

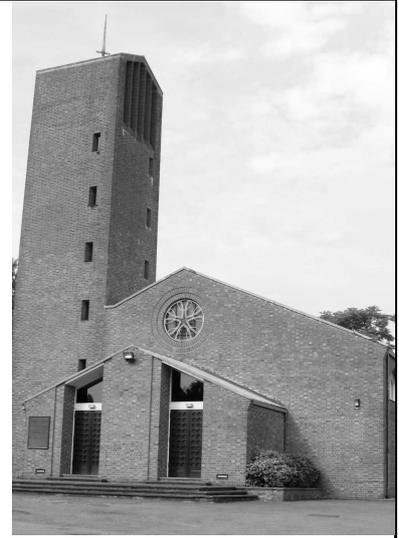
# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## *Sixteenth Sunday of the Year 20th July (page 105 of the Mass book)*

This week it has really felt as though summer has come! Hot sticky weather coupled with thunder storms galore. Hopefully it is a beginning rather than a blip especially as the school holidays begin?! Today in our Gospel from St. Matthew, Jesus continues to teach through parables. Jesus takes what he sees, hears, feels all around him and uses them in story form to put his listeners in touch with the Kingdom of Heaven. He knows that the people will understand the imagery but the purpose is to get them thinking, reflecting and grasping truths. In Jesus' day there would have been none of the herbicides in use at present; weeds would have been inevitable. The farmer is so patient and does not want any of the sprouting, good seed to be lost by being pulled up with the weeds. The farmer has a confidence which will bear fruit and he is not tied by time. Do we trust in God's endless patience with us? Can we give others a chance and wait and see, rather than rush in to condemn? What signs of the Kingdom are already in our midst and what are we doing to co-operate with this grace? As the year draws to a close I would like to say a big 'Thank you' to everyone in our three churches who works so hard up front and behind the scenes to keep everything going. There is such love and deep faith; there is outreach and welcome; there is support and yet space too. Adults and children are enriched by the sheer generosity of those who prepare the Liturgy, exercise ministries, work as catechists or run the many groups which offer help, hospitality, support and fun. This year I have had to call on you more especially and for this I am so grateful. So many people offer prayer for the parishes and their loving presence makes a difference. May God bless you all. May his peace descend upon you and your loved ones bringing refreshment this summer. May God's Kingdom come!

With love and prayers for you all. *Fr. Norbert*

**FILIPINO AND AFRICAN MASSES** Our thanks to the communities which prepared the recent celebrations. Each was filled with joy and faith and we were all enriched by the diversity of culture, language, food and drink. A huge amount of work went into the preparations and we are grateful for the generous hospitality. Do we have any dates for 2015?

**GROWING IN FAITH** We are now at the final stage of Growing in Faith. Today is the last Sunday! To ensure we can look ahead to the future with confidence we hope to receive many more gifts and pledges today. Everyone is being invited to consider joining the campaign at a level appropriate to them so that together we can achieve great things for our present and future generations. Thank you for your prayers.

**FR. NORBERT'S FATHER** is able to move his fingers and has sat upright. All the signs are very positive. He is waiting to move to Stoke Mandeville. Please keep up the prayers.

**FR. GERARD O'BRIEN** will be the new Assistant Priest in Welwyn Garden City. He was ordained in 2010 and is currently in Holy Trinity, Brook Green (Hammersmith). Fr. Gerard will take up residence in Holy Family Presbytery on 3rd September. We will formally welcome Fr. Gerard (and Samuel Ejeregbe, the seminarian) to WGC at the Special Needs Mass on Saturday 13th September at 6pm.

**FR. MICHAEL MANNION** Please keep Fr. Michael in your prayers as he recovers from surgery.

**SEMINARIANS** Peter Wei continues to improve his English and is getting to know the Garden City even better! David Krupa left on Friday morning to return to Paris. He had a chance to see some parishioners at Mass and at the schools and is so pleased to have a connection with us. Cédric de la Serre from Nanterres is enjoying WGC and the experience of being with our community. He will be here until Thursday.

**PRIESTS** We continue to be very grateful to Fr. Frank Leonard and Fr. John Helm for the tremendous support they give. In the month of August Fr. Patrick Mileham, a priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, will take up residence in WGC and celebrate Mass supported by retired priests.

**JOSEPH BORG RIP** Joseph's Funeral Mass will be on Wednesday 23rd July at 9.30am at Our Lady's.

**HANNAH BRIMLEY RIP** Funeral Service will be on Thursday 7th August at 2.45pm in Harwood Park Crematorium.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to their families and friends.

**EXTRA MASS** on Wednesday evening in Our Lady's at 7pm. All welcome.

**HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP** Holy Family Church desperately need new and younger members to enable them to continue offering this service at the 9.30am Sunday Mass at Holy Family Church. Please, please consider becoming a volunteer. All the existing leaders are friendly, approachable and willing to share their experiences to help any newcomers. The resources and support available make being a liturgy leader fulfilling and enjoyable. If you are interested in joining them please let Joss Landers know on 01707 396172/07757 753426 or e-mail her at [jocelyn.landiers@live.co.uk](mailto:jocelyn.landiers@live.co.uk). Alternatively talk to Fr. Norbert or any of the current liturgy leaders. Thank you.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S READERS** Your new rotas are at the back of the church.

**AUGUST MINIBUS OUTING** for anybody of limited mobility. TUESDAY 12th. Lunch at Hopleys Gardens in Much Hadham (hot meals from £7). Door to door transport. EARLY START - From 10.30 am. Telephone Kay:- 01707 335633.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2015** 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 2007 (i.e. they must be in at least Year 3 from September 2014) to be eligible to receive Holy Communion in 2015.

**OUR LADY'S MINISTERS' ROTA** The rota for Welcomers, Readers and Holy Communion Ministers, from August to October is now available at the back of the church this weekend. Please do collect a copy. The rota will be added to Our Lady's website this weekend.

**AFRICAN MASS** The African community give thanks to the Almighty God for the celebration of another unforgettable African Mass and enjoyable reception last Sunday, may His name be praised forever. The community also express their sincere and heartfelt gratitude to:

Fr Norbert - for celebrating the Mass, his support and his full participation at the reception. Ciaran Pugh for his help with the PA systems and the hymns.

Mrs Vivien Ojadi – for training the children to give a fabulous performance and all her assistance.

Mrs Lola Egbase - for her contribution, especially the ice-cream for the children.

Norman Merry – for providing an emergency PA system for the reception.

Peter Wei, the seminarian, - for his help at the hall.

John Rowland, the man behind the scene, - for assisting with the PA system during the Mass.

Welwyn Garden City parishioners - who came in their numbers to support and participate in the Mass. Family and friends who joined us for the Mass celebration and the reception. May the good Lord bless all who contributed in various ways to make 2014 African Mass a memorable one.

**EXPERIENCED CARER** An experienced carer is looking for the position of a Live-in Carer. Contact Alicja on 07772891750.

**EXPERIENCED PRIVATE CARER** available to work in WGC & surrounding areas. Immediate start. Hours negotiable. Rates & references on request. Please call Cathy on 07837 242116.

**TOMMY MANSFIELD 400 CLUB DRAW** There are spare numbers and anyone over 18 may join in and try to win some of the £175 prizes each month, remember all surplus monies (no overhead expenses) go directly to the Parish. If you wish to join or want more information, see one of the collectors at the back of the church after Mass. The winners last month (May) were:- 1st £100 No.136 J. Galloway. 2nd No. 301 R Hopkinson. 3rd £25 No. 179 Mr. Meenan. Congratulations to the winners and our thanks to all the members whose contributions make the draw possible. Collection of subscriptions for the July Draw will take place next weekend 26/27 July.

**COME TO AN EXHIBITION** being held in the Howard Centre this weekend and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the former bookshop premises and 'Take a trip down memory lane' of the original industries and businesses in WGC between 1920 and 1960. There is a competition for children too.

**Fr. Norbert 01707 323234**  
**welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk**  
**Our Lady's**  
**141 Woodhall Lane**  
**AL7 3TP**  
**Website: www.ourlady-parish.info**

**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
**parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk**  
**St. Bonaventure's**  
**81 Parkway AL8 6JF**  
**Website:**  
**www.stbonaventure.org.uk**

**Holy Family Church**  
**194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ**

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

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

**MASS TIMES**

21 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	feria
22 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Mary Magdalene
	7pm	Our Lady's	
23 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Bridget
	9.30am	Funeral Mass	Our Lady's
	7pm	Our Lady's	
24 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
25 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. James
	7pm	Our Lady's	
26 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	SS Joachim and Anne

**Seventeenth Sunday of the Year**

26 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
27 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Holy Family
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Our Lady's
	6pm	Holy Family



**CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS:** If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplain: Jacqueline Humphreys on 07884187463