

# 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*

## ***Fifth Sunday of Lent    22nd March 2015 (p.170 of Mass book)***

‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus’ is the request made by Greeks to Philip in today’s Gospel from St. John. Philip needs some help! He goes to Andrew and together they approach Jesus. The Lord then makes his response: ‘Unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.’ Jesus, of course, is the wheat grain ready to die on the Cross and then whose Resurrection bears the fruit of eternal life; in so doing he gives glory to God the Father.

Where have YOU found Jesus so far this Lent? In your prayer, fasting and almsgiving? If you need assistance to answer the question, to whom would you turn? Who is an important person in your life who sustains you in faith and keeps you close to Jesus? As Lent continues where will you find the Lord? Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and we will celebrate Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem riding a donkey, with palms being waved and the cry ‘Hosanna!’ On Maundy Thursday he will wash the feet of his disciples and give bread and wine as his Body and Blood. On Good Friday the Cross weighs heavily upon the Lord and his Life is offered for our salvation. On Holy Saturday his lifeless body lies dead in the Tomb. Finally on Easter Sunday he bursts from the Tomb in glory and reveals himself to some of his friends. The Liturgy will draw us so deeply into Jesus’ great act of Love. Let us commit ourselves to accompany Jesus! What about seeing, experiencing and celebrating Christ’s tremendous mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confession? Perhaps you might invite someone to join you and enter into the Mystery which will unfold?

May God bless you and your loved ones. May we all have a glimpse of Jesus!

***Fr. Norbert***

**MUSIC REHEARSAL FOR THE EASTER VIGIL** Choir members from all three churches are invited to attend a rehearsal at Our Lady's Church on Tuesday 24th March at 8pm.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES CARD** Please take home a card listing all the services for Holy Week and Easter.

**RECONCILIATION SERVICE** for Lent will be on Tuesday 31st March at 8pm in Our Lady's Church.

**FUNERALS** The Funeral Mass for **Michael Pennett R.I.P.** is at 3.30pm in St. Bonaventure's Church on Monday 30th March.

The Funeral Service for **Annie Bray R.I.P.** will be at Harwood Park Crematorium on Friday 27th March at 5pm.

Funeral arrangements for **Pat Jordan R.I.P.** and **Keith Gray R.I.P.** are not yet finalised. We offer our prayers and sympathy to all family and friends of the deceased.

**LENT** There are Stations of the Cross during Lent as follows: Wednesdays at 10am at Holy Family, Friday mornings at 10 o'clock at St. Bonaventure's and Friday evenings at 7.30 at Our Lady's. There will also be half an hour of silent prayer during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Mondays at 10am at Our Lady's, Thursdays at 10am at Holy Family and Saturdays at 10.30am at St. Bonaventure's.

**PILGRIMAGE** Pax Travel is arranging for us a pilgrimage to Padua, Verona and Venice from Sunday 25th October to Friday 30th October 2015. Brochures and booking forms are available at the back of the church.

**GOOD FRIDAY** There will be a Service of Reflection led by the Focolare Community for our parishes on Good Friday (3rd April) at 7.30pm at the Centre for Unity next to St. Bonaventure's. All welcome.

**EASTER SUNDAY** Please note there will not be an evening Mass on Easter Sunday at Holy Family.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHOIR** will be meeting to rehearse the Holy Week services on 23rd March at 10.30. New members always welcome.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH CLEANING FOR EASTER** There will be an Easter clean of the Church starting at 10am on Monday 23rd March. Any help to join gratefully received. Tea/coffee/cake to keep you going! Please do come along.

**ROOM TO LET** Rosaleen has a single bedroom (en suite) to let. Phone 07799416188.

**A PARISHIONER** would like to move closer to St. Bonaventure's or Our Lady's and is looking for an unfurnished one-bedroom flat. If you can help phone Trudi on 01707 692401 or 07914933088.

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

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S LORETO GIRLS' LENTEN FUNDRAISER** We would like to invite you to our sale after 10:30am Mass on Sunday 19th April. We have organised this event for our School Lenten Fundraiser. Your support will help us to raise valuable funds for Caritas International, Westminster Diocese Catholic Children's Society, and Albania Hope - a Loreto Mission based in Albania committed to ending human trafficking. We look forward to seeing you there.

**LENT** Group reflections on sharing in the life and mission of Jesus Christ every Friday during Lent at 8pm in the Chapel at Our Lady's.

**CAKE CONTRIBUTIONS** needed for CAFOD Syria fundraising sale today and next week (Palm Sunday) following 8am Mass. £87 was raised last week including raffle ticket sales for Easter Simnel cake. Thank you.

**RETREAT DAYS** The First Communion children and their families will be in St. Albans this afternoon. The RCIA Group will at St. Edmund's College, Old Hall Green the afternoon of Sunday 29th March.

**FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS** We meet again this Wednesday, 7.30pm in Our Lady's.

**MISSION/APF Members at Our Lady's:** Do please pick up the latest Spring 2015 copy of the Mission Today magazine which is available at the back of church. Thank you again for all the money that is so generously given throughout the year either through the Red Boxes or by an Annual Donation.

**CHILDREN'S EASTER WORKSHOP AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S** There will be an Easter Workshop for children on Tuesday 31st March from 3.45pm - 5.30pm. Come and help plant our outdoor Easter Garden, make your own garden, make some Easter things, join in an Easter egg hunt, prepare for our Way of the Cross, have a 'Happy Easter Tea' and listen to an Easter story. We ask for a donation of £2 per child to cover some of our costs. Please bring a small amount of food. Parents are welcome.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH CLEANING** Why not help 'share the load' by joining our dedicated team of cleaners? The more people helping the less often your turn comes around. Contact Mavis on 01707 330830 or Kathryn in the Office on 322579 if you can help or would like to know what is involved.

**OUR LADY'S CHURCH GROUNDS MAINTENANCE:** This will take place next **Saturday 28th March at 10.00am** in preparation for Easter. Please do come along to help with this important task. Many hands make light work! Cleaning of the church will take place the following Saturday 4th April commencing at 9.30am with Morning Prayer.

**HELP NEEDED** Fr. Gerard would like some help cleaning the grounds of Holy Family Church. Please phone him on 327434.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** For those of you in the envelope scheme (or who requested envelopes) your new sets should be at the back of each church for you to collect.

**CLOCKS** go forward ONE hour next weekend as British Summer Time begins. **Don't forget!**

**26TH WESTMINSTER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE** 26th July - 1st August led by Cardinal Nichols. This pilgrimage welcomes all especially those who are sick or frail. Hotels cater for all needs. 24 hour medical care is provided by volunteer nurses, doctors, care assistants, and redcaps (young helpers aged 16+). Travel by air, train, coach or jumbulance according to need. Booking forms are at the back of church. *Lourdes, a place of prayer, peace, renewal, loving and being loved, caring and being cared for.* Please join us and share the joy of these gifts of God, living the Gospel way. Further information from Kay Diamond Pilgrimage Liaison Nurse 01707 881882.

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**Our Lady's**  
**141 Woodhall Lane**  
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**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

**CONFESSIONS**

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

**MASS TIMES**

23 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	Lent feria
24 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	St. Patrick
	7pm	Our Lady's	
25 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	The Annunciation of the Lord
26 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Lent feria
27 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Lent feria
	7pm	Our Lady's	
28 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Lent feria

**Palm Sunday of the Lords Passion**

28 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
29 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