

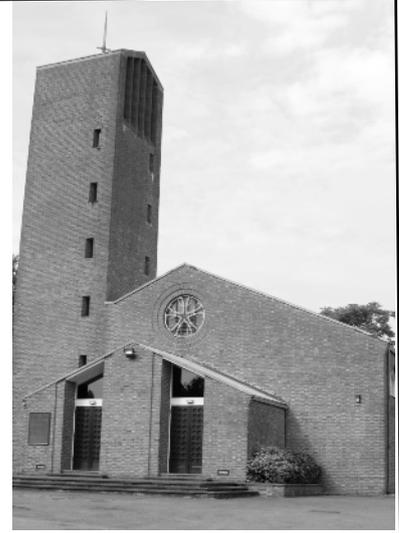
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tom Montgomery
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Tenth Sunday of the Year 10th June 2018 page 92 of the Mass

Tomorrow (Monday) I celebrate 30 years of Priesthood. I give thanks to God for my family, friends, parishioners and so many others who have nurtured me in Faith, in a love for people and places, in a zest for life - AND continue to do so! It never gets boring! I have been blessed with opportunities, challenges and circumstances which have offered me fresh perspectives and a chance to grow as a person, developing new skills for a fresh season in life, thus giving glory to God. Priesthood is a precious gift - a bit like love - which, when received from God and put at the service of others, increases, blossoms and grows! I love being a priest and all that I am called to do and to be. I have nearly completed ten years in Welwyn Garden City. I'm not on the list of this year's moves!

In our Gospel passage today we are taken by St. Mark to the earlier period in Jesus' ministry, when he returns home. What difficulties he faces! His family are convinced he's out of his mind and set out 'to take charge of him'. Can you imagine the scene? Then the scribes claim that Jesus is possessed by an unclean spirit and that it is this 'spirit' which is the source of Jesus' power. To accuse Jesus of being a man of evil, driven by Beelzebul the prince of devils, is an unpardonable sin because it goes against God himself, who is Jesus' inspiration. Jesus IS the Son of God! Our passage concludes with Jesus looking at those sitting in a circle about him and describing them as his family, the ones who do the will of God. St. Mark's community remembered the events of this day in Jesus' life, perhaps realising that just as they faced persecution in the city of Rome under the Emperor Nero, so Jesus himself had encountered difficulties and persevered. Then they must have reflected on his looking at them, loving them and counting them as his family. How loved and appreciated they must have felt!

As we begin another week, let us pray that Jesus Christ may be our inspiration and that words and actions springing from us may put others in touch with him. Thank you for your dedication.

With love and prayers, ***Fr. Norbert***

MONDAY 11TH JUNE Fr. Norbert will celebrate 30 years of Priesthood tomorrow. Please pray for him! If you are free in the morning, come to 9.30 Mass at Our Lady's and join him for cake and coffee afterwards.

SAM TOBIN RIP Sam's Funeral will be on Monday 25th June at 11.30am at St. Bonaventure's.

VIRGINIA REES RIP Virginia's Memorial Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Wednesday 27th June at 11am. (Her family will have the Funeral Service at the Crematorium beforehand.)

Please note that there will not be a 9.30 Mass that morning at Holy Family Church.

JANET SEELEY RIP There will be a Memorial Mass and Celebration for Mrs Seeley, Deputy Head of Our Lady School, on Friday 22nd June at 12 noon (until 1.45pm). Parishioners, parents, former staff and governors are all welcome. If you are able to stay afterwards, please bring a picnic lunch.

OUR LADY'S NURSERY still has some places available for September. If you are interested please contact the school 01707 324408.

NEW PARISH CENTRE Hot off the press! Planning permission has been granted for a new Parish Centre for our three parishes on the site of Our Lady's Hall. Watch this space for more developments.

FOOD BANK New Zion Christian Fellowship which runs the Food Bank on Cole Green Lane every Wednesday 9.00 - 11.00am is very grateful for all the donations made. Please ensure that tins and packets of food are in date and that egg cartons are for six eggs only. Donations of unused toiletries would also be most welcome. There are baskets at the back of each of our churches for this purpose.

THANK YOU We are very grateful to those who week by week and month by month provide refreshments and breakfast after Masses. Also, the 'Restoration Holy Hour' is a wonderful addition to our schedule and is much appreciated.

BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE TASTER COURSE. Shell Roca who is Director of the Diocesan Deaf Service is offering a six-week course at Our Lady's in the autumn. There will be Deaf awareness, tips for communicating with the Deaf and hard of hearing, finger-spelling, basic sign language, i.e. every day greetings, Liturgical sign language, Hail Mary, Our Father and the Mass responses. The dates are on Wednesdays 7.00 - 8.00pm (in the sacristy): 3rd, 10th & 17th October and 7th, 14th & 21st November. The cost of the course will be £30 to cover the materials etc. Shell needs at least 12 people to make it viable. If you are interested please let Fr. Norbert know by the end of June.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL will be meeting next on Wednesday 27th June at 7.30pm. If you would like any matters raised, please let Fr. Norbert know.

EXAMINATIONS Many of you are taking examinations at this time. Be assured that you will be remembered in prayer at Mass. May God's Spirit guide you and help you to do your very best!

TRANSPORT TO MASS SERVICE Several parishioners are now being given regular lifts to the Mass of their choice by our volunteer drivers. If you know of anybody in need of transport or feel you could offer a regular or occasional service as a driver please fill in a yellow or pink form at the back of each church or contact Kay on 01707 335633.

INTER FAITH EVENTS **Father Norbert will be the guest speaker** at an inter faith event at the Focolare Centre this Tuesday 12th June, 7 for 7.15pm when he will give an illustrated talk on the significance of Pilgrimage. Also on the following Sunday 17th June The Khayaal Theatre Company will be presenting storytelling entitled 'Tales of Wisdom' at the Focolare Centre at 3pm. Suitable for ages 4 - 94 and the whole family/ Tea and cakes will be served after the performance, tickets £5 for adults and £2 for children, available from Valerie Skottowe after Mass or phone 324828 or from Marite Min and other members of the inter faith group.

SEMINARIAN Juan Jose Ferial Toscano from the Diocese of Huelva in Spain has asked to come to Welwyn Garden City to share in the life of our parishes. He will come at the end of August for a couple of weeks.

SCHOOL VISITS Our Lady's Reception class will visit the church on Monday morning at 11.15am. Swallow Dell Year 6 classes will come on Monday 18th June in the morning and two classes from Southfield Special School in Hatfield on 18th in the afternoon.

HOLY DAY This month we will be having a Holy Day of Obligation on Friday 29th June - the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul. Masses will be at 9.30am (please note at Holy Family Church), 12 noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

TASTES AND COLOURS OF SYRIA You are invited to a fund-raising event for the Focolare Community in Syria - an evening with a taste of Syrian food and a quiz. Reem and Moris Farah - a Syrian family living in Welwyn Garden City - will lead us on a very special journey. Friday, 6th July 2018 at 7.30pm Focolare Centre. (Suggested contribution £10)

ST ALBANS Every Friday at St. Albans Abbey-Cathedral a Catholic Mass is celebrated at 12noon. You are all welcome.

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK will be on Saturday 23rd June at 12 noon at Our Lady's. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVP) here in our town is organising the celebration. In this Sacrament the priest lays his hands on the head of the sick or infirm person and then anoints the forehead and the palms of the hands with the Oil of the Sick. This is such a powerful Sacrament, giving strength, peace and healing! When celebrated in the midst of the community at Mass it affords us all the opportunity to support the sick by our loving, prayerful presence. If you would like to come and need a lift contact Janet on 01707 326456. Afterwards there will be a get-together in the hall with refreshments. All are welcome.

FILIPINO MASS will be on Saturday 23rd June at 6pm. Our Filipino Community will be singing in Tagalog and English at Mass. Afterwards there will be food and cultural delights in the hall. All welcome.

AFRICAN MASS will be on Sunday 8th July at 11.30am. The parishioners of various African countries will lead Mass and have a party afterwards in the hall with food and dance. All welcome.

POLISH-ENGLISH MASS has been set for Saturday 22nd September at 6pm at Our Lady's.

CAMINO from Opporto to Santiago de Compostella Saturday 25th May - Sunday 2nd June 2019. Brochures should be arriving any day now together with booking forms they will be at the back of our churches. If you would like one emailed to you, please contact Fr. Norbert on welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk

In 2020 there will be an Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Assisi 25th - 30th May and the Passion Play in Oberammergau 9th - 11th September.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Any couples wishing to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should speak to Fr. Norbert so that the necessary preparations can be made.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS The final celebration will be at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 17th June at 10.30am. Thanksgiving Mass for the children of our three parishes who have made their First Holy Communion this year will be on Sunday 24th June at 3pm in Our Lady's followed by a party in the hall.

DEMENTIA UK. Welwyn Festival 2018 presents Hannah Lang (flute) and Peter Hewitt (piano) in a recital of music by *JS Bach-Beethoven-Poulenc and Fantasy On Themes From Carmen* to raise money for Dementia UK. To be held at St Mary's Church Welwyn AL6 9LX from 3:00pm on Sunday 24 June. Tickets £10 or £5 for under 18s available at Hills in Welwyn High Street or at the door or contact Claire Smith on 07973 868742. Come along and enjoy a wonderful afternoon of music including afternoon tea following the concert. Please help our local campaign for this worthy cause raising money for Dementia UK (Helping families face Dementia).

GARDENER AVAILABLE to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, edging, hedge cutting, pruning shrubs and roses and weeding. Call Daniel on 07751992492.

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

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

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

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

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

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

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY CAFÉ in Our Lady's Hall every third Thursday of the month 10am - 2pm.

ZUMBA for those with physical and learning disabilities in Our Lady's Hall on Wednesdays 11.30am - 12.30pm. The instructor brings in her dog Pickles for 'pet therapy'! Cost £6 which includes refreshments and fruits. Those who need support/carer must bring their own support/carer (who enters free).

UNWANTED GIFTS The CAFOD group at Holy Family would be grateful for any unwanted presents you may have (no CD's or videos) for their table sale. You may leave them in the church or the parish office at St. Bonaventure's.

MASS TIMES

11 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Barnabas
12 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
13 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Anthony of Padua
14 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
15 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
16 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

Eleventh Sunday of the Year

16 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
17 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 **Chaplaincy Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333** via text message: **07876 526935** email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net