

## The Lodge of St. Anthony No. 154. (Inverurie) in support of Garioch Community Kitchen Food Parcel Distribution

Garioch Community Kitchen have been making up food parcels for the past 22 weeks since lockdown began. The parcels, once made up, have been delivered by a team of brethren from Lodge St Anthony, in conjunction with local volunteers. Working with the local Academies, parcels have been provided to families across Inverurie, Kintore, Kemnay, Blackburn, Oldmeldrum, Rothienorman, Newmacher and Tarves. So far, 1222 food parcels have been provided. which equates to over 4000 bags of shopping.

We had seen a steady increase in families requesting a parcel over the first 2 months of the project; however we are now seeing a number of families stopping their parcels as they are reporting that they are in a more secure position and some have even reported that they have secured employment which has been very encouraging. However, with the end of the first part of the furlough scheme and many people having either lost their jobs, had their hours at work or salaries cut in addition to the closure of the Oldmeldrum foodbank we are expecting to see a further increase in numbers requesting a food parcel.

Our plan is to continue supporting families with food parcels until the end of October and we would like to offer a parcel prior to Christmas as we appreciate this can be a difficult time for many.