

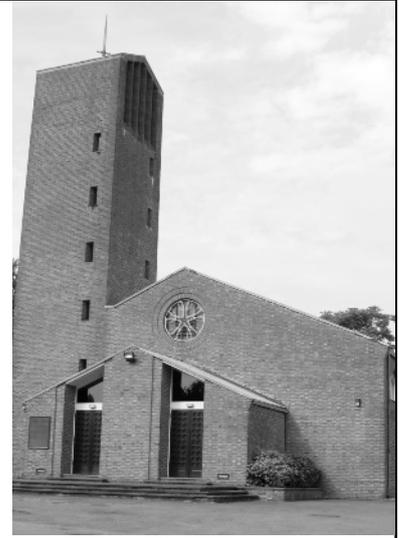
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Gerard O'Brien
Seminararian: Samuel Ejerege Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Thirty-third Sunday of the Year 16th November (p.155 of Mass book)

We leave behind the Feasts of the last two weekends and now have one more 'Ordinary' Sunday before the Christ the King next weekend and then the First Sunday of Advent on 29th/30th November. Today Jesus presents us with a parable about talents and their use; this gives us a picture of what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. A talent is a HUGE sum of money and the Master bestows a number of these on his servants each according to their ability before going abroad on a journey. On his return two are commended for the wise use of the money to yield even more. The final servant is afraid and sadly hides his Master's money; he hands it back on his arrival. The Master is so disappointed at the wasted opportunity

This Kingdom proclaimed and lived out by Jesus does involve taking risks. We are offered by God so much because at the heart of the Kingdom is Jesus Christ who is the Father's Gift to us. Our faith in him - if it is to be alive - must be vibrant, should influence our way of thinking and acting; faith cannot be held to oneself but of itself should be shared with others. The latter involves the challenge of finding the right way of helping another person come to know the Lord and what it is he has to offer. At times we can do this with confidence; at other moments it can be a struggle because our way of articulating faith might not resonate with someone who does not know God yet. But it is worth it!

This week let us pray that we may recognise the great Gift God has bestowed upon us in Jesus. Let us reflect personally on how we have received faith and the possibilities God opens up for us in our daily lives. May each day be blessed by our awareness of God's presence and a willingness to bring his Kingdom closer to others as we discover the intimacy of his love for us.

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

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. There will be a meeting on Saturday 22nd November at 11am in St. Bonaventure's Hall to start the ball rolling with planning. Coffee will be served for those staying on after 10am Mass.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY on Saturday 7th February in Our Lady's Hall. All couples getting married in WGC or elsewhere in 2015 and 2016 are invited to this day which will start with coffee at 10.30am and end with the Blessing of Engaged Couples at the 6pm Mass. It is important that couples make contact with Fr. Norbert soon so that the paperwork and all the necessary preparations can be made, especially if you are marrying outside of WGC.

RCIA The course continues every Monday in Our Lady's sacristy 7.30 - 8.45pm. If you would like to join the Catholic Church or if you are a Catholic adult who missed out on Confirmation, why not come?

HOME VISITS Fr. Gerard is updating the home visits list. Please let him know now and in the future of anyone at home or in a care home (and in hospital) who needs to go on the list. Many thanks.

NATIONAL INTERFAITH WEEK 16 - 23 November. Our local group have two events: On Monday 24th November an evening meeting entitled 'Faith and citizenship: Hoping to create a better World' at Jimmy Mac's Centre, Hatfield at 7.30pm, and on Thursday 20th November our ever popular annual bring and share meal at the Focolare Centre at 7pm. Please put your name on the sheet at the back of the church and let us know what food you will be bringing.

CWL Quiz Night will be this Friday 21st November. (7.30pm for 8pm) Tables of 8 or under welcome. £5 per person and there will be a raffle. Proceeds will go to CWL charities.

HCPT group 183 There will be a meeting at 7pm this Sunday 16th November at our Lady's for any one who is interested in becoming a helper for Easter 2015 pilgrimage to Lourdes.

LUXURY Christmas Puddings Sale This Sunday 16th November we will be selling Christmas puddings after Mass in St. Bonaventure's and Holy Family. The proceeds are to help Holy Family School. Cost: £6 for one pudding or £10 for two. Your support is highly appreciated.

NEED A CLEANER? Then contact Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980887231.

OR 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.

OUR LADY SCHOOL Christmas Fair – Friday 28th November 3:30pm – 5:30pm Lots of fun to be had, with the chocolate and bottle tombolas, jolly jam jars, hook a duck stalls and lots more! A fantastic raffle with prizes including pantomime and cinema tickets and a VIP trip to Roller City! Come along and join the festive fun.

SVP ANNUAL COLLECTION This will take place next Sunday after all Masses. Please give your support to the work of the SVP in Welwyn Garden City and surrounding villages, thank you. Please do read the leaflet that comes with this newsletter.

NOVEMBER DEAD LISTS available at the back of each church. Write down the names of loved ones who have died and they will be remembered at Mass during November. There is no need to give any money.

FR. NORBERT Every ten years the Exposition of the body of St. Francis Xavier takes place in Goa, India. Fr. Norbert will be away for two weeks at the end of the month for the Exposition. Fr. Frank Leonard has kindly agreed to supply in that period.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH OUTDOOR CRIB - the outdoor crib will be erected on **Saturday 29th November at 10.00am**. We need plenty of help with this task, all are invited to assist, especially the young and strong! Hot refreshments will be served. Will you be able to help?

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE BOXES) Filled boxes need to be brought into church by Sunday 23rd November at the latest - they are being collected early on Monday 24th November. Thank you to all who have been so generous in their support of this charity.

SHIRLEY WILLIAMS REFLECTS Thursday 20th November at 8pm, Lindop Building University of Hertfordshire. 'God and Caesar'. See poster at back of church.

FREE Two chairs for anyone who needs them - one light grey sitting room chair and one black half leather half cloth ikea reading chair. A little worn but structurally sound. Phone 01707 895286 or 07951819696.

CHARLIE STILL NEEDS A NEW HOME Charlie, Sally's 10 year old cat would like to transfer from a first floor flat to a house with a cat flap and garden. Please ring Sally if you can help 01707 322946.

CHRISTMAS CARDS are available after Masses at Our Lady's, help needed to sell them, please.

BARBARA KAVANAGH R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Barbara Kavanagh will be in St. Bonaventure's Church at 9.30am on Friday 28th November. Barbara died at the age of 98 years. We offer our prayers and sympathy to her family and friends.

RECEPTION CLASS PRIEST'S FORMS Fr. Norbert will be available to sign Priest's Reference Forms for children applying to Reception Class in our Catholic Schools on Wednesday 17th December 3 - 6pm at Our Lady's Church. Parents need to ring Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to arrange a 5-minute appointment. Parent/s should come with a completed form and their child and wait in the church. Another date will be proposed for early January.

CALLING ALL 'FACEBOOK' USERS When visiting "Facebook", please add "My Hospital Prayer and Activities Book" as a "like", to aid its publicity.

This unique and original Catholic publication aims to help children pray if they are patients in a hospital.

All proceeds from the book go to "Seasons for Growth Eng. & Wales", an education bereavement charity for children.

NATIVITY PLAY ST. BONAVENTURE'S Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 14th December at 4pm, there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part. Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 30th November from 2.30pm - 4pm.

CONCERT FOR DEKAMILE Saturday 13th December in Our Lady's at 7pm. Megumi Rolfe (violin) and Belinda Jones (piano) playing works by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and other composers. All welcome. See poster and flyers at the back of church.

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

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

Fr. Gerard 01707 327434
welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk
Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

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

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

MASS TIMES

| | | | |
|--------------|--------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 17 Monday | 9.30am | Our Lady's | feria |
| 18 Tuesday | 9.30am | St. Bonaventure | feria |
| | 7pm | Our Lady's | |
| 19 Wednesday | 9.30am | Holy Family | feria |
| 20 Thursday | 9.30am | Holy Family | feria |
| 21 Friday | 9.30am | St. Bonaventure | The Presentation of the Blessed |
| | 7pm | Our Lady's | Virgin Mary |
| 22 Saturday | 10am | St. Bonaventure | St. Cecilia |

Christ the King

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|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 22 Saturday | 6pm | Our Lady's |
| 23 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