

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Michael Mannion
Deacon: Rev. Jeffrey Downie Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard

Sixth Sunday of Easter 5th May(page 274)

'Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you.' These are some of the words from the Gospel today. St. John opens us up to Jesus' conversation with his disciples at the Last Supper and wants our hearts to resonate with the Word of God - a Word to enlighten us, feed us and direct us.

At this time there are so many wonderful sounds we can hear - especially of the birds singing outside, perhaps waking us up at dawn! This is such a great sign that the spring has come and that the New Life of Easter is affecting even creation. I can see blossom and flowers preparing me for the riot of colour which will break in over the course of the next few months. As I write, I can feel the warmth of the sun shining down upon me and hinting that summer may really be coming!

Hearing, seeing and feeling the beauty of nature brings such joy. The peace of Christ is like that. Take time to listen to the silence which will open you up to the presence of Christ. Look around you and let nature take you closer to the Author of Creation. Allow the combination of silence and beauty to penetrate you to the core of your being uniting you with the peace and glory of God revealed to us in Jesus. This is the amazing conversation between God and each one of us and elements of creation which bear the stamp of Christ!

The peace of Christ is left to us as pure gift. This peace is for us as individuals, families, households, communities, nations and the world. How our world is desperate for this kind of peace! To create the harmony which has Christ's peace at its heart requires us to discover that same peace in our hearts and to offer it to others, to let barriers of division, hatred, prejudice and fear tumble down through his Spirit. We CAN be true peacemakers and transform our world.

As you reflect on these words this week, allow Christ to speak them in you. Proclaim them in your daily lives. Be instruments of reconciling love.

May God bless your efforts. *Fr. Norbert*

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD has been transferred to next Sunday in this country so Thursday is NOT a Holy Day.

YEAR OF FAITH The San Damiano Cross of St. Francis will be with the Monteiro family this week. They invite parishioners to join them in prayer on Wednesday 8th May at 5pm (197 Heronswood Road, AL7 3JH - near Ridgeway) If any parishioners would like to host one of the San Damiano Crosses, please let Fr. Norbert know.

REMY PIGNAL the French seminarian has now arrived from Paris and will be with us until 19th May. He has come to share in the life of our community, to meet people, improve his English and lots more! Here are his words: “Well, I think I can say that I’m 21 years old with only one sister, living in the little city of Les Lilas near Paris. I have the big privilège to be at the same time a seminarian and a law student. That gives me an academic experience and an academic background while I’m learning and preparing myself to become, if it pleases God, a priest. I’m also a talented (and humble naturally!) musician. I have played the flute and piano since I was 6 years old and I’m a member of the *departemental orchestra* of Seine-St Denis. It will be my first time in England and I’m glad to cross the sea without a boat like Moses coming to the Promised Land (even if I think he didn’t have the Eurostar either !) and come to England !”

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE There is still room on the coach to Walsingham on Saturday 18th May. Please sign your name on one of the lists at the back of church.

CATHOLICISM COURSE As part of the Year of Faith, we are using Fr. Robert Barron’s Catholicism Course every Monday evening starting at 7.30pm in Holy Family Church’s Parish Room and finishing at 9.15pm. The next session will be on Monday 13th May when we will explore the Mystery of God. Each evening starts with a cup of tea/coffee and ends with silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. You would be most welcome.

LATIN MASS SOCIETY Celebrates Mass at St. Bonaventure’s this Wednesday at 7.30pm. All welcome.

FULHAM VISIT on Saturday 11th May. 12.30pm Sandwich lunch at Holy Family followed by a short talk with slides about the Garden City itself and our three parishes. 2/2.30pm visit to Welwyn. 3/3.15pm walk from the Red Lion to the White Bridge along the old railway line. 4pm cream teas will be served at St. Bonaventure’s with an opportunity to see the church. 6pm there will be a Special Needs Mass at Our Lady’s with a reception (quiz and bingo too!) in the hall ending at 9pm. Parishioners are welcome at every stage to meet the visitors and share in the various activities.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP •There will be a CAFOD meeting on Tuesday 7th May at 7.30pm in the Parish room at Holy Family. Anyone who would like to come along will be made very welcome.

•The Holy Family CAFOD group are holding a cake sale after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 12th May. Any offers to bake a cake will be gratefully received and we hope that a great many of you also take this opportunity to enjoy some homemade cakes. We thank you for your continued support.

FUNERAL MASS for Mary Moran is at 2.45pm this Wednesday at Our Lady’s. We offer her family and friends our prayers and sympathy.

DEACON JEFFREY DOWNIE Jeffrey's Ordination to the Priesthood will take place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 29th June at 10.30am. We will be hiring a coach. There will be a Holy Hour in each of our churches before Jeffrey goes on retreat in preparation for his Ordination. On Tuesday 18th June, the Holy Hours will be at St. Bonaventure's at 10am and at Our Lady's at 8pm; on Wednesday 19th June at Holy Family at 10am.

LOURDES FUNDRAISING THANK YOU Cameron Wilson thanks all those who supported his sale and raffle last weekend which raised £224. Unclaimed raffle prizes will be in the hall: white 321, pink 55, pink 35, orange 343, white 376, green 569, white 326, white 368.

CAFOD STALL This weekend at the Masses at Our Lady's, the Justice & Peace group will be running a CAFOD stall, with various items of (CAFOD) merchandise for sale. Also, they will have Campaign cards (for the Enough Food If campaign) for parishioners to sign prior to the rally on June 8th (in Hyde Park), and the G8 summit in June.

FAIRTRADE TEA PARTY on May 18th (at 2.30pm), at Westminster Cathedral. If you would like to **bake a cake**, please let John Fogarty know, letting him know what ingredients are Fairtrade. John is happy to take the cakes along, phone 01707 327771.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES Our Lady's 12th May at 11.30am, 2nd June at 11.30am. Holy Family 19th May at 12noon. St. Bonaventure's 9th June at 10.30am.

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY Panshanger Church thanks the Catholic community of WGC for supporting the Debt Advice Centre which was founded in January. They are presently offering money coaching sessions to help local people budget, save and spend. The coaching sessions help people to manage their money better and is suitable for everyone, whether to change habits or just have a spring clean of their finances. The CAP money team are willing to run courses for 5 or more people, at times to suit any group. Contact: phone 01707 394234 or e-mail cap@panshangerchurch.com

FOOD BANK at New Zion Christian Fellowship (Cole Green Lane) continues to express gratitude to the Catholic community for the very generous donations to the Food Bank which are taken to the church every week for distribution on a Wednesday morning 9 - 11 o'clock. Baskets for this purpose are at the back of each of our churches.

WELWYN HATFIELD INTER FAITH GROUP present an illustrated talk on Religions of the Far East (different ways of believing) on Wednesday 15 May 7.30 for 7.45 in the Park Lounge, Campus West. All welcome.

CONFIRMATION GROUP Thank you from Fr. Michael for the card and gift. God bless you all.

TOMMY MANSFIELD 400 CLUB: Collection of subscriptions for April will be taken after Masses at Our Lady's next weekend 11th/12th May. The draw will be made on Monday 12th May. Numbers for just £1 are available for new members.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH: Thank you to all who came on Saturday morning to clean the church and maintain the grounds.

NEED A CLEANER? Phone Elizabeth on 01707 883770, one off cleans, regular or weekly etc.

OUR LADY SCHOOL SUMMER FETE Saturday 18th May 11.30am – 3.30pm.
 Lots of fun activities for the all family including a Raffle, Tombola, barbecue, children’s games, face painting and much much more! Admission £1 adults, children go free!

MAY DEVOTIONS After 10am Mass this Monday. Process to the Peace Garden.

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81 Parkway AL8 6JF
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OUR LADY’S PARISH CENTRE

Bookings should be made with Phil
 (Philomena) Johnson 01707 377442
 or 07790 135458
 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

Fr. Michael 01707 327434
Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

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

MASS TIMES

06 Monday	<u>10am</u>	Our Lady’s	Easter feria
07 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Our Lady’s	
08 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Easter feria
	2.45pm	Funeral Mass	Our Lady’s
	7.30pm	Latin Mass Society	St. Bonaventure
09 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Easter feria
10 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Our Lady’s	
11 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	The English Martyrs

	The Ascension of the Lord	
11 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady’s
12 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Holy Family
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Our Lady’s
	6pm	Holy Family

*Lord, Let me see your face,
 Know your heart and
 experience your love in my life.
 Strengthen in me
 the precious gift of faith.
 I believe Lord;
 Help my unbelief. Amen.*

<p>CHAPLAINS TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplains: Jacqueline Humphreys and John Paul Lyttle, on 07884187463</p>
