

## OPEN MEETING ON FUTURE PRIMARY EDUCATION

The meeting on Thursday evening in St. Bernadette's church attended by 25/30 parishioners with representatives of Clackmannanshire Council who explained the proposals for the new school in Tullibody and answered questions regarding proposals for possible future for Catholic schools in Clackmannanshire as stated in last weeks newsletter.

This will effect Catholic Education in Clackmannanshire for many, many years to come and is not just for parents of children at one of the schools to decide.

The Formal consultation process starts in May so please take some time to make your views heard, it is too important for us not to as decisions taken now will effect the education of future generations of Catholic children in the Clackmannanshire. Any further information we will communicate in the newsletter.

## ELECTIONS AND PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

With acts of persecution against Christians on the rise, the forthcoming General Election is an ideal opportunity to engage with candidates and let them know we seek the promotion of religious freedom and the end of persecution.

Questions you could ask candidates: Given that 75% of religious persecution is against Christians and Christianity is on the verge of extinction in the Middle East: What will you do to persuade the next UK government to:

- Put pressure on regimes to stop persecuting Christians?
- Bring to justice terror groups linked to persecution?
- Call on the UN and the EU to take more action to stop persecution?
- What steps will you take to raise public awareness of persecution – at a constituency and Parliamentary level?

*Keep these questions near at hand if candidates come to your door.*

Pastoral letter from Scottish Bishops Conference is on Parish website Current Notices page at <http://www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys/notices.html>

There is also a wide range of election briefing available online.

It is also important to remember that this is an election for the Westminster Parliament, whose jurisdiction is restricted to reserved matters.

More information at: [general-election-2015-briefing.aspx](http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk)  
or go to <http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk>



## LOURDES YOUTH PROJECT 100 CLUB

To be drawn today 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)



**26th April 015**

**4th Sunday of Easter**

*Parish Priest:*

**Fr. Mike Freyne MHM**

**Tel: 01259 213274**

Email: [mafreyne@btinternet.com](mailto:mafreyne@btinternet.com)

*Priest in residence Alva*

**Fr. Martin Pletts**

Email: [fr.martinpletts@gmail.com](mailto:fr.martinpletts@gmail.com)

**Parish Websites**

[www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes](http://www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes) & [www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys](http://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, Thomas Benie, Brendan Murphy, Margaret McIntyre, Elizabeth Docherty, Bridget Grey, Owen Cattigan, Veronica Clarke, Gerard Clarke, Bill Dunsmore, Peter James Clarke, Paul Kochanek, Janet Martin, Lorraine McClusky, Sandy Taylor, Mary McCartney, Theresa Flemming, Mona Pyat, Petra Dijk, Anne McNiven, Alma White, Kathleen McNeil, Maureen Joyce, Dr. Michael Basquial, Tina Burgoyne and all those in the various nursing homes.

**Remember those who have recently died....**

Betty Maxwell and Elizabeth Cuthbertson.

**and those whose anniversaries of their death occur at this time....** Chris Murphy, Jeremiah Scott, Bella Harvey, Petra Deyk and Thomas Lawlor.

## 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.

**Today there will be a Mission appeal by The Sisters of St. Peter Claver**

## Parish Collections

St. Bernadette's 19th April	£374.58
St. John Vianney's 19th April	£356.20

## 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**

Sunday 26th April	Mass times as Normal - 4th Sunday of Easter - World day of prayer for vocations. Mission appeal By The Sisters of St. Peter Claver 3.00pm - St. John Vianney's, Adoration & Prayers before Blessed Sacrament
Mon. 27th April	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's.
Tuesday 28th April	No services in parish. 10.00am - Mass, Nazareth House, Edinburgh
Wed. 29th April	9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's.
Thurs. 30th April	9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's.
Friday 1st May	9.30am - Mass, St. John Vianney's 2.30pm - Clacks Education meeting, Alloa 7.00pm - Mass, St. Bernadette's
Sat. 2nd May	9.30am - Mass and Confessions, St. Bernadette's
Sunday 3rd May	Mass times as Normal - 5th Sunday of Easter

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

7th May	Priest's Council , Dundee
17th May	Communications Sunday Special Collection.
31st May	Day for Life
7th June	CORPUS CRISTII, FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS
14th June	CONFIRMATIONS - ST. BERNADETTE'S.
23rd June	PPC
28th June	Peter's Pence
7th- 20th June	Youth away at Lourdes
2nd July	SCIAF 50th anniversary Mass, Cathedral Dundee
31July - 2 Aug	Catholic Youth Festival, Stirling University

*"...the Church admonishes her own children, but also humanity as a whole, to overcome all strife between nations and races in this family spirit of God's children, and in the same way, to give internal strength to human associations which are just."*

*Gaudium et Spes, 42.3*

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

## Pope's Message for the 52nd World Day of Prayer for Vocations



*"Exodus, a fundamental experience of vocation"* is the title of the Holy Father's Message for the 52nd World Day of Prayer for Vocations, to be held on 26th April, the 4th Sunday of Easter. *(Full text on parish website)*

In the text, the Pope explains that at the root of every Christian vocation there is an exodus that starts from the renouncement of the comfort and inflexibility of the self in order to go forth trustfully, like Abraham, towards the "new land" that God indicates to us. This dynamic is relevant not only to a personal calling, but also to the missionary and evangelical action of all the Church, truly faithful to her Master, "to the extent that she is a Church which 'goes forth', a Church which is less concerned about herself, her structures and successes, and more about her ability to go out and meet God's children wherever they are, to feel compassion (com-passio) for their hurt and pain".

It is a dynamic towards God and towards man that fills life with joy and meaning, as Francis says to the young, urging them not to let uncertainties obstruct their dreams, and not to be afraid to go forth. - *Vatican City, 14 April 2015 (VIS)*

### MISSION APPEAL - TODAY

This year our Deanery will welcome the Sisters of St. Peter Claver. Sister Monica from the Order will be here to preach at all masses today. This is very appropriate as it is also Vocations Sunday. We ask especially our candidates doing the Pope Francis and Caritas Awards to pay special attention. I am sure Sister will be given a great welcome and people will be, as usual, very generous.

**Sr. Monica has written.....**

The Sisters of St. Peter Claver will be here on 26th April, Vocations Sunday for the Sunday Masses. Sister will tell us about their missionary work and will be grateful for your spiritual and financial support.



.... Each one of us has our special place in God's plan. Pope Francis dreams that you and I will be missionaries by the way we live our lives. Wherever we are and whatever we do, we will be mission minded; in prayer and action, listening to the promptings of the Lord... to 'Go into the whole world and proclaim the Good News'.