

NEWSLETTER



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

18th Sunday of the Year (1st August).

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

18th Week of the Church Year

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

Monday 2nd: St Pierre Favre SJ

Wednesday 4th: St John Vianney

Friday 6th: THE TRANFIGURATION

19th Sunday of the Year (8th 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

Tel 0141 332 3039

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Website: www.staloyisiusglasgow.org

Archive of Sunday Masses on YouTube

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

This week...

As the calendar on the first page indicates there are a number of saints being celebrated, with the **Transfiguration** towards the end of the week. The name of **St Pierre Favre SJ** might be somewhat unfamiliar, but he was the quiet companion responsible for the bringing together two of the great Jesuit saints – **St Ignatius of Loyola** and **St Francis Xavier** – when the three of them shared a small room in the University of Paris. The rest is history... https://www.thinkingfaith.org/articles/20150802_1.htm



Not a canonised saint, but a remarkable Catholic who died aged 39 on 3rd August 1964, was the American novelist **Flannery O'Connor**. Her novels & short stories were not overtly religious, but she explored the world where grace infiltrates light into some of the darker corners of life. As American Professor Ralph Wood explains it: "Flannery O'Connor is the only great Christian writer this nation has produced. That is an astonishing fact. Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Melville, Twain, Emily Dickinson, Frost, Stevens – not one of them Christian, at least not orthodoxly Christian. She is a Southerner and a Catholic, she's not at the center of American culture, and yet she is our only great Christian writer." A short video on PBS <https://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/2009/11/20/november-20-2009-flannery-oconnor/3043/>

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

Frank Bell... Joe O'Donnell... Alison Stewart...

And both **David Chadwick & Bernadette Donaghue** thank parishioners for their prayers as they continue their recoveries!

Finding God in All Things...

St Simon's, Partick

Sad news from our neighbouring parish in Partick with the gutting by fire of St Simon's Church in the early hours of Wednesday 28th July. As yet the cause is unknown. Built in 1858, St Simon's was the **third oldest Catholic church in the Archdiocese of Glasgow**, after the cathedral of St Andrew's and St Mary's in the east end of the city. The church's links to Glasgow Polish community date back to World War Two when it was used by Polish soldiers based at nearby Yorkhill Barracks.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-57994913>

Scotland's Catholic Heritage

Perhaps this is not a bad time to think about our Catholic heritage in Scotland... and the good news that Blairs Museum, **Scotland's National Catholic Museum** has launched a **brand-new website** featuring an interactive virtual museum and shop, thanks to funding from the Scottish Government's 'Museum Recovery and Resilience Fund' established to protect Scotland's culture and heritage sectors from the impacts of Covid-19.

The new website unites all the collections of the **Scottish Catholic Heritage Collections Trust Museum**, and the historic **Library and Archive** (both of which are on loan to the University of Aberdeen). The website also provides a link to the **Scottish Catholic Archives** at Columba House in Edinburgh. For the story itself see <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42713> and for the Museum website see <https://www.schct.org.uk/>

Vatican Finances

Actually quite a bit on this topic in the last week – exhaustive & exhausting! A number of links for 3 in-depth pieces on the **Vatican News website** – (1) First publishing the **annual accounts** <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2021-07/challenges-in-time-of-pandemic-apsa-pubblica-its-balance-sheet.html> (2) An interview about the **budget/balance** with the Jesuit overseeing them... <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2021-07/holy-see-budget-balance-sheet-2020-interview-guerrero.html> to (3) **The fraud trial** (left) where one Cardinals is in the dock... <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2021-07/first-hearing-held-in-vatican-over-london-building.html>



A nice obituary for a very nice Jesuit.

Father Bernd Hagenkord SJ died on Monday following a brief illness. He was 52. For over a decade Bernd headed the German-language programmes of **Vatican Radio**, and went on to play a leading role in kick-starting and implementing the Holy See's new media reform. He studied Theology in London and had a great love of the British – and he had an encyclopaedic knowledge of Admiral Horatio Nelson!

The thoughtful obit is from the Vatican News. **May he rest in Peace.**

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-07/jesuit-bernd-hagenkord-the-life-of-a-papal-journalist.html>



Mexican Migrants, The Lifeboat Service & Police Scotland?

Protecting the Vulnerable (i)



The **Jesuit Refugee Service** in Mexico called for an investigation on the treatment of migrants and refugees in Mexico after migrants were allegedly **robbed by police in Mexico**. On 22 July, twelve migrants were aggressively searched by four policemen, who stole their money and personal belongings. Volunteers tried to intervene, but were violently repelled by a police officer who claimed that the migrants were in possession of drugs. The incident triggered threats by the police officers against the volunteers, who were also physically assaulted and had their mobile phones, which they were using to record the violence, destroyed. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-07/papua-new-guinea-bishops-migrants-refugees-australia.html>



Protecting the Vulnerable (ii)



The RNLi says it has been "overwhelmed" by a "huge level of support" after it emerged some UK lifeboat crews were being heckled by the members of the public for helping rescue migrants at sea. The lifeboat charity actually received over £200,000 in donations in 24 hours after it posted rescue footage on social media. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-58009696>



Protecting the Vulnerable (iii)



The **Colombian Police** (left) have a poor record in crowd control, so it is good news that **Police Scotland** has been drafted-in to train law enforcement officers from Colombia on preventing violence. Instructors have been delivering online courses from PS's new international academy at the Scottish Police College.

When the academy was officially opened by Nicola Sturgeon, she said: "This work is not about endorsing bad policing practises in other countries, it's about Police Scotland taking their human rights-based approach to policing and spreading that around the world." <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-57976196>



Catholic? Female? Olympic Gold Medal? Weightlifter? from Asia..?



That might seem a rather narrow category, but there are at least TWO...

One is **Hidilyn Diaz** (left) from the Philippines who was wearing her Gold Olympic & Miraculous Medal on her chest; the other was **Kuo Hsing-chun** (right) from Taiwan.



A British Jesuit working in Taiwan wrote that "Kuo is a practising Catholic from an indigenous tribe in the SE of Taiwan. She studied at our Catholic University and last year was made an Associate Professor for her success in sport. She is a very simple, humble person, who donated one of her prizes to buy an ambulance for a small island that needed one." <https://www.ucasnews.com/news/philipino-olympic-golden-girl-thanks-virgin-mary/93483>



Stained Glass

Some of the stained glass at England's **Canterbury Cathedral** may have been created as early as the 1130s – a timeline that might make the panels **the oldest surviving stained glass windows** in Britain. For the study, conservators and scientists investigated a series of 86 windows known as **The Ancestors of Christ** (left).

Most of the glass panels were installed at the cathedral as part of a rebuilding effort following a fire in 1174. But the new analysis finds that several actually date to before the fire, meaning they were probably in place when soldiers serving King Henry II murdered Thomas a Becket at the cathedral's altar in December 1170. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-57768813>



Earth Overshoot Day

EOD moved forward by nearly a month. **Earth Overshoot Day** is the day humanity exceeds its yearly allotment of the planet's biological assets, and is nearly back to its record high. The COVID effect didn't last. What can be done to ease the burden? The table to the right is sobering as it is showing how we are living beyond our means – presently as a planet we need 1.7 Earths. The impressive **Deutsche Welle** (the German World Service) reflects on some of the challenges... <https://www.dw.com/en/earth-overshoot-day-moves-forward-by-nearly-a-month/a-58612967>



How many Earths would we need if the world's population lived like...



Source: Global Footprint Network and Biocapacity Accounts | 2021

"Fire Carrier"



A warm, reflective memoir, on Earthbeat website, by **Jon Magnuson** about **Ted George**, (left) a north American Indigenous leader who died recently...

"One evening, he and I were returning from a conference at the University of Washington. I was driving him to the ferry that left Seattle to cross over to his home on the Kitsap Peninsula. Confessing my unease when he introduced me, earlier, during a **Tekakwitha Conference** (an annual gathering of Indigenous Roman Catholics in North America), I said, "Ted, I'm uncomfortable with the many positive comments you made about me to the workshop participants."

Ted responded with corrective instruction, as always gently delivered: "Jon, in the old, deep traditions of our people, no one ever lifts oneself up. One is expected to always lift up others. When it's time, you will be lifted up. I know that's not the way most people live. But that's our way."

<https://www.earthbeat.org/news/earthbeat/indigenous-leader-ted-george-was-fire-carrier-who-bridged-cultures>



The Glass Octopus

Marine scientists explored for the first time in the remote Phoenix Islands Archipelago in the south Pacific where they conducted high-resolution seafloor mapping of more than 30,000 square kilometres. During the expedition, scientists made two rare sightings of a Glass Octopus (left), a nearly transparent species whose only visible features are its optic nerve, eyeballs and digestive tract. Have a look at some of their footage on Vimeo... <https://vimeo.com/575856093>



Elegant Israeli Sheep

This is a wonderful short video from the Israeli aerial photographer and filmmaker Lior Patel, following the movements of a herd ranging from 1,000 to 1,750 sheep over seven months above the Peace Valley in northern Israel. Patel shows how the animals move like a fluid, giving an insight into dynamics of herding behaviours.

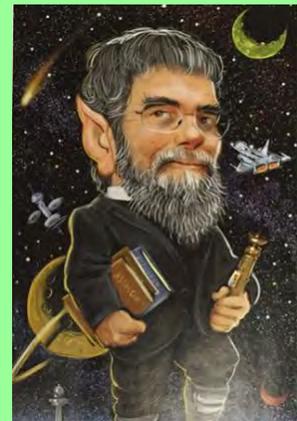
<https://aeon.co/videos/watch-the-elegant-flow-of-a-sheep-herd-seen-from-the-sky-above-israel>



Space... the final Frontier

Amid the conversations regarding Bezos & Branson and **space tourism** and exploration, **Vatican Radio** spoke to **Brother Guy Consolmagno SJ**, (left!) expert astronomer and **Director of the Vatican Observatory** about the implications of travel to new frontiers and whether this will lead to the need for new rules regarding the care for space, just as Pope Francis' **Laudato Si'** Encyclical which asks us to care for our common home: the earth.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-07/consolmagno-outer-space-tourism-laudato-si.html>



1st August 1971

Fifty years ago this weekend, two **Apollo 15** astronauts, mission commander Dave Scott and lunar module pilot Jim Irwin, were walking on the moon. They had landed their lunar module 'Falcon' at the foot of a towering range of lunar peaks called the Apennines. Equipped with a battery-powered car called **The Rover**, Scott and Irwin spent three days exploring a spectacularly beautiful, ancient wilderness. **Literary Hub** have published Andrew Chaikin's classic description of the second of the mission's three moonwalks (on **1st August 1971**) as they drive the Rover up the side of the 11,000-foot mountain called Hadley Delta in search of geologic treasure...

<https://lithub.com/exploring-the-moon-revisiting-apollo-15s-lunar-landing-50-years-later/>



Discernment 101

In the comedy film "**The Man with Two Brains**", the recently widowed Steve Martin comes into contact with the beautiful, but deadly, **Delores** (played by Kathleen Turner, right) and he falls for her charms. He has a niggling worry though, so he reluctantly goes to the portrait of his deceased wife, **Rebecca**, and asks her to give him a sign if it is not okay... Have you ever ignored the obvious? ©

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkcKQmr7kRc>



The Beard Tax?

As part of his 'Europeanising' of the Russian Empire, **Tsar Peter the Great** put a tax on beards in 1714. This led him into conflict with the **Russian Orthodox Church**, which considered uncut facial hair a reflection of piety: man was created in the image of God and that included the beard - to shave it was a grave sin. The Beard Tax was just one way that the Tsar sparred with the Church...

A fascinating piece from the JSTOR...

<https://dailyjstor.org/peter-the-greats-beard-tax/>

