

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*

Second Sunday of Lent 16th March 2014 (page 155)

The Second Sunday of our Lenten journey always has us journeying with Jesus up Mount Tabor to witness the glory of his Transfiguration. We see Jesus radiating the wonder of his Godhead with the Divinity bursting forth from every pore of his body. Moses and Elijah, representing the Law and the Prophets, are talking with the Lord. Peter wants to capture the moment by putting up tents for the three - I suppose in the way a mobile phone would be pulled out nowadays! And then the Voice is heard from a cloud: 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' Suddenly they are on their own and their journey takes them back to their everyday reality.

The disciples are fortunate enough to be treated to the glimpse of the glory which will be revealed through the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. They are privileged to hear the Father's Voice reminding them of who Jesus is and what their response to him should be. At this stage of Lent, the Church wants each one of us to have a taste of what is coming through our trek week by week in Lent. Our endpoint will be Calvary and the lifting up of Christ on the Cross and the radiance of his Resurrection as he bursts from the Tomb victorious. God wants us to be glorified with his Son. Our listening opens up to the teaching of One who loves the Father so much that he would be willing to give his life for our salvation. His desire to save humanity has led him as God to embrace the human race in the Incarnation, sharing our sufferings, our temptations and all that life brings us. He lifts us up to the Father so that we might enjoy eternal life and the glory of God.

This week let us imagine we are up Mount Tabor. Let us think about what we see and hear. Then let us respond! May God bless you as you walk with Jesus. *Fr. Norbert*

CAFOD Last Friday was the CAFOD Lent Fast Day. CAFOD is working with poor communities around the world on our behalf, helping them to tackle poverty and injustice. The Fast Days are our opportunity to support this vital work. Please return your Fast Day envelope with your donation to CAFOD. There will be a retiring collection in support of CAFOD's work after all Masses today. Thank you in advance for your great generosity.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY on 17th March to our Irish parishioners and to all connected with St. Patrick.

FIRST CONFESSIONS Congratulations to the children of Our Lady's who made their First Confession yesterday (Saturday). Next Saturday the children of Holy Family will make theirs. Please keep them all in your prayers. Thank you.

MISSION APPEAL Next weekend the Medical Missionary Sisters will be here in WGC making the Annual Mission Appeal. There will be a retiring collection to support their work.

CENSUS If you were away last weekend and missed filling in a census form, please would you do so today. There are forms at the back of each church.

WGC PROJECT Just to remind you that there will be a Parish Meeting on Wednesday 2nd April at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Hall to think about and plan for the future. Drawings should be in place in each church by next week inviting us to 'dream' about what we would want for our community as a legacy from the Growing in Faith campaign which the Cardinal wants us to hold in WGC. Please take time to mull over the presentation boards and come to the meeting.

LENT During Lent there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for half an hour on Mondays at Our Lady's after 9.30 Mass, on Thursdays at Holy Family after 9.30 Mass and on Saturdays at St. Bonaventure's. (On Saturday 22nd March Exposition and Confessions will be before Mass at 9.30am - because of First Confessions - and the remaining Saturdays of Lent after 10am Mass) Stations of the Cross will be at Holy Family on Wednesdays after 9.30 Mass and on Fridays in the morning at St. Bonaventure's after 9.30 Mass and in the evening at Our Lady's after 7 o'clock Mass. Every Monday evening there will be Lection Divina in Holy Family's Parish Room 8-9pm.

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION for our three parishes will be on Tuesday 15th April at 8pm in Our Lady's Church.

LECTIO DIVINA (praying the scriptures) for Lent. Come and join us this Lent for one hour of silence and solitude and allow God to open your mind, body and soul. Recently promoted by the Pope and Cardinal Vincent Nichols this ancient mystical form of prayer is gaining worldwide momentum. The sessions will take place every Monday during Lent from 8pm to 9pm in Holy Family Church hall. Teas and coffee will follow. Everyone is welcome. For any questions regarding Lectio Divina please contact Spencer or Jenny White on 01707 334896, spencer.white4@gmail.com.

ARCHBISHOP ROMERO Ecumenical Service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Saturday 22nd March at 11am.

PRIEST'S REFERENCE FORMS Fr. Norbert will be available to sign forms for Nursery this Wednesday 19th March 3.30 - 5pm. Appointments are at Our Lady's Church. Parents are asked to ring Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to book an appointment time. Parent/s should come with their child and the appropriate forms (obtained at the schools) already filled in; they should wait in the church.

RCIA The next meeting will be on Monday 17th March at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. The Group will have a retreat afternoon at St. Edmund's College, Old Hall Green next Sunday (23rd).

FIRST COMMUNION FAMILIES have a retreat afternoon at St. Alban's Abbey Cathedral today (Sunday) 12noon to 4pm. Please keep them in your prayers.

CONFIRMATION Well done to the young people whose fundraising last Sunday for the KISS charity raised £309.38. The young people continue with their sessions every Sunday evening at 7.15pm in Holy Family's Parish Room.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASSES have been set for: Saturday 7th June at 6pm, Saturday 13th September at 6pm and Saturday 15th November at 6pm.

AFRICAN MASS has been set for Sunday 13th July at 11.30am. Watch this space!

OCTOBER TRIP to Rheims. Leaflets and booking forms at the back of our churches.

LENTEN LUNCHESES Provided by the CWL every Saturday in Lent 12noon - 1.30pm in Our Lady's parish centre. Profit is donated to CAFOD.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FLOWER GROUP There will be a meeting after 10.30am Mass on Sunday 27th April to arrange the new rota. If you are interested in joining the group please phone Monica on 01438 714923.

PLEASE CAN YOU SPONSOR? Jacqueline McCallum (Holy Family parishioner) who is raising money for Macmillan by running the London Marathon on 13th April. You may sponsor her by going to <http://www.justgiving.com/mrsjacquelinemccallum>.

CHILDREN'S MASS The next Children's Mass at St. Bonaventure's will be on Mothering Sunday (30th March).

'JOY OF THE GOSPEL' There is a link to 'Joy of the Gospel' *Evangelii Gaudium* Apostolic Exhortation on the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World on the homepage of Our Lady's website (<http://www.ourladys-parish.info/>).

SUPPER EVENING on Saturday 22nd March, 2014 at 7pm for 7.30pm at Douglas Tilbe House, Hall Grove, Welwyn Garden City, AL7 4PH. Guest Speaker Cllr Tony Skottowe – The Heritage Trust. After the talk there will be a supper of homemade chicken and ham pie, mixed vegetables, gravy and mashed potatoes following which there will be the opportunity to ask questions. Donation £7.50 per person (children free). Book your place by telephoning 01707 325278 or email sean@themixedgroup.org.uk. All proceeds from the evening will be for The Mixed Group fund.

FR. CARLO LAMBERTO who helped in St. Bonaventure's some years ago will be visiting WGC soon and will celebrate 9.30am Mass on Tuesday 25th March at St. Bonaventure's. We look forward to welcoming him.

NEED A CLEANER? Then phone Elizabeth on 01707 883770 or 07980887231.
 Need a Mobile Hairdresser, or a Decorator /Handy man or a Cleaner? As a family concern, we offer competitive rates which won't be beaten. Tracey (**MOBILE HAIRDRESSER**) 07581212941. Jamie (**DECORATOR/HANDYMAN**) 07572527731. Jackie (**CLEANER**) 07938917631

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

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

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| CONFESSIONS | Holy Family: Thursday 10am - 10.30am |
| | St. Bonaventure: Saturday <u>9.30am</u> - 10am |
| | Our Lady's: Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm |

MASS TIMES

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|--------------|--------|-----------------|-------------|
| 17 Monday | 9.30am | Our Lady's | St. Patrick |
| 18 Tuesday | 9.30am | St. Bonaventure | Lent feria |
| | 7pm | Our Lady's | |
| 19 Wednesday | 9.30am | Holy Family | St. Joseph |
| 20 Thursday | 9.30am | Holy Family | Lent feria |
| 21 Friday | 9.30am | St. Bonaventure | Lent feria |
| | 7pm | Our Lady's | |
| 22 Saturday | 10am | St. Bonaventure | Lent feria |

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| | | Third Sunday of Lent |
| 22 Saturday | 6pm | Our Lady's |
| 23 Sunday | 8am | St. Bonaventure |
| | 9.30am | Holy Family |
| | 10.30am | St. Bonaventure |
| | 11.30am | Our Lady's |
| | 6pm | Holy Family |



CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplain: Jacqueline Humphreys on 07884187463