WELWYN GARDEN CITY



Saints Peter and Paul 29th June (page 170 of the Mass book)

Having celebrated Trinity Sunday and Corpus Christi, we now turn to the great Apostles Peter and Paul. Today's Solemnity has great significance for us in the Catholic Church because we mark the martyrdom of St. Peter and St. Paul, each in the city of Rome, the one by crucifixion upside down, the other through being beheaded with a sword. As we reflect on these two 'Giants' in the Church we keep being confronted by the fact that they have much in common and yet many differences.

Peter was chosen by Jesus out of the Twelve to be the Leader and source of unity. He is described in today's Gospel reading from St. Matthew as the Rock on which the Church will be built; he is the one who receives the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. It is important for us to remember that this Leader is so human - he denies knowing Jesus, he's impetuous not wanting the Lord to go to the Cross - and yet he is the one found worthy to be the foundational bedrock to provide support for the Church. Peter repents of his mistakes, three times affirming his love for Christ in St. John's Gospel and also acting as a spokesman for the others; in today's passage he articulates faith as he utters those inspired words: 'You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.'

Paul was chosen to be the Apostle of the Gentiles. The man who persecuted Christians meets the Lord himself on the road to Damascus and his life is changed. He spends his life proclaiming the very Good News he tried to silence. He founds communities/churches throughout the known world, encouraging them through his presence, his writings and by sending others to build them up. He is convinced of his personal calling from the Lord and yet does all he can to be in touch with Peter and the other Apostles, challenging them as and when necessary. Paul allows his gifts to be put at the service of the Gospel and the Church.

As we gather today for Mass, we thank God for the lives of the two Apostles who died in Rome, and for the gift of Christian Faith expressed in the Catholic Church which has been handed down to us. We are also blessed in Pope Francis with a Bishop of Rome who continues to be an instrument of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in fresh and challenging ways so that we become missionary disciples. Let us too put ourselves and our gifts at the service of the Gospel and the Church! God bless you. *Fr. Norbert* **FR. GERARD O'BRIEN** will be the new Assistant Priest in Welwyn Garden City. He was ordained in 2010 and is currently in Holy Trinity, Brook Green (Hammersmith). Fr. Gerarc will take up residence in Holy Family Presbytery on 3rd September. We will formally welcome Fr. Gerard (and Samuel Ejeregbe, the seminarian) to WGC at the Special Needs Mass on Saturday 13th September at 6pm.

FR NORBERT'S DAD fell down the stairs at home a week ago and seriously injured his spine. He had surgery on Tuesday which lasted over 7 hours. He is now recovering and awaiting rehabilitation. There is a long road ahead. Please keep Joe in your prayers. And be very patient when trying to get hold of Fr. Norbert!

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL YEAR 3 We welcome Holy Family Year 3 children, who are walking the Town Trail on Monday, to St. Bonaventure's when they have a break for lunch in the parish hall, a play in the garden and learn some interesting things about our church.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL Young Friends' Reception. A wine and canaper reception on Tuesday, 1 July to meet and find out about The Friends of Westminste: Cathedral. From 7pm-9pm at Vaughan House, Francis Street SW1P 1QN. Open to all with free admission. Contact address: young.friends@mail.com.

PRIESTS We continue to be very grateful to Fr. Frank Leonard and Fr. John Helm for the tremendous support they give. This Sunday Fr. Bruce Burbidge, a priest of East Anglia Diocese who teaches in Rome, will celebrate 9.30am Mass at Holy Family and 11.30an Mass at Our Lady's. Fr. Bruce was the organ scholar at Westminster Cathedral back in 1987 when Fr. Norbert was deacon there! In the month of August Fr. Patrick Mileham, a priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, will take up residence in WGC and celebrate Masses supported by retired priests. Fr. Patrick is a Birmingham University Chaplain and lectures in Scripture at Oscott Seminary in Birmingham. He is looking forward to coming!

ENJOY ENGLISH A free course at the Pomegranate Cafe - A chance to develop you reading, writing and communication skills in a fun and relaxed way on Tuesday 1st July 9.30am - 11.30am. If you would like to come please phone Phil Johnson on 01707 377442 or 07790 135458.

CAFOD The Holy Family CAFOD group are meeting on Tuesday 1st July at 7.30pm in the parish room at Holy Family. If anyone would like to join us or just come along for a cup or tea and to find out a bit more about the group and what we do you will be made very welcome **SINGING FOR PLEASURE** will be giving a "Musical Moments" concert on Saturday 5th July at 7.30pm at St John's Church, Monks Rise. (Proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Suppor and St John's Church, Lemsford). Tickets are £6 and can be purchased at the door or box office 01707 377543.

JOAN BERESFORD RIP Joan's Funeral Mass will be on Tuesday 8th July at 12.30pm a St. Bonaventure's. Joan requested that people wear cheerful clothes to her funeral.

MARJORIE CLEGG R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Marjorie will be at 12.30pm or Tuesday 15th July in St. Bonaventure's Church.

BRIDGET MCNULTY R.I.P. Funeral arrangements will be announced in due course We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of the deceased.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S COFFEE GROUP Please collect your new rotas from the back of the church.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Fr. Norbert will have a meeting with parents who will need a Priest's Reference in the autumn for their child's application for a Catholic Secondary School. The meeting will be in Holy Family Church on Sunday 6th July at 7pm and should last an hour. It will be an opportunity for Fr. Norbert to give parents helpful advice about the process and the expectations of the various schools. It would also be helpful for Year 4 parents to come. In January Fr. Norbert has to do references for Reception Class and then in March for Nursery admission; parents of these younger children might find coming on 6th July beneficial. The meeting itself will be for parents and not for children (though they are welcome to be present).

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Our thanks to all who made last Sunday's Thanksgiving Mass such a wonderful celebration and the party which followed so much fun!

OCTOBER TRIP to Rheims. 32 have signed up so far. There is still time to book. Leaflets and booking forms at the back of our churches.

AFRICAN MASS Sunday 13th July at 11.30am at Our Lady's followed by a party in the hall. Plans are well underway with practices galore! All welcome.

FILIPINO MASS is next Saturday 5th July at 6pm in Our Lady's followed by a cultural programme in the hall with music, dance, food and drink. All welcome. If anyone would like to help in any way with the Mass or afterwards in the hall, please contact Rizza on 07960083681 or Angie on 07879827769.

NICHOLAS BREAKSPEAR SCHOOL has a 50th Anniversary Open Day on Sunday 13th July 12.30 - 4.30pm. Inflatables, archery, football competitions, bands etc. You are invited to see how the school has changed over the last 50 years. Address: Colney Heath Lane, St. Albans AL4 0TT.

JUSTICE AND PEACE Network Meeting on 13th September at Our Lady Queen of Apostles, entitled The two world wars - warnings from history. 9.30am (for 10am start) until 2.30pm. Interesting talks and reflections. More details nearer the time.

OFFICE AND/OR STORAGE SPACE is urgently required by Catholic Charity Catholic Evangelisation Services, (known to many as CaFE). If you think you can help please ring Tim Stevens on 07875848138 or email tim@faithcafe.org.

DO YOU HAVE NEED OF? A Mobile Hairdresser, a Decorator /Handy man or a Gardener? A family concern, offering competitive rates. Contact Tracey (MOBILE HAIRDRESSER) 07581212941. Jamie (DECORATOR/HANDY MAN) 07572527731. Tony (GARDENER) 01707 260502.

EXPERIENCED CARER An experienced carer is looking for the position of a Live-in Carer. Contact Alicja on 07772891750.

RACE FOR LIFE Gloria Holmes is doing Race for Life in memory of her uncle who sadly lost his life to cancer in March, any sponsorships will be greatly appreciated <u>www.justgiving.com/gloriaholmes</u> or text GLOR78 with the amount you wish to donate to 70070. Thanks for your support.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH The monthly cleaning of the church and grounds maintenance takes place next **Saturday 5th July** at 10am for ONE hour. Refreshments will be available afterwards. All are welcome to come along and help.

400 Club - JUNE DRAW RESULTS

1st £100 No.051 B. Kleiser. 2nd £50 No.072 H. Mangion. 3rd £25 No.064 F. McKenzie. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all members for their continued support. The subscriptions for the July draw are due this weekend 26/7 and the draw will be made in the Parish Centre on Monday during the Bingo Interval.

Future Subscription Collection weekends will be - July 26/27 - August 30/31 - September 27/28 - October 25/26 - November 29/30 - December 27/28 with the Draw on the following Monday during the Bingo.

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234 welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk Our Lady's 141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP Website: www.ourladys-parish.info Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579 parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk St. Bonaventure's 81 Parkway AL8 6JF Website: www.stbonaventure.org.uk

Holy Family Church 194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ **OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE** Bookings should be made with Phil Johnson 01707 377442 or 07790 135458 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

CONFESSIONS Holy		Family: Thur	rsday 10am - 10.30am
	St. E	Bonaventure: Satu	rday 10.30am - 11am
	Our	Lady's: Satu	rday 5pm - 5.30pm
MASS TIMES			
30 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	feria
01 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Dedication of the Cathedral
	7pm	Our Lady's	
02 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
03 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Thomas
04 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Our Lady's	
05 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	feria
Fourteenth Sunday of the Year			
05 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
06 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventur	CENTIC
00 ×	9.30am	Holy Family	
	10.30am	St. Bonaventur	
	11.30am	Our Lady's	
	6pm	Holy Family	NP - A - P

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