

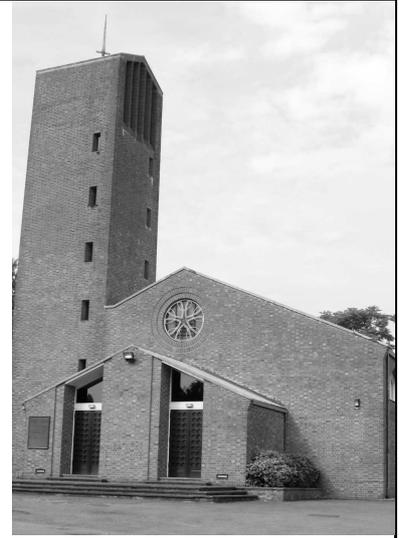
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter 25th May 2014 (page 268)

As we come together for Mass today, let us keep Father Vincent in our prayers and ask God to be with him. I wish him well in all that he undertakes, that he may find much peace and happiness. For the time being I am mainly reliant on the kind services of our two retired priests, Fr. Frank Leonard and Fr. John Helm. They have agreed to help as much as possible. I need a supply priest for the summer so I can take my holiday; I think I have found someone and should know soon. Finally, in regard to the long term future of Welwyn Garden City, I have been assured that the Diocese will send another Assistant Priest after the summer and so I wait for more news. Please pray for all involved in the making of these decisions.

On a totally different note, last Monday I hit 50! What an experience! I have been reminded by so many of the fact that I have reached half a century, that I am looking older, that I should slow down (!). Thank you to all who have sent cards, gifts, good wishes and offered up prayers. I really felt the absence of my Mum but was so lucky to have my Dad, my brothers and their wives, my nephew and niece, friends and the parish family at various stages over the weekend and into Monday. I am confident that Mum is with God in heaven sharing in the wonder of the Resurrection but that does not take away the sadness of her not being here on earth.

In the Gospel reading from St. John, Jesus has some interesting and mysterious things to say: 'I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in the Father and you in me and I in you.' With the Ascension of Jesus, he will be with the Father and yet absent to us; he will be in us as we shall be in him. Love will be the binding force holding us together. This is such a mystical part of our faith! The Lord's Love is left to us in, and through, the Holy Spirit; the Lord's Love keeps us close to the One who has returned to the Father. All the love we have known, and shared with others here on earth, prepares us for Love beyond measure and keeps us united with those who have gone before us.

Let us thank God for the gift of Easter, for the hope offered and the joy promised. Let us put all our trust in Jesus Christ who died to lead us to God. May God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

STATEMENT FROM CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS (17th/18th May) 'Fr Vincent Malone, this week, met with Cardinal Nichols and sought from him permission to step down from the role and ministry of a priest permanently and with immediate effect. Having been assured that this was a personal matter which Fr Vincent Malone had considered carefully for many months now, the Cardinal agreed that he could do so. This means that Fr Vincent is no longer serving in the parishes of Welwyn Garden City. The Cardinal asks that you keep Vincent Malone very much in your prayers and he assures you all of his prayers and concern at this moment of a difficult change.'

ASCENSION OF THE LORD in this country will be celebrated next Sunday (1st June) so Thursday is NOT a Holy Day.

MONDAY 26th is a Bank Holiday and so Mass will be at 10am (at Our Lady's).

POPE FRANCIS Cardinal Vincent Nichols asks us to pray with and for Pope Francis today (Sunday) when he is meeting with Christian communities in Bethlehem.

PAT MAGUIRE RIP Pat's Funeral Mass will be on Tuesday 27th May at 2pm at St. Bonaventure's.

ROB HARMER RIP Rob's Funeral Mass will be on Thursday 29th Mass at 10.45am at Our Lady's.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to all the families and friends of the above.

GROWING IN FAITH Copies of the Cardinal's Letter read recently are available at the back of our churches. In the coming weeks Fr. Norbert has been asked to contact parishioners and meet with them to explain the Cardinal's vision for the Diocese. Please add your prayerful support. Thank you.

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

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS on the Vigil of Pentecost - Saturday 7th June at 6pm at Our Lady's. All welcome.

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK on Saturday 14th June at 12noon in Our Lady's organised by the SVP for our three parishes. If you need a lift or if you can offer lifts please phone Janet Lewis on 01707 326456. Please note that the Mass of anointing is for all those in need of any form of healing, so all parishioners are very welcome.

LOURDES FUNDRAISING Cameron Wilson would like to thank all those who supported his Lourdes fundraising event last Sunday which raised £385. The following raffle prizes still to be claimed are ticket numbers: blue 224, blue 196, blue 215, green 150, green 126.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR is being held on Saturday 21st June from 12 to 4pm. Please come and join us as there is something for everyone: laser quest, ponies, slides, food and a grand tombola with £150 cash first prize!

OUR LADY SCHOOL SUMMER FETE raised £2728.26. The PTA would like to say a huge 'Thank you' to all who supported the event.

RACE FOR LIFE Marion Brogan is taking part in Race for Life on 8th June. There are sponsor forms at the back of each church if you would like to sponsor her. Thank you.

SEMINARIANS We have been asked by the Seminary to take a student priest next year on an Extended Pastoral Placement (EPP). Usually in their third year the seminarians have an experience of life in the parish and so we will be entrusted with Samuel Ejeregbe who is studying for Westminster Diocese. David Krupa from the diocese of St. Denis in Paris has asked to come back for a week in July; he will bring with him a student for the Diocese of Nanterres called Cédric de la Serre. Finally a Chinese seminarian called Peter Wei will come for six weeks in June-July to learn English and share in the life of our parishes. We look forward to welcoming each one to Welwyn Garden City.

DEREK HYETT who was with us as a seminarian will be ordained a priest at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 28th June at 10.30am. Parishioners are most welcome at the Mass and will need to make their own way there by car or public transport. He has been appointed to serve in the parishes of Hemel Hempstead.

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

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES There are still some unclaimed sets of Offertory envelopes at the back of our churches. Please see if yours is still there.

LOST PROPERTY There are a number of items at the back of St. Bonaventure's (on window ledge by the Confessional). Please look to see if any pieces are yours. After this week the lost property will be taken to a Charity shop.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES At Our Lady's at 11.30am on Sundays 1st June and 8th June, and at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 15th June at 10.30am.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM Next meeting to reflect on Pope Francis' "Joy of the Gospel" (Evangelii Gaudium) on Friday 30th May in the Chapel adjacent to Our Lady's Hall at 7:45pm, for an hour. Pat Whitney from Focolare will be the group facilitator. For further information please ring Kay Mason on 01707 335633 or Desi Russell on 01707 371399.

CAFOD visitors from Ethiopia – Tuesday 3rd June. CAFOD is delighted to welcome visitors from Ethiopia to share their experiences of our work in the country. Our visitors will share stories from a place called Sebeya, which is CAFOD's Connect2 community in the country. The meeting will take place on the evening of Tuesday 3rd June in the Pavilion of Romero House in Lambeth. Please contact CAFOD Westminster for further information or to book a place. For further information about Connect 2 visit: cadfod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-findraising/Connect2-sign-up/Meet-the-communities.

WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH A film (and discussion): 'Beyond Forgiving', a South African's story of reconciliation and forgiveness at the Jim Macdonald Centre, Hatfield on Monday 9th June at 7.30pm.

SVP The SVP has a client with a young daughter in need of clothes. If you have any dresses that would fit a 12-18th month old girl please phone Janet Lewis on 01707 326456. Thank you.

CAFOD The Holy Family CAFOD group are running a charity car park at Oaklands College on Saturday 31st May in order to raise funds for the Connect2Ethiopia community of Sebeya. If you are in town on that date please consider using this car park.

LATIN MASS SOCIETY Celebrates Mass this Wednesday at 7.30pm in St. Bonaventure's. All welcome

MOTHER AND TODDLER This very friendly little group which is 25 years old this month, meets every Wednesday 10am - 11.30am in the hall at St. Bonaventure's. Come along with your little ones, you are very welcome.

CHARITY BOX The Charity being supported through the Charity Box at St. Bonaventure's from now until the end of July is the Isabel Hospice.

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

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

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

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

MASS TIMES

26 Monday	10am	Our Lady's	St. Philip Neri
27 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Augustine of Canterbury
	2pm	St. Bonaventure	Funeral Mass Patricia Maguire R.I.P.
	7pm	Our Lady's	
28 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Easter feria
29 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Easter feria
	10.45am	Our Lady's	Funeral Mass Rob Harmer R.I.P.
30 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Our Lady's	
31 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary
	2pm	Wedding	St. Bonaventure

Ascension of the Lord

24 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
25 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Holy Family
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Our Lady's
	6pm	Holy Family

<p>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</p>
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