

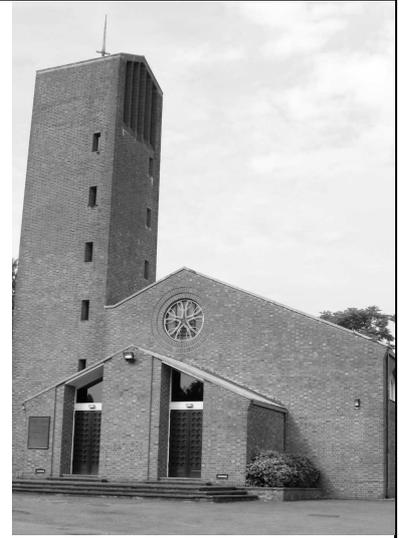
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

The Ascension of the Lord 1st June 2014 (page 272)

We start a new month! Public examinations will begin in earnest this week. Summer is on its way? We are *still* in Eastertide with the joy and glory of Resurrection shining upon us. Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord: Jesus, the Son of God, who suffered, died and rose for us, is seated at the Father's Right Hand. He has not left us alone; there is the Promise of the Holy Spirit still to come. The amazing thing about our Saviour is that he chooses to help us keep experiencing his Presence: 'I am with you always, yes, to the end of time' are the closing words from today's passage which marks the conclusion of St. Matthew's Gospel.

How do YOU know he is still with you? Do you read the Scriptures as well as listening to them proclaimed in church? What does the Real Presence of Jesus in Holy Communion mean to you when you come to Mass or pay a visit to church to pray before the Tabernacle? How does gathering with the Christian Community on Sunday for the Eucharist enrich your life and support you daily as you live out your vocation? As a priest, I am called on to speak Christ's words at Mass, recalling what he said at the Last Supper and effecting the Consecration of the bread and wine; I proclaim his Good News and unpack it in the homily. It is awesome! Trying to live out each day the responsibility entrusted to me is a great privilege and challenge. Jesus is with us every moment of each day. The heightened awareness we have of his Presence at Mass should prepare us for the wonderful ways he breaks into our lives - he is really present with us.

Take a moment today at Mass to consider also what the future glory of heaven will be like - the eternal joy of seeing him face to face...the everlasting experience of being with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Ascension keeps us in touch with Jesus Christ at the Father's Right Hand in the Trinity and with Jesus Christ still with us on earth. God bless your week as we journey towards Pentecost next week and the completion of the Easter Mystery. *Fr. Norbert*

GROWING IN FAITH MEETING Cardinal Vincent Nichols has invited us in Welwyn Garden City to join **Growing in Faith**, a fundraising campaign that will enable us to strengthen our parishes, support priestly life from training through to retirement, and reach out to those in most need in our communities. There will be an opportunity to learn about this important initiative at an event that is taking place in the **Parish Hall at Our Lady's on Friday 13th June at 7.45pm**. Bishop John Sherrington, our Auxiliary Bishop who lives here in Welwyn Garden City, will join us to share more about the Cardinal's vision and to answer any questions you may have. Please come!

CENSUS If you missed filling in a census form, please would you do so today. There are forms at the back of each church.

NORA THERESA BRADY RIP Theresa's Funeral Mass will be on Friday 13th June at 9.30am at Our Lady's Church.

FLIX FELICIEN RIP We will publish details of this Funeral when available.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS on the Vigil of Pentecost - Saturday 7th June at 6pm at Our Lady's. After Mass there will be a reception in the 'Garden Room' of the Hall overlooking the Peace Garden. Please bring finger food to share. Everyone is welcome.

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK on Saturday 14th June at 12noon in Our Lady's organised by the SVP for our three parishes. The Sacrament of the Sick is a powerful expression of Church's love for, and care of, those who are seriously ill or infirm. The priest lays his hands on the person's head and then anoints the forehead and the palms of the hands with Holy Oil blessed by the Cardinal. Our prayer is that the sick will get better and that the infirm will be strengthened; however, with confidence, we ask God to watch over those who are nearing the end of their lives and to give them peace and hope. Many of us need healing for a whole variety of reasons, some which are obvious, some which lie hidden to others. Come and share in this great act of prayer and ministry for members of our community who seek Christ's healing touch. Afterwards there will be a gathering in the hall with refreshments. On Saturday 14th there will not be the usual 10am Mass at St. Bonaventure's or Confessions.

AFRICAN MASS Sunday 13th July at 11.30am at Our Lady's followed by a party in the hall. Plans are well underway with practices galore! All welcome. The next planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 15 June after 11.30am Mass at Our Lady's church. African parishioners from all the three Catholic churches are requested to attend this all important meeting at Our Lady's church.

FILIPINO MASS on Saturday 5th July at 6pm at Our Lady's with a reception in the hall. Everyone welcome. Watch this space!

POLISH/ENGLISH MASS will be on Saturday 18th October at 6pm.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR is being held on Saturday 21st June from 12 to 4pm. Please come and join us as there is something for everyone: laser quest, ponies, slides, food and a grand tombola with £150 cash first prize!

RACE FOR LIFE Marion Brogan is taking part in Race for Life on 8th June. There are sponsor forms at the back of each church if you would like to sponsor her. Thank you.

SEMINARIANS We have been asked by the Seminary to take a student priest next year on an Extended Pastoral Placement (EPP). Usually in their third year the seminarians have an experience of life in the parish and so we will be entrusted with Samuel Ejeregbe who is studying for Westminster Diocese. David Krupa from the diocese of St. Denis in Paris has asked to come back for a week in July; he will bring with him a student for the Diocese of Nanterres called Cédric de la Serre. Finally a Chinese seminarian called Peter Wei will come for six weeks in June-July to learn English and share in the life of our parishes. We look forward to welcoming each one to Welwyn Garden City.

DEREK HYETT who was with us as a seminarian will be ordained a priest at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 28th June at 10.30am. Parishioners are most welcome at the Mass and will need to make their own way there by car or public transport. He has been appointed to serve in the parishes of Hemel Hempstead.

OCTOBER TRIP to Rheims. 32 have signed up so far. There is still time to book. Leaflets and booking forms at the back of our churches.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES At Our Lady's at 11.30am on Sunday 8th June, and at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 15th June at 10.30am. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday 22nd June at 3pm at Our Lady's when all the children who have made their First Holy Communion this year (over 90!) can come together with their families to give thanks at Mass and then celebrate in the hall afterwards. Of course, other parishioners are most welcome.

WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH A film (and discussion): 'Beyond Forgiving', a South African's story of reconciliation and forgiveness at the Jim Macdonald Centre, Hatfield on Monday 9th June at 7.30pm.

HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S MASS The next Children's Mass will be held on Sunday June 8 at 9.30am. There will be a practice after 9.30am Mass this Sunday, June 1, for all those children wanting to take part - and for the band too.

CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We meet on Tuesday in St. Bonaventure's at 3.45pm. All welcome. This week we will celebrate Pentecost by decorating cakes and learning about the coming of the Holy Spirit.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH: The monthly church cleaning and maintenance of the grounds will take place at the earlier time of **9am** next Saturday 7th June as there is a rehearsal for the First Holy Communion Mass at 10am. Refreshments will be available afterwards. Please do come along and help!

MISSIO Those parishioners at Our Lady's who support MISSIO may collect their latest edition of the magazine from the back of the church.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM Next meeting to reflect on Pope Francis' "Joy of the Gospel" (Evangelii Gaudium) on Friday 6th June in the Chapel adjacent to Our Lady's Hall at 7:45pm, for an hour. Pat Whitney from Focolare is the group facilitator. For further information please ring Kay Mason on 01707 335633 or Desi Russell on 01707 371399.

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Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE
 Bookings should be made with Phil Johnson
 01707 377442 or 07790 135458
 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

CONFESSIONS	Holy Family: Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure: Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's: Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

02 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	SS Marcellinus and Peter
03 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Charles Lwanga and companions
	7pm	Our Lady's	
04 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Easter feria
05 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Boniface
06 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Norbert
	7pm	Our Lady's	
07 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria

Pentecost Sunday

07 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
08 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Holy Family
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Our Lady's
	6pm	Holy Family



CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplain: Jacqueline Humphreys on 07884187463