



happy birthday church

Pentecost Sunday is the birthday of the Church and especially in our globalised world it is easy to perceive that there are various expressions of the Body Of Christ.

Pentecost Sunday in many parts of the world is also recognised as **BASIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SUNDAY**. The Basic Christian Communities are one of the foundations of the church in Latin America and in Brazil where they are found in greater numbers – over 800,000 of them! The nerve center of these communities after the Eucharist, if they have that privilege, are the small groups that unite to reflect on the bible. This is very community based and their reflection usually focuses on a social concern and involves making a concrete link between faith and living in community, society. They are trying to listen to what God wants of us now, in our daily situations.

Many of these Basic Christian communities are almost like mini parishes without a resident priest or weekly celebrations of the Eucharist. They have been well organized for years and in Brazil every two years they send their representatives to meet for the InterChurch Encounter of Basic Christian Communities ("InterChurch" as some Lutheran and Methodist churches have always participated). Between 21st and 25th of July they will meet for the 12th time, always in a different part of the massive country.

There will be 4,000 delegates put up in schools and local houses. These encounters which began back in 1975 always have a different theme and this year the encounter in Amazonia is: **"Basic Christian Communities: Ecology and Mission"**. The Encounter wants to recuperate the dignity of the people who live in the Amazon and show that it is possible to live in communion with the environment; they want to be a sign of a new civilization that can resist the consumer society, the evil of pure profit and that we do not need to live as slaves of the world. There are alternative ways of living without destroying the earth. The Encounter is a simple response to listen to and feel God's love and show we can live in communion with our Creator.

SCHOOL MASSES

Fr. Mike sometimes, before saying one of our parish masses on a Friday, says mass at 8.15 at St. Moden's School. This is a very simple mass to accommodate the students. Now and then there are special masses.

However, nearly every Thursday morning at the 9.30 am mass in St. Bernadette's one or two classes come up from the school to participate in the morning mass. This is an opportunity for the parish community to collaborate with the school. The mass is normally adapted to the children's ages and needs and ability of concentration. The children normally sing, read the reading and bidding prayers and bring up the gifts at the Offertory. All parents are invited to participate **and it would be really good to see them.**



Sunday Mass Times

9.30 am, St. John Vianney's
Alva

11.30 am, St. Bernadette's
Tullibody

6.15 pm, St. John Vianney's
Alva

Newsletter for the Parishes of St. John Vianney's & St. Bernadette's

31 May 2009

Diocese of Dunkeld
Scottish Charity No. SC001180

Fr. Mike Freyne MHM

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St. Bernadette's

Baingle Brae
Tullibody
FK10 2SG



St. John Vianney's

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Sister Nora Carr U.J. & Sr. Margaret Maher U.J

Parish Sisters - Ursulines of Jesus

St. John Vianney's

Tel: 01259 760 324

Welcome - If you are a visitor to our Parish or have just moved into the area, then please feel very welcome. Introduce yourself to the Parish Priest or newcomers at the back of the church and remember - there are no strangers here only new friends you just haven't yet met.



Please Remember in Your Prayers

Those who are sick...Harry Burns, Chris Conway, Veronica Clarke, Mary Dryland, Annie Fitzgerald, Pat Franchie, Mrs. Goldie, Vera Kosciwz, Robert McInnes, Mrs. McCann, Mary McGeehan, Patrick Meehan, Josie Nichols, Annie Russell and Bronia Schultzza.

And those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time... James Dunnion, Bernard McKeon, William Norwood, Agnes Smith, Mary J. Smith, Andrew Nichol and Sarah Masterson

Parish Finances 2009 Collections

| St. John Vianney's, Alva | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| 24 May | £380.83 |
| St. Bernadette's, Tullibody | |
| 24 May | £424.64 |

Weekly Diary and Forth Coming Events

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| Sunday, 31 May Pentecost | 7.15 pm Reception of body of Katherine Kelly |
| Monday 1st June | 9.30am- Funeral mass for Katherine Kelly St. John Vianney's, |
| Wednesday 3 rd | 9.30qm - Mass, St. Bernadette's, (school classes 6+7s) |
| Thursday 4 th JUNE European Polling Day | 9.30am – Mass, St. Bernadette's 7.00pm - Dundee Cathedral, Education mass. |
| Friday 5 th | 9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's |
| Saturday 6 th | 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's + Confessions |
| Monday, 8 June | Communications Team Meeting |
| Saturday, 13 June | 1.00pm - 50th Jubilee Mass - Dundee |
| Sunday, 14 June Corpus Christi | 11.30am - First Communion, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody |
| Monday, 15 June | 6.00pm - Penitential service for First Communion Children, St. John Vianney's, Alva |
| Thursday, 18 June | 9.30am - Mass, First Communion Group + Refreshments, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody |
| Friday, 19 June | Feast Sacred Heart, 7.00pm Cathedral Dundee |
| Saturday, 20 June | 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody 11.00am - First Communion, St. John Vianney's, Alva |

Psalm of the Brooding Spirit

by Ed Hays

Come, Spirit of the Holy, brood over me,
huddling henlike as you once did
over the dark, swirling waters of chaos
on Creation Eve.

Your scream shattered the silence
as God's love cracked open the cosmic egg,
spilling out spiral galaxies and stars,
planets and moons, oceans and land.

Brood over me, Spirit of Creation,
with your searing, scarlet wings aflame.
Umbrella me in the hothouse steam of love,
so my hard shell will shatter open.

Then, spill forth from the very center of me
God's wildest dreams and fantasies,
heaven's highest hopes for my day and times,
as you again recreate this old, weary world.

Regular Meetings

St. Vincent De Paul meet every Sunday after the morning mass in Alva. The SVDP in St. Bernadette's meet before Sunday mass at 10.30 am.

UCM meets every Wednesday evening at 7.00pm in Alva.

Knights of St. Columba meet every first Wednesday of the month in St. Mungo's Parish Hall, Alloa .

We remember all those who are in the middle of important exams just now.



DIOCESAN MASSES

Saturday 30th May 11.30am

Saturday 13th June 1.00pm

Sunday 14th June 3.00pm

Friday 19th June 7.00pm

150th Anniversary of Sisters of Mercy, Dundee
50th Jubilee Anniversary of St. Francis, Dundee Parish

Diocesan Benediction of Blessed Sacrament, Dundee (All Eucharistic Ministers in the Diocese are invited)

Cathedral Dundee, Vespers and Benediction.
Beginning of Year of the Priest



PENTECOST

ALL VIBRANT,
TRANSFORMING CHURCH



The Pope recently finished a visit to Africa where the Church is growing fastest and already sends its missionaries to Europe. What the European Church once offered to the rest of the world it is perhaps beginning to receive and maybe the Holy Spirit brings with it new expressions of living our faith. There are emphasis that should question our own ways of seeing and living the church. If you were to ask most Europeans and Americans what are the important issues facing the Church just now, many would perhaps reply: women in the church, teachings on sexual morality, power of the pope and priests compared to the laity, sexual abuse and many others. The same question put to an African or perhaps someone in Latin America, would probably give different answers like: corruption, human rights, poverty, hunger, war, bad governments, health. There would seem to be a different EMPHASIS on the Church's mission to transforming society and what is hopeful is that this new spirit come from bishops, priests and laity.



DAY FOR LIFE

The BISHOPS CONFERENCE OF SCOTLAND have published an excellent leaflet for this Sunday on the "DIGNITY OF LIFE " from its conception to death. Please take one at the back of the church and there is a collection box for those who wish to contribute and we will gladly forward the funds.

EXCELLENT FLYER AT BACK OF CHURCH