

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*

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year 26th July 2015 (p. 112 of Mass book)

Today we move to St. John's Gospel as we embark on Chapter 6. There will be a break for the Assumption (on 16th); otherwise we will follow the whole chapter before returning back to St. Mark's Gospel. Jesus works a great sign as he feeds the people close to the Sea of Galilee. Next week he is walking on the water while there is a storm at sea and then his teaching on the Bread of Life unfolds. These are very important Scripture readings which help to deepen our understanding of who the Lord is and how he strengthens us as his followers.

Today we say 'Farewell' to Fr. Gerard as he gets ready to take his holiday and then move to Westminster Cathedral. As mentioned at his leaving party, when a priest moves he leaves behind part of himself and he takes with him something of the place which he has left. We wish him every blessing in his new ministry. May he find deep happiness and his work bear much fruit.

Today gives me an opportunity to thank everyone who contributes to the life of our three parishes here in the Garden City. So many make huge sacrifices and put in so much hard work to serve others both in church and in the community, within the Liturgy as well as behind the scenes. I could not manage without you! Not everyone has the time or energy to help in these ways. Perhaps there are other responsibilities you have or you helped in the past and now have stepped back? However, the prayer offered and the vibrancy of everyone's presence here is what reminds me of Christ's presence and his powerful love poured out in service of humanity and in response to the Father's Love. I feel so proud to be your Parish Priest and find fulfilment in being here with you in Welwyn Garden City.

I hope you have a refreshing and restful summer. God bless you all.

With love and prayers, ***Fr. Norbert***

THANKS to all who helped with Fr. Gerard's Farewell Mass and Reception. There was a great sense of community and a togetherness of our three parishes in thanking Fr. Gerard for his ministry here in Welwyn Garden City. May God bless him in his new appointment at the Cathedral.

BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON is celebrating some Masses today. We welcome him and offer our prayers for him as he supports us as our Auxiliary Bishop. Bishop John has kindly agreed to celebrate 8am and 10.30am Masses at St. Bonaventure's next Sunday.

SUPPLY PRIESTS During the summer period Fr. Frank Leonard, Fr. Frank Johnson from Focolare and Fr. Bruce Burbidge from East Anglia Diocese will be helping with weekday and Sunday Masses. We are grateful to them for their support.

ADIOS! This week Ruben and Fran, the Spanish seminarians, leave us to return to Seville. They have enjoyed their time here in the Garden City and will no doubt return!

FRENCH SEMINARIANS David Krupa, Remy Pignal and Deacon Cedric de la Serre will be in Welwyn Garden City the first week of September.

PETER WEI will be ordained a priest in China soon. Please keep him in your prayers.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016 Parents from St. Bonaventure's are asked to come to an enrolment meeting in the church on Saturday 12th September at 11am. Preparation for children at St. Bonaventure's begins the following Saturday (19th). Dates for Holy Family Church and Our Lady's Church will be published in due course.

RCIA The Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults - for adults who wish to join the Catholic Church or Catholic adults who missed out on Confirmation when younger - begins on Monday 5th October in the Sacristy of Our Lady's at 7.30pm.

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

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.

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

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

JOAN KINGSTON R.I.P. Joan's Funeral Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's on Wednesday 5th August at 12.30pm.

PAULINE JARRARD R.I.P. Details of Pauline's funeral will be published when known.

OPEN PARISH MEETING on Monday 21st September at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Hall. Details will be given of the new Parish Centre, the Year of Mercy and Prayer for the Synod on the Family. All welcome.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASSES will be on Saturday 10th October and Saturday 28th November both at 6pm at Our Lady's with receptions in the Hall afterwards.

DAY FOR LIFE Today we are asked to focus on cherishing life and accepting death. This Day for Life provides us with an opportunity to think about the mysteries of life and death as well as the Church's teaching on appropriate treatment for end of life. It also highlights St. Joseph's prayer for a good death. The theme of this year's Day points us forward to the Assisted Suicide (Assisted Dying) Bill sponsored by Rob Marris MP scheduled for debate in the House of Commons on 11th September. We are urged to contact our MP to voice our concerns about the proposed Bill. The Bishops' Conference website catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-dying-bill-2015 provides some practical steps. This year's Day for Life is an opportunity to reflect on support, not suicide, at the end of life.

NEWSLETTER Next weekend a summer newsletter will be printed for the whole of August so please give in any information soon. The list of Mass intentions each week will be on the notice boards and details of Funerals announced. The next newsletter will be the weekend of 5th/6th September.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL will soon be celebrating its 50th Anniversary - Congratulations! Bishop John Sherrington will celebrate Mass in Holy Family Church on Wednesday 16th September at 10.30am (so no 9.30 Mass that day) and there will be a Reception in the School itself afterwards. Former pupils, parents and staff as well as parishioners are invited and would be most welcome. To facilitate seating arrangements and catering, please let Fr. Norbert know by Friday 4th September if you wish to attend in church and at the Reception. Fr. Norbert will pass on the information to the School after the holidays.

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY this year falls on a Saturday so in this country it will be transferred to Sunday 16th August.

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.

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

OUR LADY'S CHURCH the monthly cleaning of the church and the maintenance of the grounds will take place next **Saturday 1st August at 10.00am**. This is for ONE hour, and we really need help with these tasks. Will you help us? Refreshments will be available.

POWERED GOLF TROLLEY – A Hill Billy Powered Golf Trolley, no longer required, is available to a good home free. It comes with a battery and charger. Please contact John on 07973 254 795.

POLISH/ENGLISH MASS on Saturday 17th October at 6pm at Our Lady's.

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234
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

CLIMATE CHANGE BIKE RIDE John Fogarty and Ama Owusu-Afriye will be taking part in the Bike ride from London to Newhaven (first stage of the Climate Change ride to Paris) and they need some help. At the end of the ride the bicycles will be taken by van to the offices of the Justice & Peace Commission and the riders will return from Newhaven by train. If any parishioner has a vehicle in which it would be possible to transport Ama and John, with their bicycles, from north London to Welwyn Garden City, on Monday the 31st of August and would be prepared to help in that way, please contact John Fogarty (john.fogarty@ntlworld.com, 01707 327771). Also, there are still places on the ride and, if you don't want to cycle you could be part of the Support team that the riders will have.

CONFESSIONS

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

MASS TIMES

27 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
28 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
29 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Martha
30 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
31 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Ignatius of Loyola
	12.30pm	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
01 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Alphonsus Liguori

Eighteenth Sunday of the Year

01 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
02 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