

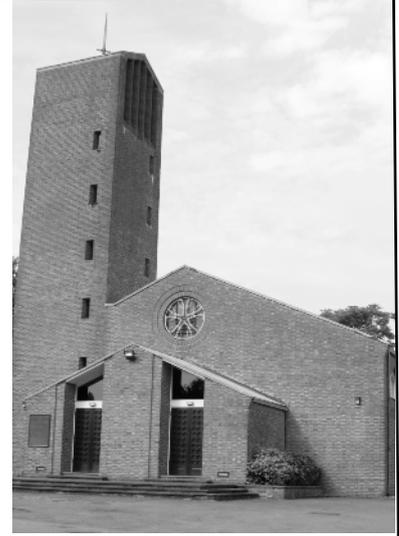
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Third Sunday of Easter 30th April 2017 p. 259 of book

I write this piece late on Easter Sunday as I prepare to join our WGC HCPT Group 183 in Lourdes tomorrow. What a wonderfully exhausting and exhilarating time it has been! So many people - young and old, from different countries, speaking a whole host of languages and enjoying a variety of cultures - have gathered to proclaim the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. And now 50 Days of celebration!

The Gospel passage for today comes from St. Luke and offers us the experience of two disciples sad and dejected, leaving Jerusalem. Jesus makes himself their companion on the road though they fail to recognise him. Then he is revealed...in the Breaking of Bread. The disciples admit to themselves that their hearts burned within them as he spoke to them and they feel compelled to rejoin their friends in Jerusalem in order to share the Good News. It must have been an amazing day for all concerned as they realise that Jesus' Death was not the end and that some of them had already encountered him. Imagine the conversation as they reflect on what this 'Resurrection' really means!

We continue to meet as a Christian Community, bringing to this gathering our week with its joys and sadness, its successes and strains, its questions and answers. The Lord is here! He is listening. He is talking. He breaks Bread with us to nourish us. He asks us to go and tell others this News which has touched our own lives and can make a difference to theirs. As you think back over the days since Easter Sunday, do you have a sense of the mystery of Easter continuing to unfold in your life? What are some of the ways - small or large - in which the Risen Lord has broken into your life? How would you tell the person sitting next to you in church about this?!

I will have prayed for you all at the Grotto of Lourdes and while on retreat with the Poor Clare Sisters of Arundel in Sussex. May continue to bless you and your loved ones.

May Easter live on in our daily lives! *Fr. Norbert*

PRIESTS' TRAINING FUND The annual collection will take place next weekend at all Masses. Many of you contribute through the Growing in Faith scheme but if you wish please use one of the special envelopes at the back of our churches. At Holy Family's 50th Anniversary Mass, please put these envelopes in the main collection. At other Masses there will be a retiring collection. Thank you for your great generosity. Next Sunday is also Vocations Sunday, so please keep this intention in your prayers.

HOLY FAMILY'S 50TH Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate Mass at Holy Family Church NEXT Sunday 7th May at 11am to mark the 50th Anniversary. (There will not be 9.30am Mass that day but the 6pm Mass will take place as usual.) Everyone is most welcome to come and share in the joy of this Golden Jubilee and to attend the Reception afterwards in Holy Family School Hall. Much help is needed and at the back of Holy Family Church there are sign up sheets and fliers with more information. Another date for your diaries is Sunday 16th July when there will be a 30-minute Service with Benediction followed by a Parish Barbecue hosted by the Hedgehog. Watch this space!

RCIA Congratulations to our new members. The next RCIA Course will begin after the summer, so if you want to join the Catholic Church or if you know of someone interested, keep them posted!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER Thank you to the scores of people, young and old, who have helped in our three churches to make Easter such a wonderful experience. Fr. Martin and Fr. Norbert would like to thank you for your Easter cards and very generous offerings at Easter. God bless you!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DATES Our Lady's: Sunday 14th May at 11.30am and Sunday 11th June at 11.30am. Holy Family: Sunday 21st May at 12 noon. St. Bonaventure's: Sunday 25th June at 10.30am.

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK Our annual celebration organised by the SVP will be on Saturday 10th June at 12 noon at Our Lady's. Afterwards there will be a reception in the Hall. This year there will also be a Blessing of Carers - part of the Diocesan follow-up to the Year of Mercy. This will be an acknowledgement of the many people who devote themselves to the support and care of loved ones and a chance to ask God's blessing upon them. Please let others know about this celebration.

PARISH MEETING Fr. Norbert invites representative/s of every group in our three parishes to come to a meeting in Our Lady's Hall on Wednesday 14th June at 7.30pm. It will be an opportunity for everyone to hear about the good work which takes place to enrich our community and beyond. There could be photos/slides etc on a big screen too. This initiative comes from the Parish Advisory Council and the hope is that the information could form a link on the website and also be available to new parishioners. It would be a tremendous help to know who is going to come and which groups will be represented. Please contact Ellen Allardice (01707 375231 or ellen.allardice@outlook.com). Thank you very much.

FILIPINO MASS The Filipino Community will lead the 6pm Mass at Our Lady's on Saturday 13th May followed by a gathering in the Hall. Everyone welcome!

MAY DEVOTIONS on Monday 1st May in Our Lady's Peace Garden after 10am Mass.

CHURCH CLEANING St. Bonaventure's on Thursday 4th May at 10am, all welcome to come and help. The monthly cleaning of Our Lady's church and maintenance of the grounds will take place next Saturday 6th May for ONE hour. There will be refreshments afterwards. All are welcome to come along. Can you help?

HOLY FAMILY 50TH Celebration Music A new hymn has been written to mark this special occasion called 'Fifty Years of Faith.' It will be sung during the offertory at the Mass on May 7th and it would be lovely if as many people as possible could join in. To that end the music will be played at the beginning and end of the 9.30am Mass this week to help familiarise you with the piece. The music and lyrics can also be found on 'you tube' at the following link <https://youtu.be/WGHjw6P66e4>. Alternatively there are a small number of CDs with lyrics available for those without access to a computer.

N.B There will be a short Band Practise for the above at Holy Family after 9.30am Mass on 30th April and a combined choir and band rehearsal on Wed May 3rd from 6.30-7-30pm in the choir loft at Holy Family.

AFRICAN MASS The first planning meeting for the African Mass is scheduled to take place at Our Lady's church today, after the 11.30 Mass.

The CAFOD group will be doing the Charity Car Park at Oaklands College on Saturday 13th May from 9.15am. Please give us your support if you are going to town on that day.

The CAFOD group are meeting on Tuesday 2nd May at 7pm in the parish room at Holy Family. All are welcome.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE Saturday 20th May. We will be joining the National Deaf Pilgrimage to this Shrine of Our Lady. The coach will leave from Our Lady's at 8.30am. The programme for the day will include the Rosary, walking the Holy Mile, picnic lunch (so bring food and drink!) and Mass. There should be time for tea and cakes before leaving at 4.30pm. The coach should arrive back by 7pm. Price £15 for adults and £10 for children. There are signing up sheets at the back of our churches. The Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham was established in 1061 when Richeldis de Faverches prayed that she might undertake some special work in honour of Our Lady. In answer to her prayer, the Virgin Mary led her in spirit to Nazareth, showed her the house where the Annunciation occurred, and asked her to build a replica in Walsingham to serve as a perpetual memorial of the Annunciation. This Holy House was built and a religious community took charge of the foundation. Walsingham became one of the greatest Shrines in Medieval Christendom. Why not come?

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION The next parents' session will be on Wednesday 3rd May at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Church.

CONFIRMATION The final session for our young people will be today (Sunday 30th) at 7.15pm in Holy Family's Parish Room. The rehearsal for Confirmation will be on Friday 5th May at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church and the Confirmation Mass will be on Friday 12th May at 7.30pm in Our Lady's with Bishop Paul McAleenan. Please keep them in your prayers.

NEED A GARDENER? Experienced gardener available to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, edging, hedge cutting, pruning shrubs and roses and weeding of flower beds. Call Daniel on 07751992492. (Recommended by a parishioner)

KICA Music Mission: Daniel Newman-Sanders is in his final year at school at the John Henry Newman School, and he is a keen musician. This summer he is embarking on a charity trip to Uganda to teach disadvantaged children music. To raise money for this, he is doing a 60 mile bike ride around Hertfordshire. Any sponsorships would be gratefully received. www.gofundme.com/kica-music-mission-trip-to-uganda Daniel will be taking instruments with him for Ugandan children to play and keep – if anyone has any unwanted instruments please contact him on 07866005010. A big thank you to everyone who has already sponsored him.

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

CARITAS VOLUNTEER SERVICE This Diocesan Agency is seeking to recruit volunteers to be involved in social action. For more information pick up one of the leaflets at the back of our churches or email Verity Sykes on caritasvol@rcdow.org.uk

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS The Diocese is always looking for volunteers to take on the role of being a foundation governor in our Catholic schools. Indeed here in Welwyn Garden City we need more. If you are interested take one of the leaflets at the back of the church and let Fr. Norbert know if you are interested.

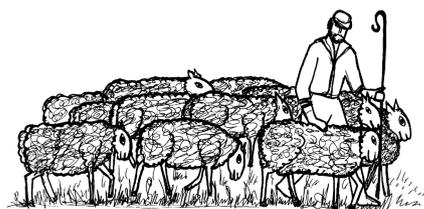
OUR LADY'S MINISTERS' ROTA: The new rota from May to July for Welcomers, Readers and Holy Communion Ministers is now available for collection at the back of the church. A copy will also be available on the website: www.wgc-catholics.org.uk.

ENRICHED BY DIVERSITY At the Focolare Centre on Sunday 7 May from 2 - 6.30 with a shared finger buffet.

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

MASS TIMES

01 Monday	*10am*	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Joseph the Worker
02 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Athanasius
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
03 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	SS Philip and James
04 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	English Martyrs
05 Friday	6.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
06 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
Fourth Sunday of Easter				
06 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
07 Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	11am	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 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