

# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes*  
*Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

***Twenty-fourth Sunday of the Year 13th September 2015 (p. 132 of Mass book)***

## **Statement on the Refugee Crisis**

***‘Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me (Mt 25:40)’***

At last Sunday's Angelus, Pope Francis invited every parish, religious house and monastery in Europe to respond to the growing refugee crisis by offering a place of sanctuary to families fleeing from war and persecution in their home countries. The Pope calls on our generosity and solidarity to recognise and act upon our common humanity.

The UK government has agreed to receive and resettle up to 20,000 Syrian refugees from the camps in neighbouring countries over the next five years. The Catholic Church in England and Wales will work alongside Government and local authorities to offer welcome and support to those in need. The refugee crisis is a huge challenge, not only in Europe and the Middle East, but in many others parts of the world where large numbers of refugees live deeply uncertain and perilous lives. Consequently, as a Catholic community, and as a country, we need to be committed to helping refugees over a long period. To sustain that effort we need moral imagination.

We recognise that we can all contribute and play a part in helping to support the most vulnerable of refugees. Such assistance includes:

- Prayer
- Financial support
- Time and professional skills (e.g. language teaching, legal help)
- Shelter and accommodation

We can all be attentive to those who are vulnerable and newly arrived in our local communities and parishes. A warm welcome can be the most simple yet effective of gifts we can all offer.

Practically, we are working to ensure, as far as possible, that every diocese has a contact nominated to co-ordinate your parish/individual response; they will liaise with the local authority and other faith groups to match offers of time, talents and accommodation with the pressing humanitarian needs of the local area. Please look at [www.catholicnews.org.uk](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk) for additional information which will be regularly updated.

*Cardinal Vincent Nichols (President) and Archbishop Peter Smith (Vice-President)  
of Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales*

**\*HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL\*** will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary with Mass celebrated by Bishop John Sherrington in Holy Family Church this Wednesday 16th September at 10.30am (so no 9.30 Mass that day). We congratulate the school on this special occasion.

**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.

**CONFIRMATION** Young people who wish to be confirmed next year should come to an enrolment meeting together with their parents in Holy Family Church on Sunday 18th October at 7pm. They should be at least in Year 9 at school.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & FIRST CONFESSION 2016** Preparation for children at St. Bonaventure's begins next Saturday (19th) 10.30am in the hall. Our Lady's parents will have their enrolment meeting on Tuesday 3rd November at 7.45pm in the church. Preparation will begin in January and takes place on a Sunday morning. Holy Family's parents will have their enrolment meeting on Sunday 6th December after the 9.30 Mass. Preparation will begin in January and usually takes place midweek after school. Parents' sessions start in January.

**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. On 10th October there will be a Barn Dance with a band and a caller. Should be fun!

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY** for couples marrying in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere in 2016/17 on Saturday 6th February 2016. Please let Fr. Norbert know if are planning to get married so that the necessary paperwork and preparation can be arranged.

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

**OPEN PARISH MEETING** on Monday 21st September at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Hall. The Parish Advisory Council wants to share with parishioners plans for the new Parish Centre, an outline of events for the Year of Mercy and a structure of Prayer for the Synod on the Family. The Finance Committees of the three churches will also present the accounts. All welcome.

**ROSEMARY HILL R.I.P.** The Funeral Mass for Rosemary Hill R.I.P. will be this Monday 14th September in St. Bonaventure's at 2pm. We offer our prayers and sympathy to her family and friends.

**INTERFAITH MATTERS** Wednesday 16th September at Jimmy Mac's Centre there will be an open meeting on Islam in the Modern World starting at 7.30 for 7.45pm.

**A PRAYER TO SAY** for an end to war in Syria and for peace for Syrian refugees fleeing violence;

*Hear my voice, for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence among individuals and nations.*

*Hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer when people put their faith in weapons and war.*

*Hear my voice when I beg You to install into the hearts of all human beings the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship.*

*Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country and in every period of history who do not want war and are ready to walk the road of peace.*

**Pope Saint John Paul II**

**WORLD YOUTH DAY** The dates are Saturday 23rd July to Tuesday 3rd August, 2016. Brochures are in the process of being prepared and will be at the back of our churches when they arrive. For any further details, contact Fr. Norbert.

**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.

**BLESSING OF GRAVES** Hatfield Hyde Cemetery, Hollybush Lane on Sunday 1st November at 1.30pm. Hatfield Lawn Cemetery, Southway on Sunday 8th November at 2pm. Old Welwyn Cemetery, Fulling Mill Lane at 2pm on 22nd November.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S 90TH** Next year Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate Mass in St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 13th March at 10.30am to mark the 90th Anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone of the church. Bishop John Sherrington will celebrate Mass the evening of Wednesday 14th September (2016) the 90th Anniversary of the First Mass in the church. There are many ways of celebrating the 90th, so come to a meeting in the church on Monday 28th September at 7pm. Bring your ideas and ways that you can make things happen!

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

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT DAY** in Our Lady's Hall on Saturday 10th October for couples in strong marriages to be enriched and strengthened further. We have never had something like this and it should be a brilliant and worthwhile experience. Jane Deegan, a colleague of Edmund Adamus, will lead the day as follows: 10.30 Opening prayers and welcome. 10.45-11.30 Spirituality and sacrament of matrimony Q and A. Noon Mass with Renewal of Vows. Lunch. 2pm Strengthening Communion Workshop (testimony based). Feedback Forms. General discussion about future initiatives. 3pm Closing Prayers.

**JOHN HENRY NEWMAN SCHOOL OPEN EVENING** for parents of Year 6 pupils takes place on Thursday 24th September from 5.30pm. The headteacher will begin his talk at 7.30pm.

**400 CLUB DRAW** There are spare numbers and anyone over 18 may join in and try to win some of the £175 prizes each month, remember all surplus monies (no overhead expenses) go directly to the Parish.

If you wish to join or want more information, see one of the collectors at the back of Our Lady's Church after Mass. The winners last month (September) were:- 1st £100 No.139 E. Meenan. 2nd No 381 R. Leonard. 3rd £25 no 021 F. McKenzie.

Congratulations to the winners and our thanks to all the members whose contributions make the draw possible.

**PROJECT PADDINGTON** The Tuesday Group are teaming up with Project Paddington to help children around the world who have lost their homes in the refugee crisis. It is an organisation that sends teddies from children in the UK to homeless refugee children around the world. This Tuesday children should try to come to Tuesday Group with a clean pre-loved teddy. Messages of support will be written and attached to the teddy. This is a very practical way for children to do something for the refugee children. If your child doesn't come to Tuesday Group but has a teddy to give away bring it to St. Bonaventure's between 3.45 - 4.45pm this Tuesday. You can see more about the scheme on the 'Project Paddington' Facebook page.

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 Website: www.ourlady-s-parish.info

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 parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk  
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 81 Parkway AL8 6JF  
 Website:  
 www.stbonaventure.org.uk

Holy Family Church  
 194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ  
 welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk

OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE  
 Bookings should be made with Phil Johnson  
 01707 377442

Need a **Mobile Hairdresser**, a **Decorator /Handy man** or a **Gardener**? A family concern, offering competitive rates. Contact **Tracey** (MOBILE HAIRDRESSER) 07581212941. **Jamie**(DECORATOR/HANDY MAN) 07572527731. **Tony** (GARDENER) 01707 260502 **NEED A CLEANER?** Then phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980887231 - one off cleans, regular/weekly, ironing.

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

**MASS TIMES**

14 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's Exaltation of the Holy Cross
	2pm	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure
15 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure Our Lady of Sorrows
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
16 Wednesday	10.30am	Mass	Holy Family 50th anniversary of school
17 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family feria
18 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
19 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure feria

**Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year**

19 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
20 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