

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*

Twenty-eighth Sunday of the Year 9th October 2016 p. 149 of book

‘They cannot chain up God’s news.’ These are the words of St. Paul in his Second Letter to Timothy which form part of the Second Reading today. God’s news will never be silenced as long as we are prepared to tell others about it! The ‘news’ is *Good News* - that of Jesus Christ - and he burst forth from the tomb on Easter Sunday breaking the bonds of death! The Gospel cannot be imprisoned if we are ready to live it out! The Gospel will radiate out from us for others to experience as we allow God’s Spirit to work in us and transmit our faith through our conviction!

Who is trying to bind up God’s news? In St. Paul’s time it was the ‘authorities’ who attempted to stop the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus by imprisoning the followers of Jesus. What about now? There are some people who see religious faith as a threat to ‘freedom’ and regard the ways of Christians as subversive; often others can be taken in quite easily by the caricature portrayed. Sometimes fear can take hold of us and we feel powerless to share this Gospel message and life with others. Perhaps there are those who go overboard with their zeal and they put others off. Keep remembering the gift of Jesus in the power of the Spirit which sets us free from the powers that seek to destroy. Divine grace ensures that God’s news is freely available!

In our Gospel reading we hear from St. Luke about the wonderful healing of ten lepers by Jesus. What is sad is that only one comes back - amazingly he is a Samaritan. ‘Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.’ This is how Jesus addresses the noble leper who has been cleansed. This man had been set free from infirmity. Now he can be restored to his family and religious community. A marvellous bond has been created! And all because of the faith he had in Jesus.

Let us take time this week to reflect on the words of St. Paul and co-operate with the Lord so that God’s news cannot be chained up! God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

YEAR OF MERCY Today we welcome to Welwyn Garden City Bishop John Wilson, a new Auxiliary Bishop in our Diocese who serves the people of West London. He will celebrate and preach at 11.30 Mass at Our Lady's Church. On Sunday 30th October Bishop Nicholas Hudson who serves the East London part of our Diocese as Auxiliary Bishop will be at 11.30 Mass at Our Lady's.

POLISH-ENGLISH MASS next Saturday (15th) at 6pm at Our Lady's. Some of the hymns and readings will be in Polish and the children will sing too. Afterwards there will be a Reception in the Hall with food, music and song. The Polish Community have invited the Mayor, Councillor Pat Mabbott, to the celebration. Everyone is welcome!

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY envelopes and donations will be collected in the retiring collection today.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH FLOOR Holy Family Church is now closed until Tuesday 18th October while the new floor is being laid. So, this Sunday and next there will not be a 9.30am Mass; the Sunday 6pm Mass will be at Our Lady's. Wednesday 9.30 Mass will be at Our Lady's and Thursday 9.30 Mass at St. Bonaventure's. We are sorry for this disruption.

FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION At Holy Family and Our Lady's the children's classes will start in the new year. Parents sessions will also be in the new year. Enrolment meetings: Our Lady's - Tuesday 1st November at 8pm; Holy Family - Sunday 6th November after 9.30 Mass. Children should be at least in Year 3 at school.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION (SB's) We meet again on Saturday 10.30am in the hall. **CHILDREN'S MASS** Sunday 10.30am, during this Mass our First Communion children will be presented to the parish.

CONFIRMATION Young people (at least in Year 9 at school) who wish to be confirmed should come with their parents to a meeting today (Sunday 9th) at 7pm at Our Lady's Church. Preparation starts in November.

RCIA If you are an adult who wish to join the Catholic Church or if you are a Catholic who missed out on Confirmation when younger and now feel ready to be confirmed, come to Our Lady's Sacristy on Monday 10th October 7.30pm. Last Monday 6 adults came to find out more...still time for others to join!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOEBOXES) We are again be supporting this charity by filling and sending shoe boxes to children in need around the world. Filled boxes, knitted hats, scarves, gloves/mittens can be brought to St. Bonaventure's or whichever church you attend as soon as you have them ready. More flat pack boxes have arrived so please take one if you can fill it.

MOTHER AND TODDLER at St. Bonaventure's. This informal and friendly group meets every Wednesday from 10am. Come and let your baby or toddler play whilst you enjoy the company of other mums, grandparents or carers. All are welcome from our three parishes and from the local community, no need to let anyone know you are coming - just turn up.

INTERFAITH On Thursday 13th October at Oaklands College, WGC at 7 - 9.30pm a presentation and discussion on the 2016 Peace Proposal to the United Nations, in conjunction with the Buddhist movement SGI-UK with speaker Robert Harrap, a regular presenter on BBC2's Pause for Thought programme.

OUR LADY'S REPOSITORY Christmas stock now in, and a large selection of general cards. Open before and after most Masses.

OPEN PARISH MEETING Minutes are now available.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Fr. Norbert will have meetings with parents and children involved in the Secondary School process on Monday 10th October 4 - 7pm and Friday 14th October 4 - 6pm; these will take place at Our Lady's Church. Please contact Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to book a 10-minute appointment (10th is all booked). Parent/s need to come with their child, the Certificate of Catholicity for Fr. Norbert to sign AND a filled out 'extra' green form which Fr. Norbert has been giving out at Mass. The same process will apply for entrance to Reception Class and then Nursery later on in the year

OUR LADY'S RED BOXES If you are able to bring your box to church in the next couple of weeks we will empty it, bank the contributions, and then return the box to you.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S RED BOXES the promoters will contact you or you can leave your boxes at the church. New box holders please make sure your name is written on the white label. Thank you for your support and generosity.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 38 have already paid deposits for the Holy Land Sat 27th May - Sunday 4th June, 2017. (50 places in all!) Brochures and booking forms are at the back of our churches.

NEED A CLEANER? Then phone Angela Edwards on 01707 690157 (evenings) or 07879610109 or Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980 887231.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CLEANING Thank you to all those who came and cleaned this week, it is very much appreciated.

AIR AMBULANCE A speaker will be at the Catholic Women's League meeting in Our Lady's parish centre on Tuesday at 8pm all parishioners are welcome.

CWL QUIZ EVENING Friday 21st October 7.30pm in the Parish Centre at Our Lady's.

THANK YOU Mary Tempany would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of sympathy on the death of her husband Frank. She thanks everyone for their prayers, support and Mass cards and for attending his Funeral Mass. Mass will be celebrated for your intentions.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with last Saturday's Mass and with the reception. All who came were uplifted by the Mass and had a great time in the Hall.

CONCERT Welwyn Garden City Male Voice Choir are performing a concert in Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Church on Saturday 12th November at 7.45pm. They also have guest appearances by local soprano Lucy Black, and a guitar ensemble. Songs will be from classical to pop, spirituals, folk and songs from the shows. Tickets are £10 (under 16's free) which includes a free buffet and an opportunity to meet the choir and guests afterwards over a glass of wine. Tickets will be available on the door on the evening or from Hugh Smith (07785 220612; hugh.smith@ntlworld.com).

THE MIXED GROUP has been chosen as one of the three Waitrose Community Matters charities for October. If you and your friends are shopping in Waitrose WGC, please consider dropping your green tokens into The Mixed Group box. At the end of the month, Waitrose will divide £1,000 between the charities depending on how many tokens they have. This is a great way of helping us raise funds, and it won't cost you anything. There are still some tickets left for the Italian night on Friday 21st October, 7pm for 7.30pm in the Terranova restaurant, Stanborough Park. Tickets cost £25. The final fundraiser is a quiz night on Saturday 12th November in Douglas Tilbe House, 6.30pm for 7pm. Entry to the quiz per person is £10, which includes a hot supper.

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234
welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk
 Our Lady's Church
 141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579
parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk
 St. Bonaventure's Church
 81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Fr. Martin 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

Website for our 3 parishes
www.wgc-catholics.org.uk

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY will be on Saturday 4th February in Our Lady's Hall. Couples who wish to get married here in WGC or in another place in 2017/18 are invited to come. Keep the date free. After the summer, please contact Fr. Norbert so that all the necessary paperwork can be arranged.

BLESSING OF GRAVES Hatfield Hyde (Hollybush Lane) Sunday 6th November at 2pm. Hatfield Lawn (Southway) Sunday 20th November at 2pm. Welwyn New Cemetery Sunday 27th November at 2pm.

FATIMA 2017 Next year will be the centenary of the apparitions in Fatima in Portugal. Pax Travel is offering us 25 places from Sunday 10th until Thursday 14th September at a cost of roughly £689. There has been interest shown and so brochures will now be produced.

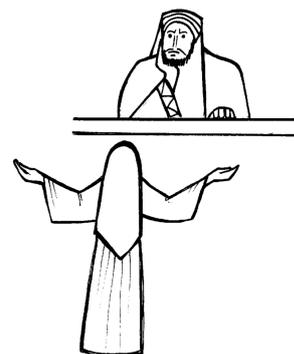
CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

10 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
11 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
12 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
13 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Edward the Confessor
14 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
15 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Teresa of Jesus

Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year

15 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
16 Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's



CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) **Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7)**
Urgent need: 01438 314 333 via text message: 07876 526935 Email: chaplaincy.enhtr@nhs.net