

'Sixth century Europe was in a mess. The Roman Empire had fallen, and Germanic tribes were burning cities and destroying libraries. Literacy was in danger of being lost forever, but Irish Christians were a force for renewal across Europe.

### 1. They gave themselves to prayer

Patrick and other Christian leaders sought places to pray, read scripture and fast. They became known for deep spirituality in pagan Ireland. Within Patrick's lifetime 20 per cent of Ireland's tribes became Christian, monastic communities were started and priests ordained. Christian faith started to affect broader society.

### 2. They gave themselves to cultural renewal

Books were priceless and the only way to produce more was to copy existing ones. Scholars brought and. Without Irish monks copying scrolls and books we would have no knowledge of the Roman age, Latin scriptures, or early church fathers.

### 3. They made an incalculable contribution

Princes turned down leadership to follow God's call to Scotland, England, and the continent. Columba founded 41 monasteries on the west coast of Scotland from Iona. Columbanus founded communities in what are now France, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, and Italy.

At a time of change and danger for the cultures of Europe Irish monks kept sharing their faith, copying books, teaching literacy and the good news of Christ. As the new, post-pandemic world becomes clear, there will be a great opportunity for followers of Jesus to lead the way, with faith and prayer, to make a huge contribution to the needs of a world that has been shaken to its core.'

**David Stroud**, founder and senior leader of Christ Church London.

# 7/52 @ RBC

25 October 2020



Your  
word  
is a lamp  
to guide my feet  
and  
a light  
for my path.  
Psalm 119:105

**Father, help us to value your word. Help us to pray for those who do not have Bibles in their own language, and support those like the Bible Society and Wycliffe Bible Translators who are working to translate and supply Bibles to those who need them. In Jesus' name, amen.**

**Contacts:**  
**Church office:** closed at present  
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All Deacons available by ☎ if needed.

**Please note!** Items for 7/52 should be given to **Sally** by **midnight THURSDAY** on 641305 or email: [ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com](mailto:ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com)

Check out our website at [www.rydebaptist.xyz](http://www.rydebaptist.xyz) for general updates, sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study.



## What's On

**Worship at home** with Premier Radio **10 am Sunday**.

**BBC1 10.45 am** Sunday morning live; Songs of Praise **1.15 pm**  
**Pam Rhodes** on Premier Radio for Sunday Live at 6 pm, followed by Prayer of Hope from Churches Together at 7 pm. Pam Rhodes also leads a lunchtime singalong every weekday at 1 pm on Premier Radio.



Prayer broadcast with BU General Secretary Lynn Green at **7 pm** this Sunday. Prayers at 7 pm on Wednesdays.

All available at [https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer\\_broadcasts.aspx](https://www.baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/Prayer_broadcasts.aspx)

Please contact **Alison** on [alison.ridout@btinternet.com](mailto:alison.ridout@btinternet.com)/by phone for the link to the Thursday Zoom coffee morning.

*This Sunday marks the end of **Missions Week**. The articles below give a varied picture of what God is doing in mission throughout the world.*

Read about the work of Dignity and Freedom Network (formerly the Dalit Freedom Network) serving the poor, marginalised, and outcasts of South Asia, restoring the dignity and freedom of women and children who are the most vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. <https://dfn.org.uk/>

<https://www.sat7uk.org/gemma-hunt-special-programme/> is a programme focusing on how, in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic and the catastrophic explosion in Beirut, SAT-7's faith-filled television and digital media programmes are bringing joy and freedom to children in the Middle East.

Read how ministry is thriving and multiplying despite the lockdown at <https://www.uk.om.org/blog/ministry-multiplication>

Inspiring stories of Christians making a difference at <https://www.missionsweek.org.uk/seven-coronavirus-stories?> and <https://www.missionsweek.org.uk/stories>

A new Christian in Peru takes on running a church when the missionaries leave: <https://www.bmsworldmission.org/>

*We are planning another service at the George Street Centre next **Sunday 1 November at 9.30 am**. If you wish to attend, please book in advance using this link:*

<https://reopen.church/r/qlPyRi04>

If you are unable to book in online, please call **Sally** to book in for you.

*Apologies for the wrong date last week for the Church meeting, which will be on **Thursday 19 November at 7 pm** on Zoom. This will also be the AGM, so if you are responsible for any groups in the church, please send your annual reports (up to March 2020) to **Sally** ASAP. Thanks!*

Sadly lockdown has not meant the end of persecution of Christians. Listen to Henrietta Blyth, CEO of **Open Doors** speaking at <https://www.premierchristianradio.com/Shows/Weekday/Woman-to-Woman/Interviews/Lock-down-hasn-t-put-Christian-persecution-on-hold>. If you would like to support the work of Open Doors, go to <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>

*K P Yohannan, founder of **Gospel for Asia**, believes that lockdowns in countries like India are much more harmful than Coronavirus. For many Indians the stark choice is between dying of the virus or dying of hunger. Read more at <https://www.premierchristianity.com/Blog/Why-the-cure-for-Covid-is-far-worse-than-the-disease>*

*Thank you for your continued financial support of the work of the Church. If you are able to give by standing order, **PLEASE** do so!*  
**RBC Barclays current account number 20731102**  
**sort code 20—60— 55**

*If you usually give by cash or cheque, contact **Jim** on **810991** to arrange delivery or collection*

**We are currently running at a deficit as follows:**  
**- £9946.23. This is mainly due to the loss of letting fees for the GSC**