

## Reflection Tuesday Week 30 St Chad & St Cedd 2021

**Chad** was educated at Lindisfarne under Aidan. He became abbot of Lastingham and then bishop of Northumbria. St Wilfrid contested his appointment, and Chad obediently withdrew. He was sent as bishop to Mercia, where he founded the see of Lichfield. After a very short ministry he died at Lichfield on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 672 but was immediately revered as a saint because of the holiness of his life, his outstanding humility, and his dedication to preaching the Gospel.

Like his brother Chad, **Cedd** was educated at Lindisfarne under Aidan. He founded many monasteries and was sent as bishop to evangelize the East Saxons. He established his see at Bradwell in Essex. He died of the plague at his monastery at Lastingham, Yorkshire, on 26<sup>th</sup> October 664.

St Paul writes (Rm 8:20): *“creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God.”* Although Paul was not referring to the present situation of creation, facing imminent destruction, it certainly reminds us that, unless we truly care for and nurture it, its purpose will never be achieved. This cry of creation to be given its freedom to live is also the cry of the poor. Unless food and water are given to the poor they will die. Prayer alone will not save them. **Each day**, 25,000 people, including more than 10,000 children, **die** from **hunger** and related causes - 11 people die of hunger every minute of every day.

### **The Cry of the Earth** (G J Lee)

The earth breathes and bleeds,  
rain-washes her clean each day,  
but man destroys her abundant body'  
and rain cannot wash him away.

The earth is a living being,  
it does not want to die in agony  
It is the creator of all life,  
it bought forth you and me!

I plead with you my people,  
leave this earth alone  
or she will die a dreadful death  
and we shall have no home!

**(Overheard):** My missus says we need to have a chat about my immature behaviour. Like that's going to happen during the conker season . . .