



ST. THOMAS MORE we all know from the film *a MAN FOR ALL SEASONS* based on his life. Known for his defence of the right to follow your conscience he is patron saint of Lawyers and Politicians. A Patron Saint much needed today;

There are many reasons for proclaiming Thomas More Patron of statesmen and people in public life. Among these is the need felt by the world of politics and public administration for credible role models

able to indicate the path of truth at a time in history when difficult challenges and crucial responsibilities are increasing. Today in fact strongly innovative economic forces are reshaping social structures; on the other hand, scientific achievements in the area of biotechnology underline the need to defend human life at all its different stages, while the promises of a new society — successfully presented to a bewildered public opinion — urgently demand clear political decisions in favour of the family, young people, the elderly and the marginalized.

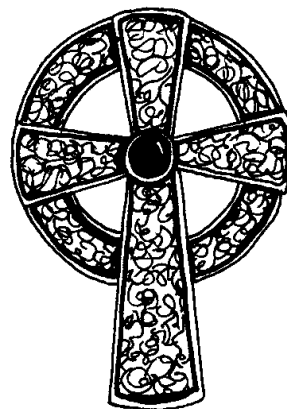
In this context, it is helpful to turn to the example of Saint Thomas More, who distinguished himself by his constant fidelity to legitimate authority and institutions precisely in his intention to serve not power but the supreme ideal of justice. His life teaches us that government is above all an exercise of virtue. Unwavering in this rigorous moral stance, this English statesman placed his own public activity at the service of the person, especially if that person was weak or poor; he dealt with social controversies with a superb sense of fairness; he was vigorously committed to favouring and defending the family; he supported the all-round education of the young. His profound detachment from honours and wealth, his serene and joyful humility, his balanced knowledge of human nature and of the vanity of success, his certainty of judgement rooted in faith: these all gave him that confident inner strength that sustained him in adversity and in the face of death. His sanctity shone forth in his martyrdom, but it had been prepared by an entire life of work devoted to God and neighbour.

WAR ON DRUGS (June 26th)

£650 billion is the money generated each year from drug trafficking according to the United Nations. And June 26th is the International Day against Drug Abuse and Trafficking. In its latest report it says that Africa is now being targeted by traffickers seeking new routes, including cocaine traffickers from Colombia and heroin smugglers from Afghanistan. There is a spill-over effect from the increased trafficking and this is leading to growing drug consumption in Africa.

People are getting paid in drugs. In order to turn this into money they have to sell it. They have no other choice, so they sell the drugs locally and the market is being created. Increasingly we also see in Africa that markets are being created for heroin and for cocaine even though the levels are very small when compared to the USA and Europe.

June 26th is a day to ask "Do drugs control your life?", to remind ourselves of the evil created by drugs and the problems that are to be found not only in places like Africa but also on our own doorstep. Its theme is "Your life, Your Community, No Place for Drugs."



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

Website www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes or www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys or **GOOGLE US !!**

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

21 June 2009

Diocese of Dunkeld
Scottish Charity No. SC001180

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FK12 5HR

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 welcomees 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...Franchie, Bronia Schultz, Chris Conway, Vera Mary Veronica Clarke, Mary Dryland, Mrs Goldie, Veronica Clarke, Mrs. Jean McCann, Annie Fitzgerald, Patrick Meehan, Annie Russell, Josie Nichols, Harry Burns, Robert McInnes, William Norwood, Lawrence Allan, William Stenhouse.

Those who have recently died... James David Anderson and Bricie Cairns (both lived here).

And those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time... *Bernard McKeown*

Parish Finances 2009 Collections

St. John Vianney's, Alva	
14 June	£421.46
St. Bernadette's, Tullibody	
14 June	£482.26

Weekly Diary and Forth Coming Events

Sunday, 21 June 12th Sunday year B	Masses as normal Diocesan Youth Team speaking at all Masses
Monday, 22 June	Feast of St. Thomas More 9.30am - Mass + confessions, St. John Vianney's, Alva
Tuesday, 23 June	No Masses
Wednesday, 24 June	Birth of John the Baptist 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody
Thursday, 25 June	9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody
Friday, 26 June	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's, Alva World Drug Enforcement Day 6pm Parish Financial Council
Saturday, 27 June	9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody, No Confessions
Sunday, 28 June	Masses as normal. Feast of Saints Peter and Paul (Second Collection for Peter's Pence)

TWO BIG SAINTS THIS WEEK

JOHN THE BAPTIST & ST. THOMAS MORE AND BOTH HAVE LOTS IN COMMON.



BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST (June 24th).

All of us like to be recognised, applauded and valued. We usually expect to be appreciated for the good we do. But, if the truth be told, few get the credit they deserve. Many, like John the Baptist, carry on ministries of tremendous importance to prepare for the future, but are seldom recognised for that role. If John had not prepared the people with a spiritual revival that emphasised repentance from sin, baptism, and forgiveness, then Jesus could not have built on this foundation. He would have had to

start from scratch and be diverted from his chief ministry and emphasis.

You may be one of God's preparers so that the ministry of your Church in the future can be more effective. It doesn't matter whether or not people appreciate you. But it does matter that you are faithful to God who called you to this ministry of preparation so that his work might go forward unimpeded.

John the Baptist is the prophet who spans the Old and New Testaments. His role was to help people see the Anointed One of God, to point out the presence of God among his people. And he died wondering whether he had succeeded.

The feast of John's birthday reminds us that as Christians our job is not to look for the lime-light but to point to someone else.

HOW DID FATHERS DAY ARISE ?

The idea for creating a day for children to honour their fathers began in Spokane, Washington. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd thought of the idea for Father's Day while listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909.

Having been raised by her father, William Jackson Smart, after her mother died, Sonora wanted her father to know how special he was to her. It was her father that made all the parental sacrifices and was, in the eyes of his daughter, a courageous, selfless, and loving man. Sonora's father was born in June, so she chose to hold the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane, Washington on the 19th of June, 1910.

In 1926, a National Father's Day Committee was formed in New York City. Father's Day was recognized by a Joint Resolution of Congress in 1956. In 1972, President Richard Nixon established a permanent national observance of Father's Day to be held on the third Sunday of June. So Father's Day was born in memory and gratitude by a daughter who thought that her father and all good fathers should be honoured with a special day just like we honour our mothers on Mother's Day.

KIDS, 2 THINGS YOU MUST DO TODAY – FATHER'S DAY

Apologize to Dad on Father's Day

Father's Day also brings with it the wonderful opportunity to apologize for all our rude and insensitive behavior. We as children often take the love and affection of our parents for granted and treat them with outright contempt. We need to apologize. We must feel great to have the presence of loving father in our lives and do not disrespect the blessing of God on us. On Father's Day we must say "Sorry" to our Dad and seek their forgiveness for our wrong behavior.

Celebrate Father's Day with Dad

We must make all efforts to celebrate Father's Day with our Dad. Children staying away from father must especially strive to spend the day with father and show gratitude for all their support and love. We must pamper father by spending the day in a manner he likes most. It could be going out for a picnic or indulging him with a gourmet meal. We can also express love with thoughtful gifts accompanied by a bouquet of his favorite flowers. The idea is to show our affection and tell Daddy how much he is loved and appreciated not just on Father's Day but every single day of our lives.

F.A.T.H.E.R.S.

"F" aithful.
"A" lways there.
"T" rustworthy.
"H" onoring.
"E" ver-loving.
"R" ighteous.
"S" upportive.

Author Unknown



LOURDES LAST CALL – DON'T MISS OPPORTUNITY !!

There are only 7 places left on the tour if anyone is interested contact George on 01259 218485.