



# ST COLUMBA'S FAMILIES NEWSLETTER

## HELLO FAMILIES OF ST COLUMBA'S

We are coming up to the third Sunday in Lent and approaching the time to think of Jesus coming to Jerusalem for the final dramatic days of his life. The stories of Holy Week – Palm Sunday, teaching in the Temple, the Last Supper, arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, trial, execution and being laid in the tomb. These are the precious and sometimes painful stories of the Cross. But the stories are not the final chapter – because that will be the story of Easter, resurrection and new life. And that story continues to run.

This Lent, the current Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt Revd Dr Martin Fair is encouraging us to remember the cross by taking part in his Photography Competition, 'The Cross - Hidden in Plain Sight.' It is an invitation to find images of the cross as they appear all around us, both in nature and in the built environment. There are categories for Primary and Secondary ages and for over 18s. All the details are online: <https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/moderators-photo-competition>



Your challenge, should you choose to accept it: find a Cross that is hidden in plain sight and using your camera, or your phone, take a photograph of it. Perhaps it will be two branches on a tree which form a Cross shape. Perhaps you'll see a Cross in a section of wrought-iron fencing. Maybe you'll see it in a set of road markings or in a random piece of graffiti? The only limit is your imagination. Open your eyes and you'll see that the Cross is all around you.



### Rules

The rules are very simple:

1. The photograph must be one that you've taken yourself
2. You must take the photograph within your own community and must observe all COVID-related regulations when doing so
3. Each entrant can submit up to three photographs
4. Images can be taken on cameras or smart phones and must be submitted digitally. Please note, we unfortunately are unable to accept photographs submitted via post at this time.

The competition will run for one month - from Wednesday 17 February (the start of Lent) until Wednesday 17 March. All submissions must be received by the closing date

All entries will be featured in a special [photo gallery](#) on the website

### Judging and Prizes

The Moderator will head a judging panel and the winners in each category will be announced in the lead up to Easter Sunday, with a gift to the charity of the winner's choice being awarded in each category.

The winning entries will be displayed across the Church of Scotland's social media channels on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and in a special [online photo gallery](#).

### Categories

When you submit your entry, please indicate which category you are in:

1. Primary school age
2. Secondary school age
3. 18 plus

The competition will run from the beginning of Lent, 17 February, until the 17 March. All submissions must be received by the closing date. Photographs should be sent to [mediarelations@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:mediarelations@churchofscotland.org.uk).

Let the fun begin. Get snapping!

Thanks as usual to Fiona for providing activities for this Sunday. And to all of you going back to school next Monday have a great day (parents included!)

See you on Sunday.

Angus