

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Martin Tate
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Fourth Sunday of the Year 29th January 2017 p. 130 of book

Today we climb with Jesus up a hill. We see him sit down. He then opens his mouth and begins to speak. He talks and talks and talks, putting us in touch with the Kingdom of Heaven and teaching us about true discipleship. Some of his words are affirming and inspiring; others are challenging and hard-hitting. St. Matthew gives us a picture of God-with-us teaching, preaching and drawing us closer into his life. This year we will receive five instalments and then we will be hurled into the Season of Lent!

When Moses went up Mount Sinai, he only had a few people with him. He received the Law in the form of the stone tablets and his task was to carry them down to the people as a sign of God's covenantal relationship with them. He found them busy! They were worshipping the Golden Calf which they had fashioned. The anger of Moses at the people resulted in the breaking up of the tablets and a fresh ascent of the mountain! God had to start all over again with the carving of the script. Now however, in Jesus, everyone has a chance to go up the hill/mountain with Jesus and his disciples; they all hear this Good News together.

As we listen to the Beatitudes today, picturing Jesus so close to heaven and yet caught up in intimate fellowship with people, let us ask ourselves whether we do indeed feel blessed by God in our lives. This blessing is dynamic and divine, kindles happiness and runs through the core of our being. As we gaze on Jesus, he invites us to see ourselves and others in a different way which is filled with hope, determination and courage. Jesus reveals to us the Blessed Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit - God who is a dynamic and joyful relationship of 'Persons'. For Jesus to call people in different situations 'blessed/happy' means that they are being taken deep into the life of God and, in turn, being called to reach out to so many others who may not know God. Every day keep remembering how tender his love is for you and the gifts he offers you. Then share these blessings with those you encounter! Have a good week. ***Fr. Norbert***

BENCHES The kneelers of the benches at Our Lady's have been taken away to be reupholstered and should be back by the end of the coming week. If you are unable to kneel on the floor, then it is permissible to sit.

MONDAY 9.30 MASS Our Lady School Year 5 will be coming to the 9.30 morning Mass at Our Lady's Church on 30th.

CANDLEMAS Thursday 2nd February is the 40th day after Christmas and is a day when candles are blessed in commemoration of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. As well as the 9.30am Mass at Holy Family, there will be an extra Mass at Our Lady's at 7pm.

FIRST FRIDAY Our next early morning Mass will be on Friday 3rd February at 6.30am followed by breakfast in the Hall. The Blessing of the throat on St. Blaise's Day will be given that day.

GRAZYNA ADAMCZEWSKA RIP Grazyna's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 3rd February at 9.30am.

JOAN LAIRD RIP Joan's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 3rd February at 12.30pm.

SUSAN HUGHES RIP Susan's Funeral Service will be in the Chapel of Southway (Hatfield Lawn) Cemetery on Friday 10th February at 1.30pm.

DANIEL O'SULLIVAN R.I.P. The Funeral Service for Daniel will be at Harwood Park Crematorium on Monday 13th February at 1.15pm.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE is having a Spiritual Evening led by Father Frank. It is on 14th February, following the 7pm Mass in Our Lady's Church. It will be in the Family Centre and we would like to invite all that would like to, to come and join us. We expect it to be a lovely spiritual and sociable evening. Transport can be arranged if you would like some. We will be delighted to see you. Please contact Anne Davidson if you would like a lift 01707 327569.

400 CLUB The collection of subscriptions from members will be after the Masses at Our Lady's this weekend. Members have suggested a variation in the prizes, the preference being for more smaller prizes hence the prizes will be £75, £25 and £15. The draw for January will be at the interval during Bingo on Monday 30th January, in Our Lady's Centre.

INTERFAITH What comes to mind when you read the word Spirituality? Probably different things to different people. Come and explore the subject at the Friends Meeting House, Handside Lane AL8 6SP on Monday 13th February - 7.15 - 9.30 pm. All welcome.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CLEANING takes place on Thursday at 10am. All welcome to come and help.

EXHIBITION Have you ever wondered how the first residents of WGC spent their leisure time before TV and computers? To find out, there will be an exhibition on the top floor of Sainsbury's from 4th - 10th February. Entrance is FREE and times of opening on the poster and handbills at the back of the church.

THE LITURGY GROUP at Holy Family Church would like to take some photographs of some sessions, to be displayed as part of the Church's celebration. If you would prefer your child not to have their photograph taken please email Gail Manning manning_gail@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you, The Liturgy Team.

NEED A CLEANER? Then phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980 887231.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP This Tuesday we celebrate the feast of the Presentation in the Temple. All welcome.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL has its next meeting on Tuesday 7th February at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. Please let Fr. Norbert know if there are any points you would like raised.

HOLY FAMILY'S 50TH The next meeting to continue planning for Holy Family Church's 50th Anniversary will be on Tuesday 7th March at 8pm in the Parish Room (after the CAFOD Meeting). All welcome.

SUNDAY 6PM MASS Readers and Eucharistic Ministers from our three parishes who regularly attend this Mass at Holy Family are asked to join a rota for February and March. If you know when you WILL be there, please let Fr. Norbert know in the coming week. A rota will then be published. We will try this out for the next two months. Thank you.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES The annual Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes will take place at the Cathedral on Saturday 11th February at 2pm. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass by the bishops and priests. The sick and infirm of our parishes are especially invited.

YEAR OF MERCY WINDOWS Just over £17k has been raised and so these windows in Our Lady's Church have been paid for. Our thanks to parishioners and visitors who have contributed so generously.

CARDINAL'S MASS FOR WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES will be on Saturday 3rd June at 3pm at Westminster Cathedral. If you are celebrating your 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more, and would like to be invited to this Mass, please give the details of your names and address, email, phone and date of wedding to Fr. Norbert and he will send them on. Every year many couples have attended this Mass and have come home extremely happy!

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Our next celebration will be on Saturday 25th February at 6pm at Our Lady's.

FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION The next parents' meeting will be on Wednesday 8th February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Church.

CONFIRMATION There is a session this evening (29th). Next Sunday (5th February) there will be a Retreat Afternoon in the Focolare Centre 1.45 - 5.45pm.

RCIA Next meeting on Monday 30th January at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY will be on Saturday 4th February in Our Lady's Hall starting with coffee at 10.30 and finishing around 5pm. Couples are invited to stay for 6pm Mass when there will be a special Blessing of Engaged Couples. Couples who wish to get married here in WGC or in another place in 2017/18 should come. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you plan on coming.

HOLY LAND (Sat 27th May - Sunday 4th June, 2017: 46 have booked) and **FATIMA** (Sunday 10th - Thursday 14th September 2017: 18 have booked so far) £689. We have run out of brochures for both pilgrimages, so best to contact Pax Travel for more details on 020 7485 3003 or info@paxtravel.co.uk Not many places left!

OUR LADY'S The monthly cleaning of the Our Lady's Church and maintenance of the grounds will take place next Saturday 4th Feb at **10am** for ONE hour. There will be refreshments afterwards. All are welcome to come along. Can you help?

OUR LADY'S MINISTERS' ROTA The new rota from February to April 2017 for Welcomers, Readers and Holy Communion Ministers is now available for collection at the back of the church. A copy will also be available on the website: www.wgc-catholics.org.uk

MOTHER AND TODDLER meets on Wednesdays 10am in St. Bonaventure's hall.

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234
welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk
 Our Lady's Church
 141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

Fr. Martin 01707 327434
welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk
 Holy Family Church
 194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579
parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk
 St. Bonaventure's Church
 81 Parkway AL8 6JF

OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE Bookings
 should be made with Phil Johnson 01707
 377442

Website for our 3 parishes
www.wgc-catholics.org.uk

THANK YOU The family of Kay Cunningham R.I.P. wish to thank all those who attended the funeral, sent flowers, cards and letters of sympathy which which were a great comfort at this time of sadness.

WOMEN OF VALOUR is a Prayer Group made up of women who meet every Saturday at 4pm in Our Lady's Chapel (near the entrance to the Hall) to say the Rosary and to share the Word. They would like to invite you to join them and encourage you to bring your children along.

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

MASS TIMES

30 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
31 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. John Bosco
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
01 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
02 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Presentation of the Lord
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
03 Friday	6.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	SS Laurence, Dunstan, Theodore
	9.30am	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's	
	12.30pm	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
04 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Thomas Aquinas

Fifth Sunday of the Year

04 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
05 Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
	10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
	6pm	Mass	Holy Family



CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) **Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7)**
Urgent need: 01438 314 333 via text message: 07876 526935 email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net