

# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tony Thomas  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## ***Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year 6th October page 146 of Mass Book***

‘...fan into a flame the gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you.’ These are St. Paul’s words to Timothy in our Second Reading today. ‘Increase our faith’ is the plea of the apostles to the Lord in our Gospel passage from St. Luke. The small growing and becoming something large and wonderful; what is often hidden and unseen developing into magnificence beyond compare. This gift conferred by the Spirit can become a raging furnace and faith! This faith handed on to us by others can become infectious and be transmitted to so many as well as inspiring who we are. Can you feel God at work in you through your Baptism and Confirmation? Water was poured, oil used to anoint and hands were laid upon your head accompanied by deep prayer - all outward signs of a God at work in us through the Church. Faith in Jesus Christ, God’s Son who suffered, died and rose again is the core of our life as Christians, followers of the Lord and belonging to his family. How does that impact on your way of living? Is your faith challenged, supported, emerging, on hold? As with any relationship, faith will never be the same at every stage of our lives. We need to nourish it; it has moments of struggle, misunderstanding and doubt. Faith which is alive is always on the move!

On Monday we start the next round of sessions for adults interested in finding out more about God, Jesus, faith, the Catholic Church and I’m sure wanting to ask a variety of questions! This evening the young people desiring Confirmation will enrol, thus embarking on a path laid out by their parents at Baptism. We never quite know who is going to arrive, who will join us on the way or who might wish to wait a bit longer. It is never easy to stand up and be counted as an adult let alone as a teenager. Nevertheless the joy of sharing faith and kindling in seekers the wonder of belonging to the Church is a priceless privilege and is a crucial part of their life’s journey. Please pray for those who come. Please invite someone to give it a go. Perhaps you yourself are such a person and now is the right moment in your life?

Have a good week! ***Fr. Norbert***

**CAFOD FAST DAY** No one should be beyond reach of the love and support they need to thrive. There will be a retiring collection this weekend for people in developing countries. Please use one of the special envelopes if you are able to GiftAid your donation. Thank you for your generosity.

**CANONISATION OF JOHN HENRY NEWMAN** There will be prayers each day after morning Mass until Saturday 12th October forming a novena of prayer for many blessings.

**CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT** This evening (6th) there will be a meeting in Holy Family Church at 7 o'clock for young people who wish to be confirmed next year (they must be at least in Year 9 at secondary school). Parents also are asked to come to the meeting. The meeting will last about an hour.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT** There will be meetings as follows: Our Lady's on Tuesday 19th November at 7.45pm and Holy Family on Sunday 1st December after 9.30am Mass. Children for First Communion should be at least in Year 3 at Primary School.

Preparation for children at St. Bonaventure's is monthly on a Saturday morning, at Our Lady's after Christmas before 11.30 Mass on Sundays and at Holy Family after Christmas on Wednesdays after school. There will also be joint parents' meetings on Wednesday evenings after Christmas. Anyone who missed St. Bonaventure's enrolment meeting should contact Kathryn Hubbard as soon as possible.

**CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLICITY** Fr. Norbert will be available to sign these forms for Secondary School Transfer on Tuesday 8th October 4 - 6pm, Wednesday 16th October 5 - 7pm and Friday 18th October 7.45 - 9.30pm in Our Lady's Church. There are now only appointments left on the Friday. Please phone Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to make a ten-minute appointment with Fr. Norbert. Parent/s and child are expected. Please collect the 'Extra Form' from the back of our churches and bring it filled in to the meeting. Thank you.

**DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?** Have you got lots of questions? Does now seem like the right time? Is someone close to you encouraging you to take the first step? Why not come tomorrow (Monday 7th) at 7.30pm to Our Lady's Sacristy. The Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a wonderful way of preparing, reflecting and meeting others in the same boat, supported by great catechists! Also, if you are an adult who missed out on Confirmation when younger, the RCIA is the best way of preparing to be confirmed. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are interested.

**CATHERINE COULSON RIP** The Funeral Mass for Catherine will be at Our Lady's on Monday 7th October at 1pm.

**JOHN FLAVELL RIP** John's Funeral Service will be at Holy Family Church on Friday 11th October at 10am.

**CHRIS DOOCEY RIP** The Funeral Mass for Chris will be at Our Lady's on Friday 11th October at 12.30pm. Chris's body will be received into the church on Thursday 10th at 4.30pm.

**BERNARD CONNOLLY RIP** Bernard's Funeral Service will be at Harwood Park Crematorium on Tuesday 15th October at 11.45am.

**MARGARET TOASE RIP** Margaret's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 18th October at 12.30pm.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOEBOXES)** We will again be supporting this charity by filling and sending shoe boxes to children in need around the world. As you go around the shops please buy some little gifts to put in these boxes (they don't need to be expensive) - there are leaflets at the back of each church advising you about what can or cannot be included - please read carefully - this year import rules state that toothpaste and sweets can unfortunately no longer be included. Filled boxes can be brought to **St. Bonaventure's** or whichever church you attend as soon as you have them ready. We have some flat pack boxes for you to use if you don't have a box at home (or dislike covering a box). Please take one only if you can fill it. You don't need to buy hats as they have been knitted for us. If you cover your own box you need to cover box and lid separately.

**MISSION APPEAL** The Missionaries of Africa (White Fathers) are an international team of priests, brothers and lay associates from Africa, Britain and many countries around the world. Through parish work, building up small Christian communities, working with the media, involvement in justice and peace, agriculture, seminary training, education and social welfare, the Missionaries of Africa aim to work in partnership with the Church in Africa...and above all else to build up the leadership of the Churches. Fr. Frank Nolan will spend next weekend with us and make an appeal at each Mass.

**PARISH ACCOUNTS** There are copies of the accounts of our three churches at the back of each church.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH TOWER** The scaffolding is up! New tiling bricks are still to be put in place.

**MAYOR'S CIVIC SERVICE** Next Sunday (13th) at St.Mary's, Welwyn at 3pm.

**BLESSING OF GRAVES** Hatfield Hyde Cemetery (Hollybush Lane) Sunday 10th November at 1.30pm, Hatfield Lawn Cemetery (Southway) Sunday 17th November 2pm and Welwyn New Cemetery (Fulling Mill Lane) Sunday 24th November at 2pm.

**SERVICE FOR THE BEREAVED** 2nd November at 12noon at St. Bonaventure's.

**MARRIAGE** Any couples who wish to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert. The Marriage Preparation Day will be on Saturday 28th March. Couples marrying in 2020 or 2021 are invited.

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** This Saturday's 6pm Mass (on 12th) at Our Lady's will be led for us by those with special needs and learning difficulties. Afterwards there will be a quiz and bingo in the sacristy. Please bring food to share. All are welcome.

**SIGNED MASS** Our next celebration will be on Saturday 23rd November at 6pm. There will be a practice session for signers on Wednesday 20th November 7 - 8pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

**FINANCE COMMITTEES** Our Lady's on Tuesday 12th November at 7.45pm, St. Bonaventure's on Tuesday 26th November at 10.15am and Holy Family's on Wednesday 4th December at 7pm.

**SCHOOL MASS** Holy Family School will be leading Sunday Mass at Holy Family Church next Sunday (13th) at 9.30am.

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

**HOLY HOUR** The next Restoration Holy Hour at Our Lady's will be on Friday 11th at 7.30pm. There will be Scripture, prayer, music and silence before the Blessed Sacrament.

**FAITH4RIGHTS** - an afternoon conference with eminent speakers exploring the relationship between Faith and Human Rights on Saturday 19th October from 2 - 5 pm at St. Mary's Church, Welwyn, AL6 9LX - All welcome.

**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.

**OBERRAMMERGAU** Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th September, 2020. The brochures and booking forms are at the back of our churches. Let Fr. Norbert know if you require an electronic version. Europe was affected by a terrible plague at the beginning of the 17th century. In 1633 the people of the village of Oberammergau in Germany prayed and promised that if the plague left their village, a play commemorating the Passion of Jesus Christ would be performed every ten years. Their prayers were answered and the first Passion Play was performed in 1634.

**MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP** meets every Wednesday at 10am in St. Bonaventure's.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S TUESDAY GROUP** Every Tuesday in term time 3.45pm - 4.45pm in St. Bonaventure's hall. (For both groups just turn up)

**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. Tony 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.**

**You can read the newsletter on the Website for our 3 parishes**  
**[www.wgc-catholics.org.uk](http://www.wgc-catholics.org.uk)**

**MISSIO / APF Red Boxes** at Our Lady's and St. Bonaventure's. If you are able to bring your box to church in the next couple of weeks, we would be very pleased!

**RESOLVE'S Night Shelter** is in need of volunteers, maybe you can spare a few hours a week. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Sarah on 07305 838522

**THANK YOU** to all who came and cleaned and carried out maintenance at St. Bonaventure's and Our Lady's this week.

### **MASS TIMES**

07 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	Our Lady of the Rosary
	1pm	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's	
08 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
09 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
10 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
11 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	10am	Funeral Service	Holy Family	
	12.30pm	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
05 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

### **Twenty-eighth Sunday of the Year**

<b>05 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
<b>06 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>9.30am</b>	Mass	Holy Family
	<b>10.30am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>11.30am</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>	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.**