

Interfaith Scotland - Scottish Interfaith Week - 24th Nov to 1st Dec.

"My wish is that the dialogue between us should help to build bridges connecting all people, in such a way that everyone can see in the other not an enemy, not a rival, but a brother or sister to be welcomed and embraced," (Pope Francis, March 22nd 2013)

Interfaith Scotland provides a forum for people from different religions and beliefs to dialogue with one another on matters of religious, national and civic importance. We run dialogue events for young people, women, faith communities, religious leaders, members of Interfaith Scotland and local interfaith groups. We run interfaith workshops in schools and produce interfaith publications and resources and lots more.



More information at <http://www.interfaithscotland.org/>

THANKSGIVING MASS & RECEPTION. Thursday 28th November

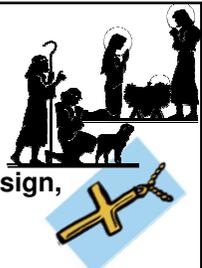
The parish and the evangelization that happens in our parishes does just happen but depends on many volunteers who offer their time, talents and creativity to be disciples and carry on His mission. Most of these wonderful people never receive a mention nor a thanks for the work they do. Every year we have a simple mass at St. John Vianney's to thank God for them and their work. This will be on Thursday 28th November at 7.00pm. Immediately after mass there will be a simple reception in the parish hall. If you could contribute with some home baking could you please inform us and hand it in at St. John Vianney's in the afternoon. Everyone is welcome to participate but especially all our ministers and all those who help in any way in both parishes.



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, Carolyn Stones Design,
where children can make their own jewellery
or Christmas cards and lots more.**



Buying Christmas Presents On-line? Why not try [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

It's a great way to raise money for our church or school just by shopping online. It's so easy, you don't pay anything extra and your nominated good cause gets a donation. There over 2700 partner retailers, ASDA, Sainsbury's, Amazon, Expedia, Homebase, Tesco, John Lewis, Debenhams, Argos, M&S, Next and many, many more!
For more information and to register go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>

SVDP FOOD BOXES

Parishioners are invited to bring **non-perishable goods each Sunday in November** and deposit them in the box at the back of the church, parcels will then be made up to be given as a help to the most needy in our parish over the Christmas period. Please be as generous as you can and to explain this to the children, how we receive presents at Christmas but also give to share and help others, particularly those in need.

St. John Vianney's SVDP

Money collected in SVDP box on Sunday 1st December will be given to Fr. Mike for Brazil.

**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

**24th November 2013
+ CHRIST THE KING +**

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.....

John Fegan, Agnes Anderson and Chrissy Christie.

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

All those named on November Lists on our altars.

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.

SPUC - RETIRAL COLLECTION.

Today after mass as you leave the church there will be a door collection for SPUC (Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child). For more information about their important work there will also be leaflets available at the back of the church.

Parish Collections

St. Bernadette's 17th November	£571.34
St. John Vianney's 17th November	£441.99

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**

Sunday 24th November	Masses times as Normal - Feast of Christ the King Special Retiral Collection for SPUC
Monday 25th November	9.30am - Funeral Mass of Chrissy Christie, St John Vianney's
Tuesday 26th November	No services in parishes. 10.00am - Mass, Nazareth House.
Wednesday 27th November	9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's. 1.00pm - Annual Christmas lunch for Ministers & Priests, hosted by Hillview Funeral Services.
Thursday 28th November	9.30am - Mass, St Bernadette's. 7.00pm - Thanksgiving mass and reception, St. John Vianney's.
Friday 29th November	9.30am - Funeral Mass of Agnes Anderson, St John Vianney's
Saturday 30th November	9.30am - Mass & Confessions, St Bernadette's. Feast of St. Andrew
Sunday 1st December	Mass times as Normal - 1st Sunday of Advent

COMPLETE ADVENT/ CHRISTMAS DIARY WILL BE IN NEWSLETTER NEXT WEEK

NOVEMBER, MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS: Your intentions for the Holy Souls will be included at all masses in both St. John Vianney's and St. Bernadette's, except on a day that a special intention has already been requested.

ADVENT - CHRISTMAS TREE:

At next SUNDAY'S MASS in both churches we will bless a Christmas tree. The Christmas tree and ever greens for the church 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 especially in helping to educate our children about the importance of CARING FOR OTHERS.

At the school mass on a Thursday morning at the Offertory 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.



Fr. Mike's thoughts and thanks at the end of church's year.

New Year thankfully is still some time away but it is the end of the Church's year with the beginning of Advent NEXT WEEK. We also have just closed the Year of Faith. Perhaps for some, this year has been a sad year marked by thoughts of betrayal and distrust as we watched the resignation of Cardinal O'Brien. For others it could be the many sad moments of violence, suffering, pain and death throughout the world often created by man himself that were headline news. However, if we put on our positive glasses to see the world for the Church, our parishes, it has been a very rich, surprising and different year:

The shocking announcement of Pope Benedict's retirement
Election of New Pope, a first Francis, a first from Latin America or south of the Equator.
World Youth Day and our own Scotland – Rio.

Creation of St. Ninian's Institute in Dunkeld Diocese.
Stability for our catholic primary schools with the successful appointment of Nikki Woods as Headteacher to St. Mungo's

The Centenary of the Foundation of the Parish of St. John Vianney's
These have created "Jesus moments". By that I wish to imply moments in which our faith has been strengthened, questioned and enriched and hopefully led to some small inner change within us and perhaps some greater understanding of who we are in and what is our relationship with God and others. These "Jesus moments" perhaps have helped us become more committed to our family, school, work or church community. Hopefully they have helped us look forward with a new eagerness and hope.

There is no point in making a list to thank people who have in some way contributed to the life of the parish – it would be far too long. Many would not like such a list and they are anonymous and wish to continue working that way, committed knowing that they are doing their best and in some way the parish or someone is better off, and that is all they desire. On behalf of us all our grateful thanks and appreciation to all "givers".

We could sit back on our achievements like: A short time ago we had no altar servers but each year their number from primary and secondary school increases enriching our liturgy. Or let's face it we are proud of our centenary celebrations. The way so many (and many unknown) who gave up their time and creativity. Such a great celebration with many events and realisations that was basically self-financing by the collaboration of all and the leadership of a few, very committed people.

Of course we could be like the apostles at the Transfiguration of Jesus and want to sit back and enjoy the great moments, achievements of this past Church's year and avoid the many challenges awaiting us. We have to recognise we are an aging community. If we are going to move ahead and survive, we need to encourage, create the space for our younger generation to prepare themselves to be formed and trained to take over the many jobs of older people. These parishioners who understandably are becoming a little tired and want to retire, but still be actively involved - but leave the harder work for others!

We know we have made mistakes and we are sorry for them and learn from them. We silently suffer but remember parishioners who have died and helped us become what we are. We thank God for the many advances we have made in making his name known and Jesus values lived.

We have done this without the leadership of a bishop and we keep hoping and waiting.....
.....and waiting, for a new bishop..... What comes ahead is all part of the journey. To many it is threatening and worrying. To the majority it is an exciting challenge. In the words of the St. John Vianney's Centenary theme, words of Jesus, have to keep echoing as we journey forward – "**Be not afraid!**"