

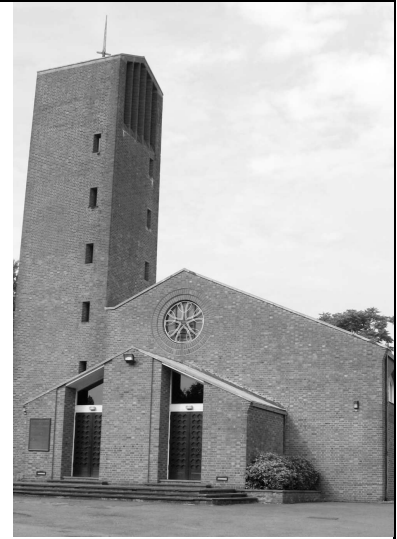
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Thirty-second Sunday of the Year 10th November 2013 (page 161)

Our Parish Pilgrimage seems along time ago! A coach-load of us made our way on Saturday 26th October to the Rue du Bac in Paris where Our Lady gave St. Catherine Laboure the Miraculous Medal. When we arrived the Rosary was just beginning. The Chapel was packed and the deep prayer of all gathered was tangible. Remy, the student from the Diocese of St. Denis who came to WGC in May, joined us for Mass which was in French. He sends his regards and says 2015 is when he should formally be enrolled as a seminarian.

After a good night's sleep outside Paris, we made the long journey down to Lourdes. There are new 'lower' Stations of the Cross which have been carved out of white marble. They are very striking and it is as if Jesus is climbing out of the stone reaching out to us. There was a walking tour of Lourdes in the rain and then Bartres and Gavarnie. We 'did' the Torchlight Procession, the Upper Stations, the Blessed Sacrament Procession and the Baths. A highlight was Mass at the Grotto. On our last night we lit a huge candle for all of you and your intentions. It should burn for at least a couple of months! Then up to Nevers and the sight of St. Bernadette's incorrupt body and All Saints Day Mass. Even though we've been back a week, there are so many happy memories of a grace-filled, joyful pilgrimage which has given us an experience of heaven. And the candle is still burning near the Grotto - a symbol of God's presence and prayer.

The dead rise again - this is the powerful message of Jesus in our Gospel reading from St. Luke. When our time on earth comes to an end, God wants us to spend eternity in the glory of heaven with him. The splendour of God's majesty, the Victory of Jesus Christ on Calvary and the prayer of those left on earth help us on our way. Today as we remember the sacrifice of those who gave their lives for their country and as we call to mind our own loved ones who have died, let us pray that they may enjoy eternal rest and live for ever with God. God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND The annual collection takes place today as you leave Mass. The role of the Fund is to ensure that every retired priest has somewhere to live...has the equipment needed to live an independent life if struggling with disability...receives regular visits to ensure all is well...has enough to live on...and has support when he cannot live on his own. Please be generous - your help is vital. Thank you.

RCIA 7 people came to last Monday's meeting. There is still the opportunity of joining the Catholic Church. Come to Our Lady's sacristy this Monday at 7.30pm. You would be most welcome.

END OF YEAR OF FAITH DINNER at the Homestead Court Hotel on Saturday 16th November at 7.30pm. 43 people have signed up. It is still possible to attend. Please get the forms in as soon as possible. (The 3-course meal with coffee and mints costs £19.50 / children 10 years and under £9.75).

FR. MICHAEL'S FAREWELL will take place on Saturday 23rd November at 6pm followed by a Reception in Our Lady's Hall. There are envelopes available at the back of the churches for a presentation to Fr. Michael. There will be someone at the back of Church to take the names of those willing to provide 'finger food' for the Farewell Gathering. Altar servers from the churches are very welcome. Please sign the list in your church's sacristy and arrive on the day at 5.15pm.

POPE FRANCIS has asked for a consultation with all Catholics on 'Pastoral challenges to the Family in the context of Evangelisation' in readiness for the next Synod of Bishops. Archbishop Vincent Nichols is asking for responses from our Diocese by 6th December which does not give much time! All the information was printed in last week's Universe. Otherwise see the website of the Catholic Church in England and Wales which has all the preparatory material and a link to a questionnaire. Pope Francis wants to hear from all Catholics. This is a brilliant way of responding!

LIZ ESKIOGLOU RIP Mrs Eskioglou, a teacher at Our Lady School, died unexpectedly after a short illness during the half-term break. Please pray for her family and for the School. The Funeral Service will be at Garston Crematorium on Monday at 12.20pm. **PATRICIA GREEN RIP** The Funeral Service for Patricia will be in Our Lady's on Tuesday 12th November at 10.15am.

DEANERY EDUCATION MASS on 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.

CONCERT FOR CAFOD The Herts Constabulary Choir are giving a concert at Holy Family Church on Monday 25th November. Tickets are £5 (no concessions). 7.45pm for 8pm start. Tickets are available from this weekend.

CAKE SALE Friends of Welwyn Care Homes are really grateful to the Coffee Group at St. B's for holding a Cake Sale for our funds on Sunday 17th. We visit 6 Care Homes in WGC and Welwyn. 4 parishioners hold a tea party and assist at the monthly Service provided by St. Bon's at St Andrew's, 3 visit residents at Heath Lodge and one assists with Communions there. I am always very happy to speak to anyone who is interested in our work- Anne Horsman(01438840566/anne.horsman@btinternet.com)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Registration for First Confession and First Holy Communion will take place as follows: for Holy Family Church today (10th) at 10.40am in church (after Mass); there will be an additional opportunity for parents to gather this evening 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.

BLESSING OF GRAVES Hatfield Lawn (Southway) Cemetery on Sunday 17th November at 2pm. Welwyn Cemetery on Sunday 24th November at 2.30pm.

NATIONAL INTER-FAITH WEEK 17th - 24th November. There are many activities taking place: 17th Mitzvah Day Food Bank Collection at Waitrose; 18th Talk at Jim McDonald Centre - Winter Festivals and the food that goes with them, 7.30 at Jim McDonald Centre, Hatfield; 20th Bring and Share Meal at Focolare Centre 7 for 7.30pm; Baha'i evening of music and reflection 7pm, Sunday 24th in the Focolare Centre.

WOMEN'S INTER-FAITH GROUP will be meeting at SPACE on Tuesday, 12.30 - 2. Bring a packed lunch, hot drinks provided.

***OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD* (SHOE BOXES)** Filled boxes need to be brought in by next weekend at the latest, thank you.

THE AFRICAN COMMUNITY will be meeting this Sunday after 11.30am Mass at Our Lady's. The meeting will be held at in the hall and all African parishioners are requested to attend.

CWL meets on Tuesday 12th November at 8pm. This month's speaker will be Christine Kirke, who regularly travels to Romania to support a much needed hospice. All welcome.

NATIVITY PLAY ST. BONAVENTURE'S Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 15th December at 4pm, there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part. Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 1st December from 2.30pm - 4pm.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL Please come and support the Holy Family School Christmas Fayre, which is being held on Saturday December 7th, 12-3pm. Attractions include Santa's grotto, bottle tombola, boxing ring, street dance and a beauty parlour. Top prize in the raffle is £150 cash. Please take tickets from the back of the church to sell to friends and family. We would be grateful if you could return the stubs and money to Mia Connolly, Anne-Marie Conway or Rachael Newman-Sanders at Holy Family Church, or Kathryn Hubbard at St Bonaventure. Many thanks.

HCPT Christmas grand draw Raffle tickets will be in sale at the back of church for HCPT grand draw, all money raised will go towards WGC group 183, helping to take children to Lourdes. You have the chance to win £4000! Tickets are £1 each.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION St. Bonaventure's children meet again next Saturday 10.30am when we learn about the Gift of Baptism. The children will be presented to the parish at the Children's Mass on Sunday.

CAN YOU HELP? A young mum who has mobility problems requires a self-propelled wheelchair. She is seeking a second hand one in good condition. If you can help, please phone Elizabeth Baksha (Our Lady's) on 07787 187342.

CHRISTMAS MARKET John Henry Newman School - Saturday 30th November from 11am - 4pm. Come and stock up on Christmas gifts, visit Santa, etc. Entry £1 for adults, concessions free.

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

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

MASS TIMES

11 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	St. Martin of Tours
12 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Josaphat
	10.15am	Our Lady's	Funeral Service
	7pm	Our Lady's	
13 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
14 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
15 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Albert the Great
	7pm	Our Lady's	
16 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	St. Edmund of Abingdon

	Thirty-third Sunday of the Year		<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>
16 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	
17 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