

**RELIGIOUS REPRESENTATIVES**  
**ON EDUCATION COMMITTEE IN LOCAL COUNCIL**

There is a private members bill put forward by John Finnie MSP going before the Scottish parliament very soon to take away the religious representatives on Local Council Education Committees. Normally there is one Catholic Representative and 2 other representatives of other Churches. Fr Mike is our Diocese's representative here in Clackmannanshire.

**Background Information** - (more on notice board)

In recent times in Scotland, various groups have been making attempts to bring about changes to legislation in order to limit the presence of religion in public life, particularly in schools. John Finnie MSP is currently consulting on his proposal for a Bill in the Scottish Parliament to change the current arrangements whereby Councils are obliged to make 3 places available for Church representatives on their Education Committees. This follows on a recent petition to the Scottish Parliament which has resulted in a wider review of this issue. There is a danger that, if the main voices raised in this debate are secular, the contribution of Church representatives to Council discussions of Education issues could be lost.

Catholic schools were "transferred" into state ownership in 1918 in the same Education Act which established local education authorities. That arrangement came about as a result of assurances given that the specific characteristic of the Catholic school would be protected in legislation. One of the mechanisms for monitoring the State's ongoing commitment to those assurances is the presence of a Catholic Church representative on every Council where there are Catholic schools. While Catholic Church representatives play a wider role than merely safeguarding Catholic schools, their role in doing so is seen by the Church as vital to the welfare of Catholic schools. Thus the Church is opposed to any attempt to dispense with the role of Church representatives on Education Committees.

We strongly suggested you write immediately to your MSP against this private members bill remembering the closing date is 10<sup>th</sup> February..... **TOMORROW**

The MSP member here is Keith Brown: [Keith.Brown.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:Keith.Brown.msp@scottish.parliament.uk)  
 Those with email please make your voice heard and email him today.

**Note from Parish Financial Council**

Anyone writing a cheque to St. Bernadette's or St. John Vianney's please note it is no longer sufficient just to put the church name.

For St. Bernadette's it should be made out to:-

**Trustees R C Diocese of Dunkeld St. Bernadette's Tullibody.**

And similarly for St. John Vianney's:-

**Trustees R C Diocese of Dunkeld St. John Vianney's Alva.**

The bank will not accept them otherwise.

**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

**9th February 2014**  
**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Parish Priest:*  
**Fr. Mike Freyne MHM**  
 Tel: 01259 213274  
 Email: [mafreyne@btinternet.com](mailto: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](http://www.catholic-church.org/stbernadettes)

& [www.catholic-church.org/stjohnvianneys](http://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, Michael 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, Mona Pyat, Peter Doyle, Petra Dijk, Sarah-Jane Connelly and all those in the various nursing homes.

**Remember those who have recently died.....** Bridget Carr and Fr. Ben Donachie.

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

Steven Marcinkiewicz, Josef Marcinkiewicz, Ronald Marcinkiewicz and Cathy Stolarek.

**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 2nd February	£484.46
St. John Vianney's 2nd February	£380.90

## 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**

<b>Sunday 9th February</b>	<b>Mass times as Normal - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>Mon 10th Feb</b>	<b>9.30am - Mass, St John Vianney's</b>
<b>Tues 11th Feb</b>	<b>No services in parishes. 10am - Mass, Nazareth House. Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. World day of prayer for the sick.</b>
<b>Wed 12th Feb</b>	<b>9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's.</b>
<b>Thurs 13th Feb</b>	<b>9.30am - Mass, St. Bernadette's.</b>
<b>Friday 14th Feb</b>	<b>9.30am - Mass, St John Vianney's</b>
<b>Sat 15th Feb</b>	<b>9.30am - Mass &amp; Confessions, St. Bernadette's.</b>
<b>Sunday 16th February</b>	<b>Mass times as Normal - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

23rd February to 1st March	Catholic Education Week
5th March	Ash Wednesday (Easter Sunday 20th April)

### Lourdes Pilgrimage 2015

The inter-parish pilgrimage 2015 will be from **10th October to 17th October 2015** by coach. More information from George McLaughlan phone: 01259 218485 or email him at [gmclaughlin1961@sky.com](mailto:gmclaughlin1961@sky.com)

**Alva Parish Church Men's Group hope to hold a Quiz night on 1st March, 7:30pm at Alva Parish Church, Stirling Street, Alva and thought it might be appropriate to invite other Clackmannanshire Christian Churches and groups to participate and have a pleasant evening enjoying each other's company. The Quizmaster will be Rev. George Sherry and it is planned to have wine/ soft drinks and finger food to enhance the event and foster community. With this in mind, the entry fee for each team of 4 will be £10 to cover costs. If you are interested please add you name to the list on the notice at the back of the church.**

## WORLD DAY OF THE SICK & FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Tuesday 11th February is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and marks the first apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1858 to Marie Bernadette Soubirous (St. Bernadette) . Between 11th February and 16th of July 1858, the Blessed Virgin appeared eighteen times showing herself to St. Bernadette in the hollow of the rock at Lourdes. On 25th March she said to the little shepherdess who was only fourteen years of age: "I am the Immaculate Conception." Since then Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and many cures and conversions have taken place there.

The message of Lourdes is a call to personal conversion, prayer, and charity. John Paul II created THE FEAST OF THE WORLD DAY OF THE SICK on 13th May 1992, a year after he had been diagnosed with Parkinson disease. He was a great believer that the sick in their suffering shared in Jesus' salvific mission and associated this day very much with Our Lady of Lourdes.

**MASS OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES WILL BE CELEBRATED ON  
11th FEBRUARY AT 7pm IN THE CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,  
St. MARY'S LANE, LOCHEE, DUNDEE..... ALL WELCOME**

### Mary's Meals - THANK YOU

2013 was a wonderful year for Mary's Meals. Some of the highlight are: In Liberia, we are currently feeding over 66,000, an increase of 71%. The numbers we reach in India has more than doubled to 12,635. In Malawi 71 extra schools are now getting Mary's Meals and the total now being fed in schools there is 822,142.

In June 2013 the founder, Magnus was invited to the Vatican to meet Pope Francis. Theses awesome statistics could not have been achieved without the support and encouragement the raffle and the Rags to Riches team receive from the clergy and parishioners throughout Scotland. Thanks for this support and we look forward to your continued support. We at Mary's Meals remember all of you in our prayers and ask that you remember Mary's Meals in your prayers. More information at [www.marysmeals.org.uk/](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/)



### CAN YOU HELP – DUNKELD DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE



In order for the sick to go on the Lourdes Pilgrimage **this year** we need a set number of NURSES. The appeal worked well last year and the nurses as well as the sick benefited from the experience . Hence this appeal:

**CAN OUR PARISH PROVIDE A NURSE ?**

**CAN WE SPONSOR A NURSE ?**

**CAN WE SUBSIDISE A NURSE'S FARE ?**

Further inquiries can be made by calling Cath Van der Boon on 01382 815292

### Beginning Experience

The purpose of Beginning Experience is to facilitate the grief resolution process for adults and children who have suffered a loss through death, divorce or separation, thereby enabling them to again love themselves, others and God.

The BEGINNING EXPERIENCE are holding a weekend for those who find themselves alone again through divorce, separation or bereavement. The weekend will take place from 21st to 23rd March at St. Mary's, Kinnoull, Perth.

For details contact Ros on 0131 6690003 or email [rcm2524@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rcm2524@yahoo.co.uk)