

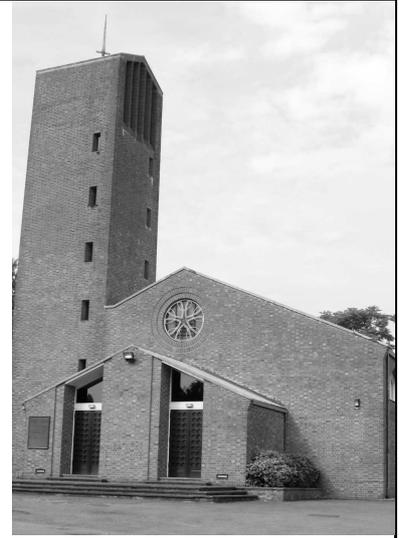
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes
Seminarian: Samuel Ejeregebe Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard

Twenty-third Sunday of the Year 7th September (p.125 of Mass book)

‘Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.’ These are the final words of our Gospel passage today from St. Matthew. They are so profound especially this week when we have hosted the seminarians of Westminster Diocese - OUR Diocese. On Wednesday they celebrated Evening Prayer in St. Bonaventure’s and then ambled to Our Lady’s for a barbecue. On Thursday they walked to Holy Family for Mass followed by coffee and cake. Each of our churches looked so beautiful, welcoming and heavenly. At every stage the student priests met parishioners who showed great hospitality, talked to them and shared with them the warmth of community. Our seminarians had a chance to see the glory of this Garden City. As they walked from place to place they talked to each other! The thirty seminarians are from a whole variety of backgrounds, ages and experiences. Some are in Rome; one is going to Valladolid in Spain; the majority at Allen Hall in Chelsea. They really enjoyed being with us. The Parish Community is so important, special and crucial in the life of the Church. Obviously Christ is at the heart of our community but then so much else can flow from his presence. Every single person has a part to play in creating community.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who worked so hard to prepare for the various gatherings. The serving of the food and refreshments was done wonderfully. And the clearing up a team effort. Thanks to the altar servers, the flower arrangers, the behind-the-scenes helpers for ensuring everything went smoothly.

Let us continue to pray for these students for our Diocese as they answer the Lord’s call. Let us pray that some from our own parishes might respond to the vocation to serve as priest. Finally, let us pray for ourselves that whenever we meet in the Lord’s name, we may encounter him. There is no better way than that of building a strong Community!

God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

FR. GERARD Just to let those who were away last week that Fr. Gerard O'Brien has not been able to start in WGC as his mother is dying. Let us keep her in our prayers and pray for his whole family.

FR. ALVARO Next weekend Fr. Norbert's friend, Fr. Alvaro Pereira Delgado from Seville, Spain will be here for a few days of holiday. He has kindly agreed to help with some of the Masses and is happy to hear Confessions in English, Spanish and Italian on Saturday both in the morning and evening. He was here last year for Fr. Norbert's Silver Jubilee.

SAMUEL EJEREGBE from Allen Hall Seminary starts his one-year placement in WGC this weekend. We are sure he will love his time in our midst and look forward to his presence in our parishes.

NEXT WEEKEND the usual readings will be replaced by those for the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross.

THANK YOU Fr. Derek's First Mass and Party went really well last Saturday. Our thanks to everyone who helped with the Liturgy and with the refreshments in the hall. He said it felt like coming home!

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS on Saturday 13th at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a reception in the hall. It will be a 'bring and share' party, so come with some food and have a great time and share in the joy and gifts of those with special needs and learning difficulties. We will have Samuel's welcome as part of the celebration. Everyone is most welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2015 Application forms for St. Bonaventure's children are available at the back of church. St. Bonaventure's preparation begins on Saturday 20th September at 10.30am in the hall. Our Lady's and Holy Family details will follow later.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We meet again this Tuesday. Children from our three parishes are welcome to attend from 3.45pm - 4.45pm (in the parish hall) to learn more about their faith in a relaxed and fun way. Come and get to know other parish children. If you haven't been before just turn up. Parents welcome. Our next **CHILDREN'S MASS** is on Sunday 21st September.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP The Holy Family CAFOD group would like to say a very big "Thank You" to all who came to the BBQ on Sunday 31st August. The wine flowed, the burgers were homemade, the desserts were plentiful, the sun shone and we raised £260 for our brothers and sisters in need. A good time was had by all. Photos of this event are available to view on the CAFOD Westminster blog.

AND the CAFOD group are holding a cake sale after 9.30am Mass on Sunday 21st September, please be generous.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL) On Tuesday September 9th, at 8pm in the parish centre at Our Lady's the CWL are having a Cheese and wine evening and cordially invite ladies to join them and discover what the CWL do.

LADIES INTERFAITH GROUP meets again this Tuesday at 12.30pm at the new Space premises in Wigmore's North.

JUSTICE AND PEACE NETWORK DAY The Two World Wars (*Warnings from History*) Saturday 13th September 10am - 3pm in Our Lady's Church. Please see the posters at the back of our churches. Everyone is welcome.

ELSIE BUTLER R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Elsie Butler will be on Tuesday 9th September at 9.45am in Our Lady's Church

MINIBUS OUTING for anyone with reduced mobility FRIDAY 26th SEPT to St. Albans Cathedral for the 12noon Mass and the Flower Festival (tickets £8). Door to door transport and driver provided by the parish as Peter, our regular splendid volunteer driver, is not available. Please telephone Kay, 335633 to book.

JANE AUSTEN SHOW On Sunday 14th September at 5pm at Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, Sarah Finch is doing a benefit performance of her one woman Jane Austen show. Sarah has worked for the RSC, in the West End and also played Jane Austen for the BBC. Further details are on the notice board. For tickets and further information please email sarahfinch1@yahoo.com.

PEACE WALK Several local organisations are combining to take part in a Silent Walk of Witness for World Peace on Saturday 20th September starting at Campus West at 6pm and proceeding along Parkway to the Focolare Centre for relevant readings and songs, when tea will be served. For those who find walking difficult they are welcome to come to the Focolare Centre at 6.30pm. For health and safety reasons, the police have asked people to register, the contact being Michal Siewniak at michal.siewniak1@gmail.com.

WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP Growing up in Faith - Young people talk about their Experiences in learning Faith at Jim McDonald Centre, Hatfield on Monday 15th September 7.30pm.

SCHOOL FORMS Fr. Norbert will advertise dates for signing school forms for secondary school transfer once the open evenings have taken place. This will be end of September/ beginning of October.

CONFIRMATION DAY On Saturday 20th September, Bishop John Sherrington is inviting all the young people of Hertfordshire confirmed this year to Walsingham for a day of reflection and celebration. A coach will leave from WGC and stop off at other parishes in the deanery. The young people will be sent the information personally.

CATECHISTS DAY On Saturday 27th September there will be a Deanery Day for catechists led by Fr. John Hemer who teaches Scripture at Allen Hall. It will take place at St. Hilda's, 9 Breakspear, Stevenage SG2 9SQ. The day will start at 10am and finish at 3pm. There will be Mass at 12 noon and refreshments for lunch will be provided. Fr. Norbert encourages all involved in Children's Liturgy, First Holy Communion and First Confession, Confirmation, RCIA and Marriage to keep the day free if at all possible. Last year's day in WGC led by Fr. John was very enriching. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are able to attend.

DO YOU NEED A CLEANER? Angela Edwards (St. Bonaventure's parishioner) offers this service. Weekly or fortnightly house cleaning in the Welwyn Garden City area. Phone Mobile: 07879610109 or home: 01707 690157.

ALSO Elizabeth Anderson will do one-off cleans, regular or weekly etc, and ironing. Phone 01707 883770 or 07980 887231.

CAN YOU HELP AN ELDERLY PARISHIONER BY WALKING HER DOG? Please contact Nora, who lives near St. Bonaventure's, if you could walk her dog sometimes. She would be very grateful. Phone 01707 321432

OUR LADY'S CHURCH Many thanks to all who came on Saturday morning to help with cleaning the church and maintaining the grounds.

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

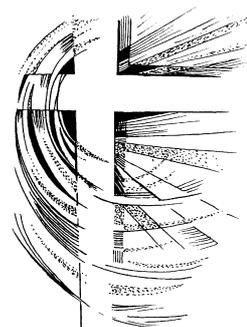
CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

08 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Nativity of Our Lady
09 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Peter Claver
	9.45am	Our Lady's	Funeral Mass Elsie Butler R.I.P.
	7pm	Our Lady's	
10 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Gregory
11 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Cuthbert
12 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Most Holy Name of Mary
	1pm	St. Bonaventure	Nuptial Mass
	7pm	Our Lady's	
13 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	St. John Chrysostom

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

13 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
14 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