


St. Bernadette's School Coffee Morning
 Saturday 7th December, 10am to 12 noon
 at St Bernadette's Primary School.
 Entry: £2 (includes tea/coffee and fresh baking)
 Stalls hosted by Dale Design Studio and
 Carolyn Stones Design, where children can make
 their own jewellery or Christmas cards and lots more.



ADVENT - CHRISTMAS TREE:

Today at mass in both churches we will bless a Christmas tree. The Christmas tree and ever greens are symbols adopted from many cultures, ancient religious practises and customs to represent the joy of life. We want our Christmas tree to be part of our liturgical preparation for Christmas and in helping to educate our children about the importance of CARING FOR OTHERS. At the Offertory at school mass on Thursday the children will bring up stars and other paper symbols to hang on the tree. On the backs of these they will have written a **Christmas intention**, or a name of a person or a place that needs to be remembered in our prayers during this Christmas season. We wish to encourage parents to do this with their children at the end of mass on Sundays as well. Hopefully parents will explain to children that although they are fortunate to receive presents many do not and that the sick, the lonely, the hungry, those suffering from natural disasters need a moment of our time to pray for them during this season.



STOP-N-SHOP's grand opening on Tuesday 3rd December, 11.00 am.
at 28 Baker Street Stirling
 Santa and his elves will be doing the honours.
 The shop is organised by St Modan's Autism provision and will be manned by Special Needs pupils from Wallace High, Bannockburn High, Glasgow Kelvin College and hopefully Riverside Primary. **Proceeds from the shop go to charity**

POPE FRANCIS – PASTORAL LETTER – DREAMS !

When Pope Francis immediately became Pope the retired Pope Benedict had already prepared most of a pastoral letter. Therefore Pope Francis first pastoral letter was mostly written and prepared by Pope Benedict. Last Tuesday the Vatican issued Pope Francis' first very own Pastoral Exhortation. By the looks of things it was written all by him and not by others. It is his style. Unfortunately the press here will pick and choose, if they print any of what he has written to us. During Advent we will publish some of the key points of this Pastoral Exhortation but you can easily find it on the Internet. The exhortation in Latin is called **Evangelii Gaudium – "The joy of the Gospel"**. And its tone is very clear from the beginning: **"I dream of a missionary option that is, a missionary impulse of transforming everything, so that the church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world, rather than for her self-preservation."** The theme of change and his desire for the poor and the establishment of peace oozes throughout the whole document. Pope Francis writes we should not be afraid of the Church **"going astray"** but rather we should avoid and fear of a church that is **"remaining shut up within structures that give us a false sense of security, within rules that make us harsh judges"** and **"within habits that make us feel safe safe."** We must be missionary and evangelize BUT **"an evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral!"** It is all good stuff to make us think during Advent as we celebrate the new birth that comes with the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

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



St. Bernadette's
 Baingle Brae
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 01259 213274

**1st December 2013
 1st Sunday of Advent**

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



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, Michae Ferguson, Mary McGeehan, Vera Kasciewicz, Brendan Murphy, Lawrence Allan, Sarah Lownie, Mary Elliot, Liz Buchan, Veronica Day, Georgina Anderson, Margaret Mc'Intyre, Alma White, Bridget Grey, Catherine Miller, Sandy Taylor, Owen Cattigan, Thomas Benie, Elizabeth Docherty, Veronica Clarke, Gerard Clarke, Peter James Clarke, Janet Martin, Ellen Mc'Parland, Paul Kochanek, Lorraine McClusky, Mary McCartney, Patrick Docherty, Mona Pyat, Peter Doyle and all those in the various nursing homes.

Remember those who have recently died..... Agnes Anderson
and those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time...
 Maura Scott, and Ewan Cameron.

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.

Parish Collections 24th November	
St. Bernadette's	£652.22
SPUC Collection	£128.16
St. John Vianney's	£385.46
SPUC Collection	£154.35

St. John Vianney's SVDP

Money collected in SVDP box TODAY will be given to Fr. Mike for Brazil. Please be as generous as you can, this money is a great help for these needy projects that Fr. Mike helps support, projects that get little other support.

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

Today we will have the solemn entrance of the Missals for the priest's lectern and the altar at the beginning of mass followed by blessing and incensing of both.

Sunday 1st December	Masses times as Normal - 1st Sunday of Advent
Monday 2nd December	9.30am - Mass, St John Vianney's
Tuesday 3rd December	No services in parishes. 10.00am - Mass, Nazareth House. 7.15pm - PPC, St. John Vianney's hall.
Wednesday 4th December	8.20am - Mass, St. Modan's High School 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's.
Thursday 5th December	9.30am - Mass, St Bernadette's. (School Mass) 10.00am - Pope Francis School Awards
Friday 6th December	9.30am - Mass, St John Vianney's.
Saturday 7th December	9.30am - Mass & Confessions, St Bernadette's.
Sunday 8th December	Mass times as Normal - 2nd Sunday of Advent

LOURDES YOUTH PROJECT 100 CLUB PRIZE WINNERS

1st, No.61 Patricia Smith + 2nd, No. 100 Jim Burney
 Next draw on Sunday 22nd December after 11.30am Mass at St. Bernadette's

VISITING OF THE SICK FOR CHRISTMAS

During the first 3 weeks of Advent all the housebound sick will be visited by Fr. Mike and offered the possibility of anointing of sick, confession and holy communion.

To make sure no one is left out because of the many Christmas engagements, if you know of any sick not yet visited by our Eucharistic Ministers or members of the parish and they would like a visit please inform Fr. Mike immediately with written name and address and if possible telephone number of the sick person.

CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT

Saturday 7th Dec - Confessions as usual after morning mass, St. Bernadette's
Monday 9th Dec - 1.30pm - Sacrament of reconciliation, School
Monday 9th Dec - 5.00pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation - St. John Vianney's
Saturday 14th Dec - Confessions as usual after morning mass, St. Bernadette's
Thursday 19th Dec - 7.00pm - Penitential Service, St Bernadette's
Friday 20th Dec - 7.00pm - Penitential Service, St. John Vianney's
Saturday 21st Dec - Confessions as usual after morning mass, St. Bernadette's.

Advent & Christmas Diary

On days/dates not listed Mass times etc. are at normal weekday times

Sunday 1st December	1st Sunday of Advent
Tues 3rd Dec	10.00am - Nazareth House, Edinburgh - Mass
Wed 4th Dec	8.20am - Mass, St. Modan's High School
Thurs 5th Dec	9.30am - St. Bernadette's: School Mass 10.00am - Pope Francis School Awards
Sunday 8th December	2nd Sunday of Advent
Mon 9th Dec	1.30pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation, School 5.00pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation - St. John Vianney's 7.00pm at St Mungo's - St. Modan's school concert
Tues 10th Dec	10.00am - Nazareth House, Edinburgh - Mass
Wed 11th Dec	8.20am - Mass, St. Modan's High School
Thurs 12th Dec	9.30am - St. Bernadette's: School mass
Sunday 15th December	3rd Sunday of Advent Presentation of Sacrament of Reconciliation certificates.
Mon 16th Dec	10.30am - Orchard House – school mass/ Anointing of Sick
Tues 17th Dec	10.00am - Nazareth House, Edinburgh - Mass
Wed 18th Dec	8.20am - Mass, St. Modan's High School
Thurs 19th Dec	9.30am - St. Bernadette's School mass 7.00pm - Penitential Service, St Bernadette's
Friday 20th Dec	7.00pm - Penitential Service, St. John Vianney's
Sunday 22nd December	4th Sunday of Advent
Mon 23rd Dec	7.00pm - Blues mass, St. Bernadette's
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
Thurs 26th Dec	9.30am - St. Bernadette's, Mass
Friday 27th Dec	9.30am - St. John Vianney's, Mass
Sat 28th Dec	9.30am - St. Bernadette's, Mass.



Confession will also be held before weekday masses on 16th, 19th 20th December from 8.30am till 9.20am and on 18th Dec 9.00am till 9.20am as Fr. Mike says mass at St. Modan's school at 8.20am each Wednesday in Advent.