

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tom Montgomery
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Seventh Sunday of Easter 2nd June page 281 of the Mass Book

How has your week gone? As I write this newsletter I'm not sure how I'll be feeling after the long trek to Santiago! We return this afternoon and then I'll be straight into everything with a Confirmation Rehearsal. Nearly fifty of our young people will complete what was started for them by their parents at Baptism; through the Renewal of their Baptismal Promises, the Laying on of Hands and the Anointing with Sacred Chrism, they will become full, mature members of the Church. This year it is even more significant that the Spirit will come upon them when the Universal Church is imploring the Holy Spirit to come down afresh at Pentecost. Next Sunday we will complete the Fifty-Day Season which has been defined by the Resurrection of the Lord. In our Gospel reading today from St. John we are still at table with the Lord listening to his wise and heartfelt words. These are his last words from his long discourse and he speaks of *oneness, knowledge and love*. And his disciples never forgot...though it took time for the full impact of his message to sink in!

Unity, togetherness, mutual sharing - these seem to me to be traits of the *oneness* Jesus speaks of. He is convinced of this strong bond with the Father in which they complement one another. Can we tear down obstacles which block our openness to this communion? In our relations with one another, is there evidence of anger, hurt and resentment which prevent our revealing God's presence more fully to the wider world? *Knowledge* is that of God; knowing and seeing go together. We are often told that the disciples see and believe, coming to a discovery of the truth Jesus came to bring. With your hand on your heart, can you say with confidence 'I know God'? Who or what strengthens that understanding? Is there anyone or anything which clouds your vision? Finally, with *love*, Jesus not only talks about it, he lives it! He is such a wonderful, dependable Son of God! He models his love on what he experiences and receives from the Father. Can we do the same? Let's pray for this Holy Spirit to seize hold of us and enlighten us to such a degree that we too become beacons of Divine Love. God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

THY KINGDOM COME This is a global network initiated by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York a few years ago. Christian Churches across the world join in continuous prayer from the Ascension (30th May) with Our Lady and the disciples waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (9th June). Our desire is that people at home and abroad come to know Jesus Christ. In Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, leaders from the Methodist, Baptist, Free, Catholic, Pentecostal, Eastern and Oriental Churches have signalled their support. The launch event will be at the Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Stevenage on Thursday 30th May. Every day afterwards at St. Albans Cathedral there will be prayer at 8pm in the Lady Chapel following different styles of worship/liturgy including Taize and *ex tempore* prayer. On Friday 31st Monsignor Harry Turner (who often helps in Welwyn Garden City) will lead prayer before the Blessed Sacrament (Adoration). There will be a Beacon Celebration at St. Albans on Sunday 9th June at 6.30pm to which everyone is invited.

FIRST COMMUNIONS Our Lady's 9th June at 11.30am and St. Bonaventure's 16th June at 10.30am.

CONFIRMATION The Confirmation Rehearsal is today (Sunday 2nd) at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church and the Confirmation Mass on Friday 7th June at 7.30pm in Our Lady's. Please pray for the young people who will be confirmed, for their sponsors, families and catechists.

MARRIAGE Any couples who wish to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert.

FINANCE COMMITTEES Holy Family's on Wednesday 12th June at 7.30pm and Our Lady's on Wednesday 17th July at 7.30pm. Every few years there is an internal audit of each parish by the Diocese. Ours will take place over the first three weeks of June. Fr. Norbert is very grateful to the parishioners who are preparing all the documentation!

FIRST FRIDAY The next First Friday early Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's at 6.30am on 7th June followed by breakfast in the hall. All welcome.

MONTHLY ADORATION The next 'Restoration' Holy Hour will be on Friday 14th June at 7.30pm. The Holy Hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, worship music, reflections and silence. All are welcome.

CHAPEL at Our Lady's will have to remain closed while the new Parish Centre is being built. We are sorry for the inconvenience caused.

POLISH-ENGLISH MASS will be on Saturday 29th June at 6pm at Our Lady's. Serdecznie zapraszamy cala Polonie do udzialu w dorocznej Polsko-Angielskiej Mszy Sw, ktora odbedzie sie w Sobote, 29 Czerwca o godz 18:00 w kosciele Our Lady, Welwyn Garden City.

Po mszy sw, zachecamy do pozostania aby wspolnie swietowac poczucie wspolnoty. Zachecamy aby dolaczyc sie do wspolnej radosci oraz przyniesienia cos slodkiego do podzialu.

FILIPINO MASS Saturday 6th July at 6pm has been chosen for this celebration.

AFRICAN MASS The celebration for 2019 will be on Sunday 14th July at 11.30am

DO YOU KNOW anyone who would like to attend Mass but cannot manage the journey? We have experienced volunteer drivers willing to provide door to door transport. Please telephone Kay on 01707 335633 or Desi on 01707 371399.

PARKING AT ST BONAVENTURE'S The Medical Centre close to St. Bonaventure's has become a GP Surgery. Fr. Norbert met with the Practice Manager earlier in the week and he has now been informed that the car park will not be available on Saturdays or Sundays which is such a pity. It is important that the decision is respected by our parishioners. Please give yourselves plenty of time to park before Mass.

SEMINARIAN Dániel Vörös from the Diocese of Szombathely in western Hungary will spend a month with us this July improving his English and sharing in the life of our parishes. We look forward to welcoming him.

The CAFOD Group will meet in the Parish room at Holy Family on Tuesday 4th June at 2pm. All are welcome.

CAFOD Cake Sale The CAFOD group will be holding a cake sale at Holy Family on Sunday 9th June after the 9.30am Mass. Home baked cake donations will be very welcome as will your support on the day.

CANTERBURY OUTING Canterbury Cathedral with Christian Churches of WGC Saturday 15th June 2019. The coaches will set off from Herts International Church on the Mundells roundabout (AL7 1FT) at 8am (there is ample space for cars to be parked safely and securely). Please bring a packed lunch. The day will include a Prayer Service, guided tours, free time and end with Evensong. If anyone would like to come to Mass before setting off, Fr. Norbert will celebrate Mass in Our Lady's Church at 7am. *No pressure!!*

ASSISI 2020 Brochures and booking forms are now available at the back of our churches. The pilgrimage will have Christians from WGC to mark the Centenary and will be from Sunday 24th May until Friday 29th May 2020. There will be limited places so if you are interested, please return your booking form to Pax Travel as soon as possible. If anyone needs an electronic version, please let Fr. Norbert know.

DO YOU HAVE A MAN'S BICYCLE YOU NO LONGER NEED? The gardener at St. Bonaventure's had his locked bike stolen from outside Sainsbury's last week. If you can help him please contact his mum on 01707 327284. Thank you.

PUPIL VACANCIES at Holy Family School

Nursery - 5 places available (Free 30hrs Nursery places available)

Year 1- 2 places available, Year 2 - 1 place available, Year 5 -1 place available

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FLOWER GROUP This group is in need of more people who would like to help with arranging the flowers. If you are interested or just want to know more then please phone Kathryn in the office on 01707 322579 or speak to her after Mass. You don't need to be an expert flower arranger!

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CLEANING Next Thursday at 10am. All welcome.

LIVE SIMPLY 'LAUDATO SI'. Five years ago on May 24th, Pope Francis published a letter about the environment. It starts, "Laudato si', mi' Signore, "Praise to you my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, St Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us". Do we take our environment for granted?

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 6J

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

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

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

DO YOU NEED A CLEANER? Then Phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770. One off cleans, regular or weekly, fortnightly, etc.

NEED A MOBILE HAIRDRESSER? Then call Tracey on 075812129417 for competitive rates. Husband James is also available for any property maintenance, rubbish clearance or house clearance with no job too big or too small. Contact James on 07572527731

MASS TIMES

03 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Charles Lwanga and Comp
04 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
05 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Boniface
06 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Norbert
07 Friday	6.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
08 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria

Pentecost Sunday

08 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
09 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 and need a Catholic Chaplain contact **Chaplaincy Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333** via text message: **07876 526935** email: **chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net**