

# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes    Assistant Priest: Fr. Michael Mannion  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

***Twentieth Sunday of the Year 18th August 2013 (page 125)  
to include 25th August (page 127)***

## **INTO YOUR HEART, O LORD**

Many times as a boy I would be amazed and curious while watching water flow from the kitchen tap. Hot water was not so interesting because it was for washing and cleaning. Cold water was for drinking and splashing and fun! In Ireland, on the farm in Galway, there was no water piped into home (in my early childhood). As a boy I'd go with my Dad to the 'hole-in-the-ground' and bring home buckets of water. The well was a wonderful place to visit but, you soon got wise to not wasting water.

Today's first reading relates how the prophet Jeremiah was thrown down into an almost dry well. He was brought up from the 'hole-in-the-ground' and gave the people a life giving message from God. When people drink deeply of the Word of God they are cleansed and have life.

Christ talks of an opposite of water while speaking of fire. He wants to start a fire within each of us that will cleanse and guide us to eternal life. Division will come through those who turn away from the Word of God.

In Baptism we are washed clean in our preparation to serve Christ. In Confirmation the fire of the Holy Spirit enlivens the heart and soul with a love that blazes.

*Alleluia, alleluia  
open our hearts, O Lord  
to accept the words of your Son.*

*Alleluia.*

God Bless you, **Fr. Michael.**

**MISSION APPEAL** The Holy Ghost Fathers will be making an appeal this Sunday and there will be a retiring collection at all Masses.

**FILIPINO MASS** Our thanks to the Filipino Community for the hard work they put into the Procession, Mass and Reception on 4th August. It was a wonderful occasion giving our wider community a chance to experience and celebrate Filipino culture, language and traditions.

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** Bishop John Sherrington will be leading a day on Saturday 21st September in Walsingham for the young people he confirmed this year and last year. He wants to gather Hertfordshire's young people in this Year of Faith to give them an opportunity to be together and reflect on the gift of Faith.

**YEAR OF FAITH** Fr. Norbert has decided to leave the procession between our churches on Sunday 22nd September. Instead he would like us to focus on the 'hosting' of the San Damiano Cross for the autumn. The Year of Faith will conclude with a Dinner at the Homestead Court Hotel on Saturday 16th November at 7.30pm and a Children's Mass and Party on Saturday 23rd November at 4pm. The Year officially ends on the Feast of Christ the King - 24th November. It has been a time of blessing for us in our community. Let us allow the remaining months to be a continued time of enrichment.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2014** Application forms for St. Bonaventure's children are available at the back of church. Forms for Holy Family and Our Lady's will be available in due course. Children must be born before 1st September 2006 (i.e. they must be in at least Year 3 from September 2013) to be eligible to receive Holy Communion in 2014.

For families who attend Holy Family Church and Our Lady's Church, preparation for First Confession and First Holy Communion will start in January. There will be meetings in November for parents to register their children and receive information about dates and all that is involved. Watch this space!

**CONFIRMATION** We are waiting for a date for Bishop John Sherrington to celebrate Confirmation for our young people in 2014. Once this is arranged there will be a meeting in November for young people to register and information about the course to be given. Preparation will begin in January.

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL** In September we welcome Ms Ginnette Stevens to Holy Family School as its new Headteacher. We are very grateful to Mr Ian Kendal and St Joseph's School in Hertford for 'sharing' Mr Kendal with us for the past two years as Executive Head and we wish him well as he 'returns' to St. Joseph's. Ms Stevens now takes up the reins at a very exciting time and will lead Holy Family towards its 50th Anniversary in 2015.

**SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES** Our thanks to Caroline Sherar of Holy Family who has stepped down from being the Safeguarding Representative for Holy Family. Ann Grogan has kindly agreed to undertake this responsibility and is currently getting all the necessary paperwork and training sorted out. Ann joins Peter Bell of St Bonaventure's and Barbara Moore of Our Lady's who do so much to ensure that all our procedures follow the latest national guidelines and are in keeping with the Church's high expectations.

**DEANERY DAY FOR CATECHISTS** On Saturday 28th September, Fr. John Hemer, who lectures in Scripture at Allen Hall Seminary, will lead a Day reflecting on 'What is Faith?' and 'The Mass'. Catechists involved in Children's Liturgy, First Confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, RCIA and Marriage from the 13 parishes of Stevenage Deanery will gather in Our Lady's Hall, WGC. The timetable is as follows: 10am Tea/Coffee. 10.30 Talk. 12 noon Mass 1pm Lunch (provided). 1.30pm Catechists in their specific groups to share resources and good practice. 3.30pm Tea and departures. It would be really good to have many from our own parishes here in WGC on the Day. Fr. John asks those attending to bring their own Bibles. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are attending.

**A REMINDER FOR LOURDES PILGRIMS** The balance for the pilgrimage needs to be paid to Pax Travel by 26th August.

**BANK HOLIDAY** Come and relax with a shared picnic and family games in The King George V playing field 12noon - 3.30pm. Organised by Paul and Mary Gateshill and families of the Focolare. Phone 01707 695351 if you want more information, otherwise just turn up with your picnic (and game if you have one). Leaflets at the back of church.

**CELEBRATING THE ART OF THE POLISH COMMUNITY** All are invited to this event on 8th September at 3pm at Mill Green Museum. The event is designed to be good fun, promote art and gather the local community together. There will be children's entertainment, live music, Polish and English refreshments and it is all free.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY 2014** has been set for Saturday 15th February in Our Lady's Hall - the day after Valentine's Day! It will start with coffee at 10.30am and end with Mass with the Blessing of Engaged Couples at 6pm in the church. Couples who are marrying in 2014 or 2015 are especially encouraged to keep the day free and come. Couples who wish to marry in one of our churches in Welwyn Garden City should contact Fr. Norbert; six months' notice is required in this Diocese. Many couples obviously wish to get married in their home area, be that in this country or abroad. It is important to establish exactly what is needed elsewhere in regard to the paperwork. It might help for couples marrying outside of Welwyn Garden City to arrange to see Fr. Norbert at an early stage to ensure everything is in order.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES** Tuesday 1st October Bishop John Sherrington will celebrate an Education Mass at 7pm for the schools of this Deanery. Children and parents, staff and governors will gather to ask God's blessing on our schools and all involved in Education.

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

<b>CHAPLAINS TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS:</b> If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplains: Jacqueline Humphreys and John Paul Lyttle, on 07884187463
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**NEWSLETTER** The next newsletter will be published on 1st September

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**81 Parkway AL8 6JF**  
**Website:**  
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*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.*

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

### **MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

17 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	Winnie McGlinchey's intentions
<b>18 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Susan Reed (intentions)
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	John William Brophy (60th birthday)
	<b>10.30am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Monica Umejiego (R.I.P.)
	<b>11.30am</b>	Our Lady's	Tony Herbert (R.I.P.)
	<b>6pm</b>	Holy Family	People of the Parish
19 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Anna Tighe's intentions
20 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Patricia Hart (anniversary)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Fr. Jeffrey Downie's intentions
21 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Thanksgiving to St. Jude
22 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Margaret Roche (intentions)
23 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	John Hart (R.I.P.)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Jim Harris (R.I.P.)
24 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Kathleen Campbell (R.I.P.)

### **Twenty-first Sunday of the Year**

<b>24 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Our Lady's	Stephen Bell (R.I.P. anniversary)
<b>25 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Colin and Harry Smythe (R.I.P.)
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	Filomena and Guiseppe Oddi (R.I.P.)
	<b>10.30am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Timothy Brophy (sick)
	<b>11.30am</b>	Our Lady's	Joseph Reddick (R.I.P. anniversary)
	<b>6pm</b>	Holy Family	Private intention
26 Monday	<u>10am</u>	Our Lady's	Patrick Meenan (R.I.P.)
27 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Jan Zabinski (R.I.P.)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Len Smith (R.I.P.)
28 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	O'Donnell family (intentions)
29 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Noreen Burke (intentions)
30 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Cyril O'Loughlin (anniversary)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Patrick McConnell (R.I.P. anniversary)
31 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Peter Conway (R.I.P. birthday)