

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*

Fourteenth Sunday of the Year 9th July 2017 p. 99 of Mass book

‘Come!’ is Jesus’ invitation in today’s Gospel from St. Matthew. It is a powerful call to us and he promises rest because he is ‘gentle and humble of heart’.

Perhaps the disciples wonder what he means? What is he going to ask of them if they respond positively to his invitation? Will he be demanding? How will he make their burdens lighter? Jesus uses the imagery of a yoke. This means that he wants to be close to us in our lives - for us to be bound together with him. He walks with us at our pace. Maybe he needs us to speed up (or slow down) at times to respond to circumstances? The yoke has to be shaped perfectly and beautifully so that it is not too rough but fits snugly. Jesus promises to ensure this. People in life often wonder why they have to carry heavy crosses or why sad times come to those who seem already to be struggling so much. There is no easy answer and yet Jesus is intimately close to us and does carry our crosses with us and for us. That’s what makes the difference.

Today, bring before Jesus whatever weighs down upon you. Admit that those things are there. Tell the Lord how you feel about the load - he wants to hear the truth! Ponder what this ‘rest’ is really like: peace, well-being, silence, freedom, the confidence of being loved. Maybe there is place which opens you up to this peace? Are you still searching? Whatever may be the case, invite him to share the burden with you just as he says to you ‘Come!’

I wish you a wonderful week showered with God’s blessings! If you are going away, have a great time. Visitors, you are most welcome. *Fr. Norbert*

FR. MARTIN has been appointed Parish Priest of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Stoke Newington. He will take up his new appointment at the start of September. We wish him every blessing. Fr. Martin's Farewell Mass will take place at Our Lady's on Saturday 26th August at 6pm followed by a Get-together in the Hall. Please put this date in your diaries. Next weekend there will be envelopes at the back of our churches for contributions to a Farewell Gift for Fr. Martin. These can then be put in the main collection or handed to Fr. Norbert. Fr. Tom Montgomery the new Assistant Priest will move into Holy Family on Monday 4th September.

SEMINARIANS FROM SEVILLE We welcome Juan Guzman Ivanovich and Ruben Perez Navarro who are with us until 26th July. Soon Fr. Manolo Jimenez who is in charge of the Junior Seminary in Seville will come with two students 23rd - 31st July; they are Miguel Angel Prieto Cantero and Jose Maria Gomez de los Santos. If any of you would like to invite Juan and Ruben for a coffee and give them a chance to practise their English, please let Fr. Norbert know.

ME AND MY MUSIC at St John's Digswell (off Knightsfield) Fr. Norbert has been asked to reflect on his life and choose his favourite music on Monday 10th July at 7.30pm with a delicious cheese and wine at the interval. Fr Norbert will select his 6 favourite pieces of music and be interviewed by Fr Rob Marshall about his life and work and why the chosen music means so much to him. The cost is £7 per ticket and all proceeds from the evening will be put to one side to assist those charities which St John's supports. To book: text your attendance and how many are coming to 07766 952113 - or email stjohndisgwell@gmail.com

HOLY FAMILY'S 50TH PRAYER SERVICE AND BARBECUE Sunday 16th July at 3pm. There will be a 30-minute Service with Benediction followed by a Parish Barbecue hosted by the Hedgehog. Tickets will be on sale after Masses at Holy Family today. The maximum number is 80.

RCIA For those who want to join the Catholic Church or to find out more, the next RCIA Course will begin after the summer. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are interested.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH CLEANING Thank you to those who came and cleaned the church on Thursday.

PEARTREE FUNDAY Peartree Fun Day is back on 15 July, 1pm-4pm in Woodhall Community hall. The Catholic Women's League are holding their Annual Tombola Stall. Unwanted toys/gifts welcome. Place at the back of Our Lady's Church.

OUR LADY SCHOOL YEAR 6 will be attending 9.30am Mass at St. Bonaventure's this Tuesday.

OUR LADY'S Thank you to the Tommy Mansfield 400 Club for the donation of £50.00 towards the Benches' Refurbishment Fund. It is much appreciated.

DEMENTIA FRIENDS is a national initiative run by the Alzheimer's Society which aims to make our community more dementia friendly. There will be a short information session in Hyde Valley House on Thursday 13th July at 3.30pm. Please let Anne Keller know if you can attend on 01707 898290.

GARDENER AVAILABLE Experienced gardener available to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, edging, hedge cutting. Pruning shrubs and roses and weeding of flowerbeds. Call Daniel on 07751992492.

STRAWBERRY TEA The CAFOD group are holding a Strawberry Tea at 401 Knightsfield on Sunday 30th July at 3pm. We look forward to seeing you all there.

ST. BONAVENTURE will be 800 years old this year! We will mark this on the Feast of St. Bonaventure, Saturday 15th July, at the 10am Mass followed by cake and coffee/tea in the parish garden. Please let Kathryn Hubbard know if you can bring a cake.

MARY CAIRNS RIP Mary's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Tuesday 18th July at 10.15am.

THERESA JAMES RIP Theresa's Funeral Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's on Tuesday 18th July at 3pm.

ANNA BRIAR RIP Anna's Funeral Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's on Tuesday 25th July at 11.15pm.

LAURA SHECK RIP As yet there are no details of Laura's Funeral.

POLISH/ENGLISH MASS will be celebrated on Saturday 7th October at 6pm at Our Lady's.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Time is racing by and parents will be thinking about a secondary school for their children soon to be in Year 6. Fr. Norbert always suggests to parents to visit the different schools *with their children*. An open morning allows you to see the school in action and the way the pupils and staff are. Think about where your child will flourish, taking into account his/her gifts, travelling, friendship groups and what schools offer. Definitely read the admissions criteria and try to see whether or not your child has a good chance of getting in. Some Catholic schools will need a Certificate of Catholicity which implies weekly attendance at Mass. Fr. Norbert will be available in the autumn to sign these certificates. All Catholic schools will need a Baptismal Certificate, so now is a good time to request one if you have not got the original. If the Baptism was here in Welwyn Garden City, contact Kathryn Hubbard (01707 322579); otherwise make sure you give yourself time to acquire one from the church of Baptism. Should you need any other help, speak to Fr. Norbert or ask at school.

WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP invites you to an evening meeting entitled 'What's it like to be a Baha'i'. The presenters will be Barney Leith OBE who received the award from the Queen for his work on inter faith dialogue, and his wife Erica. It will take place at The Jim Macdonald Centre in Hatfield AL10 8HR on Thursday 13 July at 7.15 - 9.30.

PLEASE SPONSOR On Sunday, 30th July, John Beckett, the President of the SVP Conference in Hatfield and a parishioner of the Holy Family Church will be taking part again in the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 mile cycling event. He is riding to raise funds for the SVP to purchase cold weather clothing for rough sleepers in England & Wales. Last year he raised £1,622 which enable clothing to be purchase to fill about 500 Vinnie Packs. If you would like to sponsor John please donate via: www.justgiving.com/JohnBeckett1 or you can send your donation to Vinnie Packs, PO. Box, London, SW1P 9EZ. Cheques should be made payable to SVP. Thank you for your support.

REFUGEE UPDATE We are currently recruiting for six volunteer opportunities in Hatfield, Watford and East Hertfordshire to join our team supporting resettled Syrian refugees. Volunteers will be supporting clients to become increasingly independent by enabling integration into the local area, as well as help them to learn basic English skills. All details about the volunteer task and how to apply can be found in the link below.

https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/how_you_can_help_us/volunteer

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

ROAD CLOSURES Please be aware that Parkway and Howardsgate will be closed next Sunday. You can access St. Bonaventure's from the north via Handside Lane.

HOLY LAND Brochures will be at the back of our churches this weekend.

NEWSLETTER Next week's newsletter will cover the weekends of 16th/ 23rd/ 29th. There will be a newsletter on 6th August which will cover the whole of the month up until 3rd September when there will be a newsletter.

CHILDREN'S MASS St. Bonaventure's next Sunday 10.30am.

CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am
	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	St. Benedict
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
12 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
13 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
14 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
15 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Bonaventure

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

15 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
16 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 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**