

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Sixteenth Sunday of the Year 19th July 2015 (p. 109 of Mass book)

Last week Jesus sent out the Twelve in pairs to carry out his ministry. St. Mark relates how the Lord worked through them and today's passage speaks of their return. Firstly, Jesus gives them an opportunity to tell him about what has happened; he is a Master who cares about his followers. Then the Lord realises that they need to rest and be refreshed by spending time together, by eating some food and by moving to the intimacy of a quiet place. However, the people are several steps ahead of them and beat Jesus and his disciples to the place of sanctuary! We then see Jesus' priority - the people. It seems so unfair that the moment the disciples think they have arrived in a place of solitude, they have to give way to the people who have a different kind of hunger, namely to hear the Word of God. Nothing and no-one will prevent Jesus from this crucial work.

As you come to Mass today, what do you want to tell the Lord about? What has been a joy you have experienced this week? What have you done which has enriched the life of another person? What were the challenges you faced? Have they been resolved? Have you fallen out with someone and need to experience reconciliation? Our weekly celebration of the Eucharist gives us a place and time to be with Jesus in an oasis of love, compassion and faith. Jesus refreshes us with the power of his presence and nourishes us with his Word and with his Body and Blood. Each one of us matters so much to him that he died on the Cross for our salvation and rose from the dead so that we might have life in its fullness. This Divine Love at the heart of the Eucharist draws us more deeply into the life of Heaven as the Son offers himself to the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit. Allow him to work in your life!

With the summer months upon us, many of you will be going on holiday. Have a wonderful time and come back relaxed and renewed. For those of us still around in the Garden City, may it be a refreshing period. God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

FR. GERARD We say farewell to Fr. Gerard as he gets ready to take his summer holiday and then move to Westminster Cathedral as chaplain. We are grateful for all he has done here in our three parishes and wish him every blessing and much happiness in the future. His last Sunday in Welwyn Garden City will be 26th July.

SPANISH SEMINARIANS Fran and Rubén from Seville are really enjoying Welwyn Garden City and the welcome they have received in each of our churches and beyond. They will be with us until 28th July.

FR. MARTIN TATE will start as the new Assistant Priest on Tuesday 29th September and be resident in the Presbytery of Holy Family.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL The Parish Advisory Council and the Growing in Faith Committee met again last Monday to reflect on a number of issues which had arisen at the previous meeting. The Minutes will become available when ready. However, Fr. Norbert wanted to highlight the main points: 1. The Synod on the Family will take place in October in Rome and the decision was made to ask every household to pray for this intention. 2. The Year of Mercy begins on Tuesday 8th December and it was felt that we should make this a priority in our churches. 3. It was judged desirable to have one website for our three churches with access to details about groups, organisations, sacramental preparation and other important information relating to all three churches. Also to make use of modern forms of sharing info which might reach out to a wider audience as well as parishioners. 4. There will be an Open Meeting in Our Lady's Hall on Monday 21st September at 7.30pm to which all parishioners are invited. We will be given an update on the plans for the new Parish Centre.

BISHOP JOHN will celebrate Masses in WGC next Sunday: 8am at St. Bonaventure's, 9.30am at Holy Family and 11.30 at Our Lady's.

NEW PARISH CENTRE Committee will meet this Monday 20th July at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy to look at spec for new Parish Centre.

MINIBUS OUTING to Mill Green Museum (entrance fee £3.50). Door to door transport for anybody with limited mobility. Tuesday 28th July. Phone Kay on 01707 335633.

INTER FAITH MATTERS What is Islam? On Thursday 23rd July at The Quaker Meeting House, 109 Handside Lane. Doors open 7.15pm for 7.30pm until 9.30m.

HOLY LAND There are concrete plans for an Ecumenical Pilgrimage from Welwyn Garden City to the Holy Land in 2017 from Saturday 27th May to Sunday 4th June. Brochures will be put out when ready.

A PLANET PICNIC AND WATER WALK has been arranged for Saturday 1st August in Finsbury Park from 12.00 - 15.30. The walk will follow the New River and the fast will end with a picnic and other fun activities. If you cannot be there, please join us in thought and prayer wherever you are and enjoy the weather whatever it might be! For more details contact Anne Stapleton 328516.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S COMMUNION POUCHES Many of our Communion pouches seem to have disappeared, please check whether you still have a pouch and return it to the Office or sacristy. Thank you..

OUR LADY'S CHURCH: The Ministers Rota for Eucharistic Ministers, Readers and Welcomers from August to October 2015 will be available next weekend. The new rota will also be available on Our Lady's website.

EDWARD BALAWENDER RIP Edward's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 31st July at 12.30pm.

The CAFOD group Strawberry Tea takes place next Sunday 26th July beginning at 3pm in Bob and Sandy Leys garden at 401 Knightsfield WGC. We look forward to seeing you there.

AFRICAN MASS Our thanks to the African Community for their vibrant leading of Mass last Sunday with drums and dance! Also, the reception which followed was overflowing with African delights: food, drink, rhythm, song and dance. Thank you.

The African community give thanks to the Almighty God for the celebration of another unforgettable African Mass and enjoyable reception last Sunday, may His name be praised forever. The community also express their sincere and heartfelt gratitude to;

- Fr Norbert - for celebrating the Mass, his support and his full participation at the reception.
- Ciaran Pugh for his help with the PA systems.
- Barbara Scheck and her African Gospel Group for the inspirational songs.
- Lola Egbase - for her contribution, especially the ice-cream for the children.
- Sarah Cafferty, Marlis Naef and all other parishioners who contributed in various ways towards the Mass and the reception.
- Parishioners - who came in their numbers to support and participate in the Mass.
- Family and friends who joined us for the Mass celebration and the reception.

May the good Lord bless all who contributed in various ways to make 2015 African Mass a memorable one.

MARRIAGE We are going to have a Day on Marriage on Saturday 10th October here in Welwyn Garden City. It will be a day of enrichment for married couples - a time of retreat and reflection to support the Sacrament of Matrimony. We have never had something like this and it should be a brilliant and worthwhile experience. Edmund Adamus who is the Director of Marriage and Family Life in the Diocese will come with others to lead the day. More details to follow but do keep this date free.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE will be celebrating their 60th anniversary with a trip to York on 23rd of September. Any parishioners who would like to join them would be most welcome. The trip will be by train, the cost to be advised later. For more details contact Anne Davidson 01707 327569. **ALSO** The Catholic Women's League are having a Tombola stall at the Peartree fun day on the 29th August. We would be grateful for any donations to our stall, all monies go to our various charities.

WORLD YOUTH DAY A coach from the deanery will be going to next year's World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, where it is anticipated that 2 - 3 million young people (16-30 years old) from across the globe will gather with Pope Francis. Saturday 23rd July to Tuesday 3rd August, 2016 with no overnight travel and the price roughly £770. We would do fundraising, seek sponsorship and ensure safeguarding guidelines are followed. It WILL be a brilliant experience and will definitely enrich our parishes with the enthusiasm of our young people when they return. The planning and promotion of the trip have to start at this early stage to secure the bookings and to fill the coach. For more information contact Fr. Norbert

FUNERAL MASS for **Anne Hassett R.I.P.** will be in Our Lady's Church on 24th July at 3pm. The body will be received into the church at 4.30pm on Thursday 23rd July.

FREE FIREWOOD - help yourself, first come first served at 22 New Road, Digswell or ring 07966 458 884

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 welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk
 Our Lady's
 141 Woodhall Lane
 AL7 3TP
 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
 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

MIXED GROUP SONSOED CYCLE RALLY Sunday 6th September 12.45pm.
 See posters at back of church.

PEARTREE FUNDAY Saturday 29th August 12pm - 4pm at Woodhall community Centre. Fun for all the family and it is free!

ST. BONAVENTURE'S EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS Your new rotas are at the back of the church.

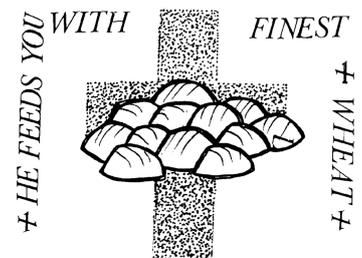
CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

20 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
21 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
22 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Mary Magdalene
23 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Bridget
24 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	3pm	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's	Anne Hassett R.I.P.
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
25 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. James

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

25 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
26 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