

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*

Fourteenth Sunday of the Year 8th July 2018 page 104 of the Mass Book

Today's Gospel passage from St. Mark is such a sad one! Jesus goes home and what sort of welcome does he receive? People are not happy with him because they feel they already know who he is; there is nothing more to discover. He finds very little faith and so is unable to work many miracles. What an impact this must have had on him. I wonder how often, when he went about his ministry, did he think back to this situation?

This passage is a real challenge to us who are his followers. It is all too easy to think that we know everything there is to know and are not open to something fresh, someone new, which/who might enlighten us with the wisdom and experience of faith. Perhaps we can find ourselves wanting to hear only the bits that we want and not be ready to 'accept' all that the Lord is offering us?

The other challenge which arises from this account is in our attitude to others, those we know and the stranger or the newcomer who chances upon us. Do we allow stereotypes to form our approach to people? Do we stick with our own group? Are we ready to let a freshness permeate the tried-and-trusted? Jesus has a wonderful way of reaching out to the marginalised and of building bridges. Can we reflect him?

Finally, the 'lack of faith' is an interesting turn of phrase. I am sure the people of his hometown would have been scandalised to hear that they have 'little faith'! 'Who does he think he is?' could well have been their attitude. Faith entails yearning for more, acknowledging that there is still something else to discover AND having the humility to accept that God can choose the most unusual ways of enlightening us!

This week reflect on this passage and on people you encounter. Think back to Jesus' experience in his hometown and see if there is a lesson you can learn which will help you in the situations you face. God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

SVP There will be a collection after all Masses this weekend to support the important work of the SVP in Welwyn Garden City. Gift Aid envelopes will be available. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

PAUL CHAPPELL RIP Paul's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Monday 9th July at 9.30am. His body will be received into the church on Sunday 8th at 7pm. *NB This means there will NOT be 9.30 Mass at Our Lady's on Monday 9th July.*

PHILOMENA FLANAGAN RIP Philomena's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Monday 9th July at 12.30pm.

JOE LAGGAN RIP Joe's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 20th July at 1.30pm. His body will be received into the church on Thursday at 4.30pm.

AVIGNON Some places have become available on the Pilgrimage to Avignon (Sunday 23rd - Friday 28th September). If you are interested, please contact Pax Travel directly on 020 7485 3003.

BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE TASTER COURSE There are just one or two places left, after which there will be a waiting list.

MONTHLY ADORATION The next 'Restoration' Holy Hour will be on Friday 13th July at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church. The Holy Hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, worship music, reflections and silence. All are welcome.

HCPT 2019 Each year Group 183 takes children with additional needs on a life changing pilgrimage holiday to Lourdes, but this can only happen with the help of volunteers. The Group is now 5 years old and has been extremely fortunate to have been welcomed into the WGC parishes with open arms. In order for us to continue with this great work we desperately need more helpers to join the group. We travel at Easter for a week, helpers will need to be able to attend training and safeguarding before the trip, as well as time getting to know their child before travel. They will also have to be able to pay for their own travel. If this is something you feel you may be able to do, please contact Emma at group183@hcpt.org.uk or phone on 07740858313.

ME AND MY MUSIC Kay Mason, one of our parishioners, will be interviewed by Reverend Rob Marshall at St. John's Church, Digswell (off Knightsfield) on Wednesday 25th July at 7.30pm. There will be refreshments and good wine. A donation of £8 is asked. Kay will speak about 'Donate a Kidney to a Stranger'. To book a place contact 07766952113 or email stjohndigswell@gmail.com

ST BONAVENTURE'S DAY is coming up on Sunday 15th July. There will be refreshments after 8am and 10.30 Masses. If you can contribute a cake for after 10.30am or even 8am Mass, please let Kathryn Hubbard know. Thank you.

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.

INTERFAITH The next meeting takes place on Thursday 12th July at Hatfield Fire Station, Wellfield Rd., AL10 0DA 7 pm for 7.15 entitled 'Finding my Faith'. Each person's journey of faith is unique: some change faiths, some denominations but many remain in the faith of their birth and have life changing experiences which enliven their beliefs. This evening will be an opportunity to hear and share experiences.

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

SUMMER NEWSLETTER The final newsletter before the summer will be the weekend of 21st/22nd July. The next edition will be the weekend 1st/2nd September. So if you have any information to publicise about summer events, please send them to Kathryn Hubbard by the morning of Friday 20th July.

FLOWER GROUP At St. Bonaventure's our group has dwindled down to 4 regular people so if you feel you would like to join the group or would like to know what is involved then please contact the office or Monica on 01438714923. No experience is necessary.

SEMINARIAN Juan Jose Feria 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.

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 with booking forms are 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.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM Cardinal Vincent is leading the diocesan pilgrimage on Saturday 22nd September. A coach will be going from the deanery picking up from Holy Family, The cost for the day is £17.50 per person. See the poster at the back of church for full details. See Fr Tom to book a place on the coach (or call him on 01707 327434 or email tommontgomery@rcdow.org.uk)

CWL The Catholic Women's League are having their annual Tombola Stall at The Peartree Fun Day. If you have any toiletries, toys, jewellery etc that you no longer need (or you need the space), please can you bring it to Our Lady's before Saturday, 14th July, or ring Anne Davidson on 01707 327569 to arrange for collection. Also there is a **STRAWBERRY TEA** on 10th July between 4.00 - 6.00. In the family centre. £5.00. If you are interested can you let Sally Rand know on 01707 884492 for catering purposes.

DEMENTIA FRIENDS information session to held in Our Lady's Parish centre on Thursday 19th July at 8pm for one hour. See notice at back of the Church or contact Anne Keller on 07941321801 for further details. This is an opportunity to learn more about dementia and is open to anyone who is interested.

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).

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.

REPOSITORY at our Lady's, new selection of general cards, including Wedding anniversary, becoming a deacon, ordination, anniversary of ordination, now available before and after most Masses.

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.**

GARDEN RETREAT in the beautiful grounds of Rosary Priory and the Niland Centre with Sr Laurentia Carroll OP & Sr Anne Walsh OP on Tuesday, 10th July from 10.00 am - 3.30 pm. We hunger for beauty. Nourish your soul and your senses. Please bring a packed lunch (tea/coffee provided) & rain gear (precaution). Suggested donation £14. Registrations welcome at nilandcentre@gmail.com or 020 8950 4000. Niland Conference Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE.

FR. MARK CONNOLLY CSSp (Holy Ghost/Spiritans Fathers) who was the first priestly vocation from Welwyn Garden City, will be celebrating his Golden Jubilee (50 years!) of Priesthood on Friday 21st September at 7pm at Our Lady's where he was ordained priest. Please keep the date free and watch this space!

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.

MASS TIMES

09 Monday	9.30am	Funeral Mass for Paul Chappell	Holy Family
	12.30pm	Funeral Mass for Philomena Flanagan	Holy Family
10 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
11 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family St. Benedict
12 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family feria
13 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
14 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure feria

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

14 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
15 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**