

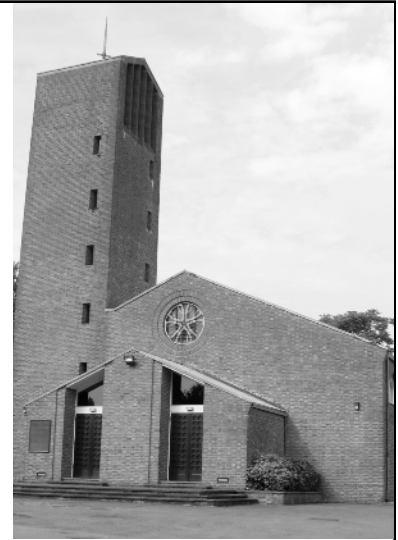
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



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*

Easter Sunday 5th April including 12th April 2015 (p. 251 of Mass book)

HAPPY EASTER! JESUS HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD! This is the Good News of salvation which we proclaim, which we celebrate and which we live out on this most wonderful Sunday of all Sundays. God loves us so much!

The great work of Redemption has been completed as Jesus, who suffered and who died, has burst from the Tomb living and victorious allowing a new and eternal Life to enter our world and the whole of humanity. His 'work' has cost him everything: leaving his place at the Father's Right Hand, sharing our lives with their joys and sorrows, carrying a heavy Cross and being lifted up in pain and suffering; finally, handing himself over to death and showing us that there is no part of our existence which is alien to God - he even carried the burden of our sins. Many people at that time thought that his burial in the Tomb was the end and his final rest. However, he has proved them wrong and given us a vision of something and Someone far superior and lasting!

The big question is always 'Why?' Why? Because of his deep love for the Father. Why? Because humanity bears his stamp and his love for us all-embracing. Why? Because God's ways are not our ways and there is Mystery which is revealed in his Death and Resurrection - we will never have all the answers! Our 'work' is to grow in Faith and Love, deepening our bond with the Risen Lord and finding ways of sharing this Good News with others so that they have a taste of his Life and Love.

With Fr. Gerard, I would like to thank everyone who has worked tirelessly in helping with the Lenten journey here in Welwyn Garden City especially in these last days of the Sacred Triduum and the celebration of Easter. We are so grateful to all involved in the Liturgy and behind the scenes, to all who have kept things clean, tidy and beautiful. The presence of our people praying, reflecting and bringing a vibrancy of Faith and Love is a reminder that Jesus is Alive; he is with us; he is leading us to heaven!

HAPPY EASTER! May God bless you and your loved ones. ***Fr. Norbert***

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.

FUNERALS 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 body will be received into the church at 4pm on Tuesday 21st April.

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

Mary Ottaway R.I.P., Brian Maguire R.I.P. and Ellen Healy R.I.P. have all died recently. 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 has arranged 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.

CARDINAL'S MASS of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony will be at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 23rd May 2015 at 3pm. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2015. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr. Norbert the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK on Saturday 6th June at Our Lady's organised by the SVP. More details to follow.

ELECTION HUSTINGS organised by the local Christian Churches at Herts International on the Mundells roundabout on Wednesday 29th April in the evening (time to be confirmed)

NEED A CLEANER OR HELP WITH IRONING? 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.

GROUP 183 The HCPT Group for WGC will leave for Lourdes on Monday morning taking with them the intentions of our three churches. They will pray for you at the Grotto and are so grateful for the generous support given to them by our WGC parishes.

FOUR HUNDRED POUNDS was raised for CAFOD Syria Appeal by the Lent cake sales. Thanks to all who participated.

REPOSITORY Communion and Confirmation cards and gifts now available in the Repository at Our Lady's before and after most Masses.

EASTER NEWSLETTER includes weekends 4th/5th and 11th/12th April. Next newsletter will be 19th April.

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 COMMUNIONS 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 12 noon; Our Lady's - Sundays 31st May, 7th and 14th June at 11.30am; St. Bonaventure's - Sunday 21st June at 10.30am.

CONFIRMATION Final session at 7.15pm at Holy Family on Sunday 26th April. Bishop John Sherrington will confirm our young people at Our Lady's on Friday 8th May at 7.30pm. The rehearsal will be at Our Lady's on Friday 1st May at 7.45pm.

RCIA Congratulations to Darrell Panter and to Claire Coe and her daughter Summer who were baptised at the Easter Vigil. The Chamberlain family will be baptised on Sunday 3rd May at 11.30 Mass at Our Lady's.

OUR LADY'S Many thanks to all who came on Saturday morning to clean the church in preparation for Easter. Your help is much appreciated.

CHILDREN'S EASTER WORKSHOP AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S Thank you to all those children who came on Tuesday, the afternoon was very enjoyable and beautiful gardens were made. Thank you to the parents who stayed and helped and to Amy Staniforth who supervised the planting of the Outdoor Easter Garden.

FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN St. Bonaventure's group meets again on Saturday 18th when we learn about the Gift of Joy. Please try and get your folders up to date.

CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP Resumes again on Tuesday 21st April.

CHILDREN'S MASS Sunday 19th April 10.30am at St. Bonaventure's.

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. You need to be at Our Lady's at 7.45am (leaving Walsingham at 5pm for the return). If you would like to go please fill in your details on the lists at the back of our churches. Cost is £10 adults, £5 children payable in advance or on the coach.

FLOWER ARRANGING Connor & Julie will run four different classes, suitable for all abilities! Classes will be held at St. Bonaventure's Church Hall and there is a small fee per class that will cover the cost of flowers and certain sundries. The first class is on Saturday 11th April at 4pm, and it will be a Classic Line Arrangement - this class will cost £8 per person. Other dates are: Friday 17th at 5:30pm, Friday 24th at 5:30pm and Tuesday 28th at 7pm. Classes last approximately one and a half hours and must be booked in advance. For more information or to book a class please call or text Connor on 07801 206721.

PLEASE SPONSOR ME Mari McEleney is running the 42k London Marathon on 26th April in aid of Operation Smile. This UK based charity makes bi-annual trips to developing countries performing life changing cleft palate surgery. They also train local doctors and nurses to carry out the surgery themselves. If you would like to sponsor me please do so on: www.justgiving.com/mari-mceleney3

FREE 1 wooden single bed frame, 1 wooden cot bed and a car seat (never been in an accident) to give away as soon as possible. Contact Sian Crowe on 07767 897579.

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Fr. Gerard 01707 327434
 welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk
 Holy Family Church
 194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

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

REMINDER No evening Mass at Holy Family on 5th April.

Week of 6th April

06 Monday	<u>10am</u>	Mass	Our Lady's	Octave of Easter
07 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Octave of Easter
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
08 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Octave of Easter
09 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Octave of Easter
10 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Octave of Easter
	9.30am	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's	Chris Neumann R.I.P.
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
11 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Octave of Easter

Week of 12th April

11 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's	Second Sunday of Easter
12 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	
13 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	Easter feria
14 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
15 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Easter feria
16 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Easter feria
17 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
18 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria



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