

# 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*

## *Fifth Sunday of Easter 19th May page 271 of the Mass Book*

As I read today's Gospel from St. John, I am struck by the challenge of what it means to be a disciple of the Risen Lord. Let us reflect on some elements of the passage.

At the Last Supper Jesus was gathered with his friends, his disciples. And yet one was going to betray him; another was going to deny that he knew him. Jesus wanted to share with them the most intimate knowledge he had of God - from the Father's Right Hand - and, in turn, asked them to pass this on to others. How could Judas do what he did? Why did he fall into this act of betrayal? There are no easy answers but this is a reminder of how easy it can be to find ourselves doing exactly the opposite of what we intend. Peter's protest that he would die for Christ certainly did not evidence itself immediately, but later after the Resurrection of Jesus and the outpouring of the Spirit, he would bear witness to the Lord by his martyrdom in Rome.

'Glorify' is a strange word to us nowadays. Jesus is glorified; God is glorified; God glorifies the Son. There is mutual glory! It is expressed in a context of obedience, imminent pain, being a servant, the act of letting go. A completely topsy-turvy kind of 'glory'! What does this say to us as followers of Jesus? Firstly, we are called to be caught up in this glory: offering it to God and receiving it from God through our listening, our willingness to suffer, our reaching out in service and our readiness to let go. The glory of this present moment gives us glimpse of what is still to come. It definitely is worth having a taste now of what eternity is going to be like!

Do people around you know that you are a disciple of Jesus? Jesus commands us to love as he has loved us. That is hard! To love sacrificially, to love unconditionally, to love offering total forgiveness. He knows that if we keep this commandment the world will be renewed by all that we do and that so many others will want to be like us because we offer something totally new - we offer Jesus Christ, God's Son!

Let us pray that the Lord's Spirit will give us the strength we need.

God bless your efforts! *Fr. Norbert*

**PRIEST TRAINING FUND** There will be a retiring collection today for the Priest Training Fund which pays for the formation of candidates for the priesthood in our Diocese. There are currently 27 studying for Westminster. Many of you are supporting this cause through Growing in Faith; for this we are grateful. If you are able to GiftAid your contribution, please use one of the special envelopes. Thank you in advance for your generous

**ASCENSION DAY** this year will be on Thursday 30th May. It is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks Catholics to attend Mass. The Masses will be as follows: 9.30am at Holy Family, 12 noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

**FIRST COMMUNIONS** Holy Family today (19th) 12 noon, Our Lady's 9th June at 11.30am and St. Bonaventure's 16th June at 10.30am.

**FINANCE COMMITTEES** St. Bonaventure's will meet on Tuesday 21st May at 10.15am, 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!

**SEAN COX** Sean will be 80 on Tuesday 21st May and invites you to a Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady's at 5pm on that day.

**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.

**MAY DEVOTIONS** Thank you to those who came. The refreshments afterwards were great!

**ONE CANONICAL PARISH** We have been told that we will have to wait until the new Parish Centre is built before any changes can be made. Fr. Norbert will keep you posted!

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** Our thanks to all who helped with the celebration in church and afterwards at the get-together. The Mayor had a brilliant time.

**INTERFAITH** The inter faith group has chosen a very topical subject for their next evening meeting.... Faith and Politics. It will take place at Hatfield Fire Station AL10 0DA, on Tuesday 21 May 7.15 - 9.30pm. The speaker will be Michal Siewniak and he has chosen the title 'Politics, Activism & Spiritual Life - A magical combination or dangerous mixture?'.  
**MARRIAGE** Any couples who wish to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert.

**CONFIRMATION** The Confirmation Rehearsal will be on Sunday 2nd June at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church and the Confirmation Mass on Friday 7th June at 7.30pm in Our Lady's.

**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

**SANTIAGO PILGRIMAGE** 40 pilgrims will set out on a 100 km walk from Tui in Portugal heading for Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain this Saturday (26th) and return Sunday 2nd June. If you would like Fr. Norbert to take any special intentions on this pilgrimage, please put them in a sealed envelope (no money!) and let him have the envelope by Friday (24th).

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

**CANTERBURY OUTING** Canterbury Cathedral with Christian Churches of WGC Saturday 15th June 2019. Service in the Crypt, Guided Tours, picnic lunch, free (shopping!) time and Evensong in Cathedral. Flyers including booking forms are at the back of the churches and must be filled in and returned well in advance. It should be a brilliant day. 115 people have signed up from across our town. **The closing date will be Friday 24th May.** So please return the forms with your money as soon as possible. Don't miss out! The coaches will set off from Herts International Church on the Mundells roundabout (AL7 1FT) where there is ample space for cars to be parked safely and securely.

**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.

## **STAFF AND CHILD VACANCIES at Holy Family School**

### **Pupil Vacancies**

Nursery - 6 places available (Free 30hrs Nursery places available)

Year 1- 2 places available

Year 2 - 1 place available

Year 5 -1 place available

### **STAFF VACANCIES**

1. **Part-time Cleaner** (Monday to Fridays -3.30pm - 5.30pm. Contact the school Business Manager, Mrs Jackie Willcocks 01707 375518. Closing date 24th May.

2. **Part-time Mealtime Supervisor Assistant (MSA)** Monday to Fridays 12pm-1pm. To work supporting children during lunchtime in the dining hall and the playground/field. If interested in this post the contact details are the same as above.

3. **Reception Teacher for Maternity cover** starting in Mid September. Visits to the school are welcome and again the contact details are as above. Applications for this post must be made using the school's downloadable form that can be found on the Teach in Herts website (CES Application Form.

**Interview dates are 6/7th June.** More details of these vacancies can be found at the back of our churches.

**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!

**LIVE SIMPLY.** In Britain we throw away 7 million tonnes of Food Waste each year, 60% is still edible. Rotting food creates greenhouse gas emissions that make climate change worse. Charities are asking Food Retailers to find different ways of reducing this waste and we can do our bit at home. No food wasted when Jesus fed the 5,000 "they collected seven basketfuls of the scraps left over." Mk 8 -9

**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**

**EXPERIENCED LOCAL GARDENER AVAILABLE** Call Daniel on 07751992492.  
**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  
**LIFTS TO MASS AVAILABLE** - Phone Kay 01707 335633 or Desi on 01707 371399.

### **MASS TIMES**

20 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	Easter feria
21 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	5pm		Thanksgiving Mass	Our Lady's
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
22 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Easter feria
23 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Easter feria
24 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Easter feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
25 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Bede

### **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

<b>25 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
<b>26 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>	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**