

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*

Thirty-second Sunday of the Year 11th November page 155 of the Mass Book

Today Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday are one! Today is the Centenary of the ending of the First World War. In our Gospel reading we are given - by Jesus - a glimpse of the widow who gave everything. Very soon...and he will go to his Cross!

100 years on all we can do is marvel at the willingness of the soldiers to give their lives for the sake of freedom and peace. They obviously thought it was going to be a quick venture, but the toll of casualties, huge suffering and trauma left their mark during the time of war and in subsequent years. Families were affected in myriads of ways. Peoples were displaced. International boundaries changed. A period of uncertainty! The war graves at home and abroad bear testimony to the heroic witness of so many and the human cost in families torn apart by bereavement and injury. Let us pray for healing, reconciliation and peace. A Second World War followed and we know that even know in a variety of countries troops risk their lives to safeguard justice and peace. Let us pray for them too and their families.

Let us ponder the widow of the Gospel. A forgotten person in the eyes of society, she is ready to offer to God all she has, trusting in him. (With our 21st Century eyes we can think of many reasons why this might not have been such a prudent thing to do!) What is wonderful about Jesus Christ our Saviour is that he notices even the lowliest, he understands her and he commends her. As he prepares for his Passion, he will have in his mind this lady who in God's House - the Temple - is ready to sacrifice everything. On the Altar of the Cross, Jesus too will give to his Father his whole being so that we might be saved. Pure love motivates him and he will not let anything or anyone stop him from embarking on the course he has begun. He definitely wants us one day to be with him in Heaven!

As we begin another week of remembering in this month of November, let us reflect on the word 'sacrifice'. How can we make our lives living sacrifices of praise to God's glory? There are many examples to emulate. Let us do something!

MARY TEMPANY RIP Mary's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family this Friday (16th) November at 11am.

FRANK SCHOFIELD RIP Frank's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 30th November at 2pm. His body will be received into the church on the Thursday at 3.30pm.

SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS FUND The annual collection takes place this weekend. Special envelopes are available. Many of you already give so generously through Growing in Faith. Any extra funds would be much appreciated. Thank you.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL will next meet on Tuesday 20th November at 7.45pm in Our Lady's sacristy. The Liverpool 'Adoremus Group' will join them too. If anyone in the parishes has an item to be brought up, please let Fr. Norbert know.

RCIA Next session Monday 12th November at 7.30pm in Our Lady's sacristy.

CONFIRMATION The course begins with 6pm Mass at Holy Family Church today (11th) and the session will end at 8.45pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Enrolment for Our Lady's Church will be on Tuesday 27th November at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church (children do not have to attend); the sessions are on a Sunday morning starting in the new year. Parents at Our Lady's will be asked to purchase the First Confession Book at the meeting - price £5. Enrolment for Holy Family Church will be on Sunday 2nd December after 9.30 Mass. Holy Family's sessions begin in the new year and are usually after school midweek.

GEN VERDE This Tuesday 13th November they will hold a Concert at 7.30pm at Christ Church Baptist, 20 Tewin Rd, Welwyn Garden City AL7 1BW. Tickets £7.00 each (Family concessions) available on the door (cash only) or contact: cfu.responses@focolare.org.uk or tel: Lucy 01727 765 262 (evenings) Further information can be found on the leaflets at the back of the church. Also, there will be an interactive weekend with Gen Verde: music, workshops, life & more! From Friday 16th (7pm) to Sunday 18th November. To book your place go to: <https://tinyurl.com/GenVerde18> Cost: £45 (unwaged), £55 (waged) Age: 15-23 years old. 69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JG Contact: Anja: 07779 161243 | Davide: 07922 232643

SIGNED MASS Please note that 6pm Mass on Saturday 24th November will be a signed Mass so please let any deaf or hard of hearing parishioners, family or friends know.

AVIGNON REUNION will take place in Our Lady's sacristy after 6pm Mass on Saturday 24th November. It will take the form of a bring and share.

MASS FOR DECEASED DEANERY CLERGY The annual Mass will this year be at St. Joseph's, Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage SG1 1NJ on Tuesday 27th November at 11am. Bishop Paul McAleenan will be the Celebrant. Everyone is welcome to attend.

NEED A CLEANER? Then phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980 887231 - regular cleans, one off, ironing etc.

EXPERIENCED GARDENER available to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, hedge cutting, pruning shrubs and roses and weeding of flower beds. Call Daniel on 07751992492.

FRENCH TEACHER Do you need a native French teacher? GCSE-AS/2-conversational. Please contact Sarah on 07986 700989

OUR LADY'S AND HOLY FAMILY REPOSITORIES Christmas stock now in, large selection of cards and gifts. Open before and after most Masses.

OUR LADY SCHOOL Year 2 will join the congregation at 9.30 Mass on Monday (12th).

****OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES**** Filled boxes need to be brought to St. Bonaventure's or whichever church you attend **by next weekend** at the latest as they are being collected on Monday 19th November. So far 45 out of at least 120 flat pack boxes have come in. Please get them in this week.

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST There are sheets at the back of each church for you to write down the names of loved ones who have died. These will be near the altar during the month of November and will be remembered at Mass. *There is no need to give any money.*

BLESSING OF GRAVES Today (11th) at 1.30pm Hatfield Hyde. Sunday 18th November at 2pm Southway. Sunday 25th November 2pm at Welwyn New Cemetery.

DATES Day Pilgrimage with the Deaf to Walsingham Saturday 18th May. Trip to Canterbury Cathedral with Christian Churches of WGC Saturday 15th June 2019. Service in the Crypt, Guided Tours, picnic lunch, free (shopping!) time and Evensong. in Cathedral. Keep the dates free!

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We had a lovely 'fun' party on Tuesday which concluded with a wonderful firework display. Thank you to all the adults and to all the very well behaved children.

NATIONAL INTERFAITH WEEK 11-18 NOVEMBER On Wednesday 14th November the local inter faith group warmly invites you to a shared supper at the Focolare Centre for Unity, 7pm - 9.30 pm. Please bring a dish of vegetarian food to share. Entertainment by Gen Verde.

NATIVITY PLAY AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 16th December, there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part (not just St. Bonaventure's). Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 2nd December from 3.30pm - 4.30pm.

SVP REQUEST A single mum needs dresses for a 7 year old girl and warm clothing for a boy up to 24months. Contact Janet on 326456.

HOLY FAMILY Church Cleaning will take place on Wednesday 14th November from 2pm onwards. Volunteers urgently needed please.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD group will be holding an Advent Fayre on 25th November after the 9.30am Mass. We will have a fancy goods table with decorative filled teapots Christmas goodies, flavoured oils, greetings cards and a cake sale table. If anyone wants to donate any unwanted gifts previously received they will be very welcome. The Christmas raffle will begin on 28th November and be drawn on Sunday 23rd Dec after the 9.30am Mass.

CWL Tuesday 13th November is Catholic Women's Night. We meet in the Sacristy after the 7.00 Mass which is for our deceased members. This week we will be saying our Goodbyes to Anne O'Keefe, all are welcome to our informal meeting and to enjoy a glass of wine and a piece of cake to wish her farewell.

DVD PLAYER needs new home. Hardly used, free to anyone who would like it. If interested please contact Kathleen Starling on 01707 331170.

HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION Next Saturday St. Bonaventure's children meet again at 10.30am. Children will be presented to the parish during the Children's Mass on Sunday.

THANK YOU to all those who cleaned at St. Bonaventure's this week and to those at Our Lady's who cleaned and carried out grounds maintenance last Saturday.

A REMINDER that items for inclusion in the newsletter need to be in by Thursday

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

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

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

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

CONFESSIONS

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

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

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND MASS BUT CANNOT MANAGE THE JOURNEY? We have experienced volunteer drivers willing to provide door to door transport. Please telephone Kay on 01707 335633 or Desi on 01707 371399

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. The Marriage Preparation Day will be on Saturday 23rd March 2019.

UK PARLIAMENT WEEK To mark the 'UK Parliament Week' Welwyn Hatfield residents are invited to an 'Introduction to Parliament' event which is taking place on Thursday 15 November at 7pm at the Focolare Centre. This event will provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about the work of the UK Parliament and how you can influence it. This session will be led by Sharon Stanley former Senior Engagement Officer at the Houses of Parliament Outreach Services.

MASS TIMES

12 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Josaphat
13 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
14 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
15 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Albert
16 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Edmund
	11am	Funeral Mass	Holy Family	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
17 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Hugh

Thirty-third Sunday of the Year

17 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
18 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**