

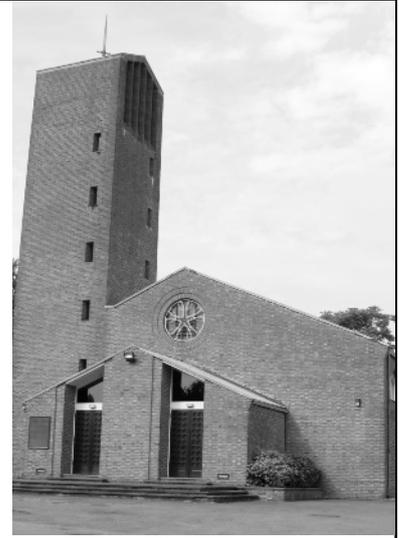
# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**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*

***Third Sunday of Lent   8th March 2015 (p.154 of Mass book)***

*Fr. Norbert writes: A couple from WGC attended a Retrouvaille weekend and subsequent meetings and have found it beneficial in coming through Marriage difficulties. They wanted to speak at each Mass one Sunday, but I thought it better for them to write a piece for the newsletter so that everyone might have a chance to read more either for themselves or for a couple they know. If anyone would like to speak to the couple I can put them in touch otherwise contact details for Retrouvaille are at the end of their piece. Have another blessed Lenten week!*

### **Retrouvaille - help to save marriages.**

The word Retrouvaille is a French word meaning rediscovery. The program offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage relationship. Thousands of couples in cold, unloving relationships or even divorced have successfully overcome their marriage problems by attending the program. The Retrouvaille Program consists of a weekend experience combined with a series of post-weekend sessions over 3 months. It provides the tools to help put your marriage in order again. The main emphasis of the program is on communication in marriage between husband and wife.

It is not a retreat, it is not marriage counselling, or a sensitivity group. There are neither group sharing or group discussions on the weekend. It is not a time for hurting; it is a time for healing. It is for couples with marital problems including couples struggling to get along, couples considering marriage separation and couples already separated or divorced that want marriage help.

During the weekend a team of three couples and a priest (all volunteers) give a series of presentations. The team presents a technique of communication that enables you to take a good look at most areas of your relationship. The team does not provide marriage advice but practical tools to improve your marriage. They share how they were able to benefit from these techniques themselves. The weekend is not a 'miracle cure'; and the post-weekend phase is as crucial, and critical, to the healing of marriage

*continued over*

problems. During the post-weekend sessions, the technique learned on the weekend is further developed and is used to explore additional areas of the marriage relationship.

This year the program in England is on in Hatfield 20th – 22nd March, 18th – 20th September and also in Exeter 12th – 14th of June. Beginning Friday evening, and closing with Mass or devotional service late Sunday afternoon. The post-weekend sessions are carried out in the following months.

Retrouvaille is Catholic in origin. Couples of all faiths and those with no faith tradition are welcome to attend. No attempt is made to convert anyone to a religion. The ultimate goal of Retrouvaille is solely to help save marriages.

If you need more information please contact Fr Norbert or ring Retrouvaille 07887 296983, email [info@retrouvaille.org.uk](mailto:info@retrouvaille.org.uk) check the website <http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk>

**MISSION APPEAL** Today we welcome Fr. John and Fr. Kevin, Xaverian Missionaries, who are making the annual Mission Appeal. There will be a retiring collection at the end of each Mass. Thank you for your generosity.

**RECONCILIATION SERVICE** for Lent will be on Tuesday 31st March at 8pm in Our Lady's Church.

**LENT** There will be Stations of the Cross during Lent as follows: Wednesdays at 10am at Holy Family, Friday mornings at 10 o'clock at St. Bonaventure's and Friday evenings at 7.30 at Our Lady's. There will also be half an hour of silent prayer during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Mondays at 10am at Our Lady's, Thursdays at 10am at Holy Family and Saturdays at 10.30am at St. Bonaventure's (except when there is a First Confession Celebration 14th March - in which case 9.30am before Mass)

**PRIEST'S REFERENCE FOR NURSERY** Fr. Norbert will be available to sign forms for nursery on Monday 9th March 3 - 5pm at Our Lady's. Please contact Kathryn Hubbard on 322579 to arrange an appointment. Come with forms filled out and wait in the church.

**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.

**FUNERALS** The Funeral Service for **Valerie Grice R.I.P.** is on Monday 16th March at 11.45am at Harwood Park Crematorium.

The Funeral Mass for **Catherine Clifford R.I.P.** is at 11.45am in Our Lady's Church on Friday 13th March.

**INTER-FAITH MATTERS** On Tuesday 10th March in the Parish Room at St. Francis' Church the Ladies' Inter Faith Group will be meeting for their monthly chat and get-together from 12.30 - 2. Also, on that evening at the Backhouse Room in Handside Lane four young people of different faiths will speak about their faith journeys, 7.15 for 7.30pm. One of the speakers will be 'our very own Samuel'!

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

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH CLEANING FOR EASTER** There will be an Easter clean of the Church starting at 10am on Monday 23rd March. Any help to join gratefully received. Tea/coffee/cake to keep you going! Please do come along.

**ROOM TO LET** Rosaleen has a single bedroom (en suite) to let. Phone 07799416188.

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

**LENT** Group reflections on sharing in the life and mission of Jesus Christ every Friday during Lent at 8pm in the Chapel at Our Lady's.

**CAFOD CAKE SALE** Sundays in Lent after 8am Mass.

**FIRST CONFESSIONS** Please keep in your prayers our children preparing for their First Confession - St. Our Lady's - Saturday 14th March.

**RETREAT DAYS** The First Communion children and their families will be in St. Albans the afternoon of Sunday 22nd March. The RCIA Group will at St. Edmund's College, Old Hall Green the afternoon of Sunday 29th March.

**QUIZ NIGHT** at Our Lady School on Friday 20th March with a Fish and Chip Supper. Maximum 8 per team. Cost £10 per person including supper. More details from school 01707 324408.

**CONFIRMATION** Please pray for our young people preparing for Confirmation. Today (Sunday) they will be in Aylesford on retreat reflecting on different forms of prayer. Their next session in on Sunday 15th March at 7.15pm in Holy Family Church.

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** on Saturday 14th March at 6pm at Our Lady's. The Mass will be followed by a reception with a taste of St. Patrick and Ireland: Irish Dancers, Siege of Ennis, quiz, bingo and food. Everyone most welcome.

**ST PATRICK'S DAY** There will be refreshments after 9.30 Mass at St. Bonaventure's. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you can help.

**THE PARISH EVENTS TEAM** invites parishioners to join its growing list of volunteers. If you want to get involved with the Parish and require flexibility, helping with the Events may be the answer. Volunteers are contacted two weeks before events by e-mail or phone with requirements for the specific event. Volunteers respond if they are able to help with the event. Contact me (Ann Chappell: [ahchappell@aol.com](mailto:ahchappell@aol.com) or 01438 714846) to add your name to the e-mail/telephone list. Thanks to all the Parish Events volunteers (men and women) who have helped with so many wonderful events over the past year - Seminarian Barbecue, St Patrick's Day and Special Needs Bring and Share Meal, Diocesan Financial Meeting Coffee, Easter Vigil Breakfast.

**HELP NEEDED** Fr. Gerard would like some help cleaning the grounds of Holy Family Church. Please phone him on 327434.

**OUR LADY'S CHURCH REPOSITORY** has been restocked. There are cards for most occasions, St Patrick's Day, Mothers Day, Easter, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Also special edition blank cards of Welwyn Garden City Catholic Churches are available as well as religious items and gifts. Open after all Masses.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH CLEANING** Why not help 'share the load' by joining our dedicated team of cleaners? Contact Mavis on 01707 330830 if you can help.

**CWL** meeting is on Tuesday 10th March in the Family Centre. There will be a short talk on Dementia given by one of the members. Any parishioner who is interested in the subject is welcome to attend.

**DEMENTIA PRAYER WEEK** 12th - 19th March Prayer is one very powerful way of connecting with all those lives are touched by dementia. In this way we unite ourselves with them, forging a link with the Lord which words alone cannot express. *Lord, thank you for your presence this moment, holding us in your love. Help us to share your love with those who live among us with dementia, that we may see your beauty in them. Amen.* (There are copies of a prayer card at the back of church, please take one.)

**26TH WESTMINSTER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE** 26th July - 1st August led by Cardinal Nichols. This pilgrimage welcomes all especially those who are sick or frail. Hotels cater for all needs. 24 hour medical care is provided by volunteer nurses, doctors, care assistants, and redcaps (young helpers aged 16+). Travel by air, train, coach or jumbulance according to need. Booking forms are at the back of church. *Lourdes, a place of prayer, peace, renewal, loving and being loved, caring and being cared for.* Please join us and share the joy of these gifts of God, living the Gospel way. Further information from Kay Diamond Pilgrimage Liaison Nurse 01707 881882.

**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**

**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  
 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

**MASS TIMES**

|              |         |                 |                                 |
|--------------|---------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 09 Monday    | 9.30am  | Our Lady's      | Lent feria                      |
| 10 Tuesday   | 9.30am  | St. Bonaventure | Lent feria                      |
|              | 7pm     | Our Lady's      |                                 |
| 11 Wednesday | 9.30am  | Holy Family     |                                 |
| 12 Thursday  | 9.30am  | Holy Family     | Lent feria                      |
| 13 Friday    | 9.30am  | St. Bonaventure | Lent feria                      |
|              | 11.45am | Our Lady's      | Funeral Mass Catherine Clifford |
|              | 7pm     | Our Lady's      |                                 |
| 14 Saturday  | 10am    | St. Bonaventure | Lent feria                      |

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

|             |         |                 |
|-------------|---------|-----------------|
| 14 Saturday | 6pm     | Our Lady's      |
| 15 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