

# 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*

***Sixth Sunday of Easter 10th May 2015 (p. 266 of Mass book)***

Did you stay up all night watching the election results or listening to the radio? As I write, it appears that the result is certain and that David Cameron will be Prime Minister again. I remember that five years ago we had to wait for some time before we knew who would lead the country and how. This time round patience is not required! The work begins and our prayers that God's Spirit will guide our leaders continue with even more fervour. Another period of history begins and we entrust ourselves and our future into God's hands.

In our First Reading today from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter is speaking when the Holy Spirit comes down upon all the listeners, Jews as well as pagans. They speak strange languages and proclaim the greatness of God. The task of Christians is not only to be in relationship with Jesus Christ and receive his Spirit, but also to proclaim him to others in every way possible and thus give glory to the Father. Last Friday evening 42 of our young people were confirmed. The Holy Spirit was poured out afresh upon them to complete what was started at their Baptism and to empower them to be adult members of the Church ready to share with others the Good News of Jesus. They too need our prayers!

In our Gospel passage from St. John, Jesus continues to speak to his disciples at the Last Supper. He is loved by his Father and he loves us. He calls us friends and has laid down his life for us. He has chosen each one of us and asks us to love others as he loves us. Powerful words which are put into action by the Lord! Powerful words and actions which we must imitate! That's the challenge.

May God bless you this week as the Season of Easter continues. ***Fr. Norbert***

**MARIAN PROCESSION** Our thanks to all who made last Monday's May Procession such a prayerful occasion. The refreshments were good too!

**ASCENSION** In this country the Solemnity of the Lord will be celebrated next weekend. So, Thursday is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation.

**CONFIRMATION** Congratulations to our 42 young people confirmed by Bishop John Sherrington on Friday. Our thanks to all who helped with the Mass and especially to the catechists who prepared the candidates.

**LATIN MASS SOCIETY** Celebrates Mass in St. Bonaventure's this Wednesday at 7.30pm. All welcome.

**FIRST COMMUNIONS** First Communion Masses will be as follows: Holy Family - Sunday 17th May at 12 noon; Our Lady's - Sundays 31st May, 7th and 14th June at 11.30am; St. Bonaventure's - Sunday 21st June at 10.30am.

**WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE** on Saturday 16th May. A coach has been booked. You need to be at Our Lady's for 7.45am and we will leave Walsingham at 5pm. We will be joining the National Pilgrimage of the Deaf. The day will include the Rosary, Walk along the Holy Mile and Mass. Hopefully the weather will be good for a picnic lunch. If you would like to join us on the coach, please sign your name on one of the sheets at the back of our churches. Cost: £10 for adults and £5 for children payable in advance or on the coach. If you have never been before, why not come?

**FUNERALS** The Funeral Mass for **Mary Ottaway R.I.P.** will be on Tuesday 12th May at 9.30am at St. Bonaventure's. (Burial will be in Sheffield.)

The Funeral Mass for **Thomas Reddy R.I.P.** will be at Our Lady's on Friday 22nd May at 11.30am. The Funeral Service for **Kathleen Hallett R.I.P.** will on Thursday 21st May at Harwood Park Crematorium at 9.30am.

**PARISH MEETING** Fr. Norbert would like the Parish Pastoral Council and the Growing in Faith Committee to meet on Thursday 14th May at 7.30 - 9.00pm in the Sacristy of Our Lady's Church. It will be an opportunity to reflect on all that has happened in the last couple of years and to look ahead to the plans for the new Parish Centre - our Growing in Faith project for Welwyn Garden City.

**MAY MINIBUS OUTING** for anybody with limited mobility on Tuesday 19th May. Door to door transport to Westmill Farm in Ware. Contact Kay on 01707 335633.

**HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP** The CAFOD group are having a cake sale on Sunday May 10th at Holy Family after the 9.30am Mass. Please be generous in your support.

The Holy Family CAFOD group will be hosting a concert which is going to be given by the Herts Constabulary Choir on Monday 1st June in Holy Family Church at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 each no concessions light refreshments will be available during the interval. Please support this very popular fundraising event.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN** We meet again on Saturday when we learn about God's Greatest Gift to us. Parents should come for a short meeting at 11.15am. **CHILDREN'S MASS** Next Sunday 10.30am at St. Bonaventure's.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** We would be delighted to welcome any new ladies to our once-a-month meeting of the CWL. Please contact Anne Davidson (Secretary) on 01707 327569 if you would like more information. Sociable, interesting meetings to support our local community. Young and Old welcome, please come and see for yourselves. Next meeting is this Tuesday 8pm in the Family Centre at Our Lady's.

**\*CAFOD NEPAL APPEAL\*** CAFOD has launched a £3m emergency appeal following the recent earthquake in Nepal. Thousands of people in this already impoverished country have been killed and many thousands more are in urgent need of food, water, shelter and emergency supplies. 8 million people are affected. CAFOD is responding with Church partners and has deployed a team to provide specialist support. This weekend there will be a retiring collection for this purpose. Please be generous. Thank you. (Please use the envelopes for Gift Aid donations).

**MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK** organised by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be on Saturday 6th June at 12noon at Our Lady's followed by a reception in the hall. More details to follow.

**OCTOBER PILGRIMAGE** There are just two places left. Brochures are at the back of each church. Contact Pax Travel as soon as possible.

**READERS** Fr. Norbert would like to have a meeting with all our readers on Monday 15th June at 7.30 - 9.00pm in Holy Family Church. The purpose is to have continued formation of those who exercise the Ministry of the Word in our three churches. Also, we would like to recruit more readers and this will be an opportunity for them to have training and meet others involved in this ministry.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** Fr. Norbert would like to gather all our Eucharistic Ministers to have a time of reflection on their ministry in our three churches. The meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd June in Holy Family Church at 7.30 - 9.00pm. In all three churches we are in need of many more to exercise this ministry and so we hope that new ministers will be trained at this meeting.

**MINISTRY OF WELCOME** It is a number of years since the welcomers of our churches have gathered to reflect on their ministry and the practical dimension. Fr. Norbert would like existing welcomers from our three churches to meet at Our Lady's on Tuesday 16th June at Our Lady's Church 7.45 - 9.00pm. New welcomers would be much appreciated. **COMMISSIONING AND RECOMMISSIONING OF MINISTERS** in our three churches is the weekend of 27th/28th June.

**FLOWER ARRANGERS NEEDED** Our Lady's needs more people interested in arranging flowers. Please contact Anne Davidson on 01707 327569 if you would be interested and would like more information.

**2015 AFRICAN MASS** will take place on Sunday, 12th July at 11.30am at Our Lady's. The first planning meeting with Father Norbert is set for Sunday, 17th May at 8.00pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. All African Parishioners are welcome.

**WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP** The Architecture of Places of Worship on Tuesday 19th May at The Friends Meeting House, Handside Lane, 7.30pm - 9.30pm. Also the Women's Interfaith Group meets on Tuesday 12th May in the Parish Room of St. Francis' Church.

**ROSARY** On Saturdays during the month of May the Rosary will be prayed in the Day Chapel next door to the Parish Centre. The time for this special May devotion to Our Lady will be 10.30am. Parishioners from across Welwyn Garden City will be welcome.

**DOG WALKING** Nora's dog Fluff would like some more walks - if you can help phone Nora on 01707 321432. Nora and Fluff live near to St. Bonaventure's.

**FREE BIKE** Freda has a bike to give away, it is old but in good working order. Phone 01707 321524.

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OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE Bookings  
 should be made with Phil Johnson 01707 377442  
 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

**SYNOD ON FAMILY LIFE** - The Call, The Journey, The Mission - are due back and should be sent to Mr Edmund Adamus, our Director for Marriage & Family Life, by Pentecost Sunday, 24 May at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN, or on line to [edmundadamus@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:edmundadamus@rcdow.org.uk). All our views on marriage and family life are valuable. Any assistance with this, please contact Fr Gerard.

**OUR LADY SCHOOL SUMMER FETE** Saturday 16th May 11.30am - 3.30pm. There are lots of stalls including Raffle 1st Prize £150 cash. Other stalls include bottle tombola, jolly jam jars, cakes and a barbecue. Lots of fun to be had. All welcome!

**CONFESSIONS**

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

**MASS TIMES**

11 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	Easter feria
12 Tuesday	9.30am	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure	Mary Ottaway R.I.P.
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
13 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Our Lady of Fatima
	7.30pm	Latin Mass Society	St. Bonaventure	
14 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Matthias
15 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
16 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
		<b>Ascension of the Lord</b>		
16 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
17 Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	
	10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	
	6pm	Mass	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