

# 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*

***Fourteenth Sunday of the Year (page 105) 3rd July 2016***

## **LAMPEDUSA CROSS**

Families and communities around the world have been separated due to war and natural disasters. Refugees make long and dangerous journeys, in hope of a better life, despite the uncertain future. Our faith calls us to act; although sometimes our individual actions seem inconsequential, together we can offer hope, love and give refugees dignity as we stand alongside them. During The Year of Mercy, Pope Francis reminds us that “we ourselves need to see, and then enable others to see, that migrants and refugees are brothers and sisters to be welcomed, respected and loved.”

One man, Francesco Tuccio, proved an act of kindness can make a massive difference. A carpenter from the small Italian Island of Lampedusa used his compassion to craft a cross of hope. This cross is made from pieces of a boat that was wrecked on 11th October, 2013 off the coast of Lampedusa. 311 Eritrean and Somali refugees were drowned en route from Libya to Europe. Inhabitants of Lampedusa helped to save the lives of 155 others. After meeting some of the survivors who are Eritrean Christians in the church on Lampedusa, Mr Tuccio, the island's carpenter, was moved by their plight but felt frustrated that he could not make a difference to their situation. The best he could do was to use his skills as a carpenter to fashion each of them a cross from the wreckage of the boat as a reflection on their salvation from the sea and hope for the future. A similar cross was made for Pope Francis who carried it at a memorial service for those who had perished. It also stands witness to the kindness of the people of the small island of Lampedusa who have done what they can for the refugees and migrants who arrive on their shores.

Fr. Norbert will be collecting a Lampedusa Cross this week from the French Church in Leicester Square and it will be in our WGC parishes for some time. It will give us an opportunity to think about migrants and refugees and pray for them. It will be a challenge to each one of us to reflect on what we can do. If you have ideas of how prayer and reflection might take place around the Cross at home or in church, at a meeting or just in a quiet moment, please let Fr. Norbert know.

## **Litany of prayer**

For the grace to care for the suffering... *Grant us your mercy.*

For the grace to feed the hungry... *Grant us your mercy.*

For the grace to welcome the stranger... *Grant us your mercy.*

For the grace to stand in solidarity... *Grant us your mercy.*

For the grace to reject injustice... *Grant us your mercy.*

For the grace to love... *Grant us your mercy.*

**CARDINAL'S VISIT** Today we welcome Cardinal Nichols to Our Lady's Church to lead a time of prayer, reflection and celebration of the Year of Mercy, focusing on the Jubilee of Consolation. The afternoon begins at 4pm with his preaching and teaching; then there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions 5.15/30 - 6.15/30pm; finally Mass at 6.30pm followed by a Social. *Please remember that there will not be Mass at Holy Family Church at 6pm.*

**WALSINGHAM** The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, Norfolk takes place this Saturday (9th July) led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. There is still time to sign up your name on one of the lists at the back of our churches. The Pilgrimage will include Mass, time for picnic lunch (so bring food and drinks to keep you going the whole day!), procession along the Holy Mile to the ruins of the Mediaeval Shrine where there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. Our coach will leave from Our Lady's Church at 7.30am sharp and leave from Walsingham around 5pm returning to WGC at about 7.30pm. Cost: £10 for adults and £5 for children payable in advance or on the coach. If you have never been before, why not come?

**WORLD YOUTH DAY QUIZ NIGHT on Friday 8th July at 7.45pm** in Our Lady's Parish Hall, Woodhall, WGC, AL7 3TP. Tickets cost £7 each and will include a fish and chip supper and a selection of desserts. There will also be a raffle of some great prizes. Posters with full details are on display at the back of the churches. For more information or to purchase a ticket please contact Lisa 07812952087 or Cathy 07525014859. Why not put together a team and support our young people by coming on the night.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CLEANING** The monthly cleaning of the church will take place on Tuesday (not Thursday this month) at 10am after 9.30am Mass, all are welcome to come and help for about one hour. Refreshments after the hard work!

**JIM HAYES R.I.P.** The Funeral Mass for Jim Hayes will be on Friday 8th July at 9.30am in St. Bonaventure's. We offer our prayers and sympathy to Jim's family and friends.

**THE FINAL MINIBUS OUTING** will be to St. Albans on Friday 22nd July with opportunity for midday Mass in the Abbey. Door to door transport for anybody of limited mobility. Please telephone Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579 to book your place.

**INTERFAITH MEETINGS** Tuesday 12th July Inter Faith Women's Social Group from 12.30pm - 2pm (bring a sandwich, tea and coffee provided) and at 7.15pm a talk open to all faith communities entitled 'Science and Religion, Friends or Foes?' presented by the Rev. Martin King who is a member of the Society of Ordained Scientists. Both events taking place at the Focolare Centre, 69 Parkway, WGC.

**HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP** The CAFOD group will be meeting on Tuesday 5th July at 7.30pm in the parish room at Holy Family Church. Please feel free to join us if only for a cup of tea; you will be very welcome.

**SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER** Last Wednesday Fr. Norbert met with parents who would need a Priest's Reference this coming autumn for Secondary School Transfer next year. Some parents were not able to attend and so there follows a brief outline of what was said. Firstly, it is important for parents to go to school open days/evenings with their children in September and see the options. Read the admissions criteria carefully to ensure you have a good chance of getting into the school if it is oversubscribed. Get hold of your child's Baptismal Certificate in good time. Think about the environment in which your child will flourish. In terms of the Certificate of Catholicity, the form will be given by the schools and will have to be signed by Fr. Norbert. The Certificate of Catholicity is a statement that the child comes from a practising Catholic family which means there is attendance at Mass every week. To facilitate this, Fr. Norbert will give out an 'extra' form for WGC parishes for parents to fill out for him. Meetings will be scheduled late September/early October when parent/s and child will come to meet with Fr. Norbert. These details will be published after the holidays. Please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Norbert if there is anything extra you wish to know.

**PILGRIMAGES** The Year 7 and Year 8 pupils from Nicholas Breakspear School will be coming all day Monday 4th to Our Lady's to go through the Doors of Mercy.

**SEMINARIANS** Fran Trigo and Alfonso Pascual from the Seminary in Seville have come to share in the life our WGC parishes and will stay until 22nd July. We are sure you will make them welcome. If you would like to invite them for a coffee and help them improve their English, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**AFRICAN MASS** at Our Lady's next Sunday (10th) July at 11.30am. The African Community are hoping that many of you will join them to share in the rhythm, prayer and exuberance of the Mass and then the party which follows in the hall where there will be delicious food and an African DJ.

**OUR LADY'S** Thank you to all those who came to clean the church and maintain the grounds on Saturday. Your help is much appreciated.

**PEARTREE FUNDAY** Saturday 9th July 1pm - 4pm in Woodhall Community Hall, Mill Green Road. Children's entertainment, Irish Dancing, Fencing, Sports etc. Do come!

**PRAGUE & HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGES** Brochures are at the back of our churches. Please note Pax Travel's new address: Pax Travel Ltd, Second Floor, 102 Blundell Street, London N7 9BL.

**DAY OF RECOLLECTION** 'Breathe in Mercy. Breathe out Mercy' led by Bishop John Crowley, retired Bishop of Middlesbrough on Saturday 10th September for our Deanery in Our Lady's Hall, WGC. This Day will provide a great time of enrichment for us all but especially Catechists, Eucharistic Ministers, Readers and Welcomers. Here in WGC in our parishes we will then have the Recommissioning of Ministers the following weekend (17th/18th September at all the Masses).

**ST. ALBANS** Bishop John Sherrington will be preaching at an Ecumenical Evensong at St. Alban's Abbey Cathedral on Saturday 8th October at 4pm for this Year of Mercy. Bishop John would like all the schools of Hertfordshire to lead a procession from Verulamium Park at 2.30pm which will enter the Abbey and prepare for Evensong. Watch this space.

**FOR A DONATION TO CAFOD** A 12ft trampoline in perfect condition. Needs dismantling and taking away. Free but a donation to CAFOD would be welcome. Phone Jackie Ball on 07899924381.

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 81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Fr. Martin 01707 327434  
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 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

**ST BONAVENTURE'S FEAST & OPENING OF PATIO** This will be celebrated on Sunday 17th July. More details next week.

**CHARITY TANDEM RIDE** A huge thank you to everyone who supported Joseph Heymoz in his charity cycle ride last month. He has raised £1000 for Lakeside Special School in Welwyn Garden City. The money will go towards supporting pupils with severe learning difficulties. Thank you!

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

**MASS TIMES**

04 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Elizabeth of Portugal
05 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Anthony Zaccaria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
06 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Maria Goretti
07 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
08 Friday	9.30am	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
09 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

**Fifteenth Sunday of the Year**

09 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
10 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