

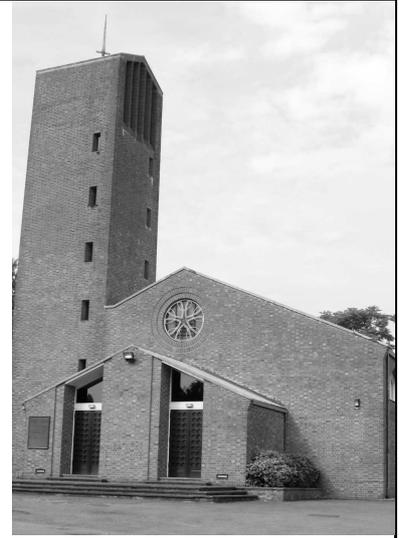
# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes*  
*Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

***Pentecost Sunday 8th June 2014 (page 288)***

## ***Pastoral Letter from Cardinal Vincent Nichols:***

Today we celebrate the great Feast of Pentecost, the event so vividly described in the Acts of the Apostles. Wind and fire are the images used for the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the group of Apostles, closed in on themselves in the Upper Room. A burst of energy, of languages, bewilderment and astonishment follows as the doors are thrown open and the disciples emerge to preach boldly about the 'marvels of God.' How often Pope Francis echoes this message, telling us not to be shut in on ourselves, but to go out and meet others, especially those who are in need. When we are gathered together, the Holy Spirit gives us all we need. The same Spirit sends us out to bring all we have received to our needy world.

Today I invite you to see Pentecost as a feast of the family. In the eyes of faith, marriage and family life are essentially the work of the Holy Spirit. They are a vocation, a call from God, through which God brings stability and new life into His world. The strength of love holding a family together is a gift of the Holy Spirit. So too is the instinct to go out and care for others. Family life does not find its fulfilment by being shut in on itself. The love of every family is strengthened when it is open and generous. That is the story of strong families and of the Church too. It is the work of the Holy Spirit. On Saturday 7th in the Cathedral we celebrated the annual Mass for Marriage. This is now the seventh time we have done so. The Cathedral was once again wonderfully filled with over twelve hundred husbands and wives, celebrating significant anniversaries of their wedding day. Between them they represented over twenty thousand years of married life. The mood in the Cathedral on this occasion is always one of joy and thanksgiving. Afterwards, I met couple after couple who spoke of their continuing delight in each other, of how the years have flown by and of how their happiness outweighed all the difficulties they had encountered. There was strong realism in their stories. They acknowledged the cost of such faithful love. Yet they were filled with a deep appreciation of the priceless treasure of family life built on the Sacrament of Marriage.

Theirs is an important voice to hear. It is testimony to the vision of the Church about the fundamental truths of marriage, a vision rooted in our human nature and realised with the power of God's grace. I am sure that every husband and wife present in the Cathedral knows exactly what is meant when the Church speaks of sacrificial love being at the heart of marriage. Within love, concern for oneself gives way to a willingness to put others first: one's spouse, the children, their grandparents. In this way married love demonstrates the abiding truth that the best of life is to be found in self-giving love,

a truth proclaimed in Christ's sacrificial death on the Cross and in his glorious Resurrection. Such love is at the heart of the lasting unity of a marriage. Such love is at the heart of the fidelity which is the hallmark of marriage. Such sacrificial love is drawn out when children are born and the family circle enriched. This love points to the deeper understanding of human nature which can so enhance our public culture. It reminds us that every person is born out of the love of God, a love which bestows eternal dignity and destiny upon every person. This same love, taking flesh in Jesus, accompanies us every day and makes possible within us the realisation of our deepest yearnings. Sacrificial love is the pathway we are to take. It is the pathway to heaven. Without that perspective, self-interest will always catch us out and leave us unsatisfied.

In the coming months the challenges faced by the family will be given much attention in the Church as preparations go ahead for the forthcoming Synods of Bishops. The voices of many are being rightly heard, including those who speak of the pain of marriage breakdown, the sense of failure they carry, and their hopes for care and acceptance within the community of the Church. During this time we must all look again at how, in everyday living, we encourage marriage and family life; at how our parishes support all who are married, or who are approaching marriage; and at how the bonds of care and friendship should not be broken by disappointment and failure. There is so much to be done, so much to learn about the pastoral response to the challenges facing families today. There is also much help at hand. Returning to the wonderful celebration of Marriage by all those married couples in the Cathedral, I invite those of you who hope to set out on the pathway of family life, or indeed have already done so, to listen to their voice as they tell you of the joy and satisfaction they have found within the Sacrament of Marriage. It is there that you receive the grace of God to help you to fulfil your greatest hopes. Do not neglect the grace of this great Sacrament. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the Church in this important time. May we all grow in our understanding of human love as a participation in the very life of God and a witness to the unfailing love God has for each of us. May the Holy Spirit teach us how to combine mercy and truth, forgiveness and faithfulness, so that we may make our journey to God together in peace and a hope that is ever new.

**GROWING IN FAITH MEETING** Cardinal Vincent Nichols has invited us in Welwyn Garden City to join **Growing in Faith**, a fundraising campaign that will enable us to strengthen our parishes, support priestly life from training through to retirement, and reach out to those in most need in our communities. There will be an opportunity to learn about this important initiative at an event that is taking place in the **Parish Hall at Our Lady's on Friday 13th June at 7.45pm**. Bishop John Sherrington, our Auxiliary Bishop who lives here in Welwyn Garden City, will join us to share more about the Cardinal's vision and to answer any questions you may have. Please come!

**MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK** on Saturday 14th June at 12noon in Our Lady's organised by the SVP for our three parishes. The Sacrament of the Sick is a powerful expression of Church's love for, and care of, those who are seriously ill or infirm. The priest lays his hands on the person's head and then anoints the forehead and the palms of the hands with Holy Oil blessed by the Cardinal. Our prayer is that the sick will get better and that the infirm will be strengthened; however, with confidence, we ask God to watch over those who are nearing the end of their lives and to give them peace and hope. Many of us need healing for a whole variety of reasons, some which are obvious, some which lie hidden to others. Come and share in this great act of prayer and ministry for members of our community who seek Christ's healing touch. Afterwards there will be a gathering in the hall with refreshments. On Saturday 14th there will **not be the usual 10am Mass at St. Bonaventure's or Confessions**.

**NORA THERESA BRADY RIP** Theresa's Funeral Mass will be on Friday 13th June at 9.30am at Our Lady's Church.

**FLIX FELICIEN RIP** We will publish details of this Funeral when available.

**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.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS** at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 15th June at 10.30am. Please note: the middle aisles of the church will be reserved for First Communion families but extra chairs will be available. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday 22nd June at 3pm at Our Lady's when all the children who have made their First Holy Communion this year (over 90!) can come together with their families to give thanks at Mass and then celebrate in the hall afterwards. Of course, other parishioners are most welcome.

**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

**ANNUAL APF MASS** on Sunday 22nd June at 3pm at Holy Apostles Church, 47 Cumberland Street, Pimlico, London SW1V 4LY. We have many parishioners who support the 'red boxes' of APF/Missio. Anyone who would like to attend should let Fr. Norbert know so that he can send in the numbers to the organisers.

**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. The next planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 15 June after 11.30am Mass at Our Lady's church. African parishioners from all the three Catholic churches are requested to attend this all important meeting at Our Lady's church.

**FILIPINO MASS** on Saturday 5th July at 6pm at Our Lady's with a reception in the hall. Everyone welcome. Watch this space!

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR** is being held on Saturday 21st June from 12 to 4pm. Please come and join us as there is something for everyone: laser quest, ponies, slides, food and a grand tombola with £150 cash first prize!

**JUNE MINIBUS OUTING** for anyone with limited mobility. Tuesday 24th June. Door to door transport provided by the parish to the Gardens of the Rose (entrance fee £6). Alternative venue in the event of bad weather. Contact Kay on 01707 335633.

**SAVE THE CHILDREN** are holding their quiz night on Saturday, June 14th in the Guide hut in Guessens Road at 7.30pm. The tickets are £8 per person, including a ploughman's supper. Tables of 6. Bring your own drinks and snacks. To book a table or single tickets ring Sylvie on 01707 335358.

**LORETO REUNION** Saturday 28th June 2.30 - 5.30pm. Once again the doors of the school are open to any past pupil and it is a wonderful opportunity to see how the school has changed, hear from the present Head Mrs Maire Lynch about the future and to catch up on news of friends. Afternoon tea at 3.30pm (donation £5).

**SVP** requires a chest of drawers and microwave for a young family in financial difficulties. Contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456.

**“A Life Examined.”** What does holiness mean? Is it relevant today? Chiara Luce Badano died at 18 and was beatified in 2010. Her parents, Ruggero & Maria Teresa, will be in London **29th June**. Come to encounter Chiara Luce through them: **2- 5pm, Amigo Hall (next to St George’s Cathedral) Lambeth Rd., London SE1 7HY**. Coach from St Bonaventure’s £15 return; special rate for families.

Bring packed lunch. Departure 11.15am return 7pm approx. Further details and bookings tel. 339706 or e mail [focolare.colgrove@ntlworld.com](mailto:focolare.colgrove@ntlworld.com).

**POLISH/ENGLISH MASS** will be on Saturday 18th October at 6pm.

**Fr. Norbert 01707 323234**  
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**141 Woodhall Lane**  
**AL7 3TP**  
**Website: [www.ourladys-parish.info](http://www.ourladys-parish.info)**

**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
[parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk](mailto:parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk)  
**St. Bonaventure’s**  
**81 Parkway AL8 6JF**  
**Website:**  
**[www.stbonaventure.org.uk](http://www.stbonaventure.org.uk)**

**Holy Family Church**  
**194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ**

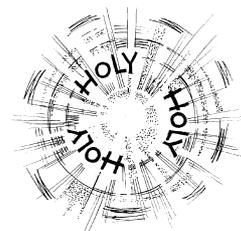
**OUR LADY’S PARISH CENTRE**  
 Bookings should be made with Phil Johnson  
 01707 377442 or 07790 135458  
[peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com](mailto:peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com)

<b>CONFESSIONS</b>	Holy Family: Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure: Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady’s: Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

**MASS TIMES**

09 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady’s	feria
10 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Our Lady’s	
11 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Barnabas
12 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
13 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Anthony of Padua
	9.30am	Funeral Mass	Our Lady’s
	7pm	Our Lady’s	
14 Saturday	12noon	Our Lady’s Mass with Anointing of the Sick	

		<b>Trinity Sunday</b>
<b>07 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Our Lady’s</b>
<b>08 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Family</b>
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure</b>
	<b>11.30am</b>	<b>Our Lady’s</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Holy Family</b>



**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