



influenced by both Catholic and classical art. Walking into the arched entrance hall feels more like arriving in a great cathedral, while the private chapel is lined with the whitest of marble, lit by red-coloured stained glass windows above. The effect, as no doubt was planned, is reminiscent of a blood-bathed sanctuary, dramatically stunning.

Mount Stuart's art collection is one of the finest private collections in the country, and boasts works by, among many others, Gainsborough and Reynolds. In the archive are many items central to British history, including a Shakespeare first folio of 1623 that was discovered only recently, an eyewitness account of the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, and documents relating to the sinking of the *Titanic*.

### PATRON OF THE NEGLECTED

Unusually for a man of his privilege and times, the Marquess was a staunch supporter of women's rights, and a keen patron of the sort of people who were often overlooked by the art world. Included in his collection is an 1870 bust of Christ sculpted by a nineteenth-century US artist of colour, Edmonia Lewis, whose studio he visited in Rome and whose work he helped champion.

The gardens are spectacular in the summer and there are endless walks across the estate; but of particular interest to Catholic visitors is a garden designed by the Victorian landscape architect Thomas Mawson, designed to replicate the Via Dolorosa, the route followed by Christ on his journey to Calvary.

For more information, or to plan a visit, see [www.mountstuart.com](http://www.mountstuart.com)

### Mass text

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Blest be God the Father,  
and the Only Begotten Son of God,  
and also the Holy Spirit,  
for he has shown us his merciful love.**

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 4:32-34. 39-40

PSALM Psalm 32

RESPONSE **Happy the people the Lord has  
chosen as his own.**

1. The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love. **R.**
2. By his word the heavens were made,  
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.  
He spoke; and they came to be.  
He commanded; they sprang into being. **R.**
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **R.**

4. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 8:14-17

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
the God who is, who was, and who is to come.  
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-20

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Since you are children of God,  
God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son,  
the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.**

**Next Sunday's Readings:**  
Exodus 24:3-8  
Hebrews 9:11-15  
Mark 14:12-16. 22-26



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# SUNDAY BULLETIN



## SCOTLAND'S GOTHIC MASTERPIECE

The Scottish island of Bute had its heyday in Victorian times, when thousands of Glasgow workers would descend for their holidays; plenty of reminders of those glory days remain, such as the concert hall and the parades of shops in the main town of Rothesay selling ice creams and souvenirs. Times have changed since and the place is a lot quieter than it would have been back then; but today, as in the past, the beating heart of Bute is a vast Gothic gem called Mount Stuart, whose history is intertwined with that of one of the most important Catholics of the nineteenth century, John Crichton-Stuart.

Born in 1847, Crichton-Stuart was just six months old when his father died and he succeeded to his title, becoming the 3rd Marquess of Bute. He was to lose his mother young, too: she died when he was just twelve. By that time he was a pupil at Harrow; he went on from there to study at Oxford University, and it was during this period of his life that he decided to become a Catholic. Received into the Church at a chapel in Southwark, he was later confirmed in Rome by Pope Pius IX. From that point on, religion was at the centre of his life, both as an art collector and as a scholar.

He was fascinated, too, by architecture – and Bute gave him an opportunity, because the family home there was destroyed by fire in December 1877. Soon afterwards, when the Marquess commissioned the eccentric architect Robert Rowand Anderson to design a new Mount Stuart, the die was cast for what would become one of the most splendid buildings not only on the west coast of Scotland, but in the whole of the United Kingdom. The Marquess was the wealthiest man in the UK, so no expense was spared with his great house: the costliest marble, the most skilled craftspeople, the most ambitious interiors were designed. Mount Stuart was the first place in the world to have a heated indoor swimming pool and the first house in Britain to have electric lighting.

Visiting today, you feel as though you've taken the wrong turn on the road from Glasgow and ended up in Venice or Rome: the Marquess was a frequent visitor to Italy, and was clearly much

## Catholic heritage in Britain



Joanna Moorhead concludes her tour of places of Catholic historical interest with a visit to Mount Stuart on the Isle of Bute.



30 MAY 2021

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY  
YEAR B  
DIVINE OFFICE WEEK I