

## Christmas Story Quiz

Answer the following questions without opening your Bible.....  
Mum and Dad will help

### 1. Jesus was born

- (a) at night
- (b) in the morning
- (c) at an unknown time

### 2. Jesus was born

- (a) in a stable
- (b) in a manger
- (c) at an unknown place



### 3. The shepherds found Jesus

- (a) in a stable
- (b) in a feed bin
- (c) in a house



### 4. The Magi found Jesus

- (a) in a stable
- (b) in a feed bin
- (c) in a house

### 5. Angels

- (a) sang a beautiful song
- (b) terrified farm-workers
- (c) told the wise men to go home another way

### 6. A star

- (a) appeared on the night of Jesus' birth
- (b) guided shepherds to the manger
- (c) led the Magi westward



### 7. The animals mentioned at the manger included

- (a) oxen, donkey, sheep, cows, doves
- (b) pigs, lobsters, shrimp
- (c) none of the above



### 8. The weather at the birth of Jesus was

- (a) not mentioned
- (b) moderate to warm
- (c) snowy

### 9. When the shepherds arrived, Jesus was

- (a) asleep on the hay
- (b) wrapped like a mummy
- (c) not crying

### 10. The posture of the shepherds when the angel appeared was

- (a) seated on the ground
- (b) lying in the fields
- (c) not mentioned



*Merry Christmas*

## St. Bernadette's RC Church Tullibody NEWSLETTER - CHRISTMAS DAY 2017

ST. BERNADETTE



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*Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No. SC001810*

**MASS TIMES: Saturday Vigil 5.30pm. Sunday Mass: 11.30am**

**Weekday Masses: Monday, Wed, Thurs & Saturday at 9.30am.**

**NO SERVICES ON TUESDAY. Friday Evening Mass: 7.00pm**

**ALSO SEE PARISH DIARY FOR HOLY DAYS AND FUNERALS ETC.**

**Parish Website: <http://www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes/>**

For newsletters, notices, information from parish groups, history, links to schools, other catholic organisations and publications.



*Welcome*

Are you visiting our Parish or have you just moved into the area?  
Please feel very welcome..... Introduce yourself to the  
Parish Priest or newcomers at the back of the church.  
There are no strangers here just new friends you haven't yet met...

**IN THIS SPECIAL EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER  
THERE IS ONLY FR. MIKES CHRISTMAS MESSAGE  
AND A QUIZ ON THE BACK PAGE FOR THE CHILDREN.**

(answers on the way out)

**ALL NOTICES ETC. WERE IN SUNDAY 24th DECEMBER NEWSLETTER.**

**AND ON PARISH WEBSITE**

**THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE PARISH NEWSLETTER WILL BE 7th JANUARY 2018**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL  
AND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND HOLY NEW YEAR**



**TODAY IS THE LAST OPPORTUNITY TO  
CONTRIBUTE TO OUR ADVENT PROJECT**



**Buckets  
at door**

**Mobile phones must be switched off or put to Airplane mode in the church.**

## **Christmas Message**

*"But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." (Luke2:10)*

*Are you part of the INN CROWD or are you one of the STABLE FEW? This can be an uncomfortable question around Christmas time! Sometimes you are just not sure any more what to think. Look around. Many high street stores are reporting record turnovers as consumers ignore potential economic worries and indulge in last minute Christmas shopping. Across the country the party season is in full swing as revellers make the most of the festivities.*

*But not everyone is having such a good time. Organisations such as the Samaritans believe that over the Christmas period there is more family conflict and more people attempt suicide than at any other time of the year. Has commercialism, the desire to eat and drink as much as possible hijacked the spiritual meaning of Christmas? Are we more interested in receiving than giving? Have we lost the true Christmas spirit? Many may think so but I also feel the majority feel Christmas as a day, an event is something special. Daily life takes on a different aspect. Charlie Brown once appeared in a Christmas Snoopy cartoon writing "Dear Santa I already have everything I could possibly wish for this year: family, good friends and love! Please take care of those who need you. Thank you. xx"*

*It may appear very worldly but Snoopy seems to have captured a good part of the Christmas spirit. It probably is the same all over the world. At Christmas, perhaps even if you are not a Christian, you want to eat something different, better. Want to treat yourself and celebrate in some way. Have a break from daily work.*

*Christmas seems to welcome hope and joy in all our lives. Do not the most of us wish the world would be very different?*

*The child, born in a manger, is born into a world very much like ours but his very life and words preach an alternative message of hope and joy. As a newly born child born into poverty in almost inhuman circumstances he is first visited not by the world's powerful and elite but shepherds, men on the very edge of society.*

*His mum and dad will soon be fleeing with him as refugees to Egypt to escape Herod. The Kingdom he will preach as an adult is the complete opposite of Caesar's enforced dominance by military and economic power. Caesar's world is intimidation and brutality and Jesus" is ruled by the heart, compassion, mercy and justice. It is the kind of kingdom deep down most of us long for.*

*In Brazil Christmas was always busy. I would try and squeeze in a Christmas mass with all the trimmings, often a live nativity scene with Joseph and Mary entering the church - even once I had a donkey and a 2 day year old baby on the sanctuary! About 14 masses crammed into 4 days and packed churches.*

*Many now have jobs that pay enough to live, put something special on the table at Christmas and perhaps a new shirt or dress and a toy for the children. But as they watch Mary put the child Jesus in the crib you see the tears in their eyes reflecting past memories which many in the world still live today. The past when they had nothing. Forced off their land by the big multinationals into the outskirts of the large towns looking for employment and building a hovel on the mud banks of the swamp or flooded land amid the drug dealers.*

*A place where no one else wants to live. Perhaps no donkey but a pig or at least a few chickens. That's the crib - a living crib. Millions of them just now scattered all over our world. I have never wanted to go to the Holy Land or Bethlehem. Do not see much point when I can celebrate in such a living crib.*

*As we celebrate Christmas, eat something different, exchange a few presents and correctly wish and pray for a much better year, a more joyful year for our friends and for ourselves let us not forget the LIVING CRIBS scattered throughout the world that are desperately praying for exactly the same as us.*

*Let us pray Emmanuel - God with us - will transform ours and their dark days and nights into hope and joy...*

*May we share the joy and hope the child Jesus brings with everyone!*

*A joyful Christmas to all!*

*Fr. Mike*