

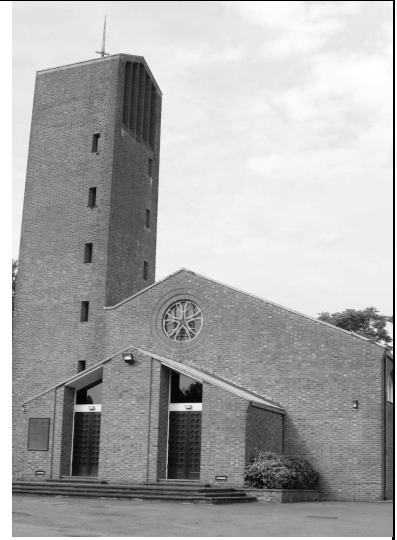
# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes    Assistant Priest: Fr. Gerard O'Brien  
Seminarist: Samuel Ejerege    Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

***Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year 5th October (p.137 of Mass book)***

In our first reading today from Isaiah, the prophet says: 'My friend had a vineyard...He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.' Our Gospel passage from St. Matthew is a parable about a landowner who leases his vineyard to tenants while he is away. At vintage time he sends servants to collect the produce; they are treated badly. Finally his son is sent and he is killed. Jesus concludes by commenting that 'The Kingdom will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.' Of course, Jesus is speaking to the chief priests and the elders of the people - we do not have anything to worry about?! Jesus' words are so hard hitting and challenging! He does not want anyone to be condemned and yet his teaching does not seem to penetrate closed minds and stony hearts.

What have we got to say for ourselves? God is the only One who truly knows and understands us. Nevertheless with all our hearts, minds and strength, we should do our best to yield good fruit and to be ready to offer a harvest which will produce a vintage which is beyond compare. What do we need to do that will produce an abundant yield? Jesus always wants us to express our faith in practical ways; to have a piety which is closed to others is not enough. Once we are working for the Kingdom, how do we offer the fruits to God? Are we ready to offer everything? St. Paul's words are apt as he writes to the Philippians: 'Fill your minds with everything that is true...noble...good and pure...with everything we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Then the God of peace will be with you.' Let this be our prayer in the coming week!

We welcome Fr. Gerard today to our Garden City. May his ministry bear much fruit.

***Fr. Norbert***

**FR. GERARD WRITES:** Well I have finally arrived in the parishes. As you will know, unforeseen circumstances caused my delay. I thank you for your patience and above all your prayers. My home parish is St Paul the Apostle, Wood Green, North London. After my ordination in January 2010, my first appointment was Clerkenwell and Kings Cross. For the past three years I have worked in Holy Trinity Parish, Brook Green, Hammersmith. This is the first time I have lived and worked outside London so I am looking forward to the new experience and exploring the area. I am settling into Holy Family presbytery and of course you are most welcome to call by and visit for a cup of tea and/or chat. Let us continue to pray for each other. God bless. Fr Gerard.

**CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY** Please place your envelopes/money in the retiring collection today.

**POLISH/ENGLISH MASS** Saturday 18th October at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a reception in the Hall. All welcome.

**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?

**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 need a Priest's Reference. Fr. Norbert has set the following date for meeting with parents *and their children*: Tuesday 14th October 3.30 - 6.30pm at Our Lady's. Parents are asked to ring Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to arrange a 10-minute appointment (very few left now) and 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.

**FR. NORBERT'S DAD** has now moved to Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Aylesbury where he will receive intensive physiotherapy. He is very grateful for all the prayers offered by parishioners and says he needs even more!

**CHARITY CONCERT** The concert on 11th October has had to be cancelled due to the pianist sustaining an injury to her hand.

**SVP** A single mum is in need of a high chair for her young, sick child. Phone Janet 01707 326456 if you can help.

**ANNUAL MASS COUNT** Takes place from this Sunday for four weeks. Collectors please do the counting and record on the sheet. Thank you.

**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.

**FUNERAL** Cyril Judge's Funeral Mass is at Holy Family Church on this Friday at 12.30pm.

**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.

**GUEST SPEAKER** is giving a talk on the history of pharmacy for the CWL on Tuesday 7th Oct 8pm in the parish centre everyone welcome.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH CHILDREN'S MASS** Sunday October 12th at 9.30am. A practice will be held after 9.30am Mass this Sunday for all those who want to read or sing. Please encourage your children to take part. There will also be a practice for the band at that time.

**CAFOD** There will be a meeting of the CAFOD group at Holy Family on Tuesday 7th October in the parish room at 7.30 pm. Visitors or anyone who has an interest in CAFOD's work is very welcome to join us.

**CAN YOU HELP?** Accommodation sought by married couple based in WGC. Contact Brian: 07748 013 007.

**CURRY NIGHT** After the Special Needs Mass on Saturday 15th November at 6pm there will be a 'Curry Night' in the Hall. Anyone willing to make a dish, please let Fr. Norbert know. Obviously we will have some non-spicy food too!

**OUR LADY'S CHURCH:** Thanks to all who came to clean our church and maintain the grounds on Saturday morning. Your help is much appreciated.

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**MISSIO-APF RED BOXES** Please bring your boxes into your church as soon as possible.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** We will again be supporting this charity by filling and sending shoe boxes to children in need around the world. As you go around the shops please buy some little gifts to put in these boxes (they don't need to be expensive) - there are leaflets at the back of each church advising you about what can or cannot be included. Filled boxes, knitted hats, scarves, gloves/mittens can be brought to St. Bonaventure's or whichever church you attend as soon as you have them ready. There are flat pack boxes for you to use or cover your own if you have a box at home..

**400 CIUB** September Draw Results 1st £100 No.145 P. Johnson. 2nd £50. No.288 C. Van der Motten 3rd £25 No.362 S. Newton. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all members for their continued support. The subscriptions for the October draw are due the weekend 25/6 October and the draw will be made in the Parish Centre on Monday during the Bingo Interval. Future Subscription Collection weekends will be - - November 29/30 - December 27/28 with the Draw on the following Monday during the Bingo. Prizes totalling £175 are won each month and numbers are available for anyone wishing to join, just see one of the at the collectors at the back of Our Lady's Church on the weekends shown above.

**BINGO** Thank you to the Monday Evening Bingo group who meet at Our Lady's Family Centre. Through their generous support another £300 has been donated to the Church for the the upkeep of the centre. Anyone wishing for a game of Bingo, just turn up at the Centre at about 8.00pm on a Monday. The Bingo is in the Pomegranate Café.

Prayer to the Holy Family for the Synod

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph in you we contemplate the splendour of true love, to you we turn with trust.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth, may the approaching Synod of Bishops make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.*

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.*

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**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**

**Fr. Gerard 01707 327434**  
**welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.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

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

### **MASS TIMES**

06 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	feria
07 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Our Lady of the Rosary
	7pm	Our Lady's	
08 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
09 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
10 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	feria
	12.30pm	Holy Family	Funeral Mass Cyril Judge R.I.P.
	7pm	Our Lady's	
11 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	feria
<b>Twenty-eighth Sunday of the Year</b>			
11 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	
12 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