

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*

Thirty-second Sunday of the Year 10th November page 161 of Mass Book

Do you remember many months ago when, in St. Luke's Gospel, Jesus set his face towards Jerusalem and embarked on a significant journey? We have travelled with him, observing his compassion, listening to parables of mercy, challenged by his hard-hitting words. Disciples have been following, sent out and returning; curious people have tagged on; opponents have made life difficult for him. NOW we are in Jerusalem; today's passage unfolds within the city. Let us recall the power of what took place in this city: Jesus carried his cross. He died forgiving those putting him to death. The glory of Resurrection shone out on Easter Day.

It is important to keep all of this in mind today on Remembrance Day in the month of November. Outside it is dark and gloomy. Nature is slowly drawing its cycle to a close as autumn will succumb to winter. We are praying for those who died in the Two World Wars and subsequent conflicts. It would be easy to leave things at that. And yet, just as on Easter Sunday, so now, the light and hope of the Lord's victory erupt from where there appeared to be total desolation and finality. As we remember the dead and their sacrifice for our freedom, we gratefully and lovingly commend them to God that they in their turn might share in Jesus' Resurrection. As we pray for those whose lives are at risk in the present age in order to safeguard peace and justice, we live in the hope that God's Kingdom will come and that his goodness may triumph.

In our Gospel passage there the Sadducees are keen to catch Jesus out about Resurrection. Imagine, so close to Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross, his protagonists are putting him on the spot! Jesus is convinced that God is the God of the living, that to God, all people are alive. Jesus knows his Father wants all to be saved and that is why he willingly will pour out his life for the salvation of the human race. It is our great and noble tradition, not only to remember the dead in this month of November, but also to pray for them, that God's purifying grace may make up whatever was lacking, whatever still needs release. Our prayers - in the name of Jesus - can make a difference!

God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND The annual collection for this fund takes place this weekend. At present 80 priests of our Diocese are receiving support from the fund which covers their essential needs at a time when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility. Your gift could help ensure our sick and retired priests have the housing, care and support they need. There will be a retiring collection as you leave Mass today. If you wish to donate online, the link is www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT Any young people (Year 9) who missed out on the enrolment meeting for Confirmation should speak to Fr. Norbert or Fr. Tony to get more details. The course begins today (10th) with 6pm Mass at Holy Family Church.

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.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? Or are you an adult who missed out on Confirmation when younger? Seven adults have come. There is still time to join. Why not come along on Monday at 7.30pm at Our Lady's in the sacristy?

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST During November Masses will be celebrated for those who have died. If you wish to write down their names on one of the special sheets, please do so and return to church. There is no need to give any money.

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

DEANERY MASS Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass with the deanery priests in Our Lady's this Tuesday (12th) at 11am for the deceased clergy of Stevenage Deanery. Children and staff from Our Lady School's Years 5 + 6 will be joining us for the Mass. Everyone is welcome. *There will NOT be a 9.30 Mass that morning at St. Bonaventure's.*

DEBORAH MARTIN RIP Deborah's Funeral Service will be at Harwood Park Crematorium on Monday 11th November at 12.30pm.

MARGARET BATEY RIP Margaret's Funeral Service will be at St. Bonaventure's on Wednesday 20th November at 12.30pm.

CALLING CATHOLIC TEACHERS! Following the success of last year, the Diocese of Westminster Education Service is hosting another evening to engage with Catholic teachers and leaders currently working outside of Catholic education. This occasion is designed to inform, encourage and accompany those who are interested in working within our Catholic schools. The event will take place on Tuesday 18th November at 6.30 in Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN (near Victoria Station).

A DEMENTIA FRIENDS information session will be held at the Focolare Centre on Thursday 21st November at 7.30 for 8pm. See notice at back of the church. If you would like to attend please let Anne Keller know on 07941321801 or Anne Horsman on 01438840566. Everyone welcome.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE is having a Speaker on Tuesday 12th November at 8.00pm. They are called the "Smile Train". It will be a very interesting evening regarding children that have a disfigurement. Please come and support Smile Train. We will be delighted to see you all. If you would like transport please ring Sally Rand 01707 884492

TRANSPORT TO MASS If you or someone you know needs a lift to Mass please contact Martin Moore on 07768 650660 or Desi Russell on 01707 371399 who will endeavour to arrange it.

Our new **ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP** will meet at Our Lady's Church on 24th November after the 11.30 Mass. We would welcome new members who would like to contribute in activities to bring our faith into action for the sake of God's creation.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION St. Bonaventure's children meet again next Saturday at 10.30am. Children will be presented to the parish at Mass on Sunday 17th..

SHOEBOXES Filled boxes need to be brought to St. Bonaventure's or whichever church you attend by **Monday 18th at the latest**. They are being collected and taken to the warehouse that week. We gave out 100 flat pack boxes and so far only 49 have come in. Please don't forget! You have one week left to get your boxes filled. Thank you.

THANK YOU to all who came and cleaned our churches these past two weeks. Your help is much appreciated.

NATIONAL INTERFAITH WEEK Please pray for the many inter faith groups who work to foster good relationships between the various faith groups in the country. The local group warmly invites you to a shared supper next Thursday 14th November at 7pm in the Focolare Centre. Please bring a dish to share.

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.

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.

MONTHLY ADORATION The next 'Restoration' Holy Hour will be on Friday 13th December at 7.30pm. The Holy Hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, worship music, reflections and silence. All are welcome.

SIGNED MASS Our next celebration will be on Saturday 23rd November at 6pm. We invite people coming to bring food to share. There will be a practice session for signers on Wednesday 20th November 7 - 8pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. Anyone intending to come to the practice on the Wednesday should let Fr. Norbert know.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS The next one will be on Saturday 30th November at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a 'Get-together' in the sacristy. Please bring food to share. There will be bingo and an Advent Quiz!

FIRST FRIDAY The next First Friday early Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's at 6.30am on 6th December followed by breakfast in the hall. All welcome. On All Saints Day there were over 50 people!

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.

COME AND SING Come along and sing Christmas songs and carols *A Cappella* style with us! We are a friendly local ladies singing group looking to share the fun of singing together in harmony. No experience required and no need to read music. Every Tuesday from 3rd - 17th December 7.30pm - 9.30pm. Vineyard Barn, Digswell Rise AL8 7PU. For more info contact Julie 07941 610406 or info@welwynharmony.co.uk. Feel free to just turn up on the night- we would love to see you.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We had a lovely 'fun' party on Tuesday which concluded with a great firework display. Thank you to all the adults and to all the very well behaved children.

NATIVITY PLAY AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S As part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 15th December, there will be a Nativity Play. All children are invited to take part (not just St. Bonaventure's). Our first rehearsal is on Saturday 30th November from 3pm - 4pm, on this day we give out parts. The next day (1st December) there will be a rehearsal from 2.30pm - 4pm. Further rehearsals are Tuesday 3rd 3.45-5pm, Sunday 8th 2.30pm - 4pm, Tuesday 10th 3.45pm - 5pm and finally the dress rehearsal on Saturday 14th from 3pm- 4pm. Hope to see you there.

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

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

OBERAMMERGAU 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.

MASS TIMES

11 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Martin of Tours
12 Tuesday	11am	Mass	Our Lady's Deceased Clergy of the Deanery	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Josaphat
13 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
14 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
15 Friday	9.30pm	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
16 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Edmund of Abingdon

Thirty-third Sunday of the Year

16 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
17 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.