

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Martin Tate
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (page 83) 29th May 2016

Today is Corpus Christi! The Church gives us this opportunity to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the great mystery which is the Eucharist - Bread and Wine consecrated and becoming Christ's Body and Blood. On Maundy Thursday the Church is caught up in the drama of Holy Week and the outpouring of Love on the Cross foreshadowed at the Last Supper. This Solemnity gives us a snapshot of all that is at the heart of the Eucharist.

Cardinal Hume used to say that it is not only having an *explanation* which is important but rather an acknowledgement of the *reality*; there are many explanations but only one *reality*. This means that when we enter church and genuflect to Our Lord's Real Presence in the Tabernacle, we are making an act of faith in the One who is truly present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity under the form of bread and wine. He has chosen to make himself known in this way and to nourish us with his very Life so that we might become part of him and he be incorporated into our lives. Our communion is with God and with others. We are in communion with the wider Catholic Church spread throughout the world and recognise the authority Christ has given the Church to establish this great Sacrament.

In recent years we have had to get used to a new translation of the Mass from Latin into English. Other countries are preparing to receive new translations soon. Even before Latin came into use, the Mass was in Greek - the original language of the Roman Empire. Christ's words would have been spoken in Aramaic. The most important language of all comes from the action of the Mass when bread is taken, broken and shared; wine is offered and drunk. Thanksgiving is offered to the Father and we proclaim anew the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We are caught up again in the great act of love offered on Calvary which brings us and the whole of humanity salvation.

Today let us say to God 'Thank you!' (which is literally what 'Eucharist' means) for the gift of Holy Communion. Let us pray that our love of the Eucharist may grow. Finally may our aspiration be to become more Christ-like through receiving his Body and Blood. May God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

DEANERY MISSION OF MERCY Help will be needed throughout the Mission Week at Our Lady's as we prepare to welcome parishes from across the Deanery (Stevenage) to the various Services: especially to have welcomers available at the Doors of Mercy to lead visitors through and share with them the Windows of Mercy; the visiting parishes will be providing refreshments but they will need 'locals' to show them where everything is and to lend a hand. Please let Fr. Norbert know if there are any ways that you might be able to offer support. This week (6th - 10th June) will be a unique time. Come and enter into the prayerful reflection of these days!

CSILLA HIESZ RIP Csilla's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Tuesday 31st May at 10.15am.

ETHEL WELLS RIP Ethel's Funeral Service will be at Harwood Park Crematorium on Friday 3rd June at 3.30pm

PETER MORRIN RIP Peter's Funeral Service will be at Harwood Park Crematorium on Thursday 9th June at 10.15am.

HALF TERM We wish all children and staff a wonderful half-term break. For young people preparing for public examinations and finals, we pray that it will be a profitable time and that they achieve their very best.

BANK HOLIDAY Monday's Mass will be at 10am at Our Lady's.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DATES Our Lady's Sunday 5th June at 11.30am and St. Bonaventure's Sunday 12th June at 10.30am. Please keep the children in your prayers. The Mass of Thanksgiving for all the children of our three churches will be on Sunday 19th June at 3pm in Our Lady's.

JUNE MINIBUS OUTING for anyone with limited mobility will be to Van Hage Garden Centre on TUESDAY 7th. Please telephone Kay on 01707 335633.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE BROCHURES are at the back of our churches.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 24th July - 2nd August in Krakow, Poland. Steveange Deanery is definitely on for Krakow! Brochures and booking forms are at the back of our churches. The price is £750 including a deposit of £80. Here in WGC our finance committees have agreed to subsidise each young person by £300. So sign up! The next gathering of the group from the Deanery is on **Friday 3rd June** at 8pm at St. Hilda's (9 Breakspear, Shephall, Stevenage SG2 9SQ). The young people will put on a fundraising Quiz Night on Friday 8th July at 7.45pm.

COME AND HELP WITH ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH CLEANING Once a month on the first Thursday. Come along this Thursday at 10am, all are very welcome. Refreshments will be served!

FILIPINO MASS The Filipino Community will lead Mass at Our Lady's on Saturday 11th June at 6pm. There will be a gathering in the Hall afterwards with lots of Filipino delights!

MINUTES of last month's Parish Advisory Council are now available at the back of our churches. Do take a copy home.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK A huge 'Thank you' to the SVP and all the many volunteers who worked so hard last Saturday to make the Mass with the Anointing of the Sick and the Reception such an enjoyable and prayerful experience. God was definitely moving in our midst!

YEAR OF MERCY WINDOWS Our thanks to all who have contributed to the new windows at Our Lady's. To date a total of £9,650.38 has been donated; this includes anticipated Gift Aid. Further donations would be welcomed.

QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY TEA The Christian Churches in WGC are going to put on an afternoon tea in Howardsgate on Sunday 12th June 3 - 5pm followed by a 'Songs of Praise' (5.00 - 5.45pm). There will be tea and cakes, bouncy castles, games and face painting - all FREE and in the open air! There are still some ways to get involved with helping to make this day a great time: Bake a cake to be enjoyed by others with their cup of tea. Come to Howardsgate at 12 noon and help set up, putting up gazebos, tables, and bunting or join the Stewarding team by being a welcomer for the day. Help with the clear up afterwards from 6-8pm. Bring bunting for us to put up (red/white/blue/union jack). Speak to Fr. Norbert or email Simon Cragg, Minister at Christchurch if you can help in any of these ways - simon@christchurchwgc.org.uk *Most important of all, COME! Bring family, neighbours and friends.*

TANDEM BIKE RIDE After 14 wonderful years at Lakeside Special Needs School, Lemsford Lane, WGC, Joseph Heymoz is raising money to help the school continue with the wealth of care and opportunities it provides. Joseph who is one of our parishioners, comes to the Saturday 6pm Mass and delights in the music and liturgy. One of Joseph's other loves is riding on the back of a tandem! To raise money, Joseph and his dad will be cycling 33 miles from the Olympic Velodrome to Lakeside Special Needs School. Joseph, his dad and the tandem will be collecting any donations next Saturday 4th June after the 6pm Mass at Our Lady's. Donations can also be made via Fr. Norbert. Thank you for your support!

PLEASE HELP - SPANISH STUDENTS VISITING WGC We have a small group of children (boys and girls aged 12 to 16) from the Canary Islands who are staying in WGC from 23 June-21 July, to learn English. They are on a full time educational programme and stay with English host families. We are desperately short of places for them to stay and we would like to ask that you consider becoming a host family. It is more important that you are someone who will offer a warm welcome rather than have a 'perfect house'. You will be paid for having them in your home. Some of our most successful families don't have children at home, but it is a bonus if you do. Please call Elizabeth on: 07986 468736 if you would like to talk about what it involves.

INTER FAITH EVENTS 'Money and Faiths' come and find out how different faiths approach the matter of good stewardship of our money on Monday 13 June at 7.15 at the Jim Macdonald Centre in Hatfield and the following day, Tuesday 14 June an invitation to our monthly Ladies' Lunch for conversation on topics of mutual interest in the Focolare Centre from 12.30 - 2 pm. Please bring a packed lunch, tea/coffee provided.

FRIDAY (3rd) is the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. There will be an extra Mass in this Year of Mercy at 6.30am at St. Bonaventure's followed by breakfast. Everyone is welcome!

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL will be going on pilgrimage to Our Lady's Church on Friday 10th June starting at 8.30am and finishing at 2.50pm. The whole school will go through the Doors of Mercy and reflect on God's mercy in our lives.

400 CLUB This weekend there will be members of the club to collect any monthly subscriptions and to welcome new members.

OUR LADY'S The monthly cleaning of Our Lady's Church and maintenance of the grounds will take place next Saturday 4th June at 10am for ONE hour. There will be refreshments afterwards.

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234
 welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk
 Our Lady's Church
 141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579
 parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk
 St. Bonaventure's Church
 81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Fr. Martin 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
 Website for our 3 parishes
 www.wgc-catholics.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING Free safeguarding training available to all members of the Catholic Community! The National Catholic Safeguarding Commission (NCSC) has worked with Educare to provide an online, interactive E-Learning safeguarding course which is now available to all in the Catholic Church. If you have a role (voluntary or paid) working with children/adults at risk or have an interest in safeguarding, the online training is a great opportunity to learn how to better protect children/adults at risk in your care and community. Some of the modules available include: Child Exploitation & Online Safety and Adult Safeguarding. To register please email: safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk with the following details: full name, parish/order/congregation, and your role e.g. parent, catechist leader.

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

MASS TIMES

30 Monday	*10am*	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
31 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Visitation of Virgin Mary
	10.15am	Funeral Mass	Holy Family	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
01 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Justin
02 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
03 Friday	6.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Sacred Heart
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
04 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Immaculate Heart of Mary

Tenth Sunday of the Year

04 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
05 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