

Christmas Carol Concert

St. Mungo's RC Church Alloa 7.00pm Monday 12th December.

Please come along and support our schoolchildren from St. Modan's High School, St. Bernadette's & St. Mungo's primary schools. Please arrive early as in the past the church fills up quickly.



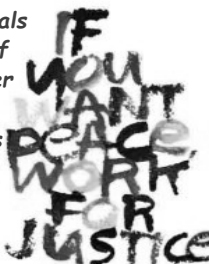
St. Bernadette's School - Parent Council - Christmas Fayre



Saturday 17th December 11am - 2pm, Admission £2 (inc refreshment)

Visit Santa at his Grotto. Stalls include Refreshments, Home baking, Jewellery, Knitwear, Healthy living, Makeup, Candles, Wood turning, Arts and Crafts, Christmas Raffle, Guess Teddy's name and Christmas Quiz to name a few. Helpers needed please contact Laura at the school

In the Old Testament God reveals himself to us as the liberator of the oppressed and the defender of the poor, demanding from us faith in him and justice towards one's neighbour. It is only in the observance of the duties of justice that God is truly recognised as the liberator of the oppressed.



A Catholic Social Teaching message from Pope Paul VI: "If you want Peace, work for Justice."

- (Justice in the World 30)

BLUES MASS. 7pm FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER

For some this joyful season carries an inner pain which they prefer not to show during this Christmas season but they feel even more so the loss and separation of a loved one. In the Blues Mass we take time to pray, look for a different joy and comfort in the presence of the Lord. All are welcome especially those who feel the loss of a loved one or simply wish to remember and pray for a deceased friend or those who have been forgotten.

St. Bernadette's - Parish Newsletter

11th December 2016 + 3rd Sunday of Advent



Parish Priest:

Fr. Mike Freyne MHM

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Diocese of Dunkeld Scottish Charity No. SC001810

Parish Website <http://www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes/> Has all newsletters & notices, information from groups, history, links to schools and other catholic organisations and publications.

MASS TIMES

Vigil Mass Saturday: 5.30pm + Sunday Morning Mass: 11.30am
Monday, Wed, Thurs & Sat at 9.30am + Friday evenings at 7.00pm
(Tuesday - No Services)

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 welcomers at the back of the church.
There are no strangers here just new friends you haven't yet met.

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick.... Margaret Mc'Intyre, Anne Mc'Niven, Margaret Tobin, Austen Todd, Sarah Jane Connelly, Margaret Foye, Kathleen Clarke & Family, (Veronica, Peter-James, Gerard, Bernard and Sean-Joseph), Susie Meehan, Brendan Murphy, Paul Kochanek, Margaret Byrne, Dave Kerr, Lynne Malkiewicz, Sheena Neil, Lisa Hertwig, Dr. Michael Basquill and all those in the various nursing homes.



Remember those who have recently died... Elizabeth McInally, Jimmy McIntyre, Leslie Robson and Dan Tierney

and those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time.... Paddy Docherty, Ewan Cameron, Peggy Carr and Maura Scott.



St. Vincent De Paul:

If you know anyone in The parish that could do with a visit or any help from us then please put a note with details in the S.V.D.P box at back of the church.



Shine a light of hope this Christmas

<http://www.acnuk.org>

26% of Children in Clackmannanshire are living in poverty

Wee County Children's Christmas Shop

new and pre-loved children's toys, gifts, clothes & accessories for "pay what you can" donations for the local foodbanks

Monday to Saturday. 10-4pm
1st - 24th December 2016

new location:

14 Bank Street, Alloa
just along from Chalmers night club

Having a clear out?

Donations of good quality clothes and toys can be dropped into the shop any time we're open.

Do you want to remember someone at Christmas or Pray for a situation in the world?

Write it on the back of a "star" or symbol provided and place it on our Christmas tree. Please encourage and explain to the children to do this.



Knights of St. Columba will be selling Raffle Tickets for a Christmas Hamper in the weeks leading up to Christmas. The proceeds of this will go to Missio.

Parish Collections

4th December	Gift Aided	£424.00
	Non Gift Aided	£348.47

REGULAR MEETINGS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Meet every 2 weeks in Church hall at 10.30am before Sunday mass. Next meetings: January 2017

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA: Meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in St. Mungo's Church Hall Alloa.

Please look at special posters / flyers with Christmas liturgies - days and times. Also on parish website: <http://www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes/current.html>

PARISH DIARY

Saturday 10th December	9.30am - Morning Office & Holy Communion, St. Bernadette's 10.00am - Mission Awareness Group, Dundee 5.30pm - Vigil Mass, St. Bernadette's	GUADETE SUNDAY JOYFUL SUNDAY	3rd Sunday of Advent
Sunday 11th December	11.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's. 4.30pm - Adoration of Blessed Sacrament & Advent Reflection. Theme: The Shepherds & the Wise Men.		
Monday 12th December	8.45 - 9.15 Confessions 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's. 12noon - Deanery Christmas lunch & meeting, Stirling 7.00pm - Schools Carol Concert, St. Mungo's Church, Alloa		
Tuesday 13th Dec	10.30am - Mass & Anointing of Sick, Nazareth House, Edinburgh 4.30pm - Reception of Body Dan Tierney, St. Bernadette's 6.00pm - Anointing of Sick, Orchard House.		
Wednesday 14th December	8.20am - Mass, St. Modan's High School. 9.30am - Funeral Mass of Dan Tierney, St. Bernadette's 1.30pm - St. Mungo's School Concert		
Thursday 15th December	8.45 - 9.15 Confessions 9.30am - Morning Office & Holy Communion. 10.00am - Council Meeting		
Fri 16th Dec	7.00pm - Blues Mass, St. Bernadette's		
Saturday 17th Dec	9.30am - Mass & Confessions, St. Bernadette's 5.30pm - Vigil Mass, St. Bernadette's		4th Sunday of Advent
Sunday 18th December	11.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's. 4.30pm - Adoration of Blessed Sacrament & Advent Reflection. Theme: Mary.		

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

School nativity play will be during the school mass on Monday 19th Dec.

20 Dec | 10 am Scrutiny Meeting, Clacks Council | 21 Dec | Education Meeting & Director of Education.

THE GATE

Our **SVDP**, in practise, is the parishes' working charity. People in need will always be visited, normally within 24 hours. Where there is a real need our SVDP acts very rapidly providing emergency food. We do not have enough volunteers to do this in a more organised and systematic way. For this reason the Parish Council decided to take a step further what the Knights of St. Columba had been doing as a project in the parish supporting The Gate. Our parish has joined with other churches and charities to support **THE GATE**. One of their coordinators has already spoken at the end of mass recently explaining not only how they function but how the demand is constantly increasing. The Gate is organised and support people who have been referred to them from other charities and agencies so you are nearly completely certain they are attending people in need.



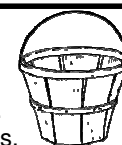
Feed the Hungry KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

Please place non-perishable / tinned items in the box/ basket at the back of the Church. Members of our SVDP & KSC will distribute the goods to the needy in our area and also support "The Gate" Foodbank in Alloa.



WEEK TWO OF OUR ADVENT PROJECT

Once again we will have an Advent Project where we will all work together with our neighbouring parishes. Each Sunday of Advent and on Christmas day there will be a collection bucket at the back of the church. It's an opportunity to give a little of ourselves to help others with greater needs.



We ask parents to take this opportunity to explain Christmas, how lucky our children are receiving presents and that we thank God for our blessings and share with those in need.

We have 2 projects

1. Bore a well 50m deep to find water and train users.
2. Build a "baby facility" that one day will be part of an orphanage.

Both are part of much larger projects. + Both are critical. + Both are life saving.

This week we publish more background to the Baby Facility Project:

St. Monica Women's Group: Was established in 1986 by the Comboni Missionary Sisters in Kaabong Catholic Mission, after being touched by the vulnerability experienced by women, children & youths in the area. Their vision was to reach out to the vulnerable groups with the love of Christ through spiritual, moral, social means.



The establishment and provision of a Rehabilitation Centre for the underprivileged groups especially disabled children and orphans is worthwhile, if supported and implemented efficiently, God's call of reaching out to these souls and spreading his word to the masses especially those in the most need will have been fulfilled.

St. Monica Women's Group is a fully registered group as a Community Based Organization. The group caters for a population of 50 members, (reformed warriors, young mothers, widows, aged women and vulnerable children).

OBJECTIVES :

- Construct and organize a house and cater for orphanage, providing them with the basics for life; Shelter, food clothing and medicine.
- Rehabilitate these children morally through religious /spiritual approach.
- Change the lifestyle of orphans and disabled and instil a sense of belonging.
- To help the children with disabilities enhancing their status in society.
- Providing for the needy children will help them attain /gain self confidence.
- Provide basic needs to become useful and contribute to the development of the nation

More details at: <http://www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes/groups.html>

Our aim is to finance the building of a "baby facility" that one day will be part of an orphanage. Deformed, handicapped children are normally killed at birth. Sr. Christine, an African nun, rescues them and tries to look after them until they are 5 yrs old. Just now they sleep on the kitchen floor. We plan to finance building a room where they can sleep. **Total cost £3,000**

John with his mother happy seeing her son walking with a stick.



Luka with grandmother hidden in the Manyata in the open hut where there are sleeping.



Margaret, the first child in the centre was five days old when her mother left her, she is now 9 years old.



Parish total collected to date: £312.97

On the walls of the church are paintings done by the school children to do with our ADVENT PROJECTS on WATER & CHILDREN: