

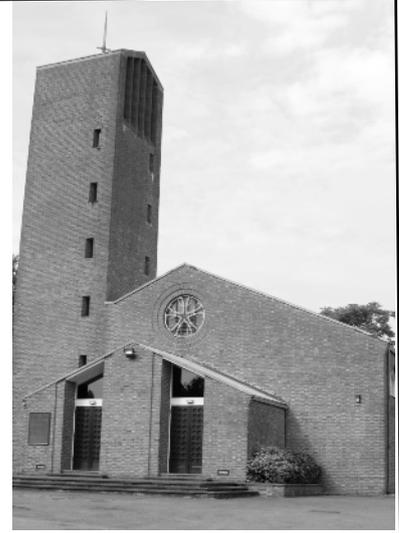
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year 14th July page 108 of the Mass Book

Life is full of questions! Sometimes the answers are obvious; at other times they elude us. Some are simple and basic; others really deep, taking us to the essence of who we are. In our Gospel passage from St. Luke there is a lawyer who asks Jesus a question. The Lord poses another to him and the result is a really good response. The lawyer puts a further question to the Lord and we are then given the wonderful parable of the Good Samaritan. Christ probes deeper and the lawyer's answer is spot on. Then the final twist and challenge: 'Go and do the same yourself.' We don't discover what ensues!

Remember we are on this significant journey with Jesus as he makes his way to Jerusalem. Ponder how he makes time for so many different types of people, finding just the right word for a particular person in his or her situation. Often we find this difficult! We are busy, not having enough time. The questions put to us might be beyond us or require a lengthy answer. Maybe it's a stranger who comes our way? Perhaps someone close to us? The parable of the Good Samaritan presents us with the image of a stranger who takes time and gives of his own personal resources to help someone in dire need. He acts quickly and decisively, not losing any time in making a decision as to what to do. Jesus can at times leave us feeling quite uncomfortable as he asks each one of us to 'go and do the same yourself.' Love evidenced in action is a hallmark of our love for God and neighbour.

We are now coming to the end of the academic year. The school holidays are upon us! This affects us in a variety of ways: a different schedule, time for rest and refreshment, responsibilities changing etc. I am very grateful to the staff and governors of our schools for their hard work in ensuring the very best for our children and young people. Our parents have such a significant role in the development of the young. May the faith and love put into action in our schools bear much fruit. God bless you all.

Fr. Norbert

FR. TOM Fr. Tom will be leaving Welwyn Garden City at the beginning of September to start as Assistant Priest at St. Bernard and St. Gabriel's Parish in Northolt and South Harrow. We wish Fr. Tom every blessing in his new posting. Fr. Tom would like us to have his 'Farewell' at his last Mass in the Garden City which will be the 6 o'clock Mass on Sunday 1st September at Holy Family Church. Please keep this free and come if you can. There are envelopes at the back of our churches for those who wish to contribute to a 'Farewell Gift'; these should be returned to Kathryn Hubbard at St. Bonaventure's. The new Assistant Priest will be Fr. Tony Thomas who is currently at St. George's, Sudbury (Harrow). Fr. Tony's first weekend will be 7th/8th September.

SEA SUNDAY Today is 'Sea Sunday' when the Church prays for all who live and work at sea. Without them we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. The Apostleship of the Sea supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. If you would like to make a donation to their work, the link is: www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

ELIZABETH COUGHLAN RIP Elizabeth's Funeral Service will be at Our Lady's on Thursday 18th July at 10.15am. (This means there will not be Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament that morning at Holy Family Church.)

JACOB HUGHES RIP Jacob's Funeral Service will be in the Chapel of Hatfield Lawn Cemetery (Southway) on Friday 19th July at 1.30pm.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Our Lady's on Wednesday (17th) at 7.30pm.

SEMINARIAN: "My name is Daniel Voros and I came from Hungary on Sunday night to improve my English (mainly my pronunciation...:) This year was my first year at Central Seminary in Budapest, as a seminarian of the Diocese of Szombathely. In this month I will be with Fr. Norbert mostly, so you can see me with him almost at everything. I am very grateful that I can be a part of life of your parishes. Pray for me!"

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

FILIPINO MASS Our thanks to the Filipino Community for leading last Saturday's evening Mass. It was beautiful and heavenly. The get-together was enjoyable despite the rain!

AFRICAN MASS Our African parishioners are leading 11.30am Mass today (Sunday). We are grateful for all they have done to make this a great celebration.

SPECIAL NEEDS Masses in the autumn will be on 12th October and 30th November.

OUR LADY'S REPOSITORY New stock of Mass and General cards. Open before and after most Masses.

CAFOD STRAWBERRY TEA The CAFOD group are holding a Strawberry Tea on Sunday 21st July in Sandy & Bob Leys Garden at 401 Knightsfield WGC from 3 pm. You will all be very welcome.

MID HERTS SCOUTS 2nd and 7th WGC Scout Group (meeting in the grounds of Our Lady's Primary School) are looking for adult helpers & leaders (uniformed & non uniformed) in a variety of roles in all age groups. All training provided, a great opportunity to give yourself and young people new skills and opportunities. Please contact Mark on 07783486229 or Development@midhertsscouts.org.uk

FEAST OF ST. BONAVENTURE This is celebrated on Monday 15th July. We will mark his feastday at St. Bonaventure's after 9.30am Mass on Tuesday 16th with tea/coffee and cake.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS Both Holy Family and Our Lady's Primary Schools are in need of Foundation Governors. These are appointed by the Diocese and play a crucial role in the life of our schools. Please have a word with Fr. Norbert if you are interested.

MONTHLY ADORATION Our thanks to those who provide the prayerful atmosphere at the Restoration Holy Hour. It is much appreciated.

OUR LADY'S 60TH The Foundation Stone of Our Lady's Church was laid on 30th September 1959. The Cardinal has kindly agreed to celebrate Mass at Our Lady's on Sunday 15th September at 11.30am. Please let former parishioners know. Everyone is welcome.

MEDAL Sophie Constable has been an altar server at Holy Family for 20 years. She will receive a special medal from the Guild of St. Stephen at 9.30 Mass on Sunday 8th September. There'll be a 'Get-together' afterwards.

SANTIAGO REUNION The pilgrims who walked the 100km Camino a month ago will be having a reunion (in the Sacristy) after 6pm Mass at Our Lady's this Saturday (20th).

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.

OBERAMMAGAU Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th September, 2020. The brochures and booking forms should arrive any day and will be at the back of our churches. Let Fr. Norbert know if you require an electronic version.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FLOWER GROUP This group is in desperate 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! So far no volunteers.

OUR COMMON HOME Summer holidays are fast approaching. By various means of transport we will be enjoying the countryside as we pass by. Time to reflect, that only one part out of 32 of the world's surface, has topsoil to feed and sustain the whole world. It is possible, that due to intensive farming, reliant on chemical fertilisers, most of this topsoil will be gone within 100 years. "The answer lies in the... " Compost!

INTER FAITH On Tuesday 23 July at 7.15pm at the Focolare Centre the Inter Faith group will be presenting an evening on Biodiversity: What can we do to preserve it? This is very much in the spirit of Pope Francis and his worldwide work to address the Climate Crisis. All welcome.

NEED A LIFT TO MASS? We have experienced volunteer drivers willing to provide door to door transport. Please telephone Kay on 01707 335633 or Desi on 01707 371399.

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

ST ALBANS Every Friday at St. Albans Abbey-Cathedral a Catholic Mass is celebrated at 12 noon. You are all welcome.

CAFOD The CAFOD group at Holy Family are appealing for any unwanted gifts you might have for them to sell from their Table Top cupboard. All proceeds go to CAFOD.

DANCE CLUB Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) in the Woodhall Community Centre 2 - 4pm. Price for those who join in the tea dance £5. However, pensioners, those in wheelchairs or people on their own who would like to come for a cup of tea and a chat are welcome; no entry charge just price of a cup of tea.

PLANTS Digswell Community and Gardening Project have lots of plants for sale. Find a Bargain. Open every day 10.00-4.00pm. B197 Old Great North Road AL8 7SR.

MASS TIMES

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 15 Monday | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady's | St. Bonaventure |
| 16 Tuesday | 9.30am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | Our Lady of Mount Carmel |
| | 7pm | Mass | Our Lady's | |
| 17 Wednesday | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Family | feria |
| 18 Thursday | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Family | feria |
| | 10.15am | Funeral Service | Our Lady's | |
| 19 Friday | 9.30am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | feria |
| | 7pm | Mass | Our Lady's | |
| 20 Saturday | 10am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | feria |

Sixteenth Sunday of the Year

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|--------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 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 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**