



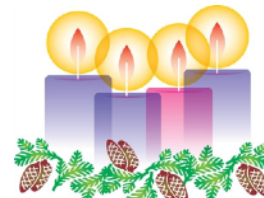
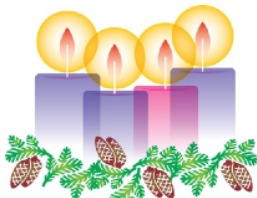
St. Bernadette's Tullibody Parish Newsletter

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4th Sunday of Advent Diary

Sat	21 Dec	9.30am 5.30pm	Mass Vigil Mass	
Sun	22 Dec	8.30am 11.30am 5.30pm	Mass Mass Exposition & Advent Service ~ Mary	4th Sunday of Advent
Mon	23 Dec	9.30am	Mass with Anointing of Sick	
Tues	24 Dec	7.30pm 8pm	Christmas Eve Carols Vigil Mass	
Wed	25 Dec	8.30am 11.30am	Mass Mass	
Thurs	26 Dec	9.30am	Mass	Feast of St. Stephen
Fri	27 Dec	9.30am	Mass	
Sat	28 Dec	9.30am 5.30pm	Mass Vigil Mass	
Sun	29 Dec	8.30am 11.30am	Mass Mass	
Mon	30 Dec	9.30am	Morning Office & Holy Communion	
Tues	31 Dec	~ ~ ~	No services	
Wed	1 Jan	9.30am	Morning Office & Holy Communion	Feast of Mary, Mother of God

This Sunday's Readings	
First Reading	Micah 5:2-5a
Psalm	80(79):2,3b,15-16,18-19
Second Reading	Hebrews 10:5-10
Gospel	Luke 1:38

Last Sunday's Collection	
Non Gift Aid	£472.10
Gift Aid	£316.00
Advent Collection	£485.76
Total	£1273.86

Please pray for

Those who are sick ~

Joan Jones, Msgr. Basil O'Sullivan, Seamus Freyne (Father Mike's younger brother), Natalie Otalini, Jade Dicerbo, Stuart Mason, Sean McCann, Nellie Gallon, Carly Mournian, Brendan Murphy, Vincent McDaid, Peter Douglas, Mary Gordon, Mary Hughes, Peter & Margaret Stark, Sarah Jane Connelly, Duncan McGregor, Maria McIntyre, John & Trisha Smith, Drs. Diane & Mike Basquill, Maurice Di Duca, Cathy McCallum, Archie Gallaway, Fr John Callaghan, Bishop Stephen, Cathy Fox, Jim McKay, Peter Caproni, Laura Laing, Susan Duvall, Alex Mulholland, Pauline Waugh, Marisa Brown, John Lawlor, Veronica Hyslop and Wullie Thomson.

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time ~

Dennis Hallanan, John Neil, John Mangan, Peter Doyle, Paddy Docherty, Moira Scott, Margaret Carr, Dan Jolly, Kate Sprengel, Claire McNaught.

Christmas Liturgies

Please pay attention to all the Advent and Christmas liturgies. Times may be different. All times are in the newsletter, on posters inside and outside the church, on the parish WEB site and also on the Diocesan WEB site. There should be no real need to phone the church.

Sick & House Bound

Fr. Mike will be going round all the sick and housebound he has on our parish list. These people are normally supported by us throughout the year and visited by him celebrating also the Anointing of the Sick. If you know of people who are not on the list please inform us. There are two other opportunities for the Anointing of the sick. At the end of mass on the Fourth Sunday of Advent and during mass on Monday 23rd December.



Christmas Quotes from Pope Francis

1. Christmas - a time to welcome the Lord in the heart

"Ensure that Holy Christmas is never a celebration of commercial consumerism, of appearances or of useless gifts, or of excessive waste, but that it is a celebration of joyfully welcoming the Lord into the crib and into the heart."

[Pope Francis, Meeting with the personnel of the Holy See, 2014](#)

2. Christmas - a time to remember the homeless of today

"I can imagine Joseph, with his wife about to have a child, with no shelter, no home, no place to stay. The Son of God came into this world as a homeless person. The Son of God knew what it was to start life without a roof over his head. We can imagine what Joseph must have been thinking. How is it that the Son of God has no home? Why are we homeless, why don't we have housing? These are questions which many of you may ask, and do ask, every day. Like Saint Joseph, you may ask: Why are we homeless, without a place to live? And those of us who do have a home, a roof over our heads, would also do well to ask: Why do these, our brothers and sisters, have no place to live? Why are these brothers and sisters of ours homeless? Joseph's questions are timely even today; they accompany all those who throughout history have been, and are, homeless."

[Pope Francis, Greeting, USA, 2015](#)

3. Christmas - the feast of the light

"the birth of the Lord;
the event of God who became man in order to save us;
the manifestation of the love of God who does not just give us something, but gives us himself;
the mystery of God who took upon himself our humanity and our sins in order to reveal his divine life, his immense grace and his freely-given forgiveness;
our encounter with God who is born in the poverty of the stable of Bethlehem in order to teach us the power of humility;
the feast of the light which is not received by the "chosen", but by the poor and simple who awaited the salvation of the Lord."

[Pope Francis, Presentation of the Christmas greetings to the Roman Curia, 2014](#)

4. Christmas - the feast of a restored creation

"Christmas is a feast of restored creation. It is in this context that the Fathers (of the Church) interpret the song of the angels on that holy night: it is an expression of joy over the fact that the height and the depth, Heaven and Earth, are once more united; that man is again united to God."

[Pope Benedict 16th, Midnight Mass, 2007](#)

5. Christmas - the feast of human dignity

"Christmas is the privileged occasion to highlight one of the most influential Christian values: with the birth of Jesus, in the simplicity and poverty of Bethlehem, *God gave back dignity to every human being's existence*. He offered to all people the possibility to participate in his same divine life. May this immeasurable gift always find hearts ready to receive it!"

[Pope John Paul 2nd, Advent mass for the students of the Roman State Universities, 2003](#)

6. Christmas - a time to feel the presence of Jesus with everyone

"Christmas is a ray of light for all, because it reveals to us God's love and makes us feel the presence of Jesus with everyone, especially with those who are suffering. Just for this reason Jesus willed to be born in poverty and in the abandonment of a cave and to be laid in a manger."

ADVENT – CHRISTMAS PROJECT

Ghana Project

Fr. Gaspard writes about the project:

SUMMARY: To start with 50 young people this year. Reduce the socio economic violence against young people. Support the empowerment of young people to become productive in the financial welfare of their families.

The initiative aims at training young people who find themselves in difficult situations. It is a way of supporting the young people with skill trainings to prevent kayayei (Head porters), Streetism, Illegal migration, Human Trafficking... Young people in search of jobs are widespread in the capital cities of the country. The number of these unemployed young people or school dropout keep increasing because of lack of employment opportunities in their communities. Traffickers and other criminals have taken advantage of the situation and promise young people better opportunities in faraway places or engage in crimes. Most of these young people become victims of sex trafficking and forced labor or prostitution or criminals.

A strategy to prevent all that is to eliminate the push and pull factors. One way of doing this is to provide entrepreneurial training to persons identified to be vulnerable and needy. A pre-requisite of this training is the acquisition of sewing machines, looms for weaving and other materials for the training.

These are the specific items requested:

- 1 Industrial machine (Designing)
- 1 Industrial machine (Straight sewing)
- 20 Hand sewing machines
- 1 Butterfly overlock machine
- 1 Butterfly industrial sewing machine
- 20 Butterfly original hand sewing machines
- 10 Weaving machines
- 50 Wooden chairs (stools for sitting)
- 2 Metallic tables

All the projects we have supported in the past have been financing the entire project. This time the parish priest and the community have confronted a major problem and have begun the project arranging a building and creating all the necessary structure. However, the project cannot go ahead without the buying of necessary equipment. IT DEPENDS ON WHAT WE DO!

Hopefully two other parishes in the Deanery will help us and any short fall SPICMA will top up. Please share and give generously.