

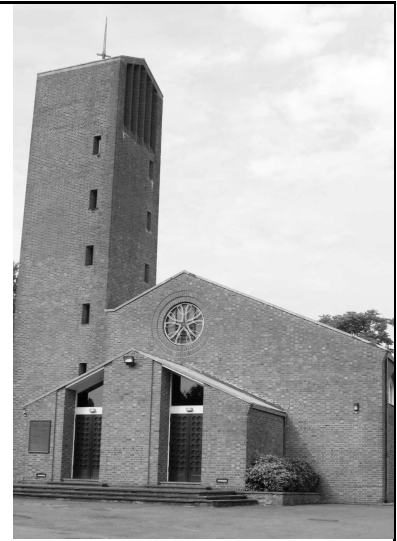
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Michael Mannion
Deacon: Rev. Jeffrey Downie Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard

Fifth Sunday of the Year 10th February 2013 (page 136)

“ ‘What a wretched state I am in! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips ...and I have looked at the King, the Lord of hosts’ ” - The prophet Isaiah speaking after seeing the glory of God in heaven and the angels worshipping God.

“Last of all, he (Jesus) appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it.” - St. Paul writing to the people of Corinth about his commissioning to preach the Good News.

“Simon Peter fell at the knees of Jesus and said, ‘Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.’ ” - The Leader of the Apostles’ response to a huge catch of fish after a night of unsuccessful fishing.

What a powerful, challenging set of Scriptures are served up for us today - the final weekend before the Season of Lent begins. We are reminded of the result of encounter between God/Jesus and humanity. Isaiah, Paul and Peter experience the wonder of God revealed respectively in the majesty of heaven, on the Road to Damascus and in the enormous catch of fish by the Lake. Each recognises his unworthiness; each is commissioned with a task to be carried out in God’s/Jesus’ name. God/Jesus can transform sinfulness and inadequacy into something amazing in his humble servants.

On Wednesday ashes will be imposed on our foreheads marking the start of our journey towards the glory of the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. At Easter we will have the privilege of seeing God in Jesus suffer for our salvation, endure Death and rise in Victory. The ashes remind us of our fragility and sinfulness which can be turned around through Lenten repentance and works of charity. Jesus Christ wants to save us. Let us allow him to touch us with this Cross and say, ‘Your sin is taken away, your iniquity is purged.’ May we be transformed inwardly by God’s grace and may our actions speak of God’s reconciling love.

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

RCIA PRESENTATION This year there are 21 adults and 7 children preparing for the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Some will be baptised, some received into the Catholic Church; most will be confirmed and make their First Holy Communion. Today at Masses across the Garden City they are being presented and will sign a scroll which will be taken to Westminster Cathedral for the Rite of Election next Sunday (17th). Please keep them in your prayers as Lent unfolds that through their Lenten journey they may be strengthened in faith and be ready to profess this same faith at the Easter Vigil.

LENT During the Season of Lent, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Our Lady's on Mondays 10-10.30am, at Holy Family on Thursdays 10-10.30am and at St. Bonaventure's on Saturdays 10.30-11am (except when First Confessions are celebrated, in which case 9.30-10am). There will be Stations of the Cross at Holy Family on Wednesdays 10am, St. Bonaventure's on Fridays at 10am and at Our Lady's on Fridays at 7.30pm.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE There is still time to book for the autumn pilgrimage to Paris, Lourdes and Nevers 26th October - 1st November. There are more brochures and booking forms at the back of our churches. 43 places of the 49 on the coach have now been snapped up! Fr. Norbert has asked Pax Travel for a larger coach!

ASH WEDNESDAY on 13th February. Masses with the imposition of ashes: 9.30am at Holy Family, 12noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's. It is a day of fasting and abstinence.

PRIEST'S REFERENCE FORMS Fr. Norbert will make time available after half-term to sign forms for Nursery at our parish primary schools. More details soon.

YEAR OF FAITH GROUP Meets after Monday morning Mass at Our Lady's.

YEAR OF FAITH from the recent Parishes' Advisory Council Meeting a few dates for your diaries - some details still to be firmed up.

Catholicism Course by Fr. Robert Baron - 10 Monday evenings starting 22nd April.

Saturday 18th May Pilgrimage to Walsingham.

Sunday 22nd Sept. Procession from Our Lady's after 11.30 Mass to St. Bonaventure's for picnic lunch in grounds to Holy Family for Benediction and outdoor tea.

Saturday 28th September Deanery Day for catechists with input by Fr. John Hemer and time for catechists to share good practice and concerns with each other.

Saturday 16th November Year of Faith dinner - at a venue to be decided.

Monday 18th November - Year of Faith Concert in Holy Family Church with Police Choir.

Saturday 23rd November - 4pm Children's Mass and party/disco to close Year of Faith.

SAN DAMIANO CROSS OF ST FRANCIS Households are needed to host the Crosses in the coming weeks and months. Please let Fr. Norbert know when you would like to host one. Thank you.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP Meets Tuesday 3.45pm - 4.45pm in the parish hall. This week we will learn about Ash Wednesday and Lent, prepare for our Children's Mass and enjoy lots of pancakes with their delicious fillings! All welcome.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASSES Palm Sunday 24th March at 11.30am, Saturday 11th May 6pm, Sunday 6th October 11.30 Harvest Mass with Barn Dance, Saturday 30th November 6pm at Our Lady's.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MATRIMONY at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 18th May at 3pm celebrated by Archbishop Vincent Nichols. If you are celebrating this year your 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th and 60+ wedding anniversary, please give your details to Fr. Norbert (names, wedding date, full postal address, email/phone number). These will be sent to Archbishop's House and formal invitations be sent to the couples.

LENTEN PRAYER AND REFLECTION THROUGH LECTIO DIVINA During the season of Lent a series of weekly prayer and reflection sessions will be taking place following the prayer method of Lectio Divina. The first session will take place this Thursday between 8 and 9pm at the Holy Family Church Parish Room. Subsequent sessions will continue on Thursdays up until Holy Week. Parishioners from all three parishes are most welcome. If you have any questions please feel free to speak to Spencer or Jenny White or contact them on 01707334896/ 07425137469 / .spencer.white4@gmail.com.

'DIALOGUE IN THE HOLY LAND: an option or a belief?' *A daily challenge of living the Gospel in a situation of conflict, discovering the richness of a dialogue of life beyond the headlines.* Sunday, 17th February, 3.30pm – 5.30pm in the Focolare Centre for Unity. You are warmly invited to attend an open afternoon with Margherita Karram from the Focolare community Jerusalem.

WOMEN'S INTERFAITH SOCIAL GROUP will be meeting at Space on Tuesday 12th February, 12.30 until 2pm. Tea and coffee provided (bring your own packed lunch if you wish).

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE We have our meeting on Tuesday 12th February at 8pm at Our Lady's Parish Centre. All are welcome.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION will be in Our Lady's Family Centre on Saturday 16th March. Details to follow.

LENTEN LUNCHESES in aid of CAFOD will start in Our Lady's Family Centre on 16th February and continue on every Saturday in Lent. 12noon until 1.30pm.

QUIZ NIGHT for HCPT Friday 22nd February at Our Lady's, please come along for a great night out and help support this charity: start time is 7:30, to book a table please contact Hayley Merry on 01438 362436.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER Friday, 1st March, at Focolare Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, W.G.C. Time: 1pm. Theme: *I was a stranger and you welcomed me.* Praying for France. All welcome.

JOHN KIERNAN R.I.P. Some parishioners may remember John who died recently. His funeral is at Harwood Park on Friday 22nd February at 11.45am. May he rest in peace.

THOMAS MONGAN R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Thomas Mongan is at 10.30am on Friday 15th February in Our Lady's Church.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN We meet again next Saturday (10.30am) when we learn about the Gift of God's Forgiveness. Parents are reminded that we have a short meeting on this day at 11.15am.

CHILDREN'S MASS Next Sunday 10.30am at St. Bonaventure's. The theme is 'Lent is a good time to give our lives a spring clean'.

CAP (Christians Against Poverty) **LAUNCH LUNCH** at Panshanger Community Centre on Friday 15th February 1pm - 3pm. Buffet lunch and presentation about CAP is and how it works. Please email Linda Tatchell on cap@panshangerchurch.com or phone 07513006840 if you would like to attend.

CONTACTS

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234 Jeffrey Downie
welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk

Our Lady's
141 Woodhall Lane
AL7 3TP

Website: www.ourladys-parish.info

OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE

Bookings should be made with
Phil (Philomena) Johnson 01707
377442 or 07790 135458

peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579
parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk

St. Bonaventure's
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Website:
www.stbonaventure.org.uk

Fr. Michael 01707 327434
Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

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

MASS TIMES

11 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Our Lady of Lourdes
12 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Our Lady's	
13 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Ash Wednesday
	12noon	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Our Lady's	
14 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	SS Cyril and Methodius
15 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Lent feria
	10.30am	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's
	7pm	Our Lady's	
16 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Lent feria
	First Sunday of Lent		
16 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	<i>Lord,</i>
17 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	<i>Let me see your face,</i>
	9.30am	Holy Family	<i>Know your heart and</i>
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	<i>experience your love in my life.</i>
	11.30am	Our Lady's	<i>Strengthen in me</i>
	6pm	Holy Family	<i>the precious gift of faith.</i>
			<i>I believe Lord;</i>
			<i>Help my unbelief. Amen.</i>

<p>CHAPLAINS TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplains: Jacqueline Humphreys and John Paul Lyttle, on 07884187463</p>
