

POPE FRANCIS AWARDS.

Today, 30th November at the 11.30am mass the youths at St. Bernadette's will have a ceremony of enrolment as they begin the Pope Francis Awards. Please check the notice board at the back of the church.

30th November, Feast of St. Andrew Patron Saint of Scotland

The feast of Saint Andrew invites us to ponder his response to Christ's call: "**Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men. At once they left their nets**" (Mt. 4:19-20). With his brother Peter, Andrew immediately left his fishing nets to catch souls for the Kingdom.

Are we hesitating to respond to Christ this Advent because we are waiting for just the right moment, those perfect circumstances that will allow us to be just as quick as Andrew? Sadly, we may discover that while we were waiting for that illusive moment, we failed to be attentive to the here and now invitations of everyday life, missing opportunities to respond with the generosity of a true follower of Christ.

VISITING OF THE SICK FOR CHRISTMAS

During the next 3 weeks all the housebound sick will be visited and offered the possibility of anointing of the sick, confession and holy communion by Fr. Mike and Fr. Martin. 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 would like a visit please inform Fr. Mike or Fr. Martin immediately with a written note of name, address and if possible a contact telephone number.

SVDP FOOD BOXES

Traditionally the SVDP at St. Bernadette's collect foodstuffs for the needy in our parish at Christmas. Parishioners are invited to bring non-perishable goods each Sunday up to Christmas and deposit them in the box at the back of the church, we are also looking for sweets or selection boxes to be distributed to children.

The SVDP will then make up parcels to be given as a help to the most needy in our parish over the Christmas period. All donations are gratefully accepted. Please be as generous as you can and take time 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 - TEAS & COFFEES AFTER MASS

Beginning in January 2015 we will try that on the last Sunday of the month when we have the Lourdes Draw we will offer teas and coffees after mass at St. John Vianney's in the hall. Many years ago this was done every Sunday with great success. There are second hand books for the Lourdes project on sale on the hall and perhaps people will have other suggestions. We will be looking for volunteers to help so please have a chat with Pat. (*first date is 25th January*)

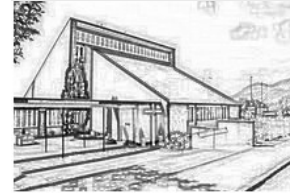


Today we begin the new liturgical year of the church.

The Sundays readings are now for Year B. During the weekdays of Advent and Christmastide we follow the days of the season. When we return to the normal cycle of the year (12th January) the weekday masses are Cycle 1.

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

Diocese of Dunkeld (Scottish Charity No. SC001810)



30th November 2014
First Sunday of Advent

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Priest in residence Alva

Fr. Martin Pletts

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Parish Websites

www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes & www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys



St. John Vianney's
16 East Stirling Street
Alva FK12 5HR
01259 763774

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, Lawrence Allan, Sarah Lownie, Mary Elliot, Liz Buchan, Veronica Day, Alma White, Ursula Crichton, Mary McGeehan, Brendan Murphy, Georgina Anderson, Margaret McIntyre, Bridget Grey, Catherine Miller, Ellen McParland, Owen Cattigan, Elizabeth Docherty, Thomas Benie, Veronica Clarke, Gerard Clarke, Bill Dunsmore, Peter James Clarke, Janet Martin, Paul Kochanek, Lorraine McClusky, Sandy Taylor, Sarah-Jane Connelly, Mary McCartney, Greg Anderson, Mona Pyat, Petra Dijk, Anne McNiven, Peter Doyle, Theresa Flemming, Kathleen McNeil, Georgina Anderson, Dr. Michael Basquial, Maureen Joyce, and all those in the various nursing homes.

Remember those who have recently died.... Vera Kasciewicz, Dane Smith and Sophie Brandon.
and those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time.... Isabel Binnie, Vincenzo Giovanni, Rita Dormante, Antonio Montoro and Margaret Campbell.

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.

Advent Project - Collection box at back of church until Christmas Day - see noticeboards.

Parish Collections 23rd November 2014

Parish	Amount
St. Bernadette's	£493.83
St. John Vianney's	£337.60



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 30th Nov	Mass times as Normal - 1st Sunday of Advent. 3.00pm - Adoration & Prayers, Blessed Sacrament, St. John Vianney's.
Monday 1st Dec	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's. 7.00pm - St. Bernadette's Parents School Council
Tuesday 2nd Dec	No services in parish. 10.00am - Mass, Nazareth House, Edinburgh.
Wed 3rd Dec	8.15am - Mass, St Modan's High School, Stirling 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's. 10.30 Parish Financial Council
Thursday 4th Dec	9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's 4.30pm House Mass 7.00pm - RCIA St. Mungo's, Alloa.
Friday 5th Dec	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's. - 10.30am - Reconciliation Practise, church. 4.00pm - Noticeboards, St. Bernadette's 7.00pm - Mass, St. Bernadette's, (prayers for those in hunger)
Saturday 6th Dec	9.30am - Mass & Confessions, St. Bernadette's. 12noon - Coffee Morning, St. Bernadette's school. 6.30pm - Youth Mass, St. John's, Perth
Sunday 7th Dec	Mass times as Normal - 2nd Sunday of Advent 3.00pm - Adoration & Prayers, Blessed Sacrament, St. John Vianney's.

PARISH ADVENT PROJECT

Report compiled by, Fr. Stephen Iriso Iwolingat. Parish Priest, Koloin. (continued from last week)

ST. THOMAS APOSTLE PARISH, KOLOIN. GENERAL INFORMATION

Sources of income: The main source of income is the Sunday collection. Most of our Christians are low income earners and this makes our Sunday collection as well as our other church support too low to support the parish, let alone other development projects and pastoral needs like means of transport.

Schools: The parish has 12 primary schools that are church founded and government aided and a nursery school within the parish premises managed by the parish. Most of these schools due to high enrolment do not have enough structure to match the number and this in a way affects the learning as a teacher has to attend to many children who are crowded.

The parish has a primary school with an enrolment of 668 children. The school buildings are not in a good state and do not provide a good learning environment. Sanitation in some of our schools is also a problem, as toilets are sunk now and then. There is therefore a need for drainable pit latrines to be sunk to avoid the cost of every now and then sinking new ones

Water: This is one of the big problems. There is one borehole serving a big population a kilometre away from the parish and the school. Water shortage problem is much felt during the dry spell. Thanks to SPICMA who helped us with funds to sink 60000 rain water tank which is now serving the parish.

Health: The parish has no dispensary. The only health facilities are the private clinics and

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS DIARY

Monday 15 th Dec	8.30 – 9.15 am – Confessions, St. John Vianney's 9.30am – Mass, St. John Vianney's. 10.30 am Service at Orchard House with school children
Tuesday 16 th Dec	No Services in parish
Wednesday 17 th Dec	8.30 – 9.15 am Confessions – St. Bernadette's 9.30am – Mass, St. Bernadette's.
Thursday 18 th Dec	8.30 – 9.15 Confessions – St. Bernadette's 9.30am – Mass, St. Bernadette's - School end of term mass.
Friday 19 th Dec	8.30 – 9.15am - Confessions. St. John Vianney's 9.30am – Mass, St John Vianney's. 7.00pm – Penitential Service, St. Bernadette's
Saturday 20 th Dec	9.30am - Mass + confessions, St. Bernadette's.
Sunday 21 st December	9.30 am - Mass, St. John Vianney's. 11.30 am - Mass, St Bernadette's. 3.00pm - Adoration & Prayers before Blessed Sacrament St. John Vianney's. 4.30pm - Before the Blessed Sacrament: Prayers & Adoration: We await the birth of Jesus with Mary. 6.15pm - Mass, St. John Vianney's. Pop-in, pray & reflect with your children before Christmas. Both churches are open after mass until 7pm.
Monday 22 nd Dec	8.30am – 9.15 am Confessions, St. John Vianney's 9.30am – Mass, St John Vianney's.
Tuesday 23 rd Dec	7.30pm - Blues Mass, St. Bernadette's
Wednesday 24 th December	* No morning mass in both St. John Vianney's & St. Bernadette's* Confessions 8.30am sharp to 9am. Please arrive for 8.30am 7.30pm - VIGIL MASS, ST. BERNADETTE'S 9.00 pm – St. John Vianney's – Carols 9.30pm - VIGIL MASS, ST JOHN VIANNEY'S
Thursday 25 th December	9.30am - CHRISTMAS MASS, ST. JOHN VIANNEY'S. 11.30am - CHRISTMAS MASS, ST. BERNADETTE'S. NO EVENING MASS



government dispensaries of a lower grade. These compared to the growing numbers are not sufficient enough. Also the services in the private clinics are sometimes high cost and this is not favourable to the peasants in our community.

Means of transport: The parish has no reliable means of transport.

The only means available is an old motorcycle which often breaks down.

*** Latest photos from St. Thomas the Apostle, Koloin, Uganda on noticeboards**

Target is to fund 20 bikes @ £60 each. Collection box for this project will be at the back of the church each Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day for those who wish to contribute.