

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*

Pentecost Sunday 20th May 2018 page 286 of the Mass Book

Today is the Fiftieth Day! There is noise, commotion, fire, languages and people in Jerusalem at Pentecost. AND the Good News of Jesus Christ is boldly proclaimed to the gathered throng by men who had initially been timid and afraid, most of whom had run away when this same Jesus went to his fate. What made the difference? St. Luke, the author of the Acts of the Apostles, (as well as of the Gospel) sums it up in a few words: ‘They were all filled with the Holy Spirit...’ Nothing would ever be the same again!

What does this say to us gathered as Church today for the Solemnity of Pentecost? Firstly, we need to sing to ourselves ‘Happy birthday’ as today marks the birthday of the Church! We then should let our celebration of Mass put us in the ‘party’ mood because the Church is still around, alive and active! Further still, the challenge is to allow the same Spirit to fill our lives so that we can experience the transforming grace of God which helps us overcome fear, nerves and inadequacy and truly become Church which is the living Body of Christ empowered with his Spirit on a journey to the Father.

Christ needs us to carry on his work of reconciliation: this is so evident in the Gospel passage from St. John where we return to Easter Day and discover the presence of the Risen Lord in the midst of his disciples. He breathes upon them, saying: ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’ and proceeds to speak about forgiveness. The hallmark of the Christian community based upon these words is going to be a readiness to offer forgiveness and to hold it back if some refuse to be open to it. Jesus sends them out in the same way he was sent by the Father. He will return to the Father and obviously wants us to follow him on this path - in God’s time. So many people are unaware of the wonder of Christian Faith, of the Good News of Jesus and the ability to live out his message. May the Holy Spirit breathe new life into us and help us to put into action the Gospel. Then there’ll be many more birthdays still to come!

God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

CATENIAN NEWS The Mid-Herts Circle of the Catenians has a new President - Michael Cole. The outgoing President is Bill Hayes. Both of them are parishioners! If you would like to know more about the Catenians contact Michael on michaeldcole@hotmail.com

MONTY MONTGOMERY RIP Fr. Tom invites us to a Month's Mind Mass for his father Monty at Holy Family Church on Thursday 24th May at 9.30am. There will be refreshments in the Parish Room afterwards. All are welcome. *Please note there will not be Confessions that morning.*

JOE FERNANDES RIP Fr. Norbert's family will be marking Joe's First Anniversary of death on the day itself, Saturday 26th May, with Mass at 6pm in Our Lady's with a Get-together in the Hall afterwards concluding with the Rosary around 8.45pm. You are most welcome.

DEMENTIA ACTION WEEK is 21st to 26th May. However, Friends of Welwyn Care Homes action, in support of those living with dementia in care homes is year round. We will be making an appeal for more volunteers at the Masses on 2nd and 3rd June **AND** there will be a Dementia Friends information session at 11.15am on Saturday 2nd June (just after the post 10am Mass coffee) in St Bonaventure's parish room. Come and find out more about dementia and how to make our community more 'dementia friendly'. For more information, contact Anne Horsman 01438840566 or Eveline Guerin 01707894176.

EXAMINATIONS Many of you are taking examinations at this time. Be assured that you will be remembered in prayer at Mass. May God's Spirit guide you and help you to do your very best!

TRANSPORT TO MASS SERVICE Several parishioners are now being given regular lifts to the Mass of their choice by our volunteer drivers. If you know of anybody in need of transport or feel you could offer a regular or occasional service as a driver please fill in a yellow or pink form at the back of each church. A driver to regularly take a parishioner to 6pm Mass at Our Lady's is quite urgently needed. Thank you.

INTER FAITH EVENTS On Sunday afternoon 17th June from 3pm - 6pm at the Focolare Centre the Welwyn Hatfield Inter Faith Group warmly invites you to an afternoon of story telling which will appeal to all ages from 4 - 94! Tickets available from Valerie Skottowe on 01707 324828. Valerie saw this theatre company recently and said 'the children and adults were enraptured'.

CHURCH CLEANING Saturday 2nd June 10am at Our Lady's.
Thursday 7th June 10am at St. Bonaventure's.

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

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK will be on Saturday 23rd June at 12noon at Our Lady's

FILIPINO MASS will be on Saturday 23rd June at 6pm.

AFRICAN MASS will be on Sunday 8th July at 11.30am

LOOKING AHEAD Pax Travel is arranging for us some pilgrimages: 25th May - 2nd June 2019 Walking the 'Camino' from Opporto to Santiago de Compostella, Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Assisi 25th - 30th May 2020 and the Passion Play in Oberammergau 9th - 11th September 2020. More details will become available in due course.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Any couples wishing to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should speak to Fr. Norbert so that the necessary preparations can be made.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES Our Lady's: Sunday 10th June at 11.30am. St. Bonaventure's Sunday 17th June at 10.30am. The First Communion Thanksgiving Mass for the children of our three churches will be on Sunday 24th June at 3pm in Our Lady's Church.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We meet every Tuesday during term time to learn a little more about our faith in a fun and relaxed way. 3.45pm - 4.45pm. All children are welcome and parents too. St. Bonaventure's hall. This week we will learn about the Trinity.

MOTHER AND TODDLER This group meets on a Wednesday at 10.30am in the hall at St. Bonaventure's. All welcome.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FLOWER ARRANGERS A new rota is about to be drawn up so if you are interested in joining this group please contact Monica on 01438 714923.

ST. COLUMBA'S COLLEGE This independent Catholic boys' school in St. Albans will be holding an Open School Working Day for Senior School (11-18 years) on Friday 15th June. Means-tested bursaries are available for Catholic boys entering Year 7. Applications for September 2019 must be made by the end of October 2018. To book your tour please contact the registrar, Hilary Causer email: admissions@stcolumbascollege.org Direct line: 01727 892040.

GARDENER AVAILABLE to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, edging, hedge cutting, pruning shrubs and roses and weeding. Call Daniel on 07751992492.

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. Tom 01707 327434
welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk
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

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

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY CAFÉ in Our Lady's Hall every third Thursday of the month 10am - 2pm.

ZUMBA for those with physical and learning disabilities in Our Lady's Hall on Wednesdays 11.30am - 12.30pm. The instructor brings in her dog Pickles for 'pet therapy'! Cost £6 which includes refreshments and fruits. Those who need support/carer must bring their own support/carer (who enters free).

MASS TIMES

21 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
22 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
23 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
24 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
25 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Bede
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
26 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Philip Neri

Trinity Sunday

26 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
27 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**