

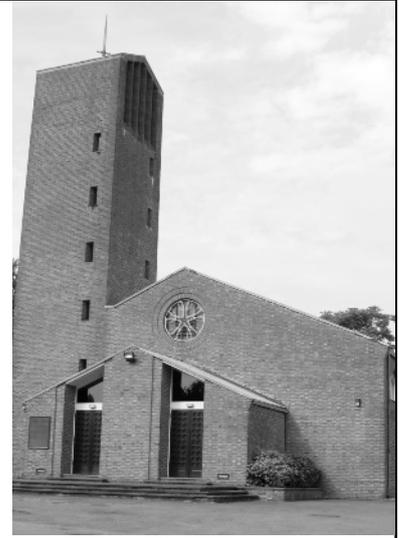
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica 9th November (p.192 of Mass book)

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica; it is a feast which supersedes the usual Sunday. Maybe this seems rather strange to you? What is this Basilica? Why should its Dedication be so important?

The Lateran Basilica is the Pope's Cathedral in Rome. A cathedral has a *cathedra*, the Bishop's Chair from which he governs, guides and serves his Diocese. If you have ever visited Westminster Cathedral you will know that the *cathedra* is to the left of the High Altar; its design is modelled on that of the Lateran Basilica where it lies behind the High Altar in the apse. As we belong to the Catholic Church and we are in communion with the Bishop of Rome - the Pope - so when we celebrate this feast it highlights that all the Catholic Churches throughout the world are in harmony with Rome and its Bishop. The Lateran Basilica is 'The Mother and Head of all churches throughout the world'.

A church building is a place where we encounter Christ and thus we are given a taste and a vision of heaven. Thus when the building is dedicated (or consecrated) we are honouring Jesus Christ himself. The Consecration Crosses on the walls are anointed with Sacred Chrism and the Altar has relics set into it with five Crosses cut into it representing Jesus Christ's glorified wounds (also anointed with Chrism) and a burning brazier filled with incense pointing to the Sacrificial Offering which is the Mass and the Prayer rising up to God. The Lateran Basilica was dedicated on this day in the year 324. St. Bonaventure's was consecrated on 14th September, 1974, Our Lady's on 18th December, 1973 and Holy Family on 13th May, 2007. St. Bonaventure's has twelve Consecration Crosses for the twelve Apostles, Our Lady's and Holy Family four for the four Evangelists. In each of our churches we celebrate the Sacred Liturgy, encounter Christ and our hearts are lifted up to heaven. What a great gift from God!

On this Remembrance Sunday, let us pray for the dead of the Two World Wars and subsequent conflicts, calling to mind their great sacrifice and entrusting them to God. Let us give thanks for our beautiful churches and pray that we will have a glimpse of what heaven is going to be like. Let us pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis and give thanks for all that it means for us to belong to the Catholic Church. God bless you. **Fr. Norbert**

SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND The annual parish collection for the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund takes place this weekend and all the money raised will be used to ensure that elderly priests and those who are struggling with ill health receive the care and support they need. The Fund was set up 35 years ago and has resulted in all our retired priests having somewhere to live, those with a disability having equipment needed to live an independent life, those who require nursing care receiving help and having regular visits as they get older. This Fund is a charity relying on sufficient donations and the Growing in Faith campaign which we ran in the summer will make a real difference. This week's retiring collection remains a vital part of the Fund's finances.

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 of WGC.

HOME VISITS Fr. Gerard is updating the home visits list. Please let him know now and in the future of anyone at home or in a care home (and in hospital) who needs to go on the list. Many thanks.

NATIONAL INTERFAITH WEEK 16 - 23 November. Our local group have two events: On Monday 24th November an evening meeting entitled 'Faith and citizenship: Hoping to create a better World' at Jimmy Mac's Centre, Hatfield at 7.30pm, and on Thursday 20th November our ever popular annual bring and share meal at the Focolare Centre at 7pm. Please put your name on the sheet at the back of the church and let us know what food you will be bringing.

CWL Mass for deceased members of the Catholic Women's League will be on Tuesday 11th November. This will be followed by a talk by Nuala Shepley (in the centre). Nuala was one of the volunteers planting the Poppies at the Tower. Parishioners are welcome to join us on the night."

CWL Quiz Night will be on Friday 21st November. (7.30pm for 8pm) Tables of 8 or under welcome. £5 per person and there will be a raffle. Proceeds will go to CWL charities.

HCPT group 183 There will be a meeting at 7pm on Sunday 16th November at our Lady's for any one who is interested in becoming a helper for Easter 2015 pilgrimage to Lourdes.

LUXURY Christmas Puddings Sale Next Sunday 16th November we will be selling Christmas puddings after Mass in St. Bonaventure's and Holy Family. The proceeds are to help Holy Family School. Cost: £6 for one pudding or £10 for two. Your support is highly appreciated.

OUR LADY'S MISSIO RED BOXES Thank you very much indeed to those who responded a few weekends ago and requested a Red Box. If you have not already collected yours it will be at the back of the church. If anyone missed the opportunity to sign up for a box do please put your name on the list which is still available by the new boxes. Thank you all for your response and generosity. Peter Vincent.

NEED A CLEANER? Then contact Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980887231.

NOVEMBER DEAD LISTS available at the back of each church. Write down the names of loved ones who have died and they will be remembered at Mass during November. There is no need to give any money.

BLESSING OF GRAVES on Sunday 9th November at Hatfield Lawn Cemetery (Southway) at 2pm. People are asked to gather at the entrance to the respective cemetery for a moment of prayer and then the priests will make their way to the individual graves for a blessing.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS on Saturday 15th November at 6pm at Our Lady's. This will be followed by a 'Curry Night' in the Hall. The set up will be 11am - 12noon and food can be brought to the Hall 5 - 6pm. Non-spicy food will also be served. Can anyone help with that? Many thanks.

FR. NORBERT Every ten years the Exposition of the body of St. Francis Xavier takes place in Goa, India. Fr. Norbert will be away for two weeks at the end of the month for the Exposition. Fr. Frank Leonard has kindly agreed to supply in that period.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH OUTDOOR CRIB - the outdoor crib will be erected on **Saturday 29th November at 10.00am**. We need plenty of help with this task, all are invited to assist, especially the young and strong! Hot refreshments will be served. Will you be able to help?

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION St. Bonaventure's children meet again this Saturday when they learn about the Gift of Baptism.. The children will be presented to the parish during our Children's Mass on Sunday.

OUR LADY'S Thanks to all who came last Saturday morning to clean the church and maintain the grounds. Your help is much appreciated.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE BOXES) Filled boxes need to be brought into church by Sunday 23rd November at the latest..

ST. BONAVENTURE'S 90TH! There are some important dates for St. Bonaventure's coming up: 3rd October 2015 will be 90 years since the first priest arrived; 10th March 2016 will be the 90th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the church and 14th September 2016 the 90th Anniversary of the First Mass. There will be a meeting on Saturday 22nd November at 11am in St. Bonaventure's Hall to start the ball rolling with planning. Coffee will be served for those staying on after 10am Mass.

CONFIRMATION Young people of our three churches at least in Year 9 at school who wish to be confirmed are asked to come *with their parents* for a meeting in Holy Family Church this Sunday 9th November at 7pm. Forms will be filled out and dates given for the preparation.

BRIDIE MINOGUE R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Bridie is at 9.30am on Friday 14th November in St. Bonaventure's.

SHIRLEY WILLIAMS REFLECTS Thursday 20th November at 8pm, Lindop Building University of Hertfordshire. 'God and Caesar'. See poster at back of church.

FREE Two chairs for anyone who needs them - one light grey sitting room chair and one black half leather half cloth ikea reading chair. A little worn but structurally sound. Phone 01707 895286 or 07951819696.

NATIVITY PLAY ST. BONAVENTURE'S Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 14th December at 4pm, there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part. Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 30th November from 2.30pm - 4pm.

CONCERT FOR DEKAMILE Saturday 13th December in Our Lady's at 7pm. Megumi Rolfe (violin) and Belinda Jones (piano) playing works by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and other composers. All welcome. See poster and flyers at the back of church.

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St. Bonaventure's
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Fr. Gerard 01707 327434
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Holy Family Church
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OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE Bookings should be made with Phil Johnson 01707 377442
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

10 Monday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Leo the Great
11 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Martin of Tours
	7pm	Our Lady's	
12 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Josephat
13 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
14 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Funeral Mass
	7pm	Our Lady's	
15 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	feria
		Thirty-third Sunday of the Year	
15 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	
16 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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