

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances.

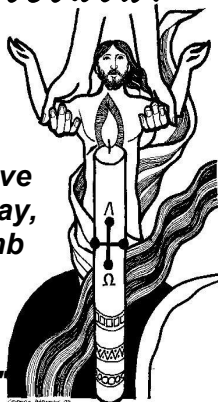
- Robert Flatt

"The resurrection proclamation could not have been maintained in Jerusalem for a single day, for a single hour, if the emptiness of the tomb had not been established as a fact."

- Paul Althus

"Our old history ends with the cross; Our new history begins with the resurrection."

- Watchman Nee



"That Jesus of Nazareth died upon a cross is mere matter of history; that He who did so die was the Christ the Son of God is entirely a matter of revelation."

- Sir Robert Anderson

ALL PARISHONERS AND PPC MEMBERS

The next PPC meeting is on Thursday 23rd of April at 7.15pm.

Please note this is a special meeting **OPEN TO ALL PARISHONERS.**

Representatives of Clackmannanshire Council will be there to explain and answer questions regarding proposals for possible future for Catholic schools in Clackmannanshire. These include a possible a new shared campus with other civic facilities for St. Bernadette's with Amercromby Primary School . Also could include a merging of St. Bernadette's and St. Mungo's schools into one school to share a campus with Abercromby and other civic facilities. Since this early exchange of information affects the future of Catholic education in the area we presume that there will be great interest.

For this reason the Blessed Sacrament will be removed temporarily from St. Bernadette's church and the meeting will take place in St. Bernadette's church.

Please join in these discussions.

Coffee Morning St. John Vianney's, Easter Sunday 5th April 2015 10.30

Our next coffee morning is on Easter Sunday; please make time after mass for a coffee, scone and a chat with your fellow parishioners.

All donations of baking welcome for the cake stall.



LOURDES YOUTH PROJECT 100 CLUB PRIZE WINNERS

Drawn 29th March after 9.30 mass at St. John Vianney's.

1st: M. Cavanagh - £100 + 2nd: Ryan Walker - £25

Next draw on Sunday 26th April after 11.30am mass at St. Bernadette's.

+ Yearly subscribers please check when your renewal is due. +

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

Diocese of Dunkeld (Scottish Charity No. SC001810)



5th April 015

Easter Sunday

Parish Priest:

Fr. Mike Freyne MHM

Tel: 01259 213274

Email: malfreyne@btinternet.com

Priest in residence Alva

Fr. Martin Pletts

Email: fr.martinpletts@gmail.com

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

Remember those who have recently died.... Robert Peebles.

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

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

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| St. Bernadette's 29th March | £542.01 |
| St. John Vianney's 29th March | £374.60 |

*Jesus Christ is risen today,
Alleluia!*

NEXT 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**

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Saturday 4th April | SOLEMN MASS OF THE EASTER VIGIL, THE RESURRECTION 7.30pm - ST. BERNADETTE'S 9.30pm - ST. JOHN VIANNEY'S |  |
| Sunday 5th April | Mass times as Normal - Easter Sunday There will be NO evening mass. | |
| Monday 6th April | 9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's 6.00pm - Just Faith Team meeting, Parish House | |
| Tuesday 8th April | 10.00am - Mass, Nazareth House, Edinburgh | |
| Wednesday 7th April | 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's | |
| Thursday 9th April | 9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's | |
| Friday 10th April | 9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's 7.00pm - Mass, St. Bernadette's | |
| Saturday 11th April | 9.30am - Mass and Confessions, St. Bernadette's | |
| Sunday 12th April | Mass times as Normal - Devine Mercy (Low Sunday) | |

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 22nd April | Bishop Stephen will meet our candidates for confirmation at St. Bernadette's school. Afterwards at 1pm he will celebrate a school mass. |
| 23rd April | Clacks Council Education Committee meeting 10 am |
| 23rd April | 7.15pm - PPC SEE NOTICE ON BACK PAGE |
| 17th May | Communications Sunday Special Collection. |
| 31st May | Day for Life |
| 7th June | CORPUS CRISTII, FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS |
| 14th June | CONFIRMATIONS - ST. BERNADETTES. |
| 23rd June | PPC |
| 7th- 20th June | Youth away at Lourdes |
| 2nd July | SCIAF 50th anniversary Mass, Cathedral Dundee |
| 31 July - 2 Aug | Catholic Youth Festival, Stirling University |

**The Knights of St. Columba are holding an Irish Social Night
in St. Mungo's Church Hall on Friday 10th April.
Tickets priced £7. See noticeboard for more details.**

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Easter Message 2015

In Brazil sometimes when a person was so old and had no birth certificate I was asked to sign a baptism certificate. I also had to state the person was still alive so they could begin to receive their miserable pension. To be honest I do not think I could sign such a certificate for Jesus! Yet on this Easter Sunday I believe he is alive. They also say Elvis is alive! I do believe that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead and that Jesus is alive and present in our lives today. But I still would not sign a certificate! Not surprisingly that we are unable to totally understand and explain the resurrection of Jesus. The gospel accounts of the resurrection are so confusing; who did what first; had the apostles left Jerusalem or were they all still there; the differences at times seem so conflicting and there are obviously theological considerations influencing the writers account. There are lots of ambiguities and we are unable to put together an historical event by event, blow by blow account of what went on.

However, what is blatantly obvious is that the women and disciples were totally convinced they encountered their dead friend and mentor Jesus, who they saw die on the cross and put in a tomb. They encountered him **ALIVE!** They talked, touched, ate, celebrated and shared at the table with him. That "**Jesus is alive**" is so real to them, it changed their lives from a feeble, down heartened, cowardly group. The power of life over death, Jesus' resurrection, confirms all Jesus lived for and taught: the sharing of the miracles of feeding the 5,000, the numerous miracles, the symbolic example of service at the Washing of the Feet. Even at the last moment of life on the cross between 2 thieves, Jesus gives the example of what he taught -forgiveness. Here are 2 thieves not innocent, not having injustice done to them, but bad thieves getting what they deserve but God breaks through, offers the Father's forgiveness no matter what, extending a hand of welcome, of total love. The resurrection not only confirms all this but gives it genuine meaning.

Please read the school children's work on the church walls. They explain "why Jesus died and rose for me because... All have a dominant message of **JOY**. Let us listen to the little ones, the future of our Church. We have to open the doors of Church, and our hearts, and as Christians make a difference. The Risen Lord we experience in sharing, in being of service to others, in offering and asking for forgiveness, in welcoming those who do feel excluded and unwanted and because of the Risen Jesus we do this with **JOY**.

May the Risen Jesus be in all our lives. Make a difference!

A really joyful Easter to all.

Fr. Mike & Fr. Martin

'The teaching of Christ even requires that we forgive injuries and extend the law of love to include every enemy, according to the command of the new law: 'You have heard that it was said: Thou shalt love thy neighbour and hate thy enemy. but I say to you: love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who persecute and calumniate you.' - (Matt.5: 43,44) Gaudium et Spes, 28.2

<http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/>