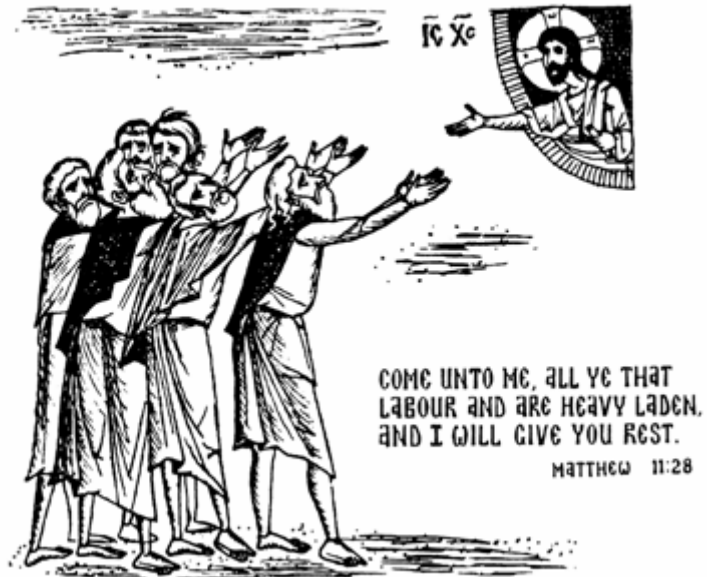


# Church of the Holy Cross

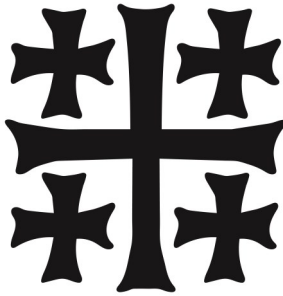
DAVIDSON'S MAINS

EDINBURGH

MARCH 2021



THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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All material should reach the Editor by then.

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## FROM THE RECTOR

Dear friends,

We are well and truly in Lent but, as the Archbishop of Canterbury said recently, it feels like we have been in Lent since March 2020! In the weekly e-news I share the things that are going on at Holy Cross, but here it seemed good to say something about Lent. What is Lent? Christmas is about babies and God becoming human; Easter is about eggs, love overcoming death and Jesus rising from the dead; Advent is preparing for Christmas and looking to the end of the world. What is Lent?

The word itself is from the Anglo-Saxon ‘lencten’, meaning the season of spring. Here we have a good start; Lent is a season of hope at one with the new flowers in the garden and the new vaccines in the clinics. The problem is that Lent is not in the spring in the southern hemisphere so this is not the whole story. The Gaelic for Lent, *An Carghas*, is more helpful. It is from the Latin *quadragesima*, meaning 40th – think of St Patrick saying ‘quaresima’ and an Irishman hearing ‘carhus’. Most languages have a version of this as their word for Lent, like the French *carême* and Italian *quaresima*. Lent is the 40 days before Easter and so it is a preparation for the big event at the heart of Christianity, the death and resurrection of Jesus.

We are a liturgical Church and if we look at the readings and collects for Lent we see that the main theme is the road to the Cross. Here at Holy Cross we use our fine, simple ‘lent array’ vestments which recall sackcloth and ox-blood. If you think this is too much of a gloomy death-fest, remember that the Cross is the road to heaven and eternal life. Even in a minor mode, Christianity is Good News.

Easter is the traditional time for baptisms and Baptism and the Eucharist are the main way we share in the death and resurrection of Jesus to make us ready for heaven. Thus Lent is also in many parts of the world a time of preparation for Baptism and for all of us a time to think about the meaning of our own Baptism.

What about giving up chocolate, you say. The German for Lent is *Fastenzeit* (fasting time) and among Christian Arabs it is *al-ṣawm al-kabīr* (the Great Fast). This expresses an important truth. Jesus was asked why his disciples did not fast and answered, ‘The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast’ (Matthew 9:15). He also, however, gave instructions on how to fast (Matthew 6:16, the gospel for Ash Wednesday) and so, as he is now both absent and present, his disciples should fast some of the time.

It is no surprise, then, that the gospel for the first Sunday of Lent is about Jesus being tempted in the wilderness, where he fasted. We in the West have lost the gift

of fasting, except to lose weight. Eastern Christians and Muslims have a lot to teach us here. At present all I see is church leaders saying that we are having a tough time so we don't need to give things up. I have said the same, but at the back of my mind is the persistent thought that we have got this wrong.

The Ash Wednesday gospel gives us a three-part programme for Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. This turns us to God, our neighbour and to ourselves – the three objects of love in the Great Commandment of Love (Matthew 22:35-40). As well as fasting, Lent is also a time of 'prayer and care', and for both these activities it is a time to take stock of our lives and have a spiritual spring clean.

The lockdown gives us one opportunity here, having sadly cut off our socialising and ability to be together in church. How much time do we give to God? Specifically how much time do we give to God beyond the hour each week when we can normally be with God in church? As all our time is a gift from God it seems rather mean to give him nothing. More positively, if you love someone you want to spend time with them. More practically, regular silent prayer is good for one's mental health and spiritual wellbeing. So, if you don't have a daily time with God, why not give it a try? Undistracted early mornings are best but any time can be good. The daily readings in the Holy Cross kalendar below might give something to chew over in your mind for 15 minutes or so.

Almsgiving is another area where Lent gives a chance to review our life and practice. At my rather secular school we had 'Lenten collections' to raise money for charity, and almsgiving is simply giving money to God, often in the guise of his poorest brothers and sisters. There is an old saying: if you want to see the state of your soul look at your chequebook (you can see it is old as we rarely use cheques today). What you do with your money reveals your priorities. Again, everything we have is a gift from God so it seems rather mean to give him nothing or leave him till last. A serious review of our finances in the light of our circumstances might result in our charitable giving going down as well as up – the important thing is being realistic and generous.

Lent is a good time to review our finances. We give money to God when we give it to charity and to our church. We have to pay the mortgage and provide for our families, but it is good not to leave consideration of God to the stage when we wonder if we might have a bit left over that might go on an extra bottle of wine. Does God get the fag-end of our finances? Much good can also be done when we are gone if we have built church and charity into our wills – we have seen examples of that at Holy Cross. Jesus made generosity with our wealth a very practical proposition when he said, 'make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous mammon (i.e. money) so that when it is gone, they may welcome

you into the eternal homes' (Luke 16:9).

Lent is a time of realism, a time to experience the stark reality of the desert, but I hope that for you and your families and friends it is also a time of joy and grace amidst the problems of lockdown and I pray that we will soon be able to meet again in Church and over a coffee without a screen between us!

With love in Christ,



### **MAGAZINE ONLINE ONLY AGAIN**

Once again the magazine is online only. Please pass on information to anyone who does not have online access.

We hope to be back to normal for the April issue.

### **DIRECTORY**

The new Holy Cross Directory is in hand and will be published when we are back in print.

### **FLOWERS IN CHURCH**

The church remains unadorned throughout Lent, which brings us to the end of March.

#### **Easter Flowers**

We don't yet know if we will be back in church for Easter. Please consult Sarah ([sarahmillee@aol.com](mailto:sarahmillee@aol.com) or 237 5147) about what is happening, or to offer financial, floral or practical help.



#### **Flower Rota**

The Flower Rota for 2021 is on the church noticeboard. Please fill the gaps when you are able.

### **LENTEN ALMSGIVING**

We all have our favourite charities, no doubt. This magazine contains information about several other 'good causes' which we might wish to support this Lent.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

A brief digest of things that have happened in the last three months.

Belatedly I can report that the final total of silver socks donations was just under £400. While this was less than the £564 donated last year it is still a remarkable total given that we have been in lockdown and practically nobody has been using cash so there isn't much silver to collect. A huge thanks again to Jean Kendrew for organising this and to those who contributed.

We had two wonderful evening services before Christmas with readings and music (by professional musicians) organised by Stephen. The cost of these was met by donation from a member of the congregation. These were well attended, and we had a leaving collection for two charities. I'm delighted to report that we raised £380 for the [Pilton Youth & Children's Project](#) (we normally give them the collection from our Christingle Service) and £250 for [Mary's Meals](#) who provide free meals for children in developing countries when they attend school. This donation was doubled by government funding, meaning they received £500.

Our income from hall rentals has stopped again in the latest lockdown but we at least do not have to pay for hall cleaning and have reduced gas and electricity bills. Having said that we have needed to turn up the heating over the particularly cold periods to stop things freezing up. Hopefully, now that the virus appears to be coming under control again and the vaccination process is going so well, we can look forward to a time when the hall is in use and income picks up again.

We have ongoing costs for Stephen's stipend and pension, diocesan quota, insurance, gas, electricity and rectory rates. Nonetheless we still have our monthly income from congregational giving; thanks to so many of you paying by standing orders we will have enough money to keep going for a good long time.

We had a bit of difficulty with the council over an outstanding rates bill for the Rectory. We were exempt when it was empty but were due to pay from the time Stephen, Izzy and Bess took up residence. We never received a bill, so we were unable to set up monthly payments despite numerous emails and telephone calls. We finally heard from the council in November when we received a summons from a debt collection agency threatening to send their agents to seize Stephen and Izzy's furniture! It appears they had been sending the bills for our rectory to Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church by mistake. After the helpful intervention of our local councillor, we have now resolved the issue and paid the arrears.

Finally, I am still pursuing Scottish Power for the refund of overpayments on the Rectory gas and electricity. This has now been going on for over a year.

*Colin Mair*



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday 5th March 2021

The service this year was compiled by the women of **Vanuatu**. The theme of their service is **'Build on a Strong**

### **Foundation'**

The Covid-19 pandemic has meant that the annual ecumenical services held across the world will not be possible in Scotland this year. The decision has been made to have a single service in Edinburgh, which will be broadcast on Zoom, (hosted by the minister of Augustine United Church, George IV Bridge) which will be available by livestream at 2 p.m. on Friday 5th March. It will be recorded and made available later for access on YouTube through a link on the WDP Scotland website, [www.wdpscotland.org.uk](http://www.wdpscotland.org.uk), and also on its [Facebook page](#). Other resources and updates are available on their website.

Holy Cross Church has been allocated ten copies of the printed service booklet, which will be made available for those people who do not have access to the internet at home. If you who would like to have a copy please contact Jean Williams on 0131 339 6584. For those who do have internet access, the order of service is already available on the WDP website to view or print; however, be warned – it is a 28-page document!

The one-click link to the Zoom service was given in the Rector's e-news. Otherwise use **Webinar ID: 895 9398 3883 Passcode: 901656**. Alternatively you can join by phoning **0131 460 1196**, when you will be asked for the above ID and passcode.

### **10 Days of Prayer**

Starting on 23rd February, WDP is planning 10 Days of Prayer which will be posted on their Facebook page and website every morning. They are inviting the national leaders of ten denominations to share a Thought for the Day focusing on Vanuatu, and one of the Scottish Committee will end with a prayer.

If you have any questions, please phone:

Rev Ann Wren on 07900 512062 or Marjorie Paton on 01764 682234.

### **Vanuatu**

Here is some information about the people of Vanuatu. Please keep them in your prayers.

The Republic of Vanuatu was founded on its traditional values, Christian principles and the people's faith in God, gaining independence on 30th July 1980. Vanuatu is a beautiful country of many islands and people of many ethnic groups and languages. The islands have black and white sandy beaches and

beautiful coral reefs with tropical coloured fish. The forests are full of lovely birds, flora, fauna and spectacular cascades.

The inhabitants of Vanuatu are known as Ni-Vanuatu. Most are of Melanesian descent, with a Polynesian minority on the outlying islands. A mix of Europeans, Asians and other Pacific Islanders also live on the archipelago. Studies predict that in 2021 Vanuatu will have 312,000 inhabitants.

Cyclone Harold was a very powerful tropical cyclone which caused widespread destruction in Vanuatu in April 2020, bringing with it concerns that the natural disaster could prevent the Pacific nation from remaining one of the few countries without any confirmed cases of Covid-19. It was the first Category 5 severe tropical cyclone to occur in the South Pacific basin since Cyclone Gita in 2018 and was also the second-strongest tropical cyclone to ever affect Vanuatu, behind Cyclone Pam in 2015.

Vanuatu proudly waves its flag and its coat of arms with the words, ‘In God we stand’; their faith has carried them through.

The Vanuatu Committee’s prayer is that the ecumenical relationship they experienced during the blessing of working together for the 2021 programme will lift up the voice of Vanuatu woman across the world. They stand with the women and men of the world and proudly declare that the Vanuatu nation is built on the Rock of Ages, who is Christ the King.

## **FINANCES**

A major difficulty with online worship is that there will not be an ‘Offering’ (collection) taken, so the finances of WDP will take a severe knock.

**Donations** may be made in three ways:

1. By bank: WDP Scottish Committee;  
Sort code: 83-06-08; Account number 00697438
2. By cheque to: WDP Scottish Committee Treasurer, Delnapot, Blacksboat, Moray AB37 9BQ
3. By clicking on the ‘donations’ section of their website, then paying by PayPal or card.





## **BISHOP'S LENT APPEAL 2021 TOGETHER IN UNITY**

*Bishop John writes:*

‘Like so much else, our Lent Appeal this year must take account of the pandemic.

Many congregations are responding generously to local need, such as foodbanks and support services for the lonely and the anxious and I hope this will continue into Lent and beyond. My concern is that this focus on the local and personal, on simply getting through the crisis, takes our attention away from pressing needs in other parts of the world, where there is no NHS, no benefits safety-net and where life is constrained by poverty. Hence my proposal that this year we support a single, outward-looking cause.

The Together in Unity Appeal was set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury to support virus prevention and emergency relief for vulnerable communities across the Anglican Communion. At a time when the UK government has, disappointingly, decided to cut international aid this provides an opportunity for us to reach out in solidarity to our sisters and brothers, our neighbours in this small world, whom Jesus calls us to love as we love ourselves.

I know there is less money around this year but I would ask you to be generous. Perhaps we might see our giving as an expression of gratitude for the blessings that we so easily take for granted.’

*+John*

The Anglican Communion Fund (ACF) has already begun responding to Covid-related needs, allocating over £180,000 across 21 provinces of the Communion. We are supporting the Church in its ministry, providing food relief to the vulnerable, communicating ways of staying safe from the virus, and providing handwashing facilities and PPE.

In the South Sudanese Diocese of Maridi, an ACF grant provided food items, soaps and seeds to over 200 pastors and lay-readers and provided bicycles and hand microphones for pastors to carry prevention messages into remote areas. Speaking of the support, Bishop Moses Zungo said, ‘You held our hand during our most trying moments’.

*To give to the appeal, find ‘Bishop’s Lent Appeal’ on the Diocesan website [edinburgh.anglican.org](http://edinburgh.anglican.org) and click ‘donate’.*

*Please use the reference DIOCESE OF EDINBURGH*

*To donate via BACS please give to: Friends of ACF / Account no. 00030397 / Sort code 40-52-40*



## CHRISTIAN AID IS 75!

Christian Aid began in Europe in 1946 to provide help for the many refugees caused by the Second World War. Over the following 75 years its work expanded to cover most of the globe, and to help many others as well as refugees.

To mark its quarter-century, Christian Aid has launched a Lent/Easter Appeal. Find out more and donate online at [christianaid.org.uk/appeals](http://christianaid.org.uk/appeals)

*Christian Aid Week 2021 runs from Monday 10th to Sunday 16th May – a change to the normal Sunday to Saturday which will enable materials produced for last year to be re-used.*

*Flora Johnston from Davidson's Mains Parish Church has agreed to take over as Local Organiser for Christian Aid Week, while I shall continue in the short term as the Holy Cross contact. We don't know yet if the house-to-house collection will be allowed – watch this space!*

*Margaret Deas*

## FRESH START UPDATE

The logo for Fresh Start, featuring the words "FreshStart" in white text on a blue rectangular background. Below the main text, there is a smaller line of text that is difficult to read but appears to be "Helping you to start your life again".

FreshStart

Fresh Start is unable to accept any donations for Starter Packs during the current lockdown. If you have anything for them, please hold on to it until things change.

This does not mean that Fresh Start is doing nothing. Contact with clients is online or on the phone, not face-to-face, but it still happens. Cookery classes have gone online via Zoom. Hit squads helping clients to decorate their new home now provide paint, equipment and instructions, with help just a phone call away.

The Local Pantry is busier than ever as more people find themselves short of money. Emergency food packs have been distributed too. Renovations continue on the community hub, which Fresh Start hopes to open this spring with a community kitchen and a shop for household goods. Managing Director Bidy Kelly says, 'It's all about community connection and help and to try to stop people becoming homeless'.

All this costs money. You can make financial donations online at [www.justgiving.com/freshstartedinburgh](http://www.justgiving.com/freshstartedinburgh)

## ERIC JOHN TONATHY – 1929–2020

*Eric was a faithful member of Holy Cross for many years and attended the 8 a.m. Communion on Sundays. He died on 23 December 2020. His son Peter summarised Eric's life in his funeral eulogy:*

I was fortunate to have been able to talk to Dad hours before he died. One of the things he said was that he had told his lawyer he didn't want a big funeral. I suspect he would be a bit surprised that it is being streamed across the world!

Dad was born in Glasgow in July 1929 to Herbert and Peggy Tonathy. Herbert was General Manager of Scottish Motor Trade and was moved to Edinburgh when Dad was quite young. The Tonathys were one of the first families in Edinburgh to own a car, which instilled in Dad a lifelong interest in cars and engineering. As a child he enjoyed scouts, cycling (backwards!) and repairing bikes and cars. After he died we found an envelope full of photos of every car he owned.

Dad went to Flora Stevenson's Primary School then Heriot's, where he made lifelong friends. He was evacuated to Alva Academy in Clackmannanshire during the war then returned to Heriot's. He did National Service in the army in 1947, in Cyprus, then joined the London Insurance Group which eventually became Sun Alliance. He was a proud Insurance man and visitors to Queens Avenue could spot the Sun Assurance mark displayed on the landing stairs.

Travelling on the bus to town one day he offered his seat to Wendy Ingram and romance started. They married in September 1955. I was born in 1957 followed by Jill three years later. In the mid-1960s they moved to 18 Queens Avenue in Blackhall where Dad stayed until he died. Queens Avenue was a happy house. Mum and Dad were fond of routine. Breakfast was on the table just before 8 a.m. Dad then drove to work in George Street, returning home at spot-on 12 noon for a three-course lunch made by Mum, followed by a nap in the front room. Then back to the office for a few hours before coming home at 5 p.m. for tea and a potter in the garden or garage. I am sure he would have loved remote working!

Mum was the heart and soul of the family and a fantastic wife, so it was so sad when she died at the early age of 57, just before Dad retired. It is a credit to Dad that he continued to maintain the house and hospitality throughout his retirement years until his final days. He was a great host, as friends and family will testament. His Saturday night fish and chips were legendary.

Jill and I have been overwhelmed by the messages we've received about Dad. People remember him as always being ready for a chat – 'interested and

interesting’, as one friend put it. We had a lovely message from Jonnie, the professional at Murrayfield, where Dad was a member for over 50 years. Jonnie said Dad was an ‘absolute gentleman’. Clearly Jonnie never actually played golf with my Dad because he did have a dark side! When I played against Dad and was preparing to putt, I would hear in the background the jingle of coins – just enough for me to lose concentration and miss the putt. It wasn’t until I saw a book in his bookcase titled ‘The Art of One-Upmanship’ that I realised what he was doing!

As well as Murrayfield, Dad was associated with a number of other clubs and organisations. These include, of course, Holy Cross Church, where he was married and subsequently a groundsman, church magazine distributor and sidesman. The church and his faith were important to him so I would like to thank Stephen for his visits and support to Dad. Dad was also a member of Ravelston Golf Club, Heriot’s FP (rugby club) and the Trout Anglers Club, the latter being somewhat surprising as I have no recollection of him ever fishing, but it does have an excellent snooker room.

In his later years Dad became quite frail but, with the help of others, he managed to stay on in Queens Avenue. I would like to thank all the carers and supporters that helped him during the last few years, in particular Jill and the Shepherdsons for all they did to make his last days that bit more comfortable. As I said at the beginning, I was fortunate enough to be able to speak to Dad hours before he died. He was weak but very lucid. He retained his usual sense of humour and told me how proud he was of his family, particularly his grandchildren who he loved dearly and whose progress in life he followed closely. He said that he had had a wonderful life and wonderful family and friends and stressed that he did not want any fuss. He passed away quietly and peacefully that evening at 10 p.m., just the way he wanted – no fuss.

My final thought is a memory. Dad and I regularly went to shows in the Festival. One year he got tickets for the Slab Boys by John Byrne at the Traverse. It was a Thursday night and we popped into the Oxford Bar for a quick beer beforehand. The owner, John Gates, asked us where we were going. Dad proudly showed him the tickets. ‘Aye, I hear it’s a great show lads. Pity you missed it; those tickets are for last night!’. How we laughed! Then settled in for an evening at the bar. ‘Aye’, said John, as he told everyone who came in that night of our misadventure, ‘you’re some man Eric!’.

That’s not a bad epitaph: Eric Tonathy – some man.

**Address at the Funeral of Eric Tonathy, 19 January 2021**

*Revd Dr Stephen Holmes:*

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places, (many mansions).’

As Jill and I looked through Bible readings for today this one seemed right, partly because Eric loved his house, he didn’t want to have to move out and in fact stayed there to the end. I like to think that heaven is a bit like Edinburgh (someone once said heaven is the people of Glasgow in the buildings of Edinburgh, which as Eric was born in Glasgow seems relevant). If there is a bit of heaven like Edinburgh, I think Eric will fit in well. He was one of those rare people (I don’t think I am giving away any clergy secrets here) you always come away from uplifted and more cheerful than when you went in. I enjoyed his gentle sense of humour. By his good cheer, even when he was in pain, by his interest in your life, by what the theologians call humility, he revealed himself as one of the good folk.

In my Father’s house there are many mansions said Jesus, and I think he meant that there is room for all there. Christianity should not be narrow and exclusive. There are potentially as many different types of saints as there are people but heaven, about which we know very little – though I firmly believe we are headed that way – is in all accounts a communal sort of place. There must be room for the solitary and austere, but most evidence about heaven suggests that there is lots of room for the clubbable. Eric was clearly of that sort. I heard a bit about his holidays and we spoke about the golf club as my father is a golfer (it is significant that he wanted to find out about my family before I could get him to talk about himself and his). Later I heard about his membership of the Trout Anglers Club which I had passed on Dundas Street so many times. His Church was part of this but it also provided a different angle.

He remained a full part of the community at Holy Cross even when he couldn’t attend, and just before his death he nominated a friend, Neville Long, as Lay Representative on our Vestry. I think Jill said it was his wife Wendy who brought him to Holy Cross. For many years he cut the church lawns and took an active part in the church fetes. He was a regular at the early Communion, the ‘8 o’clock’, on Sundays and was keen to continue to receive Holy Communion. Some people are very up front and in your face about their religion (some of us get paid to do that), others are much quieter about it but it is no less deep, perhaps like still waters they run deeper. My impression was that this was true of Eric and this was perhaps the root of his goodness. Jesus said, ‘I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also’. In my heart I have a feeling that Eric is well on his way to that place.

## **A CANDLE IN THE WINDOW**

### **Words to encourage us in tough times**

History will remember when the world stopped and the flights stayed on the ground. And the cars parked in the street. And the trains didn't run.

History will remember when the schools closed and the children stayed indoors, and the medical staff walked towards the fire and they didn't run.

History will remember when the people sang on their balconies, in isolation, but so very much together in courage and song.

History will remember when the people fought for their old and weak and protected the vulnerable by doing nothing at all.

History will remember when the virus left and the houses opened, and the people came out and hugged and kissed and started again.

Kinder than before.

*Donna Ashworth*

## **SAD COULD BE HAPPY**

'Hope has two lovely daughters,' Saint Augustine of Hippo is credited with saying, 'anger and courage. Anger at the way things are and courage to change them'. I think if the human body has two wise daughters, then they are loneliness and vulnerability. Loneliness in order to face your true self and vulnerability enough to tell the story to others. The cruelty of our half-lived lives is a false story of connection based on appearance and comparison, and such connections are parasitic on human community. Those connections glue people together with fear, and tell some that they are enough for themselves, that their loneliness and vulnerability are abated. When I was a school chaplain a young person once wrote a prayer for our end-of-the-day service. He wrote it, he read it out, and then threw it in the bin. I fished it out and framed it and hung it on my wall: *'Dear God. Thank you for putting me on this earth but people can get lonely and I don't like people being lonely cause sometimes I am and it's not a good feeling. So I'd like You to pair them up with someone who is not lonely if you can. Amen'* He read the prayer with such simple truth that I thought I would break. The prayer had a picture at the end of a sad face covered by a raincloud and a happy face in the middle of a sun. Sad could be happy, I understand this to say, or rainy could be sunny. There is such humble conditionality in the structure of the prayer. I don't know if I've ever heard more beautiful usage of the three words 'If you can'. It's as if he understands that there are limits to what God can do but there's no harm in asking.

*Pádraig Ó Tuama, In the Shelter: Finding welcome in the here and now*

## HOLY CROSS KALENDAR FOR MARCH and HOLY WEEK

N.B. At the time of going to press it seems that churches will not be allowed to re-open for worship until 5th April. Services in italics are dependent on restrictions.

Each day includes a suggested daily Lent reading from the Gospels, which is the reading appointed for the Eucharist.

**Monday 1st** David, Bishop, Patron of Wales, c.601                      Luke 6:36-38  
*Dewi Sant yw nawddsant Cymru (for Eluned). David was an austere monk who founded the monastery at St David's in Pembrokeshire and came to be the patron saint of Wales.*

**Tuesday 2nd** Chad of Lichfield, Bishop, 672                      Matthew 23:1-12  
*Bishop of the Mercians and first Bishop of Lichfield, Chad trained as a monk in Ireland and was an important leader of the early Anglo-Saxon Church.*

**Wednesday 3rd** John and Charles Wesley, priests, 1791, 1788 –  
**Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**                      Matthew 20:17-28  
*The Wesley brothers were Anglican priests and did not wish their Methodist movement to leave the Church of England. They encouraged their followers to a devout life, wrote outstanding hymns and preached the gospel to many who were alienated from the Church.*

**Thursday 4th** Adrian (Ethernan) of May, Abbot, and Companions, Martyrs, 875 –  
**Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**                      Luke 16:19-31  
*A local saint, traditionally it is said he was killed with his monastic community by Vikings on the Isle of May but he may have lived 200 years earlier. Certainly the Isle of May was a place of pilgrimage and the relics of St Ethernan or Adrian were preserved there in an ancient church.*

**Friday 5th** Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot, 1167                      Matthew 21:33-46  
*Aelred was the son of a priest at Hexham, lived at the court of King David of Scots and left the court to become a Cistercian monk at Rievaulx Abbey where he became Abbot. He wrote profound treatises on love and friendship.*

**Saturday 6th** Baldred of the Bass, Bishop, 608                      Luke 15:1-3,11-32  
*Another local island-saint, Baldred was a Northumbrian hermit at Tynninghame in East Lothian (then part of the Kingdom of Northumbria) who then moved to the Bass Rock.*

**SUNDAY 7th – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**  
John 2.13-22

*Collect:* Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Monday 8th** Duthac, Bishop, 1065

Luke 4:24-30

*A native of Scotland who received his monastic formation in Ireland, Duthac became Bishop of Ross and his relics were preserved at Tain which is called Baile Dhubhthaich (Duthac's Town) in Gaelic.*

**Tuesday 9th**

Matthew 18:21-35

**Wednesday 10th** Kessog, Bishop, 700 – **Eucharist 10.30 a.m.** Matthew 5:17-20

*Kessog was said to have been an Irish monk who came to Scotland, became a Bishop at Luss on Loch Lomond and was murdered by robbers. He was a very popular saint in medieval Scotland and Robert the Bruce had his relics carried into battle by the Scottish army at Bannockburn.*

**Thursday 11th** Constantine, King and Martyr, 7th century – **Evening Prayer on Zoom 5pm**

Luke 11:14-23

*The name of the first Christian emperor was popular in early Christian Britain and Ireland. This Constantine was said to have been a king who became a monk and was martyred. The centre of his cult was at Govan where many ancient carved Christian stones show it to have been the main local Christian centre before the rise of Glasgow.*

**Friday 12th**

Mark 12:28-34

**Saturday 13th**

Luke 18:9-14

**SUNDAY 14th – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Mothering Sunday) – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

John 3.14-21

*Collect: Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, Amen.*

**Monday 15th**

John 4:43-54

**Tuesday 16th** Boniface of Ross, Bishop, c.710

John 5:1-18

*A Pict named Curitan who helped the Pictish King Nechtan reform the Church. He had studied in Rome and there received the new name Boniface, not because of his bonny face but because he did good deeds: bonum facere. He first settled at Restenneth then moved north to Rosemarkie where he functioned as Bishop of Ross.*

**Wednesday 17th** PATRICK, Bishop, Patron of Ireland, c. 461 – **Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Matthew 28:16-20

*A post-Roman Briton from the west coast, he was captured by Irish pirates and later returned to Ireland where he preached the Gospel and made many converts.*

**Thursday 18th** Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Teacher of the Faith, 386 – **Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**

John 5:31-47



*A bishop of Jerusalem famous for the instruction he gave to those preparing for baptism – which is still worth reading.*

**Friday 19th** JOSEPH OF NAZARETH

Matthew 1:18-25

**Saturday 20th** Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 687

John 7:40-52

*The great Saint of Northumbria, which in his time included Lothian, so he is a local saint. A monk of Melrose (the Northumbrian Abbey, not the Cistercian monastery in the town), he moved to Lindisfarne and became bishop but preferred the life of a hermit on the Farne Islands. His body is still preserved at Durham Cathedral and he appears in the east window at Holy Cross.*

**SUNDAY 21st FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Passion Sunday) – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

*Lent changes gear this week as we enter Passiontide and fix our attention more firmly on Jesus' Cross and Resurrection.*

John 12:20-33

*Collect: Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

**Monday 22nd** Thomas Ken, Bishop, 1711

John 8:1-11

*Thomas Ken was Bishop of Bath and Wells and wrote some fine hymns including 'Awake my soul, and with the sun'. Although King James II had imprisoned him in the Tower of London, he remained loyal and refused to accept William of Orange. His famous last words were: 'I am dying in the Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Faith professed by the whole Church before the disunion of East and West; and, more particularly, in the Communion of the Church of England, as it stands distinguished from both Papal and Protestant innovation, and adheres to the Doctrine of the Cross'.*

**Tuesday 23rd**

John 8:21-30

**Wednesday 24th** Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, Martyr, 1980 –  
**Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

John 8:31-47

*Oscar Romero spoke out against poverty, social injustice, assassinations, and torture amid a growing war between left-wing and right-wing forces, and was assassinated while celebrating Mass in the chapel of the Hospital of Divine Providence.*

**Thursday 25th THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD – Eucharist 10.30 a.m. and Evening Prayer on Zoom 5 p.m.**

Luke 1:26-38

*Collect: Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord: that, as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel to the Blessed Virgin Mary; so by his cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

**Friday 26th** Harriet Monsell, 1883

John 10:31-42

*Born in Ireland; after the death of her husband, Harriett founded the Community of St John Baptist, an order of Augustinian nuns in the Church of England dedicated to social service. By 1900 the Community had more than 3,000 members in Great Britain, India and the United States.*

**Saturday 27th**

John 11:45-56

**SUNDAY 28th – PALM SUNDAY – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.** Mark 11:1-11

*Collect:* Almighty and everlasting God, in your tender love towards the human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Monday 29th – Monday in Holy Week**

John 12:1-11

*Collect:* Almighty God, your most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of his cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Tuesday 30th – Tuesday in Holy Week**

John 12:20-36

*Collect:* O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer pain and loss for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.

**Wednesday 31st – Wednesday in Holy Week – Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

John 13:21-32

*Collect:* Lord God, your blessed Son our Saviour gave his back to the smiters, and did not hide his face from shame: give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time, with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY – 1st April – 7.30 p.m., Evening Eucharist of the Lord's Supper and Stripping of the Altar**

John 13.1-17,31-35

*Collect:* God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may we receive the benefits of his Passion, the new life of his Resurrection, and the grace to love as he loves us; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**GOOD FRIDAY – 2nd April – 2 p.m., Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Communion**

The Passion according to John 18.1-19.42

*The death of the Lord. The sacraments are not celebrated today.*

*Collect:* Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord

Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

### **HOLY SATURDAY – 3rd April**

John 19.38-42

*The descent of the Lord to the dead. The sacraments are not celebrated today.*

*Collect:* Almighty, ever-living God, whose Only-begotten Son descended to the realms of the dead, and rose from there to glory, grant that your faithful people who were buried with him in baptism, may, by his resurrection, obtain eternal life; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

### **THE EASTER VIGIL – the night of 3rd–4th April, beginning at 9 p.m.**

*The Resurrection of the Lord.*

*Collect:* O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption given to us in baptism; that, being renewed both in body and mind, we may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*The readings of the Easter Vigil take us through the whole of salvation history from creation to redemption, each with an accompanying song – the song for the Gospel is simply 'Alleluia'. They might make a good thing to read on Holy Saturday. The liturgical books say one can use three or more of the Old Testament readings but one should always read the Passover story from Exodus. Readings for the Vigil:*

1) Genesis 1.1-2.4 with Psalm 136.1-9,23-26; 2) Genesis 7.1-5,11-18; 8.6-18; 9.8-13 with Psalm 46; 3) Genesis 22.1-18 with Psalm 16; 4) Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20-21 with the Song of Moses (Exodus 15.1b-13,17-18); 5) Isaiah 55.1-11 with the Song of Isaiah (Isaiah 12.2-6); 6) Baruch 3.9-15,32–4.4 with Psalm 19; 7) Ezekiel 36.24-28 with Psalms 42 & 43; 8) Ezekiel 37.1-14 with Psalm 143; 9) Zephaniah 3.14-20 with Psalm 98; 10) Romans 6.3-11; 11) Psalm 114; 12) Matthew 28.1-10.

### **EASTER DAY – 4th April – Easter Eucharist 10.30 a.m.**

Matthew 28.1-10

*Collect:* Lord of all life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son you overcame the old order of sin and death and opened to us the gate of Everlasting Life: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## **WEDNESDAY READINGS**

3rd March	Jeremiah 18.18-20	Ps 31.1-5,13-16	Matthew 20.17-28
10th March	Deuteronomy 4.1,5-10	Psalm 147.13-21	Matthew 5.17-20
17th Feb..	<b>St PATRICK, Bishop, Patron of Ireland</b>		
	1 Thessalonians 2.2-12	Psalm 96	Matthew 28.16-20
24th March	Daniel 3.13-28	Psalm 24.1-6	John 8.31-47
31st March	Isaiah 50.4-9a	Psalm 70	John 13.21-32

## WORSHIP and MEETINGS

All public worship is currently prohibited but the Rector continues to celebrate the Eucharist at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday and Wednesday for the intention of the members of the congregation, their families and friends. When this is in church the bell is rung to remind people that our life of worship continues even if we can't meet. As soon as it is allowed we will return to worshipping together with all our Covid-19 precautions in place.

During lockdown a **worship video** from Holy Cross, with the participation of members of the congregation, will be posted each Sunday on our [YouTube channel](#) and [Facebook page](#).

On Sundays at 11.30 a.m. we now have **Holy Cross Sunday Zoom Coffee**. The link is the same each week and is sent out with the e-news. Contact the Rector if you would like to receive the e-news. All welcome.

On Thursdays at 5 p.m. a group from Holy Cross meet on Zoom to say Evening Prayer. All the words are provided. An invitation is sent out each week to those who regularly take part; if you wish to join us contact the Rector. All welcome.

## SUNDAY READINGS

7th March **LENT 3**  
Exodus 20.1-17  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 1.18-25  
John 2.13-22

28th March **PALM SUNDAY**  
Isaiah 50.4-9a  
Psalm 31.9-16  
Philippians 2.5-11  
Mark 14.1-15.47

14th March **LENT 4**  
Numbers 21.4-9  
Psalm 107.1-3,17-22  
Ephesians 2.1-10  
John 3.14-21

7th April **EASTER DAY**  
Acts 10.34-43  
Easter Anthems  
1 Corinthians 15.1-11  
John 20.1-8

21st March **PASSION SUNDAY**  
Jeremiah 31.31-34  
Psalm 51.1-12  
Hebrews 5.5-10  
John 12.20-33

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Services are listed in the Kalendar, along with readings for the Easter Vigil.