

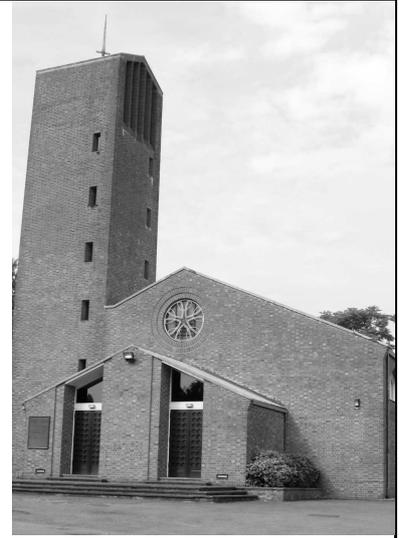
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year 27th July (page 108 of the Mass book)

(The newsletter now takes a break until 31st August)

Jesus speaks to us today about treasure and a pearl beyond price. The Kingdom of Heaven is like the joy of people discovering what they have always sought, selling everything they possess so that they can come to own what really matters to them. The Kingdom is dynamic, seizing hold of us, challenging us to make a decision for it. The Kingdom is drawing us closer and closer to God in Heaven and bringing Heaven from God to earth - in and through his Beloved Son Jesus. Jesus himself is the treasure we unearth and the priceless pearl. Jesus calls to us personally and yet the Kingdom is to be shared with others. Do you think of Christ's call to you in this way? Do you really feel that the following of the Lord has cost you everything?

As this 'year' ends, what an eventful time we have had in so many ways! No one ever knows how life will unfold...with deep happiness, untold sadness and challenges beyond measure - all rolled into one!. In everything we look for God's presence and put our trust in him for he can see the whole picture and looks ahead way beyond the horizons accessible to us. The Kingdom is happening, waiting for us to discover some new aspect and drawing from us a fresh approach which will make a difference. I have nearly completed six years as your Parish Priest. Much has happened; still more lies ahead. Let us ask God's Spirit to be our guide, holding us close to Jesus and to one another, sending us out to others with the fire of the Gospel, and uniting us in worship of God our Father, giving glory to him who is the source of Love.

I wish you a refreshing summer. I pray for you and your loved ones. I am so grateful for all the support I receive and the love which buoys me up. I feel privileged to be your Parish Priest. Please pray for me.

With love, ***Fr. Norbert***

GROWING IN FAITH Fr. Norbert would like to say a huge 'THANK YOU!' to everyone for their patience and co-operation with the GiF Campaign. The provisional total is: £552,362; 201 parishioners have joined Growing in Faith in WGC. If all the paperwork comes in, we will keep for WGC almost £250,000. Fr. Norbert is very grateful to the committed team of volunteers, to so many who are praying for the success of what we have undertaken and, of course, to those who have generously pledged money. After the summer we will start thinking about the plans for a the new Parish Centre for the WGC Catholic Community.

SUPPLY PRIESTS Fr. Patrick Mileham arrives this Friday to take up residence in WGC at Our Lady's for the month of August. We are grateful to him for his support. Canon Bernard Scholes and Fr. Brian Reynolds will help on Sundays and Fr. Frank Leonard at some weekday Masses. Our heartfelt thanks to these retired priests who are supporting us during the summer.

PETER WEI enters his final week in WGC. Peter has offered to cook noodles for lunch on Tuesday 29th July at 12.30pm in Our Lady's Presbytery. If you would like to partake of his culinary delights, please leave a message at Our Lady's on 01707 323234 or send an email. We can always move next door into the hall if the numbers are large! *We wish Peter every blessing as he prepares to return to Rome on Thursday to continue his studies.*

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

FLIX FELICIEN RIP Funeral Service will be on Thursday 7th August at 3.30pm in Harwood Park Crematorium.

ALTAR SERVERS After the holidays we will be recruiting new altar servers in our three churches. Please let Fr. Norbert know so that training can be arranged and albs procured.

FR. DEREK HYETT who was with us as a seminarian two years ago, will return to WGC to celebrate a First Mass on Saturday 30th August at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a Get-together in the Hall. All welcome.

WESTMINSTER SEMINARIANS' VISIT Nearly all the Diocesan seminarians (30) will be in WGC 3rd/4th September staying at the Focolare Centre. On Wednesday 3rd September there will be Evening Prayer in St. Bonaventure's Church (time to be confirmed). The students will then journey to Our Lady's for Dinner. The following morning they will attend 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church followed by coffee and cake; the Mass will be celebrated by Bishop John Sherrington. Parishioners are most welcome at each place. For catering purposes we will need to know by Friday 22nd August parishioners who wish to attend the Dinner. (Please notify Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579). This will be a unique couple of days...one of those students could one day be WGC's parish priest!

MASS OF WELCOME for Fr. Gerard O'Brien, the new Assistant Priest, and for Samuel Ejeregbe, full-time seminarian in WGC, will be on Saturday 13th September at 6pm at Our Lady's as part of our scheduled Special Needs Mass. There will be a gathering in the hall afterwards.

Need a **Mobile Hairdresser**, a **Decorator /Handy man** or a **Gardener**? A family concern offering competitive rates. Contact **Tracey** (MOBILE HAIRDRESSER) 07581212941 **Jamie** (DECORATOR/HANDY MAN) 07572527731. **Tony** (GARDENER) 01707 260502

ANNUAL STRAWBERRY AND CREAM TEA in aid of CAFOD This Sunday afternoon 3pm in Sandy's garden 401 Knightsfield. Donations welcome.

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.

BEETLE DRIVE to raise funds for HCPT 183 (WGC group involved in taking children with disabilities to Lourdes). Takes place in Our Lady's Family Centre Lounge on Friday 8th August 6pm - 9pm (adults £2, children over 5 £1). refreshments and raffle, come and have fun. For further information call Bev on 01707 390065.

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.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH The cleaning of the church and maintenance of the grounds will take place next Saturday 2nd August at 10am. New volunteers with this essential work are always welcome. Refreshments are available afterwards.

HOSPITALITY GROUP Ann Chappell writes: After a lull in activities, a busy few weeks will begin at the end of August with Fr. Derek's First Mass in Welwyn Garden City. The Parish Events Committee is always looking for helpers for the various events. Please contact me (AhChappell@aol.com or 01438 714 846) if you would like to be added to the list of those willing to assist. All help is greatly appreciated.

On August 23rd, Saturday, 11am the Parish Events Committee will meet to discuss upcoming events. The meeting will be held at Holy Family after the Saturday Mass (at St Bonaventure's). All current volunteers are asked to attend *and bring others*. Helping at Parish Events is fun and a wonderful opportunity to meet other Parishioners. Do mark your diary and try to attend.

CEDRIC DE LA SERRE writes: 'Dear friends, It is with a great joy that I have spent 10 days with you, in your parish. I have been very pleased by your hospitality and your kindness. I particularly want to thank all the parishioners who gave me time, have discussed with me and invited me to eat: these were very nice moments, and a great opportunity to improve my English and to know better the English Catholic Church and your nice country. I also thank especially your parish priest, Fr. Norbert, whose dedication and generosity have been very enlightening for me. I hope to have the opportunity to see you again in the future! Cédric'

May God bless Cédric as he returns to France for the rest of his holidays and then on to Rome for the remainder of his studies.

JUSTICE AND PEACE NETWORK DAY The Two World Wars (*Warnings from History*) Saturday 13th September 10am - 3pm in Our Lady's Church. Please see the posters at then back of our churches. Everyone is welcome.

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

ST. BONAVENTURE'S 90TH! There are some important dates for St. Bonaventure's coming up: 3rd October 2015 will be 90 years since the first priest arrived; 10th March 2016 will be the 90th Anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of the church and 14th September 2016 the 90th Anniversary of the First Mass. Please start thinking about how these milestones might be marked. There will be a meeting in the autumn to start mapping out plans. Holy Family's Golden Jubilee will be in 2017!

THE DIARY of Mass intentions will be published each week in August with any important items for the parish written on the back (anything that needs including should be in the office by Thursday mornings.) Thank you.

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

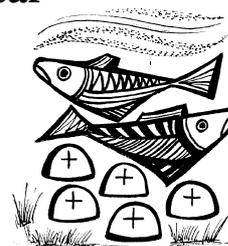
CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am - 10.30am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

MASS TIMES

28 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	feria
29 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Martha
	7pm	Our Lady's	
30 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	feria
31 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	St. Ignatius of Loyola
01 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Alphonsus Liguori
	7pm	Our Lady's	
02 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	feria

Eighteenth Sunday of the Year

02 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
03 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