration-across-the-english-channel-164808>

Trafficking

Another consequence of the forced movement of people is their easy ensnarement into Trafficking. **Between 20 and 40 million people are estimated to be trapped in modern slavery today.** Unknown to us we live side-by-side (on Sauchiehall Street? in Tesco's? etc...) with many victims who are exploited for labour, for prostitution, for the profitable organ trade. **Pope Francis has repeatedly denounced human trafficking as a scourge and a crime against humanity.** **Talitha Kum**, the Catholic global anti-trafficking network against trafficking in people, has launched a new campaign focused on a care-centred model to break the cycle of human trafficking...

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-07/talitha-kum-human-trafficking-campaign-care.html>



Catholics & Buddhists

Catholics and Buddhists in Vietnam's central provinces are passing on the kindness and generosity they received during last year's floods by helping people affected by a stubborn outbreak of coronavirus in **Ho Chi Minh City**. Catholic dioceses, communities, a Caritas unit and a Buddhist pagoda are extending all help possible, from cooked food, medical supplies, agricultural produce and voluntary donations to the southern city, formerly called Saigon. "We have shipped 2,000 kilograms of fish to people there since we started our service on July 6," said Mary Nguyen Thi Lai, a volunteer at the Catholic Mothers Association in Thua Thien Hue province.

<https://www.uanews.com/news/kindness-shines-amid-floods-and-pandemic-in-vietnam/21407>



Jesuits in Afghanistan

The Jesuits went to Afghanistan in 2004 to join hands with the Afghans in rebuilding the war-ravaged nation through education. The **Jesuit Refugee Service** stepped in to educate the youth, focusing on internally displaced persons, returnees from neighbouring countries and other vulnerable sections of the host society. In collaboration with local staff, the Jesuits trained more than 300 teachers and through them were educating more than 25,000 young boys and girls in four provinces. Young girls were major beneficiaries of the Jesuit mission in a country still haunted by memories of the Taliban's misogynist rule before it was toppled in 2001. A report from the UCA about the uncertainty of the future...

<https://www.uca-news.com/news/indian-jesuits-brace-for-fallout-of-us-pullout-in-afghanistan/21327>



The Latin Mass

Pope Francis has issued a decree returning to bishops their traditional authority over the liturgy that is celebrated in their dioceses - the same authority they had under Pope John Paul II. The bishops can still allow the celebration of the old Mass where they judge there is a pastoral need. Fr Thomas Reese, an America Jesuit, explains some of the thinking behind this move...

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/opinion/signs-times/latin-mass-not-going-away-8c0011>

Laudato Si & approaching Glasgow's COP26

On 4th October, the Feast of St. Francis, the Vatican department for Promoting Integral Human Development will begin offering a platform for practical planning regarding issues to do with Laudato Si' and the care of our common home.

Have a look at the website being developed... <https://laudatosi-actionplatform.org/>



Re-wilding?

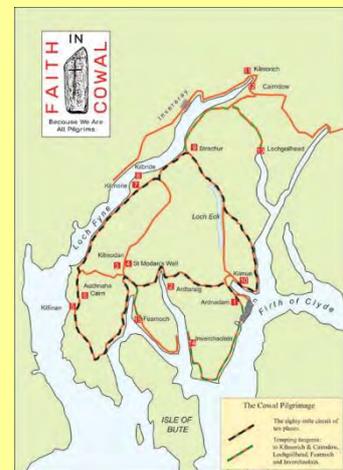
The **Monks Wood Wilderness** experiment (left & right), started - almost accidentally - 60 years ago. A rewilding study before the term existed, it shows how allowing a small piece of land in Cambridgeshire can naturally regenerate can expand native woodland and help tackle climate change and biodiversity loss. <https://theconversation.com/monks-wood-wilderness-60-years-ago-scientists-let-a-farm-field-rewild-heres-what-happened-163406>

Pilgrims in Argyll

A new, short video has been produced that showcases the rich religious heritage and newly established pilgrim routes across Argyll's spectacular Cowal Peninsula.

The **'Faith in Cowal'** project lead, **Dan Romani**, explains: "After launching a network of pilgrim trails in Cowal just a few weeks ago, we've produced a video that we hope will entice people to come and try them out. It reveals fascinating landmarks in all their glory such as Kilmorich church in Colintraive, the carved stones in Kilmodan and Lochgoilhead and Kilmun Church on the banks of Holy Loch, highlighting the natural beauty of the peninsula all the while. There's such a strong footprint of early Christianity in Cowal and we're delighted that this short film brings it to life in such a vivid way."

<https://www.faithincowal.org/>





How a Gravestone saved thousands of lives...

It is a little-known story: how an 18th Century soldier's gravestone in Winchester (left) inspired a 20th Century American soldier (right) to create **Alcoholics Anonymous**.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/the-grave-of-thomas-tetcher>

Catholicism influenced the **12-Step Program** of Alcoholics Anonymous. The soldier, **Bill Wilson**, the founder of AA, had an attraction to the Catholic faith, and even corresponded with Bishop Fulton Sheen. In the early days of AA, a Jesuit priest named **Fr. Edward Dowling** befriended Wilson after reading AA's publication (The Big Book). He saw a similarity between the 12 steps of AA and Ignatian spirituality.

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=703>



What can we learn from the past?

"History is important to collective identity in the same way that memory is important to our sense of ourselves. It is difficult to explain who we are without reference to our past: place and date of birth, class background, education, and so on. A shared history can, by the same token, give us a shared identity... **Culture wars** often focus on rival versions of the past—selecting events and personalities that reinforce our version of who we are and who we want to become."

A thoughtful short essay on the [Oxford University Press](https://blog.oup.com/2021/07/beyond-history-and-identity-what-else-can-we-learn-from-the-past/) blog by **Michael Braddick** who is Professor of History at the University of Sheffield



In the Catechism section 2464 it says: "**The eighth commandment forbids misrepresenting the truth in our relations with others.**" A fascinating experiment reported by the **New Scientist** indicates that **DOGS** tend to ignore suggestions from people who are lying, hinting that – unlike human infants and some non-human primates – they might recognise a person being deceptive, and act accordingly. <https://www.newscientist.com/article/2387611-dogs-will-ignore-you-if-they-know-you-are-lying-unlike-young-children/>

Lie Detectors

In space, no one can hear you scream...

The universe is filled with light, but sound is rare. This is a beautiful little film from Aeon, exploring the sounds in our solar system. What, for example, would be the sound of a piano on Mars be like..?

<https://aeon.co/videos/how-would-a-piano-sound-on-mars-embark-on-an-interplanetary-sonic-journey>



"Who is Scaramouche? And why does he wear a mask??"

Stewart Granger was one of the great swashbucklers of the silver screen. He was born in London, he enlisted in the Gordon Highlanders and was commissioned to the Black Watch in WW2 and later became one of the great Hollywood stars, in roles such as **Scaramouche** (which, at 8 minutes, still contains the longest sword-fight in cinema history!) and **King Solomon's Mines**

In his autobiography ('**Sparks Fly Upwards**' a quote from the **Book of Job**) he poignantly recalls school days in Cornwall...



"Religion should have coloured my life at this period, but I'm afraid it didn't. I think what influences a child with regard to religion is how God is represented in your Church and our representative at school, the clergyman, wasn't very inspiring, in fact he was a crashing bore. Tragic really because we had proof, one Sunday, of what Church could have been..."

Occasionally our Headmaster would invite a special member of the ministry to come and give a sermon, and one day our guest was a Franciscan monk. Why a Catholic was preaching in a Protestant Chapel. I don't know, but there he was. He was a very impressive man, tall, good-looking with a tonsure and flowing dark brown habit with a white cord around his waist. When he spoke he had a beautiful voice, but the astonishing thing was that he told a funny story.

There was a shocked silence. Then he said, "I've just told you what is a very funny story and you didn't laugh. Why? Do you think that you mustn't laugh in God's house? Do you think that he doesn't like to hear laughter? Of course he does. I'll tell it again." And he did and this time we fell about. And after that we listened fascinated to what he said. He didn't preach or sermonise or intone or listen to his own voice, he spoke quietly, simply, and much more important, interestingly.

If he'd been my teacher, I would have had an awareness and love for religion and perhaps I'd have had a faith and belief in something which is sadly lacking in my life today."

