

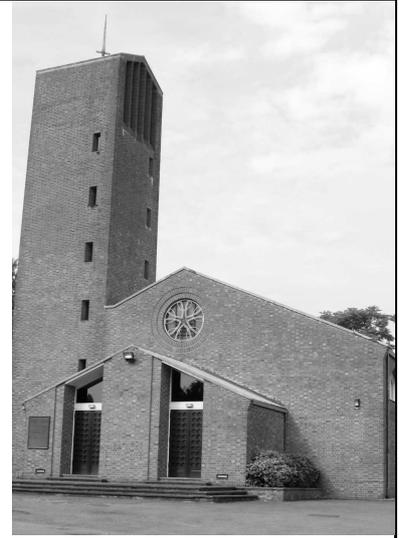
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year 21st September (p.131 of Mass book)

When someone meets you, do you give that person a glimpse of what God is like? I suppose we each have a personal image of God, perhaps based upon what we learned as children or which we have developed as adults. But is it possible to reveal to another human being what God is really like? Jesus, the Son of God, eternally with the Father, who entered time and space, spent his whole life teaching others about God and the Kingdom which is breaking into our world. He not only used words but eloquent actions; he spoke to people's minds, hearts and souls. Jesus wanted his Father's Love to resonate in every single man, woman and child - no one excluded! This is still his desire and that is where he needs us! Today's Gospel parable from St. Matthew is such a challenge. Why is God so good? Why is he generous beyond compare? Why does he appear to be so unfair in the parable? How on earth can we - as his disciples - try to emulate the love-for-others-no-matter-who-they-are which is at the heart of his ministry?

Today we need to recommit ourselves to the God of Jesus Christ, to Someone who is beyond anything we can imagine. Let us get to know him better and reflect on how gracious he is with his love directed at us as individuals. Let open up ourselves to his mercy and give thanks for the forgiveness which brings healing and fresh starts. Let us realise that he IS God and knows what he is doing even though at times his ways seem so alien to us. As we do so, let us pray that we in our turn will start giving others a glimpse of what we have experienced and are still enjoying in our lives: treating others with generous love, offering forgiveness, allowing for people's weaknesses, seeing a wide variety of possibilities. Do you think that would make a difference to your dealings with others? Would they think you mad? Do you have the courage to persevere with radiating such Christ-like, divine love? Let's set about changing our world! May God bless us with his life-giving grace. ***Fr. Norbert***

FR. GERARD Fr. Gerard O'Brien's mother's Funeral will be on Monday at St. Paul's, Wood Green at 12 noon. Fr. Gerard will start in Welwyn Garden City on Sunday 5th October. Let us keep him in our prayers.

POLISH/ENGLISH MASS on Saturday 18th October at 6pm. POLSKA MSZA ZEBRANIE ORGANIZACYJNE/POLISH MASS MEETING

21 wrzesnia w kosciele OUR LADY'S po niedzielnej sumie odbędzie się spotkanie organizacyjne wszystkich chetnych serdecznie zapraszamy.

Polish Mass organising meeting today (Sunday) in Our Lady's Church after the 11:30 Mass.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY on Saturday 7th February in Our Lady's Hall. All couples getting married in WGC or elsewhere in 2015 and 2016 are invited to this day which will start with coffee at 10.30am and end with the Blessing of Engaged Couples at the 6pm Mass. It is important that couples make contact with Fr. Norbert soon so that the paperwork and all the necessary preparations can be made, especially if you are marrying outside WGC.

RCIA will begin on Monday 3rd November at 8pm in the sacristy of Our Lady's Church. Are you an adult who would like to join the Catholic Church? Are you a Catholic adult who missed out on Confirmation as a teenage and now feel ready to make this commitment? Are you an adult who want to find out more about the Catholic Church with no strings attached? Do you know someone who would love to be invited to a meeting such as this?

The AFRICAN COMMUNITY will be meeting Sunday, 28 September after 11.30am Mass at Our Lady's. The meeting will be held in Our Lady's Hall and all African parishioners are requested to attend, Fr. Norbert and Seminarian Samuel Ejeregebe will be in attendance.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Parents who wish to enrol their children for First Confession and First Holy Communion at Holy Family Church are asked to come to a meeting in the church on Tuesday 4th November at 6pm. Those for Our Lady's Church are asked to come to a meeting in the church on Tuesday 4th November at 7.45pm. All the dates for parents' sessions and children's sessions as well as for the First Confessions and First Communion Masses will be given. Children do not need to attend. Fr. Norbert will meet with St. Bonaventure's parents on Saturday 18th October at 11am in the church.

CONFIRMATION There will be a meeting on Sunday 9th November at 7pm in Holy Family Church for young people of our three churches who wish to be confirmed in 2015. They should be in Year 9 or above at school. Parents are asked to come to this meeting.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Parents applying to a Catholic School for their child will need a Priest's Reference. Some schools only give out their forms at their open evenings. Consequently, Fr. Norbert has set the following dates for meeting with parents *and their children* Friday 3rd October 3.30 - 6.30pm and 8.00 - 9.00pm; Tuesday 14th October 3.30 - 6.30pm. The meetings will be at Our Lady's. Parents are asked to ring Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to arrange a 10-minute appointment and then to come with forms already filled out and to wait in Our Lady's Church. The Catholic schools require a Baptismal Certificate; so parents should ensure they have one. If a child was baptised in WGC, a new certificate can be requested from Kathryn Hubbard

RHEIMS TRIP Sunday 26th October (6.15am departure) to Tuesday 28th October (10pm return) There are a few places left on the coach. If anyone is interested in joining the group, please take a brochure and booking form from the back of the church and book directly with Pax Travel.

IRISH DANCING CLASSES Traditional Irish Dancing Classes for children. Monday: 6-7.30pm at Our Lady's Family Centre, Wednesdays 6 -7.30pm at the RNA Club, and Saturday: 10am at Hornsmill Community Centre, Hertford. Phone Laura on 07817411553 for more information or see poster on the notice board.

SVP TEA PARTY The SVP is holding a tea party on 12th October at 3pm in Our Lady's Parish Centre. If you would like to come please put your name and telephone number on the list at the back of the church, and state if you need a lift.

FUNERALS Yvonne Carr's Funeral Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's this Monday 22nd September at 12.30pm.

David Jones' Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's at 9.30am on Monday 29th September.

BLESSING OF GRAVES The dates have been set for November: Old Welwyn Cemetery on Saturday 1st November at 2pm. Hatfield Hyde Cemetery (Hollybush Lane) on Saturday 8th November at 12 noon. Hatfield Lawn Cemetery (Southway) on Sunday 9th November at 2pm.

OUR LADY SCHOOL will have its first Mass of the Year on the feast of Our Lady of Walsingham at 11am on Wednesday 24th September in the School Hall. All welcome. Children from Years 3 + 4 will attend 9.30am Mass this Monday in Our Lady's Church and Years 5 + 6 the 9.30am Mass on Monday 13th October.

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.

OUR LADY'S – MISSIO-APF RED BOXES Would those in Our Lady's Parish who have the Red Boxes in their home for APF-MISSIO please bring them to church for the usual emptying and counting? If we receive all the boxes early in October then the money can be forwarded to The Catholic Missio Charity to help them with their work. We will try to be a prompt as possible in getting the boxes back to you. If instead you would prefer to empty the box yourself and let us have the funds in a more compact form – then do please feel free to do this. Thank so very much indeed for your generosity in using these boxes throughout the year.

CONCERT FOR DEKAMILE Saturday 11th October in Our Lady's Church at 7.30pm. Megumi Rolfe (violin) and Belinda Jones (piano) will play works by Beethoven, Gershwin-Heifetz, Ysaye, Tchaikovsky and Saint-Saens. There will be a collection for the charity that helps the village of Agome Sevah in Togo. All welcome. See flyers at back of church.

CWL On Saturday 4th October the CWL are joining with the local community and holding an Autumn fair in Our Lady's Family centre from 11am to 2pm There will be craft stalls and a tombola stall. Come and enjoy some early seasonal bargains.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM MEETING On Friday 26th September at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Chapel there will be a meeting for all those who were part of of Evangelii Gaudium group.

ROOM TO LET Near to the Q.E.II hospital. If you are interested please contact the parish office 01707 322579.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FLOWER GROUP If you would like to join our team of flower arrangers Monica would love to hear from you. Phone her on 01438 714923 to find out what is involved. No experience needed!

ALTAR SERVERS All existing servers and 'retired' servers are asked to check at home for albs and cinctures they no longer use. There are many new servers starting this ministry and it would be good to be able to make use of what has already been purchased. Thank you.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Our thanks to everyone who helped make last Saturday's celebration such a wonderful evening.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY Supporting outreach to non-churchgoing (lapsed) Catholics Many children and young people will never see their parents receive the sacraments. Every Catholic who goes to Mass knows someone who is currently distant from the family of the faith - the parish community. On 21 September 2014 the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales ask that Home Mission Sunday is celebrated in every parish to invite prayer and support for the work of evangelisation. Please pray for and help the Bishops to develop new ways to reach out to non-churchgoing (lapsed) Catholics. For more information, and to donate online: www.catholicnews.org.uk/hms14. Thank you for your support and do pick up a free prayer and information card about Home Mission Sunday as you leave church.

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

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

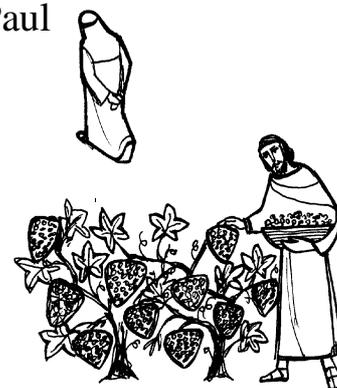
CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

22 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	feria
	12.30pm	St. Bonaventure's	Funeral Mass Yvonne Carr R.I.P.
23 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Pius of Pietrelcina
	7pm	Our Lady's	
24 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Our Lady of Walsingham
25 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
26 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	SS Cosmas and Damian
	7pm	Our Lady's	
27 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	St. Vincent de Paul

Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year

27 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
28 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