

The Sabbath Principle

Even God took a rest when he'd finished creating the world and all that it contains. By the seventh day he was in need of a change of scene! The Sabbath is a day of rest. It doesn't of course mean that we end up doing nothing. The Sabbath is intended as a boundary between our active and contemplative modes. Sabbath time should be creative time. It should regenerate and set us off again for the work that we do on non-Sabbath days. Sabbath means re-charging our batteries.



At this time of the year we sometimes take an extended Sabbath: holidays. We go for a change of scene, different activity, a bit of pampering. There's nothing wrong with this and even such eminent people as Pope Benedict XVI encourage us to do it.



The pope spoke recently about the need for holidays:

"Holidays have become almost a necessity to recover in body and spirit, especially for those who live in the city where the often frenetic conditions of life leave little space for silence and reflection. In contact with nature, people can again find their true dimension. They rediscover themselves as creatures, small but at the same time unique."

The pope's idea of a great holiday is a secluded place in the Italian hills with a piano! But we all have our ideal holidays. We take them with family and friends and the main aim is to have a good time.

"Prayer, reading and meditation on the deep meaning of life, surrounded by family and loved ones" is what the pope talks about. I'm sure he can find time for a bit of sand and sangria as well!



Saint Mary Magdalene 22nd July

Because of a lot of recent films and books Mary Magdalene has become well known despite the fact that much of what is said about her is wrong and invented. The fact is she is a powerful figure in the Gospel stories. Her story is extremely attached to Jesus'. Cured of an infirmity she travelled with the Apostles. She was present at the two most important events in Jesus' life – crucifixion and resurrection.

When everyone abandoned Jesus she was there at the foot of the cross. She was with Joseph of Arimathea who took Jesus from the cross and placed in a tomb. She was a living witness of the resurrection and was given the mission by Jesus to announce his resurrection to the Apostles. She was present in the early church. This is what we definitely know about her. Mary Magdalene is also mentioned in each of the four gospels in the New Testament, but not once does it mention that she was a prostitute or a sinner. At some point Mary Magdalene became confused with two other women in the Bible: Mary, the sister of Martha, and the unnamed sinner from Luke's gospel (7:36-50) both of whom wash Jesus' feet with their hair. In the 6th Century, Pope Gregory the Great made this assumption official by declaring in a sermon that these three characters were actually the same person: Mary Magdalene, repentant saint. The Catholic Church did later declare that Mary Magdalene was not the penitent sinner, but this was not until 1969. After several centuries, the reputation still lingers.



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

18 July 2010 - 16th Sunday of Year C

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St. John Vianney's

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Joint Website www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys or Google us !!

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. Remember there are no strangers here just new friends you just haven't yet met.

Parish Finance 2010 Collections



St. John Vianney's 11 July	£399.00
St. Bernadette's 11 July	£474.23



Please Remember in Your Prayers those who

are sick.... Rev. Deacon Michael Cafferty, Jean McCann, Josie Nicholl, Annie Fitzgerald, Hugh Mangan, Mary Wilkie, Veronica Clarke, Lawrence Allan, Vera Kasciewicz, Mary Dryland, Margaret Hamilton, Robert McInnes, Annie Russell Mave Segrave, Mary McGeehan, Sarah Lawrie and Jackie Smith

Remember those who have recently died...

Clive Waering

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

Sandy Soave, Joseph Mc Parlin,, Philomena Stirling, James Evans, John Mam and Dermot Carmondy

Weekly Diary and Forthcoming Events

Sunday 18th July 16th Sunday Yr. C	Masses as normal.
Mon 19th July	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's
Tues 20th July	No Masses in Parish
Wed 21st July	9.30 - Mass, St. Bernadette's 7.00pm - Pre-Papal Mass in St. Mungo's Alloa
Thurs 22nd July	9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's. Feast of St. Mary Magdalene Children's Mass followed by refreshments in the hall
Friday 23rd July	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's
Sat 24th July	9.30am - Mass + Confessions, St. Bernadette's.
Sunday 25th July 17th Sunday Yr. C	Masses as normal 1.00pm - Baptism St. Mungo's, Alloa

Longer Term Diary

- Sat 31st July** 1pm Wedding, St. Bernadette's
- Sun 1st Aug** 12.30pm Baptism, St Bernadette's
- Sun 15th August** Appeal by Missionary Society of St. James the Apostle
- Mon 16th August** 8.30am Mass for staff St. Modans Stirling
9.30am Mass St John Vianney's
12noon Mass for staff St. Bernadette's school
- Thurs 19th August** 7pm, St. John Vianney's Paris Hall, members indicated for PPC
- Friday 20th Aug** 8.20am Mass St. Modans Stirling
- Thurs 23rd Sept** 7pm, St. John Vianney's Parish Hall, PPC meeting.
- Sunday 17th Oct** Quarantore begins in both parishes
- Sunday 24th Oct** 2pm Kirkin' of the Council, St. Bernadette's

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Please note there has been a poster at the back of both churches since last weekend with a list of all those who have been invited to be members of the Parish Pastoral Council. These are people who had been indicated by more than 3 or 4 parishioners.

If anyone believes for any moral or legal reason any of the indicated cannot become members of the PPC please inform Fr. Mike immediately.

If all names are confirmed for the 1st of August their first meeting will be on:

Thursday 19th August at 7pm (finishes 8.30pm) in St. John Vianney's parish hall. This will be the only meeting of "formation" for everyone.

Thursday 23rd September at 7pm, again in the parish hall in Alva, will be the first meeting of the PPC to decide what offices are needed, choose the office bearers and decide the internal workings of the PPC.



PRE-PAPAL MASSES

The majority of the people cannot afford to go to Rome to see the Pope and so Pope Benedict comes on a pastoral visit to Scotland. When he arrives here, although it is also a State visit the majority of Catholics will not be waiting for the head of the State of the Vatican. They want to see the successor of St. Peter. In preparation for this Pastoral visit Bishop Vincent has planned 4 pre-papal masses in 4 different parts of the diocese.

The first will be in our Deanery on

WEDNESDAY 21st July, at St. Mungo's, Alloa. Mass will be at 7 pm. Everyone is invited to participate.

The other masses where Bishop Vincent will celebrate are:

Tuesday 3rd August, St. Anne's, Carnoustie

Wednesday 4th August, Our Lady of Lourdes, Perth

Wednesday 1st September, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Dundee

Before his Holiness Pope Benedict arrives in Scotland, all parishes will also have an evening vigil.

This will be announced nearer the time.



Congratulations to Mrs. Tina O'Neil, she has officially been appointed as head teacher to St. Bernadette's School. Tina sent us the following news just before going away for her summer holiday:

Our school is now closed to pupils until Wednesday 18th August. During the summer much needed work is being done to improve the building. The school has great plans for next session and our main focus for improvements are on:

learning and teaching, in particular moving forward with Curriculum for Excellence
vision and leadership, based on our values
partnerships
People, in particular pupil voice and professional development for our team of dedicated staff
culture and ethos, with an emphasis on positive healthy attitudes and behaviour

I look forward to welcoming everyone back in August and meeting our new pupils and families.

If you would like to find out more about the high standard of service we provide for our children in St Bernadette's please do not hesitate to contact the school on 723973 from August 16th - we'll be delighted to hear from those who are considering enrolment.

I hope you all continue to enjoy the summer break.

Tina O'Neill



Congratulations to Amanda and Ross who were married yesterday in St. Bernadette's.

