

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Twenty-fourth Sunday of the Year 15th September 2013 (page 136)

TOGETHER WE FIND GOD

As I prepare to leave I feel a deep sadness within me. This is because of what all of you have done for me, through the parish and two schools. During these last four years, with the difficulties and benefits of the three parishes coming together, you all have also nurtured me. After being a priest for over 25 years I felt I knew everything or quite a lot! How joyful I am to find I am wrong.

In the Gospel the woman rejoices because of what she finds. Christ is talking about sin and redemption/healing, and the joy Father God finds in our return to Him. What of this return to Him? It is about community and being together. The woman has a gathering of neighbours. Well, that will cost more than she found! Isn't that what we are about, losing ourselves and so finding ourselves. There is usually a cost to ourselves.

Thank you all for helping me to lose myself and be drawn into your community/family. I am still a sinner because of my pride and selfishness yet, a better sinner than I was. Oh, no wait, that is not quite right, I mean I am a sinner who has become better, because of your love and care and support.

Our life journeys are different and changing yet, the direction and purpose is the same. Namely, it is union with Christ through turning to each other and building church/community, that reaches outwards.

Thank you for accepting me and helping me know Christ better through you.

God Bless you, with love, Fr. Michael Mannion.

SVP The SVP invites you to an Opening Tea Party at 3pm on Saturday 12th October in Our Lady's Parish Centre. Lifts can be provided. If you would like to come please put your name and telephone number on the list at the back of church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2014 ST. BONAVENTURE'S Preparation for St. Bonaventure's children begins next Saturday 21st September at 10.30am in the hall.

Application forms are at the back of the church. Short meeting for parents at 11.20am.

CHILDREN'S MASS is next Sunday and the theme is 'Always be Honest' (St. Bon).

RCIA (The Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults) will begin on Monday 4th November at 7.30pm in the sacristy of Our Lady's Church. Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Are you a Catholic who missed out on Confirmation (or First Holy Communion) when you were younger and feel ready now for these Sacraments? Perhaps you are engaged to - or married to - a Catholic and would like to find out more? Maybe you have attended Mass for years and no one ever asked you? Had you ever thought of it before? Are you getting married in the next year or two in a country where a non-confirmed Catholic cannot marry without having been confirmed? Do YOU know someone who is waiting to be invited? There is much to reflect on! In these next few months why not think about it? Perhaps this is the year for you or some you know to take this important step. Let us as a community pray hard that God's Spirit may inspire and guide those who are considering it.

HOLY FAMILY CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS Due to your generosity we were able to donate £219.21 to the 'Dogs for the Disabled' Charity. Our chosen charity for the next 6 months is a local parent run charity called 'Up on Downs' which supports families of children with Down's Syndrome. Please take time to join other parishioners for a chat and a cuppa after Sunday morning Mass and support this amazing charity. Thank you.

HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S LITURGY All children from school nursery to Year 3 are welcome to attend. We are sorry we cannot accommodate younger children, but they are very welcome to take a prayer bag from the back of the church to help keep them busy during the Mass. The next Children's Mass will be on Sunday October 13th at 9.30am and we would encourage as many children as possible to take part.

KAREN McAULIFFE R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Karen will be at 2pm on Tuesday 24th September in Our Lady's Church. We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Karen's husband and children and to their relatives and many friends. May Karen rest in peace.

A MINIBUS OUTING to Van Hage Garden Centre, Ware has been arranged for parishioners with limited mobility. This is free and will be on Tuesday 24th September in the afternoon; if you are interested in going please contact Kay Mason on 01707 335633.

CHOIR PRACTICE next Thursday (19th) at St. Bonaventure's, for everyone who wants to be involved in Singing for Peace at Green Lanes School, Hatfield, on 9th November.

SINGING FOR PLEASURE are performing a Late Summer Concert in aid of Save the Children and the British Heart Foundation in St John's Church, Digswell, Monks Rise at 7.30pm on Saturday 28th September. Tickets are £5 and will be available through Glynis on 01707 377543 or at the door.

FR. MICHAEL MANNION This is Fr. Michael's last Sunday with us and we are very sad to see him go but we wish him well in his new appointment as Parish Priest of St. Thomas More Church in Wheathampstead.

FR. VINCENT MALONE will move into Holy Family's Presbytery in late September. His first day will be Tuesday 1st October. We look forward to welcoming him to our parishes here in Welwyn Garden City.

BLESSING OF GRAVES 2013 Hatfield Hyde Cemetery on Saturday 2nd November at 11am. Hatfield Lawn (Southway) Cemetery on Sunday 17th November at 2pm. Welwyn Cemetery on Sunday 24th November at 2.30pm.

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. The timetable is: 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. 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.

JUSTICE AND PEACE The Justice and Peace Commission will hold its Annual Day on Saturday 19th October, in conjunction with the J & P Commissions of the dioceses of Brentwood and Southwark. It will be at The Salvation Army Regent Hall, Oxford Street. Talks from Bishop Lynch (of Southwark), Bruce Kent, Bishop Kevin Dowling (from South Africa) and the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. If you would like to attend the event, please contact John Fogarty (tel' 01707 327771, e-mail john.fogarty@ntlworld.com) for more information.

MISSIO - APF - Red Boxes (St. Bonaventure's) Once again it is time to collect and count the money in the Red Boxes. The promoters for St. Bonaventure's are Mavis Cleasby, Desi Russell, Steve Giblin and Olga Morrisoe. They will contact you or you can leave your boxes at the church. New box holders please make sure your name is written on the white label. Thank you.

EDUCATION MASS 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.

UNITED NATIONS PEACE DAY Saturday 21st September 2pm - 3pm Tea and scones. A time of reflection and prayer for: 'Youth, Peace and Development'. Please bring along a piece of relevant music (CD) or an item to read, if you wish. It will take place in the Garden Room at Our Lady's Centre, 141, Woodhall Lane, the same entrance as the Pomegranate Cafe. Open to all who seek Peace.

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St. Bonaventure's
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

01707 327434
Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

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

MASS TIMES

16 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	SS Cornelius and Cyprian
17 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Our Lady's	
18 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
19 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
20 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St Andrew Kim Taegon and
	7pm	Our Lady's	companions
21 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	St. St. Matthew

Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year

21 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	<i>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.</i>
22 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Holy Family	
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	
	11.30am	Our Lady's	
	6pm	Holy Family	

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