

# 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*

## ***Thirty-third Sunday of the Year 13th November 2016 p. 164 of book***

Today we gather for Mass on Remembrance Sunday. There is the solemnity of the ceremonial, the sadness at the loss of loved ones and a wealth of memories. This year's commemoration carries with it the election of a new President of the United States of America. I have a radio by my bed and through Tuesday night I kept putting it on 'sleep' so that I could hear an hour's worth of news and then doze off again. Finally the NEWS came through of a result. Whatever our own personal feelings about what has transpired, it is a sign that much in our world is changing at home and abroad: the way people think, what they aspire to and the willingness to venture into the unknown are now apparently traits of a new world order. In my years I have seen change without measure resulting from the fall of the Berlin Wall and the complications of the Middle East. Some of you will recall the Second World War and a new order emerging with its end. There seem to be cycles of history each revealing something new or unexpected.

The Gospel reading from St. Luke proclaimed today points is to the 'end'. Jesus speaks of people hearing about wars, revolutions, earthquakes, plagues, famines; he says there will be persecution, betrayal and imprisonment. It all sounds so frightening! The Lord then says that this will be our opportunity to bear witness and that he will give an irresistible eloquence and wisdom; not a hair will be lost - our endurance will win us our lives. In other words, don't give up, keep trusting. There is a job to be done! What do you think is the message the Lord wants you to give to others? What kind of witness is it possible for you to offer?

We begin the final week of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Let us thank God for the blessings received and let us pray, pray with all our hearts that we will continue to be merciful and allow our God to lavish his mercy upon us. Surely this could be a message the world continues to long for and see in us - mercy made concrete in our way of living. What enduring witness!

May God bless you and may God grant eternal rest: to those who have died for our freedom and to all our deceased loved ones. ***Fr. Norbert***

**CLOSING OF JUBILEE YEAR** Bishop Paul McAleenan will celebrate Mass on Friday (18th) at Our Lady's at 7.30pm. Priests and people from the parishes of the Deanery are planning to come. It would be great if many of you are able to come and give thanks to God for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Altar Servers from our three parishes are most welcome to serve. Please arrive with albs and cinctures by 7pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. Singers also from our three parishes are invited to lead the singing. Gather at 7pm for a quick run through. Afterwards there will be a celebration in the Hall during which we will wish Fr. Frank Leonard a happy 80th birthday! Everyone is very welcome.

**SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND** This weekend there will be a retiring collection for the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund which helps cover medical, housing, convalescence and personal needs of sick and retired clergy. Many of you are already generously supporting this fund through the Growing in Faith campaign. If you would like to contribute there are special envelopes at the back of our churches.

**INTERFAITH** As part of National Inter Faith our local group will be hosting a Shared Supper at the Focolare Centre on Thursday 17th November at 7pm. Please bring a savoury or sweet to share and, if possible, list the ingredients to help those with special dietary needs. It is always a great evening and you will be made most welcome.

**FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** If you missed one of the enrolment meetings for Holy Family Church or Our Lady's Church please see Fr. Norbert.  
**CONFIRMATION** The first session for our young people is today (Sunday) 7.15pm in Holy Family Church's Parish Room.

**RCIA** Next meeting on Monday 14th November at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

**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. Please contact Fr. Norbert so that all the necessary paperwork can be arranged.

**BLESSING OF GRAVES** Sunday 20th November at 2pm. Welwyn New Cemetery Sunday 27th November at 2pm.

**NOVEMBER DEAD LIST** There are sheets at the back of our churches for you to write the names of loved ones who have died. They will be placed near the altars of the churches and the dead will be prayed for throughout the month of November. No need to give any money.

**EARLY MASS** The next early Mass will be at 6.30am on Friday 2nd December at St. Bonaventure's followed by breakfast

**BAKE SALE** A group of sixth form students from Loreto College will be holding a bake sale fundraising event at St Bonaventure's Church after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 20th November. All proceeds raised will be donated to the Daylight Club, a charity which supports adults with physical disabilities taking them on day trips, holding workshops and community events. Your support for this event would be greatly appreciated.

**FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION (ST. B'S)** Next Saturday 10.30am when we learn about the Gift of Baptism. Children's Mass on Sunday.

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL** Christmas Fair is on Friday 9th December from 3.30pm. All welcome.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES** Filled boxes can be brought to St. Bonaventure's or whichever church you attend BY NEXT WEEKEND AT THE LATEST - the boxes are being collected in the morning of Monday 21st November. If you took a box and have maybe forgotten about it please fill it this week. Thank you for your support which has been very good this year.

**CAFOD** The CAFOD group will be holding an Advent Fayre at Holy Family on Sunday 20th November after the 9.30am Mass. We will be selling Homemade cakes, Christmas puddings and Mincemeat as well as novelty gifts and jewellery. The proceeds from this event will be split between CAFOD and a charity local to WGC. Your support will be much appreciated.

**TACKLING POVERTY and Injustice across the World- An evening with CAFOD** You are warmly invited to an information evening on Wednesday 30th November at 7.30pm in Fortescue Hall at St Hugh of Lincoln, Pixmore Way, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3TP. This will be a chance for us to come together as a community to discuss the issues that we are hearing about in our world in this Year of Mercy; from the refugee crisis to 'Laudato Si' the Pope's encyclical on caring for our common home. We shall explore what we can do in response, and to see how we may already have the tools to do so as part of our faith. It will also be an exciting opportunity to see how your support for CAFOD is already making a difference.

**NATIVITY PLAY ST. BONAVENTURE'S** Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 18th December at 4pm, there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part (not just St. Bonaventure's). Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 4th December from 2.30pm - 4pm. Hope to see you there.

**HOLY FAMILY COFFEE MORNINGS** Just a quick reminder about the charity coffee mornings after 9.30am Mass at Holy Family. Our aim is to provide a platform for parishioners old and new to socialise after Mass as a church community and also to raise money for various local charities. It would be lovely to see you there if you can spare the time. We could also do with some more volunteers to help. If you think you can spare approx 45mins after Mass once in a while please contact Sally Kee on 01707 261394/07870 402510 or Michael Cole on 01438 820531.

**CHRISTMAS FLORISTRY WORKSHOPS** The Welwyn Florist is running a series of floristry workshops during November and December where you can learn how to make beautiful Christmas table decorations, door garlands and fireplace arrangements. Both daytime and evening workshops available for up to 6 attendees per session. For further details please contact [welwynflorist@gmail.com](mailto:welwynflorist@gmail.com) or call Ann on 07732 974780.

**EMAIL ADDRESS OF HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY** Please note there was a small error in the address (- was missing). The correct address is [chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net](mailto:chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net).

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

**Fr. Martin 01707 327434**  
**welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk**  
 Holy Family Church  
 194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

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

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

**Website for our 3 parishes**  
**[www.wgc-catholics.org.uk](http://www.wgc-catholics.org.uk)**

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

**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. Brochures now at the back of our churches.

**THE HCPT** desperately need bottles for their Christmas Fair on the 26th November. If you are able to help please leave your donation at the back of the church in the HCPT box.

<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	feria
15 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Albert the Great
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
16 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Edmund of Abingdon
17 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Hugh of Lincoln
18 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	<b>*7.30pm*</b>	Mass	Our Lady's	Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts Peter and Paul
19 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

<b>19 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
<b>20 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>9.30am</b>	Mass	Holy Family
	<b>10.30am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>11.30am</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
	<b>6pm</b>	Mass	Holy Family



**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.enh-tr@nhs.net](mailto:chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net)**