

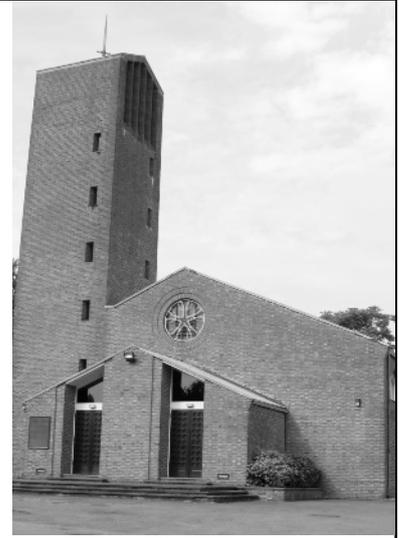
# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Gerard O'Brien  
Seminararian: Samuel Ejeregbe Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

***Palm Sunday 29th March 2015 (p.183 of Mass book)***

Almighty ever-living God,  
who as an example of humility for the human race to follow  
caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross,  
graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering  
and so merit a share in his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever. Amen.

This is the Opening Prayer of Mass today as we enter Holy Week. There is so much to meditate on in these words and a treasury of reflection for ourselves as we ponder what we will celebrate in the coming days.

1. Think about his example of humility to be followed.
2. Can you comprehend that he did it out of love for the Father and for us?
3. Patient suffering - is that easy in your own life?
4. A share in his Resurrection - what will that be like next Sunday when we come to the glory of Easter?

God's grace is available to us especially in this Holy Week. We need to make time and space in the busy-ness of our lives with our various responsibilities and activities to enter into the Mystery of Divine Love revealed in the Cross of Jesus Christ. We will journey with Jesus from the Hosannas of Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday with the Institution of the Eucharist and the Washing of the Feet. We will enter the Garden of Gethsemane and walk with him to Calvary. The Cross on which he is lifted up we will venerate on Good Friday. At the Easter Vigil we will - with Christians all over the world - proclaim 'He is alive!' The suffering and pain, the darkness and death will be transformed into the healing and joy, the light and hope of his New Life of Resurrection AND he wants us to have a share! Isn't that wonderful?

Wherever you spend your Easter, may God bless you and your loved ones.

***Fr. Norbert***

**RECONCILIATION SERVICE** for Lent will be this Tuesday 31st March at 8pm in Our Lady's Church.

**ST PATRICK'S THANKS** Our thanks to all involved in the Special Needs Mass and Reception, marking St. Patrick's Day and also to everyone who contributed to the Feast Day itself. A wonderful time was had on each occasion.

**ST. GEORGE'S DAY** will be on Thursday 23rd April and will be marked by 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church followed by refreshments in the Parish Room.

**BLESSING OF FOOD** on Holy Saturday (4th) at 4pm at Our Lady's following the tradition of Poland and other European countries. All welcome! Swiecie pokarmow odbedzie sie w Sobote 4.04.15 o godzinie 16.00. Serdecznie zapraszamy.

**FUNERALS** The Funeral Mass for **Michael Pennett R.I.P.** is at 3.30pm in St. Bonaventure's Church this Monday 30th March.

The Funeral Mass for **Chris Neumann R.I.P.** is at 9.30am in Our Lady's on Friday 10th April. The body will be received into the church at 4.30pm on Thursday 9th April.

The Funeral Mass for **Keith Gray R.I.P.** will be at 12.30pm on Monday 20th April in St. Bonaventure's. The body will be received into the church at 4pm on Sunday 19th April.

The Funeral Mass for **Pat Jordan R.I.P.** will be at 12.30pm on Wednesday 22nd April in Our Lady's.

The Funeral Mass for **Barbara Dixon-Spain R.I.P.** is at 12.30pm on Monday 27th April in St. Bonaventure's.

**Mary Ottaway** and **Brian Maguire** both died this Friday, may they rest in peace. Funeral details will be published when known.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to all the families and friends of the deceased.

**PILGRIMAGE** Pax Travel is arranging for us a pilgrimage to Padua, Verona and Venice from Sunday 25th October to Friday 30th October 2015. Brochures and booking forms are available at the back of the church.

**GOOD FRIDAY** There will be a Service of Reflection led by the Focolare Community for our parishes on Good Friday (3rd April) at 7.30pm at the Centre for Unity next to St. Bonaventure's. All welcome.

**EASTER SUNDAY** Please note there will not be an evening Mass on Easter Sunday at Holy Family.

**A PARISHIONER** would like to move closer to St. Bonaventure's or Our Lady's and is looking for an unfurnished one-bedroom flat. If you can help phone Trudi on 01707 692401 or 07914933088.

**NEED A CLEANER?** Then phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980887231.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S LORETO GIRLS' LENTEN FUNDRAISER** We would like to invite you to our sale after 10:30am Mass on Sunday 19th April. We have organised this event for our School Lenten Fundraiser. Your support will help us to raise valuable funds for Caritas International, Westminster Diocese Catholic Children's Society, and Albania Hope - a Loreto Mission based in Albania committed to ending human trafficking. We look forward to seeing you there.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH** will remain open on Holy Thursday evening and Good Friday evening until 10.30 for quiet prayer and reflection.

**ALTAR SERVERS** Please sign up for the various Easter Services on the lists in each sacristy. Thank you.

**SPLENDID RESULT** from cake makers and buyers at both Masses at St. Bonaventure's last week; all the cakes were sold and £122.15 made for CAFOD Syria Appeal. Last stall and raffle draw after 8am Mass this weekend.

**MONTHLY MINIBUS OUTINGS** for anyone of limited mobility will recommence on Tuesday 28th April with a visit to Van Hage Nursery. Door to door transport provided by volunteer driver. Please telephone Kay 01707 335633 to book a seat.

**FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT** Last Sunday nearly 200 of us filled St. Albans Cathedral for a retreat day with our First Communion families. Parents have their final session in Our Lady's on Wednesday 22nd April at 7.30pm. First Communion Masses will be as follows: Holy Family - Sunday 17th May at 12noon; Our Lady's - Sundays 31st May, 7th and 14th June at 11.30am; St. Bonaventure's - Sunday 21st June at 10.30am.

**CONFIRMATION** There is a session this evening at 7.15pm at Holy Family and then on Sunday 26th April. Bishop John Sherrington will confirm our young people at Our Lady's on Friday 8th May at 7.30pm.

**RCIA** Four adults and three children have been preparing for the Sacraments. Two adults and a child will be baptised at the Easter Vigil with the adults receiving Confirmation and Holy Communion. The others (who are away for Easter) will be baptised on Sunday 3rd May at 11.30 Mass.

**CHILDREN'S EASTER WORKSHOP AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S** There will be an Easter Workshop for children on Tuesday 31st March from 3.45pm - 5.30pm. Come and help plant our outdoor Easter Garden, make your own garden, make some Easter things, join in an Easter egg hunt, prepare for our Way of the Cross, have a 'Happy Easter Tea' and listen to an Easter story. We ask for a donation of £2 per child to cover some of our costs. Please bring a small amount of food. Parents are welcome.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH CLEANING** Why not help 'share the load' by joining our dedicated team of cleaners? The more people helping the less often your turn comes around. Contact Mavis on 01707 330830 or Kathryn in the Office on 322579 if you can help or would like to know what is involved.

**OUR LADY'S CHURCH CLEANING:** The monthly cleaning of the church will take place next **Saturday 4th April** after Morning Prayer at 9.30am. Please come along to help to prepare the church for the Easter celebration.

**THANK YOU:** Aku and Emily extend their heart-felt thanks to you all for your generous contributions and donations during last Sunday's 'cake sales' fundraising. They were able to raise £177.56 for the Catholic Children's Society Crisis Fund.

**OUR LADY'S GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:** Many, many thanks to all those who came to help with maintaining the grounds in preparation for Easter. Your help is very much appreciated!

**WALSINGHAM** Don't forget our pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 16th May when we will join the National Deaf Pilgrimage. There will be a coach from WGC. More details next week.

**EASTER NEWSLETTER** to include weekends 4th/5th and 11th/12th April. Items for inclusion need to be in by Thursday please.

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OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE Bookings  
 should be made with Phil Johnson 01707 377442  
 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

### TIMES OF SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
	3.30pm	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure
Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
	<b>8pm</b>	<b>Reconciliation Service</b>	Our Lady's
Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family

### EASTER TRIDUUM

#### Maundy Thursday

6pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	St. Bonaventure
7pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Holy Family
8pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Our Lady's

#### Good Friday

10am	Children's Way of the Cross	St. Bonaventure
12noon	Children's Way of the Cross	Our Lady's
3pm	<b>Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion</b>	St. Bonaventure
3pm	<b>Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion</b>	Holy Family
5pm	<b>Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion</b>	Our Lady's
7.30pm	<b>Good Friday Reflection</b>	Focolare

#### Holy Saturday

8.30pm	<b>Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter</b>	<b>Our Lady's</b>
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#### Easter Sunday

8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
	No evening Mass today	

**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