

Reflection Tuesday Week 8 St David 2022

The earliest life of St David (520 - 589) dates five centuries after his death. He became an eminent abbot and bishop at St David's, but formerly Mynyw, from which the present diocese of Menevia is named. He is credited with a monastic rule based on the example of the Eastern Fathers, and also a Penitentiary. He presided at the synod of Llandewibrefi. Monks trained at his monastery evangelized South Wales and made foundations in Cornwall, Brittany and Ireland. St David is said to have sent a Mass rite to Ireland. At his death his contemporary St Kentigern, founder of St Asaph's in North Wales, witnessed in vision his joyful entrance into the joy of the Lord. His relics were found hidden in the fabric of St David's Cathedral, where they are carefully preserved. He was canonized by Pope Callistus II in 1123.

Without a doubt David was both salt and light and inspired many to open their hearts and lives to the love and goodness of Jesus Christ. Periodically, we seek to freshen up our lives find new energy, a new spirit, and reshape our vision. The Assumptionists are doing this at the moment by reflecting on their motto, their mini-mission statement, *'THY KINGOM COME'*. This is, of course, a mission statement for all followers of Christ. Our reflections renew our spirit and desire to both spread and be people of Good News, to inspire new fervour in the faith, to reach out with greater effect to all who need help, to be signs of inspired hope amidst the troubles and failings of our world. We are called to be salt and light in the world today, here and now.

A prominent Welsh minister travelling home one night was greatly annoyed when a young man much the worse for drink came and sat next to him on the bus.

"Young man," he declared, *"do you not realise you are on the road to perdition?"*

"Oh, fiddlesticks!" replied the drunk. *"I could have sworn this was the bus to Llanelli."*