

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*

Fifth Sunday of the Year 5th February 2017 p. 133 of book

‘YOU!’ is a word addressed twice by Jesus to his disciples and to the crowds gathered on the hill. ‘You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world...’ What Jesus makes very clear to the people is that they *collectively* (‘you’ plural) are called to be an influence for good to those around them. So, as we come together today for the celebration of Mass and listen to the Word of God, we should ask the Lord to send upon us in a fresh way his Spirit to keep us united in our service and thus give glory to God the Father.

Salt was an essential for the people of Jesus’ time, bringing out the flavour of food, preserving it and having healing properties. What does it mean for US to be salt? Our every day activities give us opportunities to share with others the significance Christ makes to our lives: honesty and integrity in the workplace and in the community, love and forgiveness at home and with the stranger we meet, a readiness to reach out to the person in need whom we encounter. These are some of the ways we can make a difference and make the world a better place.

At the moment with winter still with us there is much darkness. Light powerfully shows us the right path and enables us to see what we are doing. Light can illumine our faces so that we radiate faith and joy and become more aware of sadness or distress on the faces of others. If we are willing to show Christ to other people we might give them a glimpse of the Lord and spark in them faith. If others see in us as community a special quality and motivation, they might want to find out more and discover a light which takes them to the Light of the World - Jesus Christ!

Finally, just think of the image Jesus uses ‘a city on a hilltop cannot be hidden’. I wonder whether Jesus was referring to the huge numbers with him on the hill and thinking of them as a city. The Church is made up of many members, living stones who point to the City of God in heaven. This light cannot be hidden; it shines out for everyone to see. Perhaps we need to think of ourselves in this way? Have a good week! ***Fr. Norbert***

BISHOP JOHN WILSON will celebrate Mass at Holy Family School on Wednesday 8th February at 9.30am. Parishioners are most welcome.

OUR LADY SCHOOL will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes with Mass at 9.15am on Friday 10th February. Parishioners are most welcome.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD group will meet in the parish room at Holy Family on Tuesday 7th February at 2pm. Anyone who wishes to come along will be very welcome.

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

MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS On Saturday 11th March at 2.30pm in the Cathedral, a Mass will be celebrated for all bereaved parents. As parents arrive in the Cathedral that day they will be invited to write the name of their deceased child, which will later be collected and taken to the sanctuary. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are planning to go.

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.

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.

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.

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

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP Every Tuesday during term time at 3.45pm.

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

JULIAN OF NORWICH After its success at St John's, Digswell, the 'JULIAN OF NORWICH - MEDITATION' will move to the medieval splendour of Norwich Cathedral for its second presentation on Sunday 26th February, 6.30pm - 7.45pm. Free entry.

Julian was a woman who in the fourteenth century received 16 Revelations when she was about 30 years old. She spent the rest of her life, locked away in a cell, at her own choosing, reflecting on all that God had revealed to her. It is proposed that a coach be booked to Norwich for the Hatfield Parishes leaving St Peter's at 2pm, calling at Our Lady's at 2.15pm and returning home at 8.30pm. The cost of the coach will be about £24.00 per person. Please contact Tessa Banfield 07759 391537 or Anne Stapleton 01707 707063 by February 10th, if you would like to come.

MAN UNITED SHIRT Sophie Constable (altar server) got 17 of the Manchester United Team to sign a shirt for her when she met them at the Disabled Supporters' Xmas Party at Old Trafford. She wants to sell it to raise money for Holy Family Church's CAFOD project in Ethiopia. The shirt will go to the highest bidder. For more info or to place a bid please contact Sophie (or Marian) 01438-716777 or 07956-287130.

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 Quite a number of Readers and Eucharistic Ministers from our three parishes who regularly attend this Mass at Holy Family have signed up on a rota for February and March. If you know when you WILL be there, please add your name to the rota. We will try this out for the next two months. Thank you.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Holy Family's Finance Committee will meet next Sunday (12th) at 7pm in the Parish Room.

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.

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 Today (Sunday 5th) there will be a Retreat Afternoon in the Focolare Centre 1.45 - 5.45pm.

RCIA Next meeting on Monday 6th February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

HOLY LAND (Sat 27th May - Sunday 4th June, 2017: 46 have booked) and **FATIMA** (Sunday 10th - Thursday 14th September 2017: 20 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 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

OUR LADY'S Many thanks to all who came to clean the church and maintain the grounds on Saturday morning. Your help is much appreciated

THANK YOU to those at St. Bonaventure's who came and cleaned on Thursday.

400 CLUB The results of the January draw were 1st £75 No. 135 E. Meenan, 2nd £25 No.90 A. Mason. 3rd £15 No.101 G. Sands. Congratulations to the winners and our thanks to all the members for their continued support.

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.

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

Examinations Invigilators - £8.50 per hour Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School are looking to recruit Examinations Invigilators to facilitate the administration of examinations. Under the guidance of the Examinations Officer you will be responsible for ensuring the examinations held in the school are run in accordance with strict regulations. Applicants should have excellent communication and organisational skills. Candidates must be confident in dealing with young people, have the ability to remain calm under pressure and be flexible with working hours. Employment will be on a casual basis throughout the year and working hours will be by agreement with the Examinations Officer. No previous experience is required as full training will be given. For further details of the post please contact Kathy O'Donnell on 01727 860079 (ext. 217) or email odonnellk@nbs.herts.sch.uk or look at the News and Events/Staff Training Vacancies section on the school website: www.nbs.herts.sch.uk.

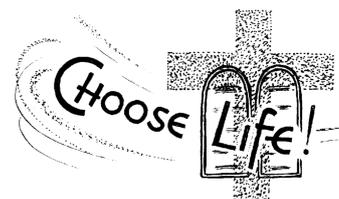
CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm -5.30pm.

MASS TIMES

06 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Paul Miki and companions
07 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
08 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Josephine Bakhita
09 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
10 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Scholastica
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
11 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Our Lady of Lourdes

Sixth Sunday of the Year

11 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
12 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