

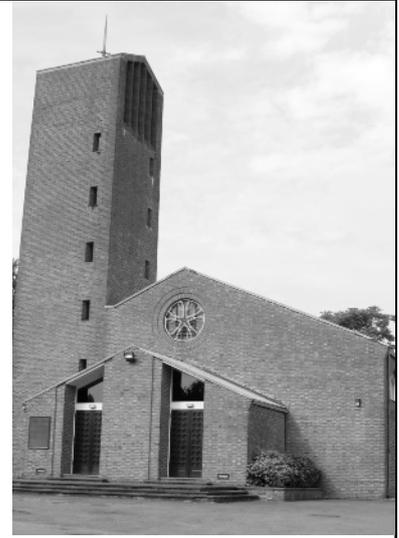
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Martin Tate
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Christ the King 22nd November 2015 (p.160 of Mass book)

Today is the Solemnity of Christ the King which marks the final Sunday of the Church's Year before the Season of Advent begins next weekend. Jesus Christ's Kingship stretches out to people of every place and time; he is the Lord of all. Our Gospel passage invites us to dip into St. John's Passion account and reflect on the type of king we are honouring today.

Christ the King is standing before the emissary of earthly power - Pontius Pilate, who represents the Roman Emperor. We hear Pilate quizzing the Lord of heaven and earth: 'Are you the King of the Jews?...What have you done?...So you are a King then?' Jesus' responses include: 'Mine is not a Kingdom of this world...Yes, I am a King. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.' Jesus is totally convinced of his origins, his mission and his destiny. He communicates TRUTH and asks us to listen to his voice. As you gaze on the crucifix in church or at home what is Jesus Christ saying to you? In church, does the Truth leap out at you calling you into the riches of its message and taking you to its source? At home, is this Kingdom breaking into your life through the quality of love, mercy, peace and forgiveness on offer and readily received, overflowing into your neighbourhood, school or place of work?

In just a few weeks' time we shall enter the Year of Mercy. Pope Francis wants the whole Church to be a community of mercy; firstly, within the church walls welcoming the stranger, celebrating mercy in the Eucharist and in the Sacrament of Confession, Then, the Holy Father calls us with as much energy to go out and share mercy with the poor, the alienated and the sorrowful both at home and abroad. At this stage, let us take time to consider what gift from God we are yearning for through this Year of Mercy, what will be the greatest challenge and what our hopes are for our community and world.

God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

BLESSING OF GRAVES Old Welwyn Cemetery, Fulling Mill Lane today at 2pm.

RECEPTION CLASS AND NURSERY Fr. Norbert will make times available in December. Watch this space. Please note that there will now be a Certificate of Catholicity instituted by the Bishops of England and Wales. Basically a priest can only give a family a Certificate of Catholicity if the family attends Mass every week. So the responsibility is on each family to do all they can to live up to what has always been the Catholic Church's expectation that Catholics attend Mass every week.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & FIRST CONFESSION 2016 Holy Family Church'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. Children for First Holy Communion and First Confession should be at least in Year 3 at school. Parents' sessions start in January.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS next Saturday 28th November at 6pm at Our Lady's Church followed by a curry night. If any parishioners would like to help with the Mass using their different languages or cultures, contact Fr. Norbert. There will be a quiz in the hall as part of the evening. If any individuals or groups would like to offer entertainment, please let Fr. Norbert know. Also, if you are bringing a curry, it helps to have an idea of what will be on offer!

ST. ANDREW'S DAY will be on Monday 30th November. Mass will be at 9.30am in Our Lady's and will be followed by refreshments in the sacristy. If anyone would like to help please let Fr. Norbert or Ann Chappell (01438 714846) know.

GEN VERDE. Don't miss out on an amazing experience! After a two months long tour, Gen Verde's last concert in the UK will be here in Welwyn Garden City! Gen Verde is an International Performing Arts Group of the Focolare Movement. Their music and choreographies are an expression of their own experiences of living the Gospel and working for peace. Since the 21 artists come from 13 different countries, their styles are very varied and their concerts are suitable for people of all ages (from 8 years old upwards). Details: Saturday 5th December at 7.30 pm at HIC – Herts International, Unit 2, Sterling Court, Mundells, AL7 1FT. Tickets (£10/students £7.50) can be purchased online at www.focolare.org/gb, or from a member of the Focolare. Further information can be found on the leaflets at the back of the church.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL FAYRE Saturday 5th December 12noon - 3pm, come and support the Fayre. All welcome.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP On behalf of the Holy Family CAFOD group Dr Roger Aubrey will give a slide presentation on the Nativity on Friday 27th November at 7.30pm in the parish room at Holy Family. There is no entry fee but donations will be appreciated. There will be an interval during the presentation when cheese, wine and nibbles will be available.

THE JOHN HENRY NEWMAN SCHOOL Christmas Bazaar, Hitchin Road, Stevenage SG1 4AE is on Saturday 28th November 2015 from 11am to 3:30pm. Come and enjoy over 40 stalls including jewellery, Christmas gifts, decorations and puddings, new and used JHN uniform, refreshments and Santa's grotto.

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.

***SHOEBOXES*(OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD)** Boxes are being collected on Thursday morning. If you haven't brought yours in yet it needs to be at St. Bonaventure's by Tuesday. Thank you to all those who have supported this appeal.

NATIVITY PLAY ST. BONAVENTURE'S Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 13th December at 4pm, there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part (not just St. Bonaventure's children). Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 29th November from 2.30pm - 4pm. Hope to see you there.

ADVENT begins on Sunday 29th November. There will be half an hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 9.30am Mass on Mondays (except 30th), Thursdays and Fridays.

ADVENT BOOKS FOR CHILDREN are available at the back of church, they are free so please take one if you will use it. There are also calendars to take home.

YEAR OF MERCY begins on Tuesday 8th December. There will soon be booklets available for every household giving reflections on the various themes of the year.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S 90TH The next planning meeting will be on Tuesday 24th November at 8pm in St. Bonaventure's Hall.

HCPT Dinner Dance Friday 4th December 7pm till 11pm at Club de Havilland, Hatfield. 2 course meal with live band, £25 a head. All money raised will be going to help children with special needs. To book your ticket please call Bev Kleiser on 07751410759.

CHRISTMAS FAIR Saturday 28th November in Our Lady's hall from 11am to 3pm. Come and join us for winter warmers, tombola, children's activities (including a visit from Fr. Christmas) and much more - only 50p entry, children free. Hosted by HCPT group 183.

CYRIL CRAWLEY R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Cyril Crawley R.I.P. will be on Monday 30th November at 12noon in Our Lady's Church, the body will be received into the church at 5.30pm on Sunday 29th.

CONFIRMATION The first session for our young people will be this Sunday 22nd November in the Parish Room of Holy Family Church at 7.15pm. Anyone who missed the enrolment meeting should contact Fr. Norbert.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH OUTDOOR CRIB - the outdoor crib will be erected on Saturday 28th November at 10am. We need plenty of help with this task, all are invited to assist, especially the young and strong! Hot refreshments will be served. Will you help us?

WORLD YOUTH DAY brochures are at the back of the church. The dates are 23rd July - 3rd August, 2016. 2 - 3 million young people (16 - 30 years old) will gather in Krakow with Pope Francis. Why not be one of them?!

THE WORLD OF HEALTH GROUP invites anyone who is interested in watching and discussing CAFOD's DVD " One Climate One World" to join them in the Focolare Centre for Unity at 10.30am on Saturday 28th November. You are welcome to join us for a bring and share lunch afterwards. Contact Anne Horsman 01438840566 or Anne.horsman@btinternet.com for further information.

FR. NORBERT'S DAD has made great improvements and is out of danger. He will probably be in hospital for another week or two. Thank you for your prayers.

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Fr. Martin 01707 327434
Holy Family Church
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welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk

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

PROFESSIONAL LECTURER NEEDS ACCOMMODATION Simon is a very kind considerate man who hails from Liverpool and visits his family there regularly. He is presently working at the University of Hertfordshire on the Adult Nursing team. He is now looking for a more permanent place to live. He enjoys decorating, gardening and cooking and is happy to help out and is willing to pay £400 monthly. He does have a car and would need to have room for his desk and computer in the room. If you are able to share your home with Simon please contact Bev Kleiser 01707 390065 for further details.

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

MASS TIMES

23 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady	feria
24 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Andrew Dung-Lac
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
25 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Catherine
	8am	Mass	Our Lady's Chapel	
26 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
27 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
28 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

First Sunday of Advent

28 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
29 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