

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Vincent Malone
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Sixth Sunday of the Year 16th February 2014 (page 136)

With the school half-term break underway I am sure that for our children and staff it affords a well-earned rest...for parents and grandparents time to spend with the children!

However, as Jesus continues with the Sermon on the Mount he does not let anyone rest! He teaches that he has 'come not to abolish the Law or the Prophets... but to complete them.' The Lord proceeds to take various strands of teaching from the Old Testament and to give them an even deeper, hard-hitting edge. 'You have learnt how it was said to your ancestors...but I say this to you: - ' Christ takes us to the heart of what was taught previously and then asks his audience to heed the meaning which springs from pure motives and from the heart. You can imagine the disciples and members of the crowd gasping as he makes his pronouncements and wondering what will come next! Killing and anger, adultery and the lustful eye, divorce, the taking of oaths, saying 'Yes' and meaning it! Jesus is not afraid to speak; his words are all-embracing. We are not told of the reaction of the listeners, whether some tried to walk away or whether others attempted to intervene. He has even more to say!

Jesus' preaching cuts us to the core of our being! He invites us to give him everything. He wants the very best for us. He is patient as we respond and allows us to learn from our mistakes supported by his forgiving grace. Today as we listen to the Word of God, let us pray that we may do all we can to grasp the full impact of what Jesus is saying, to be open to the wisdom he shares with us - which is not the wisdom of the world. Let us allow the Spirit of Jesus to fill our minds and hearts, drawing us more deeply into the heart of God's compassionate love.

Whether you are on half-term or not, I hope you have a wonderful week. Mull over the Lord's words and pray for inspiration. God bless you. *Fr. Norbert.*

CARDINAL NICHOLS There will be a Mass of Welcome for Cardinal-designate Nichols on Friday 28th February at 5.30pm at Westminster Cathedral. Parishioners are welcome. Come early to get a seat!

JOHN McSHANE RIP John's Funeral will be on Wednesday 26th February at 1pm at Our Lady's Church.

CONFIRMATION The next session will be on Sunday 2nd March at 7.15pm in Holy Family's Parish Room.

RCIA There will not be a session on Monday so the next meeting will be on Monday 24th February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Our thanks to all involved in running the Preparation Day on Saturday 15th. We wish the couples who attended every blessing as they get ready for their Wedding and a lifetime of happiness in Marriage.

THANKSGIVING FOR MARRIAGE Archbishop Nichols will be inviting to the Cathedral couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th+ wedding anniversaries. This year's Mass will be on Saturday 7th June at 3pm. Please give your details to Fr. Norbert (names of husband and wife, wedding date, full postal address and email/phone number) who will then pass on the names to the Archbishop's Office; in due course invitations will be sent out. In recent years many couples from Welwyn Garden City have gone to this Mass and had a wonderful, prayerful experience.

ST DAVID'S DAY On Saturday 1st March there will be refreshments with a Welsh flavour after 10am Mass at St. Bonaventure's. All welcome.

REMY PIGNAL Rémy the French seminarian who was with us last May on placement has asked to visit again during his holidays. He will be in Welwyn Garden City from Friday 21st February until Monday 3rd March. We look forward to welcoming him again!

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY (CAP) - supported by our three churches. The Panshanger CAP Money coaches are now a team of 5, and will be running their next course in Panshanger Church on 3 Wednesday evenings over Lent at 8pm in the church hall: 12th March; 26th March; 9th April.

Lent is a time of reflection, abstinence, change. Perhaps this is an opportunity to set aside time to tidy up your finances and gain control. The course teaches simple budgeting skills, using a cash-based system, and it really works! Have a look at the link below that has a short video promoting the course: <https://capuk.org/i-want-help/cap-money-course> It would be wonderful if you could come along, both because of the benefits to you, and also so that you have first-hand experience of the course to help us reach the people who need it most. Feel free to invite friends or family to come along with you. If you have any questions, then please contact Annie on 01707 329921 or churchadmin@panshangerchurch.com If you would like to come along, please confirm by 28th February so that registration is completed in time.

FOOD BANK The New Zion Christian Fellowship Church continues to express gratitude to the Catholic community for their generosity in providing items for the Food Bank. Every Wednesday many people in need come to receive support and a warm welcome. Please keep up your donations which can be placed in the baskets at the back of each of our churches.

HOLY FAMILY CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS Over the next six months the charity coffee mornings on Sundays after 9.30am Mass will be collecting for a local charity Dekamile (www.dekamile.co.uk) founded and run by husband and wife Rod and Mandy Unger. It helps a village (Agome Sevah) in Togo, West Africa, with the aim of enabling the villagers, once they have basics (such as clean water, health-facilities, a school and employment), to be self-sufficient and not to have to rely on outside help, in order to live meaningful and good lives. Please support their efforts by coming along for a coffee after mass and giving as much as you can. Many thanks.

PLANNED GIVING Our Lady's box 100. Would the parishioner who is using this box at Our Lady's please contact Fr Norbert as we need to make a note of your name and address?

PRIEST'S REFERENCE FORMS Fr. Norbert will be available to sign forms for Nursery as follows: Friday 7th March 3.30 - 5pm, Tuesday 11th March 3.30 - 5pm, and Wednesday 19th March 3.30 - 5pm. All appointments are at at Our Lady's Church. Parents are asked to ring Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to book an appointment time. Parent/s should come with their child and the appropriate forms (obtained at the schools) already filled in; they should wait in the church. Come on whichever is the most convenient day!

JUSTICE AND PEACE On Saturday 1st March, the Justice & Peace Commission will be celebrating Fairtrade and the progress that has been made in the diocese, including here, in WGC, in support of the Fairtrade movement. The celebration will be at Holy Apostles Church, Pimlico from 2 to 5pm, and among the speakers will be Sophie Tranchell, Managing Director and founder of Divine Chocolate, and Alexander Martinez Palacios, who works on a Banana plantation, in Colombia. If you would like to go, please let John Fogarty (john.fogarty@ntlworld.com, tel' 01707 327771) know and he'll notify the organisers, who, in turn, will make the necessary catering arrangements.

HOLY FAMILY FRIENDS ASSOCIATION NEWS On Saturday 15th March Holy Family School children will be packing at Morrisons for the day. Do support their efforts and get your shopping packed **and A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** a Quiz Night with curry on Friday 25th April 7.30-10.30pm. We have booked a Quiz master! Teams up to 8 per table. Participants will need to bring their own drinks. Contact Sarah 01707 327 238.

NANNY NEEDED A parish family is looking for a nanny to work approx 20 hours a week looking after their three school aged boys, starting mid-April. Please phone Hugh on 07740 818193 for more information.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S COFFEE GROUP Your new roatas are ready for collection from the back of church.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES The new sets will be available soon. If you do not already use envelopes and would like to have a set please sign the list at the back of church. If you would prefer to contribute by Standing Order you may indicate this on the list.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 'Streams in the Desert' Friday 7th March in the Methodist Church, Ludwick Way at 2pm. All welcome.

NATIONAL SVP are distributing 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, socks and gloves, a toothbrush, toothpaste, emergency foil blanket, information card and pen. They would be very grateful if you could sponsor packs at a suggested donation of £3 per pack. Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or go to virginmoneygiving.com and type "Vinnie Packs" into the sponsor a friend box. If you have a query, please email VinniePacks@hotmail.com. Thank you so much for your support.

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Fr. Vincent 01707 327434
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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:	Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

17 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	feria
18 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Our Lady's	
19 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
20 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
21 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Peter Damian
	7pm	Our Lady's	
22 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	The Chair of St. Peter

Seventh Sunday of the Year

22 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
23 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Holy Family
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Our Lady's
	6pm	Holy Family



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