

## St Mungo's Festival from 7-14 January 2012

The Vita Kentigern: 12.00 – 12.45 Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2012 the Mitchell Library

The Festival this year marks the 14<sup>th</sup> centenary of the founding of the City of Glasgow, whose roots can be traced to the presence of Mungo at the site of the present Cathedral, near the Molendinar Burn. Mungo, (or Kentigern), died between 604 and 612.

We celebrate the Life of St Mungo in words, music and song. As people arrive in the Library, they will be greeted by the sound of the Harp then welcomed by Bailie Catherine McMaster. There will be a short reading from the Life of St Mungo in Latin and in English (by Archbishop Conti and Rev Dr Whitley), and the songs and music this year will be led by some of St Mungo's Bairns, Carissa the Harpist, and the St Mungo Singers. The photographs show children of St Patrick's Primary with some of the choir at the 'Vita Kentigerni' in the Mitchell Library, and Dr Whitley and Archbishop Conti reading from the Vita Kentigerni. The children will sing a new song (by Liz Bovil) about Mungo the pilgrim and the event closes as the choir leads us in 'Let Glasgow Flourish.'



A new element in this year's Mungo events, and the inspiration for the new song), will be the link between Hoddom and Glasgow through St Mungo. According to the *Life of Kentigern* by the monk Jocelin of Furness, it was at Hoddom that Rydderch ap Tudwal, ruler of Strathclyde met with Kentigern on his return from exile in Wales. Other accounts claim that St Kentigern came to the Dumfries and Galloway region from Glasgow and as bishop founded a church and monastery at Hoddom. There is evidence that Hoddom was the site of an important monastery, and that it probably had contact with a number of other early Christian churches in the British Isles and Ireland.



Picture: the inauguration of the commemorative plaque at Hoddom (2011)