

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 Ejerege Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Eleventh Sunday of the Year 14th June 2015 (p. 95 of Mass book)

Today green is the colour (except at the First Communion Mass)! We are well and truly back in Ordinary Time. The First Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel speaks of the shoot of a cedar which is planted on a mountain and grows into a huge tree; one of the Gospel parables highlights the mustard seed which becomes the biggest shrub of them all. Jesus was always aware of the signs around him from nature and was steeped in Scripture so he could speak in ways which opened people up from their own experience to the wonders of God's Kingdom. The Lord knew that people would respond to the clues he was giving them through the parables. He also knew that his disciples would need personal explanation to cotton on completely!

What about us? Do we really believe that the Kingdom IS happening? What is our part? Do we worry that the Kingdom might be insignificant and not have the greatness we imagine? What might help us better understand the words of Jesus? Firstly, take time to look all around you. What do you see? Is it beautiful? What did you do to make it spring into being - or who really did bring it about? As we ponder the seasons, what forces lead to change? What do we expect to happen? What might hamper the setting in of a new season? As summer now takes over our lives what hopes does that bring? What do we see happening in nature? in ourselves? in people's attitudes? Where does Jesus fit into all this?

Pope Francis keeps speaking of our Faith being an encounter, a personal meeting with someone - Jesus Christ. So, if we truly want to know what the Kingdom of God is like, we look to Jesus and recognise love in all its fullness, sacrifice offered up for our salvation, acceptance which make all feel welcome, hope which fortifies us in adversity. The Kingdom started off small but nothing and no-one could bring it to a stop. It is happening now and through the power of the Holy Spirit we are its agents in our day.

May God bless you in this coming week. May his Kingdom come! ***Fr. Norbert***

FR. GERARD'S FAREWELL will be on Saturday 18th July beginning with Mass at 6pm at Our Lady's and followed by a reception in the Hall. More details to follow.

BISHOP JOHN has been celebrating Masses in each parish of our Deanery and so here in WGC he will celebrate 8am Mass at St. Bonaventure's, 9.30am Mass at Holy Family and 11.30 Mass at Our Lady's on Sunday 26th July.

OVERSEAS SEMINARIANS Peter Wei from China will be ordained priest at the end of August. Cedric de la Serre from Nanterre in France will be ordained a deacon on Saturday 20th June. David Krupa will be ordained a deacon in St. Denis on Saturday 24th October. They will be in WGC the first week of September possibly with Remy Pignal from St. Denis. The Archdiocese of Seville has asked us to take two Spanish seminarians in July and so the international Church will continue to make its impact on our Garden City!

MINISTRIES The commissioning and re-commissioning of people involved in the various ministries will take place the weekend of 27th/28th June, namely: Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Musicians and Singers, Welcomers, Altar Servers and all Catechists (including Children's Liturgy). There will also be meetings with formation as follows:

Readers: Monday 15th June 7.30 - 9.00pm at Holy Family

Welcomers: Tuesday 16th June 7.45-9.00pm at Our Lady's

Eucharistic Ministers: Monday 22nd June 7.30 - 9.00pm at Holy Family (please note this is the correct day and date)

Catechists (incl. Children's Liturgy): Monday 6th July 7.30 - 9.00pm.

WELCOMERS It is now essential in the Diocese that all parishes have fire marshalls in case of emergency in every church at each Mass. Fr. Norbert would like some of the welcomers to take on this role so that it is clear to those present at Mass who has this responsibility. We are also expected to have a fire drill at least once or twice a year and this means evacuating the church, timing the process and keeping a log!

FUNERALS The Funeral Mass for **Jim Treacy R.I.P.** will be at 12.30pm this Monday 15th June in St. Bonaventure's. The Funeral Mass for **Tricia Knight R.I.P.** will be at 9.30am this Monday 15th June in Our Lady's Church. The Funeral Mass for **Mary Downey R.I.P.** will be on Tuesday 30th June at 12.30pm in Our Lady's. The body will be received into the church on Monday 29th at 4.30pm.

GIFT AID The three parishes will shortly be completing their returns to the Diocese to claim the Gift Aid on offertory donations. If you have signed a Gift Aid form in the past but no longer pay income tax can you please advise Fr. Norbert or Fr. Gerard. Also if you would like to join the Gift Aid scheme please contact either priest.

MISSIO RED BOXES Are you new to the Parish and have a Red Box with you? Have you got a Red Box at home that has not been emptied for a number of years? Maybe it's lurking on top of the fridge or behind some books. If so, please do make contact with either Mavis at St. Bonaventure's (Tel: 01707 330830) or Peter Vincent (Tel: 01707 887358, email: petervincent33@hotmail.com) so that your box can be emptied and counted and the money used to support this valuable work overseas.

Thank you so much if you are able to help Missio's drive to collect together these unopened Red Boxes. Pope Francis reminds us the "Mission is at once a passion for Jesus and a passion for his people."

PRAY AND FAST FOR THE CLIMATE We have been asked to host a gathering on Wednesday 1st July in Our Lady's Hall and the Peace Garden from 7pm - 9pm. There are parishioners from each continent who will speak about the effects of climate change in their own land; we will then pray for that continent and have a song/hymn from that continent. When we have travelled round the world in prayer and reflection, we will have simple food from these continents to round off the evening. Everyone is welcome.

FIRST COMMUNIONS The third First Communion Mass at Our Lady's is today (14th) at 11.30am. Next Sunday St. Bonaventure's has First Communions at 10.30am. We hope you will come and celebrate with the children. There will be refreshments after the Mass to which you are all invited.

The Thanksgiving Mass when all our children come together to celebrate will be on Sunday 28th June at 3pm at Our Lady's.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Parents of Year 5 children who will need a Priest's Reference Form signed in the autumn should come to a meeting in Holy Family Church on Sunday 5th July at 7pm.

MID HERTS CATHOLIC RAMBLES Walk about 5 to 8 miles once a month, on a Saturday. Includes a pub lunch stop. If you are interested contact- Olive e-mail: swemals@gmail.com Tessa landline [01707 257081](tel:01707257081) Mobile. [07759391537](tel:07759391537)

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE will be celebrating their 60th anniversary with a trip to York on the 23rd of September. Any parishioners who would like to join them would be most welcome. The trip will be by train, the cost to be advised later. For more details contact Anne Davidson 01707 327569.

WORLD YOUTH DAY We will have coach from the deanery going to next year's World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, where it is anticipated that 2 - 3 million young people (16-30 years old) from across the globe will gather with Pope Francis. The dates are Saturday 23rd July to Tuesday 3rd August, 2016 with no overnight travel and the price roughly £770. Obviously we would do fundraising, seek sponsorship and ensure safeguarding guidelines are followed. Do think about it for yourself or someone you know. It WILL be a brilliant experience and will definitely enrich our parishes with the enthusiasm of our young people when they return. The planning and promotion of the trip have to start at this early stage to secure the bookings and to fill the coach. For more information contact Fr. Norbert

WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP 'Vision' *The World for Our Great Grandchildren to Inherit* on Monday 15th June at Jim Macdonald Centre, Hatfield AL10 8HR. 7.30pm - 9.30pm. All welcome.

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

FILIPINO MASS on Saturday 20th June at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a jamboree in the Hall. The Filipino community will lead us at Mass and then serve food from different parts of the Philippines. There will also be a cultural show. All welcome!

AFRICAN MASS The African Mass is 12th July. There will be a meeting on Saturday 4th July at 4.30pm and the following day Sunday 5th, after Mass.

NEED A CLEANER or someone to do your ironing? Phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980887231.

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

LORETO REUNION 2015 Saturday 27th June 2.30pm - 5.30pm. The school will be open to any past pupil. Afternoon tea will be served at 3.30pm (for which a contribution of £5 person is asked). Come and see how the school has changed and hear from the present head teacher, Mrs Maire Lynch, about the future. A good opportunity to catch up with old friends.

CONFESSIONS	Holy Family: Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure: Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's: Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

15 Monday	9.30am	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's
	12.30pm	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure
16 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure St. Richard of Chichester
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
17 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family feria
18 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family feria
19 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
20 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure St. Alban

Twelfth Sunday of the Year

20 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
21 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



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