

# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Vincent Malone  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## ***Thirtieth Sunday of the Year 27th October 2013 (page 155)***

I write this piece late on Friday evening before setting off for Lourdes. This time last week I was with my Dad in hospital. He had rung me in the afternoon saying he had no movement in his left hand which made me think of a stroke. I was able to get home quickly and take him to A&E. While we were in the waiting room Dad asked me to anoint him. The hospital speedily gave him a clot-busting drug, took him to the stroke ward and then all we could do was wait. An MRI scan showed Dad had had a minor stroke and he went home on Tuesday. He still needs many prayers and plenty of rest. This week there have been Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms. On Tuesday afternoon a meeting of the WGC Christian Leaders with our MP Grant Shapps in the Houses of Parliament. And now Lourdes!

God works in mysterious ways. We never quite know how things will unfold. We should depend on God like the tax collector in today's Gospel parable; he trusts in the mercy of God. St. Paul writing to Timothy provides us with wonderful imagery as he soldiers on: 'I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith...'

This coming week the 46 pilgrims will be praying for you at the Rue du Bac in Paris at Mass on Saturday afternoon - the place where the Miraculous Medal was given; there will be many processions and Masses in Lourdes; we conclude in Nevers where St. Bernadette's incorrupt body lies. We carry your needs and intentions, those of our parishes and beyond. We are counting on YOU to pray for us for a safe journey and a blessed pilgrimage. This togetherness in prayer is crucial not only at this time but as we, a Pilgrim People, make our way towards the 'crown of righteousness reserved for us'.

God bless you. With love and prayers, ***Fr. Norbert***

**HAPPY HALF-TERM HOLIDAY** to our children and school staff!

**ALL SAINTS DAY** is next Friday (1st November) and is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks us to come to Mass. Please note 9.30am Mass will be at Holy Family Church, 12noon Mass at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

**ALL SOULS DAY** is on Saturday 2nd November. There will be 10am Mass at St. Bonaventure's, the Blessing of Graves at Hatfield Hyde Cemetery at 11am and 12noon Mass at Our Lady's Church.

**YEAR OF FAITH** This week the Cross of San Damiano will be with Ellen and Sean Brophy (70 Rowans WGC AL7); they invite parishioners to join them in prayer on Tuesday 29th October at 3pm. Another Cross will be with the Musingarabwi family (24 Lady Grove AL7 4DU); they invite parishioners to join them in prayer on Thursday 31st at 5.30pm. If you would like to host the Cross for a week in the these remaining weeks, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**END OF YEAR OF FAITH DINNER** at the Homestead Court Hotel on Saturday 16th November at 7.30pm. It will be a 3-course meal with coffee and mints. Cost £19.50 (children 10 years and under £9.75). There are flyers available at the back of our churches with the menu and a chance to reserve a place. The round tables take 10 people.

**FR. MICHAEL'S FAREWELL** will take place on Saturday 23rd November at 6pm followed by a Reception in Our Lady's Hall. Next week envelopes will be available for a presentation to Fr. Michael and more details about the Mass and Reception.

**POLISH/ENGLISH MASS** A huge thank you to the Polish community for leading last weekend's Mass and providing such a lovely celebration afterwards.

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA'S RELIC** will be in London as follows:

Saturday November 2nd at Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Street, SW1P 1QJ Tel: 020 7798 9055 6pm Mass

Subday November 3rd St Peter's Italian Church 136 Clerkenwell Rd, London Tel: 020 7837 1528 9:30am Mass 11am Sung Mass 12:30pm Mass 2pm to 6.30pm Veneration 7pm Mass 8.15pm to 10pm Veneration

**DEANERY EDUCATION MASS** has been rescheduled for Tuesday 26th November at 7pm in Our Lady's Church. Bishop John Sherrington will celebrate the Mass. Pupils, parents, staff and governors of the Catholic Primary and Secondary schools of the Stevenage Deanery will be attending.

**OUR LADY'S CHURCH:** the cleaning of our church and grounds maintenance will take place on Saturday 2nd November at 10am for just ONE hour. All are welcome to help!

**OUR LADY'S MINISTER'S ROTA:** the new rota for Welcomers, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers from November to January 2014 is available at the back of the church.

**YMCA Central Herts** will be opening their newest Charity Shop in the Howard Centre on Saturday 2 November. All proceeds from this shop will go towards YMCA Space WGC in order to keep this vital community work going and continue to support the many people, especially the vulnerable, who use the centre.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** Registration for First Confession and First Holy Communion will take place as follows: for Holy Family Church on Sunday 10th November at 10.40am in church (after Mass); there will be an additional opportunity for parents to gather that evening (10th Nov.) at 7pm in Holy Family Church. For Our Lady's on Tuesday 19th November at 7.45pm in church (after Mass and Novena). Parents are requested to come and receive all the important dates related to their children's preparation for these Sacraments. Children do not need to attend the evening meeting.

**CONFIRMATION** Registration for young people (at least in Year 9 at school) will take place in Holy Family Church on Sunday 24th November at 7pm. The meeting is for young people of our three parishes and their parents. Dates for the preparation will be given at this meeting.

**NOVEMBER DEAD LISTS** available at the back of each church. Write down the names of loved ones who have died and they will be remembered at Mass during November. There is no need to give any money.

**PADDY O'FLAHERTY RIP** The Funeral Mass for Paddy will be in Our Lady's Church on Thursday 7th November at 9.30am.

**PATRICIA GREEN RIP** The Funeral Service for Patricia will be in Our Lady's on Tuesday 12th November at 10.15am.

**MANY STREAMS ONE RIVER- 9th November 2013** at the Methodist Central Hall, London SW1 9NH A day organised by the new Ecclesial Movements and Communities in the Church. Programme will include talks by Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor and Archbishop Vincent Nichols as well as music, drama, prayer and witness..... Tickets £12. A coach is leaving from St Bonaventure's at 8.45 - £8 return. Further information and tickets from Focolare Centre for Unity, 69, Parkway, WGC. Tel. 01707 323620.

**POLISH SCHOOL** On 16th of November the Polish Saturday School is planning to celebrate its Official Opening as well as to mark The Polish Independence Day. The event will take place in Holwell Primary School, Holwell Road, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 3RP. It will last one hour. It will start at 10.45 am and it will finish at 11.45 am. The event, which will include performances prepared specially on this occasion by Polish children and teachers, will be followed by refreshments. Booking for this event is essential! For more information, please contact: szkola@pss-wgc.co.uk.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE BOXES)** Filled boxes can be brought into church as soon as they are ready. There are some covered boxes waiting to be filled in the hall at St. Bonaventure's, take one if you would like one that you don't need to cover!

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP PARTY** We have our party on Tuesday 5th November from 3.45pm - 5.30pm. Games, Spooky Tea and Fireworks. Bring a small amount of food (hot dogs and pizza provided). Parents (dressed for the occasion!) are welcome to stay but those who don't must return by 5pm so there is maximum supervision for the fireworks. £2 to cover costs.

**RCIA** will begin on Monday 4th November at 7.30pm in the sacristy of Our Lady's Church.

**THE SUCCESS OF FAILURE** A talk by Pastor Nims Obunge. Monday 4th November, 7.30pm Room A166 Lindop Building, University of Hertfordshire. See poster for details of this inspiring speaker.

**Fr. Norbert 01707 323234**  
**welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk**  
**Our Lady's**  
**141 Woodhall Lane**  
**AL7 3TP**  
**Website: www.ourladys-parish.info**

**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
**parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk**  
**St. Bonaventure's**  
**81 Parkway AL8 6JF**  
**Website:**  
**www.stbonaventure.org.uk**

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

**OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE**  
 Bookings should be made with Phil (Philomena) Johnson 01707 377442 or 07790 135458  
 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

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

**MASS TIMES**

28 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	SS Simon and Jude
29 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Blessed Martyrs of Douai College
	7pm	Our Lady's	
30 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
31 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
	10am	St. Bonaventure	Funeral Mass
<b>01 Friday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	<b>All Saints</b>
	<b>12noon</b>	St. Bonaventure	
	<b>7pm</b>	Our Lady's	
02 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	All Souls
	12noon	Our Lady's	
		<b>Thirty-first Sunday of the Year</b>	<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>
<b>02 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Our Lady's	
<b>03 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	St. Bonaventure	
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	
	<b>10.30am</b>	St. Bonaventure	
	<b>11.30am</b>	Our Lady's	
	<b>6pm</b>	Holy Family	

<p><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</p>
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