

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*

***Twenty-second Sunday of the Year 1st September 2013 (page 130)
to include 8th September (page 133)***

WHEN IS A TENT A PALACE?

There is always a proud and joyful moment when walking to your car with a new tent. There are often memories of the first tent and wondering how you managed in a small tent! On the campsite there are always bigger and better tents than yours - oh, yes there are worse too. Once inside your own tent at night time, your own tent is your palace.

In the Second Reading we are told we have come to Mount Zion - to the festival. We are to be in community with the whole Church. Our body, the tent of the soul, becomes a palace. To each 'tent' Christ brings glory.

Our entrance fee is to leave aside our pride and to 'be gentle in carrying out your business'. Thus, allowing Christ to raise you up.

Cardinal Hume wrote: Most people are only too aware that they have failed to achieve the ideal. Failure can be a friend, for its role is to introduce us to humility. Humility is facing up to reality, that is, to the truth about ourselves, our sinfulness and limitations.

Invite Christ to be the central/ridge pole in your life.
In humility, depend on Him

God Bless you in your invitation to the festival
Fr. Michael Mannion.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2014 Application forms for St. Bonaventure's children are available at the back of church. St. Bonaventure's preparation begins on Saturday 21st September at 10.30am.

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.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We meet again on Tuesday 10th September. All children from our three parishes are welcome to attend from 3.45pm - 4.45pm (in the parish hall) to learn more about their faith in a relaxed and fun way. Come and get to know other parish children. If you haven't been before just turn up. Parents welcome. Our next **CHILDREN'S MASS** is on Sunday 22nd September (a week later than usual).

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP There will be a meeting of the CAFOD group on Tuesday 3rd September at 7.30 in the parish room at Holy Family. Anyone who would like to come along will be very welcome.

SPONSORED CYCLE RALLY The Mixed Group have arranged a 10 mile sponsored cycle rally (using the cycle paths) to Hertford and back on Sunday 8th September commencing at 12.45p.m. from 6th WGC Scout Headquarters in Autumn Grove. It is our biggest fundraiser of the year (for the Christmas Day festivities for the lonely and elderly of Welwyn/Hatfield) and we are appealing to parishioners to help by participating or sponsoring cyclists. Please contact Seán Cox MBE on 01707 325278.

FOOD BANK The Zion Community thank all parishioners for their regular donations to the Food Bank. These donations are very much appreciated and needed.

SHAMROCK CLUB OPEN DAY in aid of Our Lady School, Saturday 14th September from 12pm followed by an evening of live music by 'Main Attraction' Any donations or helpers on the day greatly appreciated 07518471757.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL This week 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.

OUR LADY'S Cleaning of the church and grounds maintenance will take place on Saturday 7th September at 10am for ONE hour followed by refreshments. All are very welcome to come along and help with this important work.

FR. MICHAEL MANNION Fr. Michael's last Sunday will be 15th September. After his own summer break he will then start as Parish Priest of St. Thomas More Church in Wheathampstead. Fr. Michael's four years here in WGC have given great stability in our three parishes as he has shared with us his gifts, serving in the schools, the SVP, the sick at home or in hospital. Fr. Michael has been ready to help and be available in a variety of ways, many of them behind the scenes. He has been a great support for Fr. Norbert and a friend to us all. We are grateful to him for his ministry and wish him well in his new appointment. A date for Fr. Michael to return for a Farewell Mass and Celebration will be announced in due course.

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.

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.

CWL Meets at 8pm, 10th September in the Parish Lounge at Our Lady's.

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.

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

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
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NEWSLETTER The next newsletter will be published on 15th September

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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.*

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

31 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	Stephen Bell (R.I.P. anniversary)
01 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	Bessie Bongville (R.I.P.)
	9.30am	Holy Family	Franco Tiramani (R.I.P. birthday)
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Monica Glancey (R.I.P.)
	11.30am	Our Lady's	Patrick Meenan (R.I.P. anniversary)
	6pm	Holy Family	People of the Parish
02 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	John Hughes (R.I.P.)
03 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Tom Goode (R.I.P.)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Martin, Mary, Kate and Silvester Tighe (R.I.P. anniversary)
04 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Private intention
05 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Vincent White (R.I.P. anniversary)
06 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Bill Campbell (R.I.P. anniversary)
	7pm	Our Lady's	John and Josephine Breen O'Grady (R.I.P. anniversary)
07 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Stephen Albuquerque (R.I.P. anniv)

Twenty-third Sunday of the Year

07 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	Brian Miller (R.I.P.)
08 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	Josie Bell (intentions)
	9.30am	Holy Family	Patrick Morrin (R.I.P.)
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Eileen Morgan (R.I.P.)
	11.30am	Our Lady's	Fr. Mark Connolly
	6pm	Holy Family	People of the Parish
09 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	In thanksgiving
10 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Kathleen Campbell (R.I.P.)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Colleen Robbins (R.I.P.)
11 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Private intention
12 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Private intention
13 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Mary Pearce intentions
	7pm	Our Lady's	Bernard Connolly's intentions
14 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Aline Wood (R.I.P.)