

# NEWSLETTER



To the greater glory of God  
**St ALOYSIUS' CHURCH**  
a Jesuit church, founded in 1505

## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year (22<sup>nd</sup> August).

Morning Masses at 9.30am & 11.00am

Open for registration & Confessions at 9.00am and 10.30am

## 21<sup>st</sup> Week of the Church Year

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

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>: St Bartholomew.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>: St Monica.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>: St Augustine.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year (29<sup>th</sup> 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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New Weekend Timetable

Begins 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> September

Saturday 12.15pm and 5.00pm (Vigil)

Sunday 10.00am, 12noon & 9.00pm

## The Week Ahead...

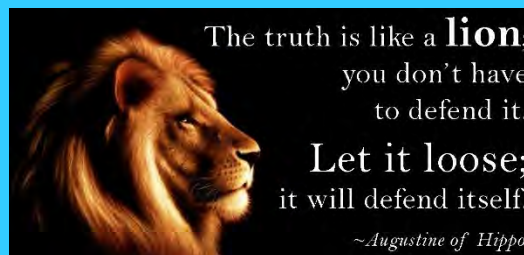
### St Bartholomew

Some scholars identify him with Nathaniel in John's Gospel. An early church history states that after the Ascension, Bartholomew went on a missionary tour to India, where he left behind a copy of the Gospel of Matthew. Other traditions record him as serving as a missionary in Ethiopia, Mesopotamia, Parthia, and Lycaonia. Popular traditions and legends say that Bartholomew preached the Gospel in India, then went to Greater Armenia. Legend has it that he was flayed and beheaded there for converting the king to Christianity. This pious tradition has prompted some artists to some gruesome statues... (see the one to the right in Milan in Italy...) <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/saint-bartholomew-flayed> A monk named **Rahere** is listed as a canon of St Paul's Cathedral in London in a document of 1115. On a pilgrimage to Rome, he fell ill and had a vision of St Bartholomew, who directed him to establish a religious hospital... still today known as '**Bart's Hospital**'



### St Monica & St Augustine

Perhaps no mother, other than the Virgin Mary herself, is considered to have had so much influence on the early Catholic Christian Church, as Monica of Tagaste, north Africa. Saint Monica spent most of her lifetime praying for the Christian conversion of a wayward and worldly son, who eventually became one of the Church's greatest theologians, Saint Augustine. Some critics consider her domineering but most others saw her as a shrewd woman of faith and spiritual anchor for a son whose talents she felt belonged to God and the Church. A crowning moment for Saint Monica was when she saw Augustine finally baptized in the Church. **She died in the year AD 387**. The image to the left is from a Church window in Washington DC depicting these two great African saints.



Please remember...

Our parishioners who have health problems, especially...

Frank Bell... David Chadwick... Joe O'Donnell... Alison Stewart... John McGivern...

And two couples **Colette & John** and **Kathleen & Liam** who are marrying in St Aloysius this week!

And a prayer for **William & Mary Morrison** who were married in St Aloysius 60 years ago - on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1961. Mary died a short while ago, but William came to Mass on Thursday with his daughters to pray on the special anniversary.

**Aleteia**, a website of the Dominicans, has an interesting piece asking 4 married couples in America to reflect on their relationships... <https://aleteia.org/2017/06/04/4-married-couples-share-love-stories-and-lessons/>

## Finding God in All Things...

### Deaths in Sudan

The Pope expressed his deep sadness in receiving news of the "brutal attack" on a group of **Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus** in south Sudan that resulted in the deaths of **Sister Mary Abud (I)** and **Sister Regina Koba (r)**. The two religious sisters were killed following an ambush on the road that connects the South Sudanese capital Juba to Nimule, on the border with Uganda. **The nuns, along with some sisters and several faithful, were returning to Juba after participating in the celebration of the centenary of the establishment of the parish of Loa, in the diocese of Torit, where the church is dedicated to Our Lady of the Assumption. They were traveling on a bus that was attacked by armed men...** <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-08/pope-expresses-grief-over-murder-of-two-nuns-in-south-sudan.html>

The **Global Sisters Report** gives a fuller background...

<https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/news/news/two-nuns-killed-south-sudan-after-vehicle-ambushed-along-highway>

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**



## Dimensions of Afghanistan

The news has been full of the unfolding tragedy and uncertain future following the withdrawal of western troops.

Here are a few aspects that might not have caught your eye...

### Catholics in Afghanistan

The Christian community is very small in the Islamic country, where Afghan people can be ostracized or can even face violence and death for professing the Christian faith. In 2018, there were an estimated 200 Catholics in the country. There is a single Catholic Church, left, located in the Italian embassy in Kabul, which is operated under the Catholic mission of Afghanistan. <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/248697/catholic-charity-concerned-for-safety-of-Christians-in-afghanistan>



### Jesuits in Afghanistan

The Jesuits' links with Afghanistan go back more than 400 years. In 1581, **Mughal Emperor Akbar** (right) took along a Jesuit priest from Agra in northern India to Kabul. A year later, in 1582, Jesuit Brother Bento de Goes stopped at Kabul on his way to China. Following the collapse of the Government, the **Indian Jesuits** and **Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity** (who arrived in Kabul in 2004) have decided to withdraw. A report on the UCA News... <https://www.ucanews.com/news/jesuits-suspend-afghan-mission-as-mums-wait-for-evacuation/95748>



### Hospitality to the Afghans

The one Jesuit Bishop in the British Isles is **Alan McGuckian SJ** (left) whose diocese is in Northern Ireland. In the last few days he has called on Ireland to be welcoming to those who are being displaced by the conflict. He remarked "This unfolding crisis presents Ireland with another opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to the protection of human rights, including access to education for all, and to welcome the stranger among us. As Pope Francis reminds us, we are called respond to such challenges with four actions: welcome, protect, promote and integrate." <https://www.mdcatholicnews.com/news/42864>



### American Jesuit critique of US policy...

American Jesuit journalist, **Fr Tom Reese** writes: "I have seen this movie before. Arrogant Americans come to a country and try to remake it in their own image. They ignore the history and culture of the locals..." Read on... <https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/signa-times/afghanistan-we-made-same-mistake-vietnam>



### Rambo III

Deutsche Welle have come up with a thoughtful list of 10 films about Afghanistan. Thankfully not just Sly in **Rambo III**, but **The Kite Runner** and **The Bread Winner** (image right... produced by Angelina Jolie, which received an Oscar nomination for best animated feature) and a clutch of high quality award-winners which have tried to capture a glimpse of this exotic and wounded land. <https://www.dw.com/en/10-films-about-afghanistan/g-56877711>



### When is an embryo not a baby?

An insightful glimpse into **Planned Parenthood** (America's largest abortion provider) and their insistence of the disconnection between embryo & baby in their pronouncements. The piece illustrates how **Dr Liena Wen** (right) the former President of the organisation who wrote an op-ed piece about her own miscarriage in **The Washington Post** where she said in there that 'her son had lost a little brother or sister' was removed after only 8 months in the job. <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/248679/co-planned-parenthood-managers-they-dont-refer-to-any-unborn-baby-as-a-baby>



### MLK jr

The church (right) in **Montgomery Alabama** where a young **Martin Luther King Jr.** launched his civil rights career is set to become a museum. Toward the start of the Bus Boycott, sparked by **Rosa Parks** (see her sitting front row and centre in the photo on the left) on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1955, a group of local Black ministers and leaders established the **Montgomery Improvement Association** a group tasked with overseeing and organizing the boycotts. Dr King, then a 26-year-old pastor at the nearby Baptist Church, was elected as the organization's president... <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/mlk-church-museum-grant-alabama-civil-rights-bus-boycott-180928446/>



### Like to do some Peace-making?

**Lee McIntyre** is a research fellow at Boston University, Massachusetts wrote a reflective piece in **Nature magazine** about how as a scientist reaching out to people who don't see eye to eye with him as a scientist... <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-02152-0>

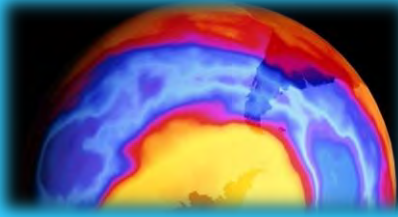
"I've been out there — I talked to flat-earthers at a convention in Denver, Colorado, and went to rural Pennsylvania to talk to coal miners about climate change — and I've asked my scientist friends to come with me. No dice.

*"Those people just aren't worth talking to,"* they'll say. *"I wouldn't make a difference anyway."*

That's wrong, both factually and morally. Those people can and do change their minds, although it requires someone to put in the time to overcome distrust."



## Three Positive Environmental Pieces...



### Remember the Ozone Layer?

In the mid-1970s, scientists realised that the ozone layer was being depleted by the growing use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) as refrigerants and as propellants in aerosol cans, among other applications. With the 1987 signing of the **Montreal Protocol**, which was later strengthened by numerous amendments and ratified by 197 countries, the world phased out CFCs. **Today, CFC levels in the atmosphere are falling and the ozone layer is beginning to recover.**

We CAN make a difference... <https://thecooperation.com/repairing-ozone-layer-is-also-reducing-co-in-the-atmosphere-new-study-166216>

### Hairforce One

In 1989, **Phil McCrory**, a hair stylist in Huntsville, Alabama, was watching CNN coverage of the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska while washing a client's hair in his salon. He knew how easily oil attaches to hair and wondered, **What if human hair could be used to clean-up oil spills?** His salon happened to be close to **NASA's** Marshall Space Flight Center, and its scientists confirmed what the Environment Protection Agency later found to be true as well: **Hair is great at soaking up grease. Each hair adsorbs three to nine times its weight in oil.** Its porous structure is the reason birds and furry sea mammals such as otters are particularly affected by spills: the grease sticks to their feathers and fur. McCrory's idea sparked a worldwide movement...

<https://reasonstobecheerful.world/when-oil-spills-sink-call-in-the-hair-force/>



### The World's Most Hated Insect

The **Smithsonian Museum** has a piece pointing to our over-simplification of the presence of **Mosquitoes** in our world. As they say "Aside from the 100 or so species that commonly spread disease to humans, there are thousands more with fascinating behaviours and gorgeous bodies that we barely understand, yet we still call for their indiscriminate eradication. **Must we also evict the magnificently iridescent mosquitoes whose larvae prey on dangerous species, or the ones that pollinate flowers at night, or the single species known to risk its life to protect its eggs from harm?**" Left - the wonderful bird-of-paradise of the mosquito world, *Sabethes cyaneus* performing a complex dance to attract mates!

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/national-museum-of-natural-history/2021/08/19/secret-life-worlds-most-hated-insect/>



### The World's Most Hated Symbol?

The **Swastika** has a long, complex history – much older than its association with Nazi Germany – dating back to prehistoric times. The emblem was a sign of well-being and long life, and was found everywhere, **from the tombs of early Christians to the catacombs of Rome** and the Lalibela Rock Churches, to the Cathedral of Cordoba. The motif appears to have first been used in Eurasia, as early as **7,000 years ago**, perhaps representing the movement of the sun through the sky... as a symbol of wellbeing in ancient societies. An engaging well-researched piece on the back pages of the **BBC Culture** website...

<https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20210816-the-ancient-symbol-that-was-hijacked-by-nazi>



### Look Who's Tolkien

There is an added thrill to coming across a piece of writing which has grown in significance with time. For example, this is an early book review of **JRR Tolkien's Lord of the Rings** in **The New York Times** by poet **W.H. Auden**...

Dateline 31<sup>st</sup> October 1954

<https://bookmarks.reviews/strap-all-the-ears-w-h-auden-on-the-fellowship-of-the-ring/>

Although Tolkien drew the line at Auden's request to write a book about him... ☺

<https://tumblr.com/blog/jrr-tolkien-blocked-w-h-auden-from-writing-a-book-about-him/>



### Look Who's Tolkien 2

JRR Tolkien was a devout Catholic and sharp-eyed readers of **The Jerusalem Bible** (the translation we still use at Mass) will see him credited as one of the contributors. In a letter in 1967 to friends who saw him thus credited he wrote ...

"Naming me among the 'principal collaborators' was an undeserved courtesy on the part of the editor of the Jerusalem Bible. I was consulted on one or two points of style, and criticized some contributions of others. I was originally assigned a large amount of text to translate, but after doing some necessary preliminary work I was obliged to resign owing to pressure of other work, and only completed 'Jonah', one of the shortest books."

