

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Michael Mannion
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

***Eighteenth Sunday of the Year 4th August 2013 (page 118)
to include 11th August (page 121)***

‘Take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time!’ These are words we hear in today’s Gospel reading. Is Jesus aware of the holidays and giving us some sensible advice? Is there a gentle teasing? NO! He then proceeds to say: ‘Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul...’ There is such a sense of realism in this passage. It is challenging, frightening, hilarious and down to earth - all in one go! Parables set us thinking and they demand response. Parables keep us in touch with the Lord’s Kingdom here on earth but with our gaze fixed on heaven.

As we start a new month and the ‘holiday season’ has prominence, I would like to say a big ‘Thank you’ to you all for the huge number of ways you make our parishes centres of faith, welcome, love and nurture. You give of your time and energy; you make sacrifices for others; you pray for our world. Together we are building up God’s Kingdom here in this place. Jesus proclaimed this Kingdom and lived it to the full. He entrusts us with the task of continuing his Mission. There are so many who exercise ministries upfront in the Liturgy, behind the scenes in preparation or clearing up; there are those involved in formal organisations which serve others and countless people who quietly work for the benefit of their neighbour. Thank you. I hope this summer will afford you a time of refreshment and renewal.

This year has especially been a busy one with my Silver Jubilee and Fr. Jeffrey’s First Mass. I appreciate the love which has been poured out and the efforts made. Soon we will bid ‘Adieu’ to Fr. Michael as he leaves for Wheathampstead. May God bless him and his new parish community. As I mentioned some time ago, Fr. Michael would like to return in the autumn for a farewell celebration and this will be advertised in due course.

May God bless each and everyone of you and the loved ones you carry in your hearts. Please continue to pray for me. With love and prayers, ***Fr. Norbert***

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY Thursday 15th August is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks us to attend Mass to celebrate Our Lady's Assumption. The Masses will be as follows: 9.30am at Holy Family, 12noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

THE LATIN MASS SOCIETY will also celebrate Mass for the feast with a Vigil Mass at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th in St. Bonaventure's.

EVENTS' HOSPITALITY GROUP There was a good meeting of those interested in forming a group to co-ordinate hospitality for events in our parishes. Help is always needed in a variety of ways including setting up, decorating, cooking, serving, welcoming and clearing up. The hope is to create a list of volunteers willing to help who can then be called upon as needed.

MISSION APPEAL The Holy Ghost Fathers will be here in our parishes the weekend of 17th/18th August to make an appeal. We look forward to welcoming them and assure them of a good response.

YEAR OF FAITH Fr. Norbert has decided to leave the procession between our churches on Sunday 22nd September. Instead he would like us to focus on the 'hosting' of the San Damiano Cross for the autumn.

The Year of Faith will conclude with a Dinner at the Homestead Court Hotel on Saturday 16th November at 7.30pm and a Children's Mass and Party on Saturday 23rd November at 4pm. The Year officially ends on the Feast of Christ the King - 24th November. It has been a time of blessing for us in our community. Let us allow the remaining months to be a continued time of enrichment.

STRAWBERRY TEA The sum of £173 was raised at the CAFOD Strawberry Tea held in Sandy Leys garden on Sunday the 21st July. A big thank you to all who attended and were very generous in donating such a great amount of money. Thanks also to those of you who did not attend but gave a donation.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2014 Application forms for St. Bonaventure's children are available at the back of church. Forms for Holy Family and Our Lady's will be available in due course. Children must be born before 1st September 2006 (i.e. they must be in at least Year 3 from September 2013) to be eligible to receive Holy Communion in 2014.

ZUMBA WITH LISA If you are looking to tone up, loose weight, de-stress and get fit then join my Zumba class. It's a Latin inspired dance fitness programme, you need no dance experience just follow my lead for an hour - full of calorie burning fun. All happens at Our Lady's Church Hall Thursdays 6:30-7:30pm, get your second class half price at only £2.50 and you'll receive a loyalty card to work your way to a free class. Call 07896916514 or email dancewithlisa@hotmail.co.uk.

OXFAM FUNDRAISING UPDATE: Nuala Milbourn would like to thank everyone who supported her fundraising efforts for Oxfam and the Gurkha Welfare Trust. She successfully completed her 100km (62 mile) walk across the South Downs in 28 hours last weekend, experiencing sunshine, rain, thunder and lightning along the way. More than £2,000 has been raised so far.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH Many thanks to all who came and cleaned the church and helped with the maintenance of the grounds. Your work and dedication is much appreciated.

MINIBUS OUTING 23RD AUGUST A minibus outing for anybody with limited mobility has been organised for a trip to St. Alban's Abbey for the Catholic Mass at 12noon with a time for refreshments and exploring. The Magna Carta will be on display on that date (£3 fee if you wish to view it) We will collect participants from their home. Please telephone Kay Mason on 01707 335633.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Deanery Day for Catechists Saturday 28th September 10 am—3.30 pm. Fr. John Hemer who teaches at the Seminary will give input for the Year of Faith and this will lead into reflection and discussion. Catechists involved in Children's Liturgy, First Confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA from the 13 parishes of Stevenage Deanery will gather in Our Lady's Hall. It would be really good to have many from our own parishes here in the Garden City.

Tuesday 1st October Bishop John Sherrington will celebrate an Education Mass at 7pm for the schools of this Deanery. Children and parents, staff and governors will gather to ask God's blessing on our schools and all involved in Education.

Special Needs Masses Sunday 6th October Harvest Mass and Barn Dance in Our Lady's Church and Hall. Saturday 30th November 6pm to mark the start of Advent
Polish-English Mass Saturday 19th October at 6pm.

FUNERALS The Funeral Mass for Monica Rohan is at 10am in Our Lady's Church on Monday 12th August.

The Funeral Service for Nan Murphy is on Wednesday 14th August at 10am in St. Bonaventure's.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to family and friends.

OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE Bookings should be made with Phil Johnson 01707 377442 or 07790 135458 peartreepomegranatecafe@googlemail.com

PRAYER LISTS FOR THE SICK AND ANNIVERSARIES will be on at the back of St. Bonaventure's and Holy Family for this fortnight.

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

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
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NEWSLETTER The next newsletter will be published on 18th August.

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*Lord, Let me see your face, Know your heart and
 experience your love in my life. Strengthen in me
 the precious gift of faith. I believe Lord;
 Help my unbelief. Amen.*

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

03 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	Mary Moran (R.I.P.)
04 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	Eileen Sheehan (R.I.P)
	9.30am	Holy Family	Csilla Heisz (90th birthday)
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Sean and Ellen Brophy (anniv. ints)
	11.30am	Our Lady's	Francis Duffy (R.I.P.)
	6pm	Holy Family	Patrick Morrin (R.I.P.)
05 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Michael O'Keefe (R.I.P.)
06 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Pauline McEleney (birthday intentions)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Margaret Meade-Taylor (R.I.P.)
07 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Patrick Morrin (R.I.P.)
08 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Private intention
09 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Pauline McEleney (birthday intentions)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Lionel Trattles (R.I.P.)
10 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Colleen Robbins (R.I.P.)
Nineteenth Sunday of the Year			
10 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's	Joe Thompson's intentions
11 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	Fr. Norbert intentions
	9.30am	Holy Family	Anne Devaney (intentions)
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Eileen Sheehan
	11.30am	Our Lady's	Deceased O'Flaherty family
	6pm	Holy Family	People of the Parish
12 Monday	10am	Our Lady's	Funeral Mass Monica Rohan
13 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Mickey McLaughlin (sick)
	7pm	Our Lady's	Colleen Robbins (R.I.P)
14 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Patrick Morrin (R.I.P.)
	10am	St. Bonaventure	Funeral Service Nan Murphy
	7.30pm	St. Bonaventure	Latin Mass Society
15 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Waldemar Schmitt (R.I.P. 20th anniv.)
	12noon	St. Bonaventure	Private intention
	7pm	Our Lady's	Eileen Sheehan (R.I.P.)
16 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Jamie Byrne and Andrew Winch RIP
	7pm	Our Lady's	Fr. Norbert's intentions
17 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Tony Reed (R.I.P. anniversary)

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