

Weekly Bulletin

St. Margaret's, St. Joseph's & St. Finnan's

Parish priest: Fr. Tom Wynne. Tel/fax: 01397-712-238 Mobile 00796-588-598
e-mail : frtom@rcroybridge.co.uk Parish web site: www.rcroybridge.co.uk
Blessed Mary MacKillop web site : www.gaeldom.com/mmk/
Weekly Bulletin Online: www.gaeldom.com/bulletin/

Sunday March 4th. 2007



The Shroud of Turin **Is this the face of the Christ in the tomb ?**

The Shroud of Turin is greatest enigmatic relic in the world, and has baffled eminent forensic scientists for years. A radiocarbon dated test in 1988 suggested that it was of 13th. century origin, but the results have been contested by other research scientists. The Church has made no comment on it for it is not a doctrinal matter, but it recognises its value to help us increase in our devotion in honouring the sufferings that Our Lord underwent for in his sacred Passion.

What is the story of the Shroud?

During these weeks of Lent, our thoughts and prayers are centred on the love of Christ and his sufferings for us, which ended with his death on the cross on Calvary. The Shroud is an incredible facsimile of the Gospel account of Christ's Passion, for it shows in details the agony on his face, the wounds in his hands, feet and

>>

Weekly Bulletin

St. Margaret's, St. Joseph's & St. Finnan's

Sunday March 4th. 2007

side, and on his shoulder where he bore the weight of his cross, and the stripe marks of the lashes from two different types of scourges used by the Romans. The Shroud has been proclaimed a fake by sceptics, but if it were a fake then its creator must have had the most brilliant mind to have devised something so incredibly complicated and accurate that it beggars belief.

The Historical records dating back to at least the 6th century refer to a cloth with an imprint of Jesus. which had been taken to Edessa (now in Eastern Turkey) back in the first century. According to legend, it was instrumental in converting the king of that city, Abgar, to Christianity, shortly after the crucifixion. It reappeared in the 6th century, when it was discovered hidden within the walls of the city and was immediately hailed as being a miraculously imprinted likeness of Jesus and it became known as the *Cloth of Edessa*.

In 944, the Edessa Cloth was removed from the city by the armies of the Emperor Romanus and taken to Constantinople where it remained until 1204, when Crusaders sacked the city. A crusader describes seeing a cloth with a figure of Jesus on it, and he reported that after the city was captured, no one knew what happened to it. There is no record of the Edessa Cloth until it turns up in France in the 1350, in the possession of Geoffrey de Charny, whose family took part in the crusades.

In 1464, the cloth was housed in a special chapel in Chambéry, in the French Alps. It was at the Chambéry chapel that a fire, on December 4, 1532, damaged the Shroud, and left burned and water marks on it. This, some scientists hold, affected the 1988 radiocarbon dating of the material.

In 1578, the cloth became the property of the House of Savoy, Italy's royal family, and was moved to Turin. It remained their legal possession until 1986 when it was bequeathed to Pope John Paul II and his successors upon the death of Umberto II of Savoy.

Apart from being moved into hiding during World War II, the Shroud has remained in Turin ever since.

In 1898, Secondo Pia took a photograph of the Shroud and was

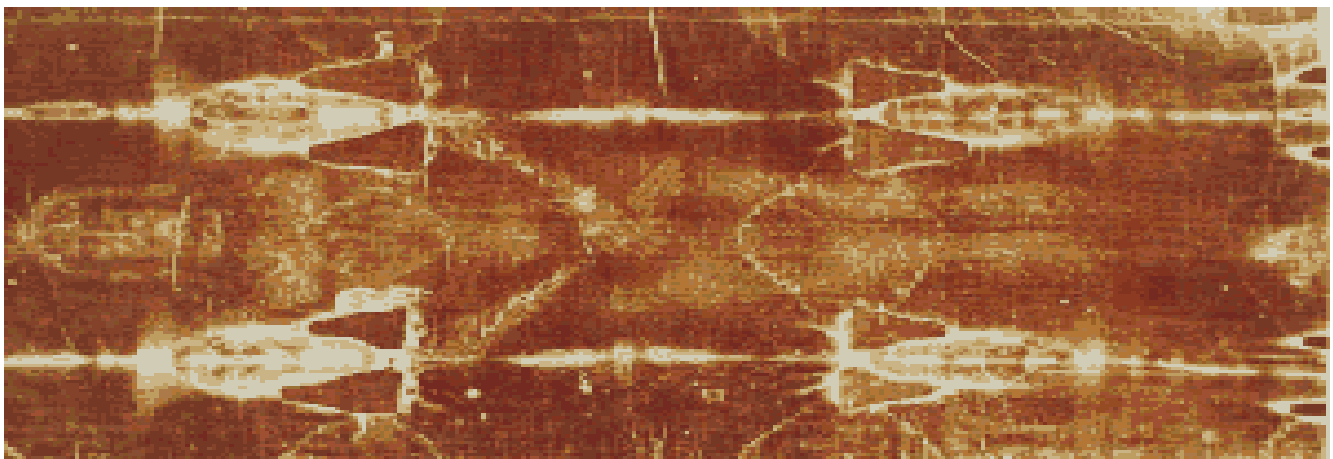
surprised to find that the image on his glass plate showed itself to be a positive image in stead of the usual negative, it was not until 1931 that Giuseppe Enrie, a professional photographer, took new photographs of the Shroud that the full import of this was realised. His "negative" confirmed what Secondo Pia had discovered more than 30 years earlier.

No mediaeval artist could have known anything about photography which requires a negative to produce a positive (photograph). Scientists also discovered that the linen of the cloth was woven from flax that is found only in the Holy Land, and also that the pollen from flowers. which had adhered to the cloth, was from the same area The Shroud shows the body of a person about six foot tall; the majestic face portrays something of the suffering from his passion, and the marks of the wounds match the description from the Gospels,.

The stripes on his body reveal that he received about 120 lashes from two different types of scourges, the most brutal of these had vicious barbs attached to the end to inflict more pain and injury, This was commonly practiced by the Romans. The Shroud also shows swellings on the cheek and the nose indicating several heavy blows to the face. There are punctures around the head from the crown of thorns, and there are also injuries to the knees and elbows where he had fallen.

No one has yet proved that the Shroud is not authentic, and it seems impossible for someone to have produced so much detail on a cloth which is virtually a negative. Was it the brightness of the Resurrection that left an imprint like a negative on the cloth?

The enigma of the Shroud will probably remain a mystery for ever, and will continue, has it has down the centuries, to help people to have a deeper understanding of what Our Lord endured in the sufferings of his body for love of us. This was the body he took from Mary, and in its purity, it was more sensitive to suffering than our bodies are. Does the face on the cloth give us any clue to what Our Lady may have looked like?



Weekly Bulletin

St. Margaret's, St. Joseph's & St. Finnan's

Sunday March 4th. 2007

Notice Board for Lent



Weekday Masses

Roy Bridge: Monday and Friday 10 a.m.

Wednesday 7.30p.m.

Spean Bridge Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.

Way of the Cross

Sunday: Spean Bridge 5 p.m. Roy Bridge 6 p.m.

Wednesday 7.30 p.m. before mass

**100
CLUB**

A gentle reminder.

Parishioners have many things on their mind, and it is not possible to remember everything. If you have forgotten to renew your 100 Club membership, Ishbel Campbell will look forward to receiving your subscription. Cheques should be made out to *St. Margaret's 100 Club*.

Our church tanks were filled up recently, and the bill was easily met from the 100 Club account.



Visitors from Cape Breton next weekend

Mass at Cille Choirill next Sunday

A group of fifteen Canadians are arriving in Lochaber next weekend, and are being entertained at Lochaber High School with a ceilidh on Friday evening by the local Gaelic association

We have arranged a mass for them next Sunday at Cille Choirill at 3 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend it. They will be visiting South Uist during the week where many still have relations.

Rota for our churches Weekend of March 10th. -- 11th.

St. Joseph's

Reader: Margaret Muncie

Prayers of Intercession: Liz Campbell

Eucharistic Ministers: Liz Campbell Betty Porter

Church Cleaning: Any volunteers?

St. Margaret's

Readers; Deirdre MacDonald Betty Campbell

Prayers of Intercession: Catriona MacDonald

Eucharistic Ministers Helen MacDonald, Nilda Hawke

Church Cleaning: Moira Coutts

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:

There is a diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes this year from October 5th –11th. 2007. The flight is direct from Glasgow to Lourdes airport. More about this in next week's Bulletin.

The flight leaves from Glasgow and goes directed to Lourdes airport. More about this next week.

Weekly Bulletin

St. Margaret's, St. Joseph's & St. Finnan's

Sunday March 4th. 2007

Fairtrade Fortnight

What is Fairtrade?

Fairtrade is a trading partnership that seeks to obtain a just and fair price for people producing goods in poor countries. So often they have been squeezed out of the market by large companies, and also by the fact that governments of the US, China and the EEC give large subsidies to their farmers and producers which make it well nigh impossible until now for fair competition on the open market. This is now changing, and wherever you see a product marked **Fairtrade**, you know that by buying it you are supporting and helping poor people to obtain a just price for their goods, and a just reward for all their hard work.

What are some of the goods you can choose from Fairtrade?

Tea, coffee, chocolate, cocoa, sugar, bananas, fresh and dried fruit, juices, biscuits, cakes, honey, jam, preserves, rice, nuts, nut oil, muesli, cereal, yoghurt, flowers, cotton products including clothing, homeware, cloth, toys and cotton wool. Look for the shops that sell these goods.

Fairtrade is supported by all the Churches, and both SCIAF and CAFOD are heavily involved.

Co-operatives

The co-operatives that help to run Fairtrade have also helped farmers to upgrade their farms to meet the requirements of the European markets. Fairtrade has also helped its communities with new schools, better sporting facilities, repairing houses, improving the health of people with more clinics, building better roads, and helping farmers to buy new machinery. There are many more things Fairtrade wishes to do, but it needs **our** help.

I am grateful to Alison MacKintosh, Farm Food Shop at Aonach Mor, for all the information.

Alison is a great supporter of Fairtrade, and stocks many of their products in her shop. It is worth paying a visit to Alison's Farm Shop as she has lots of Fairtrade goods, and also organic vegetables and produce. This Sunday is part of **Fairtrade Fortnight**, and Alison will have a table at the back of the church in both St. Joseph's and St. Margaret's with Fairtrade goods for sale so that our parishioners can see some of the variety of products that are available. **A basket of Fairtrade goods will be raffled, and all the proceeds from the stall and the raffle will go to the charity Traidcraft.**



Daffodil Tea in Spean Hall for Toddlers Group, Saturday, March 10th. 10 a.m. - 12 noon

You are invited to support the local Toddlers' Group by coming to the Daffodil Tea next Saturday morning in Spean Brdige Hall. There will be tea, cakes, puppet making and a raffle. Half the proceeds go to the Toddlers' Group and the other half to flower displays for the village. Bring the children along!

Anniversaries

We remember in our prayers at mass this weekend the following anniversaries:

Margaret Wynne (Fr Tom's mother), **Fraser MacPhee** (his grandnephew) and **Angus and Catriona MacDonald**. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.*

Feast of St. John Ogilvie—Saturday, March 10th.

This Scottish Jesuit priest and martyr was canonised in 1976. He was a native of Banff, born in 1580, but converted to Catholicism on the Continent in 1596. In the now Czech city of Brno, he joined the Jesuits in 1599, who sent him to study in Vienna and then to Paris where he was ordained priest in 1610. He returned to Scotland in 1613 and travelled under the guise of a dealer in horses. Arrested in Glasgow, he was examined for treason by means of a list of questions apparently drawn up by James I (VI) himself, whom he recognised as King of Scotland, but to whom he could not accede as a spiritual ruler. Found guilty, he was put to death at Glasgow Cross on March 10, 1615. John Fagin of Glasgow, was at the point of death from cancer, when he was miraculously and instantly cured by intercession to Blessed John Ogilvie.

