

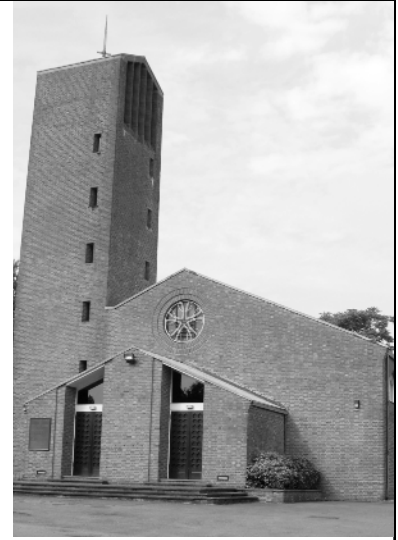
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Fourth Sunday of the Year 1st February 2015 (p. 132 of Mass book)

Just this Sunday and two more and then it will be Lent! It is frightening how fast time can fly. How do you regard time? What slows things down for you to an enjoyable pace? Can the days drag? Does the hectic pace of life leave you breathless? Do you experience 'buzz' when everything races by? Perhaps you are thinking that just the mention of time is an issue!

Today Jesus - in St. Mark's Gospel - starts a very busy few days in his ministry. He is teaching, healing, enjoying hospitality, journeying throughout Galilee; he is surrounded by hordes of people as well as his followers AND has time for individual, personal encounters. We are told (next week) that he goes off early in the morning to a deserted place to pray. He must have been exhausted! Jesus understands humanity...he has compassion on us! Take time today to reflect on the people who need you - your love, support, care and encouragement. Thank God for those who are signs to you of his presence. Ponder how allowing space in your life for the Lord inspires you, energises you, carries you.

Our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is our opportunity week by week to come close to Jesus Christ with so many others. He listen to us and he speaks to us. He brings us forgiveness and renews us. He helps us worship God our Father and offers us the strength for another week. We encounter him face to face and we have the joy of being gathered with community of which each person is quite unique and yet together striving to do our best. His Real Presence here in Holy Communion points us towards heaven and opens us up to recognising him in the every day.

May God the Father be with you every step of the way this week. May Jesus Christ break into your life in each moment. May the Holy Spirit enliven your prayer and touch those entrusted to you and people who come your way.

God bless you! ***Fr. Norbert***

EDUCATION SUNDAY Bishop John Sherrington writes: 'The Catholic school is called to witness with joy and simplicity to the goodness of each and every person, especially the vulnerable and disadvantaged. The school is called to be a beacon and witness to God's gracious gift of mercy shown us by the actions and words of Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Christ is at the centre of the Catholic school. Together with the Cardinal, I thank you all for your dedication and service to the call of Catholic education. We pray that God will answer our prayers and provide for our needs.' Copies of the whole of Bishop Sherrington's letter are available to take away with you today.

Today our two parish Primary Schools will lead Mass: Holy Family at 9.30am and Our Lady at 11.30am. Our thanks to staff and governors for all they do to support our children and their in every possible way so that they deepen their love of Christ.

CANDLEMAS On Monday we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord - the 40th day after Christmas! As well as 9.30am Mass there will be an extra Mass at 7pm at Our Lady's by candlelight. All welcome.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY Thanks to all who came to join in prayer at the various services especially last Sunday afternoon. We are grateful to the hospitality group for providing Tuesday's refreshments.

TALK Evangelisation and Contemporary Society: the Challenge of Pope Francis - a talk by Bishop John Sherrington for all WGC parishioners. This Tuesday 3rd February at 7.45pm in the Focolare Centre, 69 Parkway, WGC.

PILGRIMAGE Pax Travel is arranging for us a pilgrimage to Padua, Verona and Venice from Sunday 25th October to Friday 30th October 2015. Brochures and booking forms are available at the back of the church.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Fr. Norbert has sent emails and letters with the details of the Preparation Day; please let him know if you have not heard from him. Any couples planning to marry this year or next are most welcome to join the day.

FUNERALS The Funeral Mass for **Mary Shields R.I.P.** (wife of Peter) is at Holy Family Church on Friday 6th February at 10.15am. The body will be received in to the church at 4.30pm on Thursday 5th February.

The Funeral Mass for **Mary Free R.I.P.** will be at 12.30pm on Monday 9th February at Holy Family.

Funeral Service for **Aldo Mazzetti R.I.P.** is at Harwood Park on 11th February at 4.15pm.

The Funeral Mass for **Colette Maslen R.I.P** is at 12.30pm on Friday 13th February in Holy Family Church.

The Funeral Mass for **Maureen O'Connor R.I.P.** is at 11am on Monday 16th February at Our Lady's.

The Funeral Mass for **Joe Casso R.I.P.** is at 10.30am in Holy Family on Thursday 26th February.

The Funeral arrangements for **Madeleine Sawle R.I.P.** and **John Laggan R.I.P.** are not yet available. We offer our prayers and sympathy to all family and friends of the deceased.

PRAY THE ROSARY Parishioners are invited to join with the Catholic Women's League in praying the Rosary. This will be on Saturday 14th February at 10am in the Day Chapel. All parishioners will be welcome and light refreshments will be served afterwards.

SVP requires a washing machine for a single mum. Contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456.

CWL members capitation fees are now due, please see or ring Barbara 07789743703.

ALTAR SERVERS' MASS at Westminster Cathedral celebrated by Cardinal Vincent Nichols – Saturday 14 February. Will all servers who would like to go please sign this sheet in the sacristy. Each server **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. Fr. Gerard will lead the visit. We will meet at Welwyn Garden City Train Station and take the **12.53** train to Kings Cross and then the underground to Victoria. We will have something to eat after and aim to be back at Welwyn Garden City at approximately 6pm. A great opportunity to visit our Cathedral if you haven't been before.

CONFIRMATION The young people have a retreat afternoon at the Focolare Centre to reflect on, and celebrate, the Mass 3.00-6.30pm. Next Sunday they will be presented at Mass. After some of the Masses they will have a fundraising cake sale for Cancer Research with possibly something stronger to knock back! Please pray for them and their catechists. Your generosity will give them much encouragement. Thank you.

RCIA There are four adults for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil; also 3 of their children. Please keep them in your prayers. They will be presented at Mass on Sunday 15th February.

CARDINAL'S MASS of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony will be at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 23rd May 2015 at 3pm. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2015. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr. Norbert the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or tel. no.).

FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS have their next session this Wednesday 4th February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Church.

ASH WEDNESDAY is on 18th February. 9.30 Mass will be at Holy Family, 12noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

LOURDES Fr. Norbert will be in Lourdes for a few days in half-term. If any of you would like him to take intentions to the Grotto, please put them in a sealed envelope - do not put any money inside.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH The monthly cleaning of the church and maintenance of the grounds will take place next **Saturday 7th February at 10.00am**. This is for just ONE hour, and anyone who is able to help with these essential tasks, will be very welcome. Refreshments are available afterwards.

INTERFAITH On Monday 9th February at Hatfield Fire Station in Wellfield Road there will be a discussion on three faiths, Sikh, Buddhism and Hinduism, 7.15 for 7.30pm and on Tuesday 10th February the Women's Inter Faith Social Group will be having their usual lunchtime informal chat at 12.30 to 2pm at a new (and we hope permanent) venue at The Parish Room at St. Francis Church with access off Parkway.

CAFOD GROUP meets again on Tuesday 10th February at 7.30pm in the parish room at Holy Family. You are all welcome to come along.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES The annual Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes will take place in the Cathedral on Saturday 7th February 2015 at 2pm. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass by the bishops and priests. All are welcome.

THANK YOU Cyril Crawley would like to thank all those came last Tuesday to celebrate Pat's Requiem. Thank you also for all the many Mass cards that have been sent.

‘Multiculturalism - Interfaith - Dialogue - Do you care?’ A weekend for young people’
 After the recent news from France, the need for dialogue and understanding is stronger than ever. "Regenerate" is an annual weekend for young adults organised by the Focolare Movement. This year we want to engage in practical dialogue on the themes of Multiculturalism and Interfaith. Young people from the IUS (Islamic Unity Society) will also play a key role in the weekend. “Regenerate” will take place on 14/15th February at the Focolare Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, AL8 6JG. For further information, see www.focolare.org/gb or: <https://www.facebook.com/RegenerateGB>

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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

MASS TIMES

02 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady’s	Presentation of the Lord
	7pm	Our Lady’s	
03 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	SS Laurence, Dunstan and Theodore
	7pm	Our Lady’s	
04 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
05 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Agatha
06 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Paul Miki and Companions
	10.15am	Holy Family	Funeral Mass
	7pm	Our Lady’s	
07 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	feria

		Fifth Sunday of the Year	
07 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady’s	
08 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