

Merry Christmas

Christmas Story Quiz

Answer the following questions without opening your Bible...
Mum and Dad will help

1. Jesus was born

- (a) at night
- (b) in the morning
- (c) at an unknown time



2. Jesus was born

- (a) in a stable
- (b) in a manger
- (c) at an unknown place

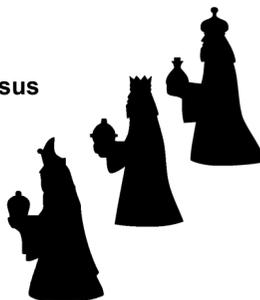


3. The shepherds found Jesus

- (a) in a stable
- (b) in a feed bin
- (c) in a house

4. The Magi found Jesus

- (a) in a stable
- (b) in a feed bin
- (c) in a house



5. Angels

- (a) sang a beautiful song
- (b) terrified farm-workers
- (c) told the wise men to go home another way

6. A star

- (a) appeared on the night of Jesus' birth
- (b) guided shepherds to the manger
- (c) led the Magi westward



7. The animals mentioned at the manger included

- (a) oxen, donkey, sheep, cows, doves
- (b) pigs, lobsters, shrimp
- (c) none of the above



8. The weather at the birth of Jesus was

- (a) not mentioned
- (b) moderate to warm
- (c) snowy

9. When the shepherds arrived, Jesus was

- (a) asleep on the hay
- (b) wrapped like a mummy
- (c) not crying



10. The posture of the shepherds when the angel appeared was

- (a) seated on the ground
- (b) lying in the fields
- (c) not mentioned



ANSWERS AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH AS YOU LEAVE

LOURDES YOUTH PROJECT 100 CLUB PRIZE DRAW

Drawn 22nd December after 11.30am Mass at St. Bernadette's.

1st, £100, David Delaney.

2nd, £25, Mrs. Driver

Garmin sat-nav won by Tina Murphy.

Balvenie Malt Whisky won by Ellen McMenemy.

Next draw Sunday 26th January 2014 after 9.30am Mass at St. John Vianney's

Newsletter for the Parishes of St. Bernadette's & St. John Vianney's Diocese of Dunkeld (Scottish Charity No. SC001810)



St. Bernadette's
Baingle Brae
Tullibody FK10 2SG
01259 213274

**25th December 2013
Christmas Day**

Parish Priest:
Fr. Mike Freyne MHM
Tel: 01259 213274
Email: mafreyne@btinternet.com

Sister Nora Carr U.J.
Parish Sister - Ursulines of Jesus
St. John Vianney's. Tel: 01259 760324



St. John Vianney's
16 East Stirling Street
Alva FK12 5HR
01259 760324

Parish Websites: www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes

& www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys

Welcome

Are you visiting our Parish or have 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.... Dan Tierney, Jean Quinn, Mary Dryland, Christie Scott, Michael Ferguson, Mary McGeehan, Vera Kasciewicz, Brendan Murphy, Lawrence Allan, Sarah Lownie, Mary Elliot, Liz Buchan, Veronica Day, Georgina Anderson, Margaret McIntyre, Alma White, Bridget Grey, Catherine Miller, Sandy Taylor, Owen Cattigan, Thomas Benie, Elizabeth Docherty, Veronica Clarke, Gerard Clarke, Peter James Clarke, Janet Martin, Ellen McParland, Paul Kochanek, Lorraine McClusky, Mary McCartney, Mona Pyat, Peter Doyle Petra Diyjk and all those in the various nursing homes.

Remember those who have recently died..... Patrick Docherty, Bernadette McKay, John Montgomery, Maria Quinn and Joe Cusker.
and those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time.... Frank Simpson, William Hutchinson, Michael Dunion, Frank Gallacher, Peter Witton, Bernard Hughes, Thomas McKavenny (Jr), James & Ann Patton.

REGULAR MEETINGS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:

Meet in St. Bernadette's weekly, at 10.30am before Sunday mass and at St. John Vianney's, on the last Sunday of the month after 9.30 morning mass.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA:

Meet at 8.00pm on the first Wednesday of the month in the Hall at St. Mungo's, Alloa.

No Newsletter next Sunday , next issue 5th January 2014

**Wishing all our readers a merry Christmas
and best wishes for a happy and holy New Year**

THIS WEEKS DIARY

Sunday Morning Masses:
St. John Vianney's, 9.30am
& St. Bernadette's, 11.30am

Sunday Evening Mass:
St. John Vianney's, 6.15pm

Tuesday
24th December
Christmas Eve

10.00am - Nazareth House, Edinburgh?
7.30pm - Vigil Mass, St. Bernadette's
9.30 pm – Vigil Mass, St John Vianney's



Wednesday
25th December
Christmas Day

9.30 am - Mass, St. John Vianney's
11.30 am - Mass, St. Bernadette's
No evening mass.

Thursday
26th December

9.30am - Mass, St Bernadette's.
Feast of St. Stephen

Friday
27th December

9.30am - Mass, St John Vianney's.
Feast of St. John



Saturday
28th December

9.30am - Mass & Confessions, St Bernadette's.
Feast of the Holy Innocents

Sunday
29th December

Mass times as Normal
Feast of The Holy Family

Mon 30th Dec

Morning Office & Holy Communion St. John Vianney's

Wed 1st Jan

Morning Office & Holy Communion St. Bernadette's

Thurs 2nd Jan

Morning Office & Holy Communion St. Bernadette's

Fri 3rd Jan

Morning Office & Holy Communion St. John Vianney's

Sat 4th Jan

Morning Office & Holy Communion St. Bernadette's

Sunday
5th January

Mass times as Normal - Epiphany of the Lord

St. Bernadette's Primary School Enrolments for August 2014.

We are enrolling pupils for our P1 class during the week beginning
Monday January 13th 2014

Please contact the school to make arrangements to meet the Head teacher,
 Mrs Tina O'Neill and complete the relevant paper work.

You will need your birth and baptismal certificates (if applicable)

St. Bernadette's Primary School, Tullibody

62 The Orchard, Tullibody. Clacks FK10 2SD

Phone: 01259 723973 Email: stbernadette@edu.clacks.gov.uk

Website: st-bernadettes.clacks.sch.uk



Enrolments for P1 will also take place at St Mungo's school Alloa in the week beginning 13th January 2014. To make an appointment phone Nicola Wood, Head-teacher, on 01259 724061 or e-mail stmungos@edu.clacks.gov.uk

Christmas message 2013

The economic crisis that hangs over us like a dark cloud may have reduced the number of street decorations and lights in our towns; we probably cut back on our Christmas cards, not because our friends are less but the cost is so high and yet we probably all have been caught up in a frenzy of rushing around doing last minute visits and shopping. There was probably even the risk we exhausted ourselves before Christmas and the commercialization of the season leaves us drained and dampens the true joy of the birth of Jesus. We may even have been lured into talking about the "holiday season" rather than talking about Christmas and implying its deeper, sacred and holy significance.

*Even with all the parties, presents, shouts of festive laughter and joy at office, school and family parties this time makes most of us more sensitive to those who suffer, the have-nots, those suffering from natural disasters. We hesitate in the street and drop a few coins into someone stretching out a hand asking. We buy charity Christmas cards. We feel terribly for those who are in hospital; we visit the old folks home, we stop off to see our old aunt who for the greater part of the year we have not given a thought. We seem to become more joyful and merry and at the same time aware of the misery and pain far and near that exist. And it is not just us Christians. People of other faiths – and no faith – regard our Christmas with certain respect. Our God is amazing! He not only became human, but poor, one of us, sharing totally in our humanity to show his love for us. Born in a stable. The beginning of a journey eventually to lead to the cross and only to show **God loves us**. This is the Jesus that came to teach us, heal us, to show us the way to the fullness of life inviting us to follow in his footsteps. We with our sinfulness, our imperfections, faults are called to follow Him.*

And we can do it. Because he came to us as a baby!

The God of surprises and who does the unexpected. The mysterious ways of God who chooses a young girl Mary who is not formally married, a birth in a humble stable, in threatening circumstances announced by angels, in a simple town named Bethlehem...

We celebrate with joy the birth of Jesus in a stable, a manger – that God became man. And that should strike us with a thump!

*Everything changes when we realise **Jesus is the human face of God**.*

Now we know how God sees us, understands and feels our suffering, forgives us when we do the most terrible things, who comes looking for us when we are lost.

He becomes one like us – as a baby.

Because we believe this – God became man, then the world can be different.

This Christmas let us recognise the sacred and holy around us, smile, stretch out a hand and welcome all people and recognise the child Jesus in them.

A merry and HOLY CHRISTmas to you all !

Fr. Mike