

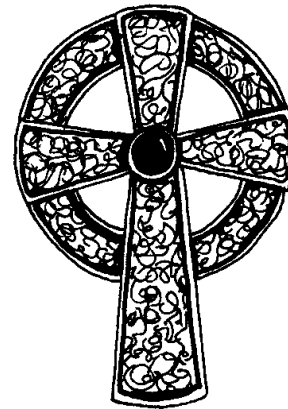
# July

**Christians and holidays?** As you might expect there are not many references to holidays in the Bible. In the Book of Ester the people of God were encouraged to "observe the days as days of feasting and joy and giving presents of food to one another and gifts to the poor" so perhaps a little nearer to our idea of Christmas holidays. There are many references to holidays as a time for festivities to remember specific occasions when God had rescued the People of God (Passover and the Harvest) and often

involved long journeys and pilgrimages. There is certainly a tendency in the Bible that we share our holidays with others and not simply withdraw ourselves. The Bible puts a lot of emphasis on a break from work, gather together with our families, look for God's blessings and to focus more on our relationship with God. Our holidays today are very much a getting away from it all, a relaxation of our Christian obligations and seek the best of what the world has to offer for our enjoyment. Most of us come back from holiday more tired than when we left !! It is important that we rest and burn out is certainly something the Bible does not value. As we look over the glossy brochures we do not need to have a crisis of conscience but it is good to be sensitive to the world around us, what we have and others do not, and be able to thank God. **LOOK AFTER YOURSELF – BODY AND SPIRIT – AND HAVE A GOOD HOLIDAY – AND THANK GOD !**

## RUBBISH RELIGION

Have you ever thought about how your religion has a lot to do with the rubbish? What things are important about Christianity that sometimes get ignored like the rubbish? We never throw away photographs of old friends and family, yet Jesus was rejected by many people. Can you think of who rejected him? Plenty of people hoard a lot of old bits and pieces, but there comes a time when we have to take action and get rid of unwanted things. Jesus did this when he visited the Temple. What do you have to get rid of? There many people in our world who are "thrown away" and not wanted. These might include people who have diseases, who are poor or who have special needs. Can you think of others who are sometimes "discarded"? We are all guilty at sometime or other of "looking down" on others even though Jesus told us not to do so. Are there people you look down on? Why? There are times when each of us loses someone special. Who have you lost? If Jesus were born today would it be in a hospital or "out in the back" with the bins?



### 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](http://www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes) or [www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys](http://www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys) or **GOOGLE US !!**

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

12 July 2009

Diocese of Dunkeld  
Scottish Charity No. SC001180

**Fr. Mike Freyne MHM**

Parish Priest

Tel: : 01259 213 274

Email: mafreyne@hotmail.com

**St. Bernadette's**

Baingle Brae  
Tullibody  
FK10 2SG



**St. John Vianney's**

16 East Stirling Street  
Alva  
FK12 5HR

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

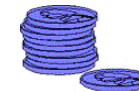
Parish Sisters - Ursulines of Jesus

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 welcomers at the back of the church and remember - there are no strangers here only new friends you just haven't yet met.

### Parish Finances 2009 Collections



|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>St. John Vianney's, Alva</b>    |         |
| 5 July                             | £383.90 |
| <b>St. Bernadette's, Tullibody</b> |         |
| 5 July                             | £342.57 |



## Please Remember in Your Prayers

Those who are sick.....

Pat Franchie, Bronia Schultza, Chris Conway, Veronica Clarke, Mary Dryland, Mrs Goldie, Mrs. Jean McCann, Annie Fitzgerald, Patrick Meehan, Annie Russell, Josie Nichols, Harry Burns, Robert McInnes, William Norwood, Lawrence Allan and Jan Moffat.

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

James Smith, Alister Corr, George Robertson, Eden Bonner, Peter Lamb, Sandy Souve, Joseph McParland, Dick Tobin, James Evens and Philemena Stirling

# Weekly Diary and Forthcoming Events

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Sunday, 12 July</b><br>15th Sunday year B | Masses as normal.<br>1pm - Baptism of Emily, St. John Vianney's, Alva                                      |
| Monday, 13 July                              | 9.30am - Mass + Confessions, St. John Vianney's, Alva  |
| Tuesday, 14 July                             | No Masses  |
| Wednesday, 15 July                           | 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody   |
| Thursday, 16 July                            | 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody Children's Mass followed by juice and biscuits (for the kids)** |
| Friday, 17 July                              | 9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's, Alva  |
| Saturday, 18 July                            | 9.30am - Mass + Confessions, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody,  |
| Sunday, 19 July                              | Masses as normal.  |
| Friday 24 July                               | 2pm Wedding of Clare and Raj, St. John Vianney's   |
| Sunday 26 July                               | 1pm Baptism of Lewis Thomas Allan, Tullibody   |
| Wednesday 5 August                           | 7 pm meeting of organising team for mass for sick, St. Bernadette's, Tullibody                             |
| Saturday 5 September                         | 3 pm. Mass of the sick with Bishop Vincent, St. Bernadette's.  |

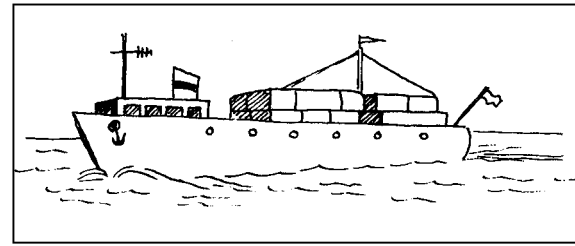
## RENOVATION OF INTERIOR OF ST. BERNADETTE'S

Creating an attractive, welcoming and prayerful atmosphere in the church that is appealing to all is what we are trying to do. So far this has been done around the St. Bernadette's shrine, with the Holy Oils and new Baptismal Font, reform of the confessionals and sacristies: now we are renewing the curtain behind the main altar to a brighter, lighter colour as a background for 2 banners, one on each side of the crucifix, which will change colour and design according to the liturgical season. The material for the curtain costs over £180 and each banner costs £56. The first 2 green banners for the season of Ordinary Time have been ordered and gracefully paid for by the Women's group that normally goes to morning mass. As we arrange funds we will slowly buy in pairs banners for Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost and Our Lady. When we put up the new curtain we will hopefully change the lamp shades and lamps to give a better lighting. Anyone gifted with Interior Design or understands lighting, and especially how to do it on a low budget, would be more than welcome to offer ideas – as are all encouraged!

## SMELL OF PAINT – IN ALVA

A painting reform of brightening up of the sacristy and servers' sacristy is taking place. Thanks to those painting and to those who keep them supplied with teas and coffee and hopefully other goodies. We may need a little bit of patience for a few days while things are stored in other places.

## THANK GOD FOR SEAFARERS SEA SUNDAY - JULY 12 2009



The Apostleship of the Sea acts for the Church among the People of the Sea. Their mission is to offer practical help to those in need; solidarity with the oppressed; welcome and hospitality to those on the move; and spiritual sustenance to enable People of the Sea to be the light of Christ for each other.

## SEA FARING TODAY

In the past maritime companies were often family enterprises. There was a working relationship between ship owners and the seafarers they employed. Today, globalization means that crews are more likely to come from countries where labour is cheap. Manning agencies organise the cheapest contracts. There is little contact between the ships' owners and those who work on them.

Crews have been greatly reduced with automation but this increases responsibility, stress and less opportunities for those on board to share time together. To reduce port taxes ships spend less hours in a port sometimes loading and unloading in hours meaning little or no time to go ashore. This means that even with modern technology most sophisticated communications technology is only available onboard to officers. Seafarers have less opportunity to communicate with their families and depend on public telephones, email cafes or the postal system to contact their families. On this day we remember all of them, their families and those that work to support them. We remember those who have a special mission to evangelize seafarers.

**THE TEMPORARY LITURGY COMMITTEE** met last Thursday with 3 representatives from St. John Vianney's and one from St. Bernadette's. The aim and concerns of a parish liturgy committee we explained and discussed. It was felt that a second meeting repeating the first with 3 or 4 other possible members could be repeated during the summer to get down seriously to work at the beginning of September. Interested? Please, contact Fr. Mike.

## CHILDREN'S MASS

During the summer holidays there is a special children's mass at 9.30 am on Thursdays. It is good to see the number who turn up with a parent and participate in the readings and other prayerful activities. We are absolutely convinced the juice and biscuits after mass has no influence on them at all!! Congratulations to the children who bring their exuberance and simplicity to our celebrations. Congratulations to the adults that have welcomed them so well and joined in THEIR prayerful mass.

## CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

We congratulate Gillian who after a special preparation last Friday at the 9.30 am mass was confirmed and made her first communion. She will in a short time celebrate another sacrament – matrimony. Congratulations!