

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-eighth Sunday of the Year 13th October page 149 of Mass Book

Today is an historic day in the life of the Church in this country: Cardinal John Henry Newman is being declared a saint by Pope Francis in Rome. He is the first person from this land to be canonised in many decades. When Newman was declared 'Blessed' in 2010 during Pope Benedict's visit to Britain, so many came from abroad to share in the wonder of the occasion. I remember being in procession with dozens of priests from Spain, Germany, France and the USA. Newman has touched countless lives through his scholarly works, his hymns, his ministry as priest and the journey of a life of faith responded to in a myriad of ways. St. John Henry Newman is a friend in heaven offering us the example of someone who followed his conscience and took as his motto 'Cor ad cor loquitur' (Heart speaks to heart). I delight in that gentle loving voice of God touching my heart with love, inspiration and challenge. I imagine my heart speaking to another so that my words are a communication of a mystery so deep, powerful and life-changing - the presence of God!

In our Gospel reading today from St. Luke, the picture is of ten lepers begging Jesus for healing, so that they may be restored to those they love and to society as a whole. They are confident that Jesus can help them and obediently they heed the Lord's word to go and show themselves to the priest. All are healed but something extra happens to the foreigner, a Samaritan, who comes back praising God at the top of his voice, throws himself down on his knees and says 'Thank you'; in so doing, he expresses faith which radiates the fact that he has been saved. Maybe to the people gathered with Jesus, they must have wondered what on earth was going on? Perhaps to later Christian communities they would have realised that the scene prefigures the way Gentiles will respond to the Gospel? Crucially, what does this passage say to you? What does it mean for you to come to know Jesus, to experience his healing love and to be saved? God is making saints of us! Let us co-operate!

Have a great week. *Fr. Norbert*

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 is spending this weekend with us making an appeal at each Mass.

PRISONERS SUNDAY The Church invites us today to think about and pray for prisoners, their families and their children. It is an important opportunity to reflect on how we as a community can make a difference to the lives of those who are affected by the criminal justice system. Pact is the national Catholic charity which offers support to prisoners, people with convictions, defendants and their families. The staff and volunteers of Pact accompany people on their journey through the criminal justice system to a fresh start. For more information phone 020 3031 6867 or email parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk

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 will begin on Sunday 10th November.

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.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? Or are you an adult whomissed out on Confirmation when younger? We started last week with five adults. There is still time to join. Why not come along on Monday at 7.30pm at Our Lady's in the sacristy?

Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Monday 28th October at 11am.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLICITY Fr. Norbert will be available to sign these forms for Secondary School Transfer on 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.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOEBOXES) We are 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.

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.

PATRICIA BRADBURY RIP Pat's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Monday 28th October at 11am.

SCHOOL MASS We welcome Holy Family School to today's 9.30 Mass. Children and parents, staff and governors will join the parish community.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION begins next Saturday 19th October at 10.30am in the parish hall. Children's Mass on Sunday at 10.30am.

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

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.

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.

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.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S TUESDAY GROUP Every Tuesday in term time 3.45pm - 4.45pm in St. Bonaventure's hall,

MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP meets every Wednesday at 10am in St. Bonaventure's. Come and get to know some other mums/carers etc. whilst the children play. Just turn up, no need to let anyone know.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CAFOD COFFEE GROUP We are pleased to let you know that our Coffee Group has raised enough money to pay for a CAFOD Community Water supply - the money raised (£750) helps to provide the materials and know-how to build and maintain boreholes, hand pumps and water tanks, providing clean, safe water to a whole community. A big thank you to all who support coffee after our 10.30am Mass every week. We are in need of more helpers so if you would like to help with the coffee and teas after Sunday Mass please speak to Kathryn on 01707 322579 who will let you know what is involved.

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

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!

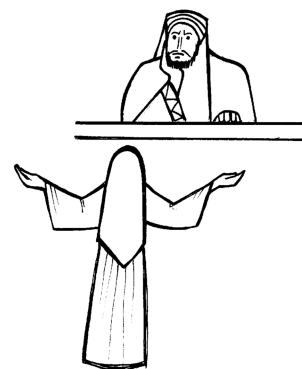
RESOLVE'S Night Shelter is in need of volunteers, maybe you can spare a few hours a week. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Sarah on 07305 838522

MASS TIMES

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|--------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 14 Monday | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady's | feria |
| 15 Tuesday | 9.30am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | St. Teresa of Jesus |
| | 7pm | Mass | Our Lady's | |
| 16 Wednesday | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Family | feria |
| 17 Thursday | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Family | St. Ignatius of Antioch |
| 18 Friday | 9.30am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | St. Luke |
| | 12.30pm | Funeral Mass | Our Lady's | |
| | 7pm | Mass | Our Lady's | |
| 19 Saturday | 10am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | feria |

Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year

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|--------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 19 Saturday | 6pm | Mass | Our Lady's |
| 20 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.