

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Martin Tate
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year 4th October 2015 (p.141 of Mass book)

As we come together for Mass this weekend, there is much to think about and pray for. In Rome the Synod on the Family begins. Pope Francis has gathered so many from all over the world to help reflect on family life in the light of the Teaching of Christ and the reality of people's situations, with their joys and sorrows, their hopes and challenges. Pope Francis wants the Church to pray that God's Spirit may guide all who attend the Synod. The Holy Father has implored those coming to contribute to the discussions from their own experience AND to listen hard to what others have to say. As Church, we then have to trust that God is guiding us and empowering the Pope to be a source of unity and the instrument or voice which articulates the Church's Teaching. As families, households and individuals, let us join in deep intercession for the Synod.

Today's Gospel passage is so challenging as we hear Jesus' very clear teaching on Marriage. Marriage is part of God's plan. It is a source of grace and blessing and can enrich a couple with joy and contentment. We all know that there are times of strain, suffering, misunderstanding; sacrifice is needed too. As we listen to the Lord, let us remember the power of his Word. Let support Marriage and pray for those preparing to enter Matrimony. Let us also not forget couples going through difficult times or who are struggling to stay together. Let us pray for those whose relationships have broken irreparably and who carry the burden of the past. Let us pray for healing, peace and fulfilment. The Gospel today also speaks of Jesus' love for children and his willingness and desire to welcome them and bless them. Their dependence on others and their openness to love offer us the vision of how to receive God's Kingdom.

Last week I mentioned I would write to Welwyn Hatfield Council about the situation of migrants and the possibility of welcoming them here in our area. The motion was passed and a new stage entered. The County Council must also be approached. Some of you at the weekend shared with me your thoughts and experiences and these were reflected in my email to the Council. Thank you. Prayers are still required for the whole situation.

May God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

FR. MARTIN TATE We welcome Fr. Martin as our new Assistant Priest, we wish him much happiness and fulfilment here in the Garden City.

PADUA PILGRIMAGE Parishioners who wish to travel by coach to and from Gatwick Airport in October should let Fr. Norbert know as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & FIRST CONFESSION 2016 Our Lady's parents will have their enrolment meeting on Tuesday 3rd November at 7.45pm in the church. Preparation will begin in January and takes place on a Sunday morning. Holy Family's parents will have their enrolment meeting on Sunday 6th December after the 9.30 Mass. Preparation will begin in January and usually takes place midweek after school. Children for First Holy Communion and First Confession should be at least in Year 3 at school. Parents' sessions start in January.

RCIA The Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults starts on Monday! If you are thinking about joining the Catholic Church or want as an adult to be confirmed, come to Our Lady's sacristy at 7.30pm (entering via the church or directly from the car park). If you are not sure but want to find out more, then come along too...no strings attached!

CONFIRMATION Young people who wish to be confirmed next year should come to an enrolment meeting together with their parents in Holy Family Church on Sunday 18th October at 7pm. They should be at least in Year 9 at school.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Fr. Norbert will be available in October at Our Lady's Church to meet parents and Year 6 children who will need a Priest's Reference for Secondary School Transfer. The times are as follows: Friday 9th 8 - 9pm, Monday 12th 5 - 7pm, Tuesday 13th October 5 - 7pm and Monday 19th October 5 - 7pm. Please contact Kathryn Hubbard (01707322579) to arrange a 10-minute meeting. Please wait in the church for your turn and please bring completed forms with you. If your child was baptised in one of our three churches in WGC and you require a Baptismal certificate, contact Kathryn for this too.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY for couples marrying in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere in 2016/17 on Saturday 6th February 2016. Please let Fr. Norbert know if are planning to get married so that the necessary paperwork and preparation can be arranged.

POLISH/ENGLISH MASS on Saturday 17th October at 6pm at Our Lady's. There will be further planning meetings this Sunday and next Sunday after Our Lady's 11.30am Mass.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S 90TH There were many ideas put forward at last Monday's meeting. These will be followed up in the coming months.

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT THE FOCOLARE IS? The inter faith group will be hosting a meeting at the Focolare Centre on Thursday 15th October at 7.15 to learn about the beginnings of the Focolare Movement and how it has spread all over the world to build unity between peoples. Do come, you will be made most welcome.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE A DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY SOCIETY? If so, Friends of Welwyn Care Homes is hosting a Dementia Friends Information Evening on Thursday Oct 22nd at the Focolare Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway; 7.15 for 7.30. The speaker is Sue Harrison who has long experience of dementia care. This is an initiative of the Alzheimer's Society. Further information Anne Horsman; 01438840566, anne.horsman@btinternet.com; Anne.Keller-anne.keller@ntlworld.com.

MARY PRIDE R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Mary Pride is at St. Bonaventure's Church on Friday 16th October at 12.30pm.

REPOSITORY We welcomed Darrell into our Church family at Easter and his gift to us was to renovate the repository at Our Lady's including the shelving donated from the volunteer hospital shop at the QE11 for which we are very grateful. The Christmas stock is now in, open before and after most Masses.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH: Many thanks to all who came on Saturday morning to clean our church and maintain the grounds. Your help is much appreciated!

FR. GERARD Fr. Gerard has let us know that his sister, Bernadette's Funeral will be at St. Paul's Church, Station Road Wood Green N22 7SY this Thursday at 12noon. Her body will be received into church on Wednesday 7th at 7.30pm. We have assured him of our prayers.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Saturday 10th October at 6pm at Our Lady's. It will be followed by a Barn Dance with a band and a caller. We ask people coming to bring food to share. It should be a brilliant evening. We will also formally welcome Fr. Martin Tate at this celebration!

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT DAY in Our Lady's Hall on Saturday 10th October for married couples to be enriched and strengthened further. Due to illness in her family Jane Deegan cannot come so the day will be led by Edmund Adamus, Director of Family Life in the Diocese. He is so pleased that there has been a lot of interest and asks that couples 'register' with Fr. Norbert by giving names and contact details so we have an idea of numbers coming. We ask couples coming to bring food to share at lunchtime. The programme is as follows:

10.30 Opening prayers and welcome **10.45-11.30** Spirituality and sacrament of matrimony Q and A? **Noon** Mass with Renewal of Vows Lunch **2pm** Spiritual Exercise Workshop (testimony based) Feedback Forms General discussion about future initiatives **3pm** Closing Prayers

MISSIO-APF RED BOXES Need to be brought in as soon as possible.

HCPT QUIZ NIGHT Quiz night at Herts Uni Hatfield. On Friday 9th October 7:30 start. Teams of up to 8 people. To book your table please contact Bev on 07751410759

HCPT GROUP 183 is looking for volunteers to help look after children with special needs on a pilgrimage holiday to Lourdes at Easter, for an amazing time away for HCPT's 60th birthday. Minimum age for a helper is 17 years old no upper limit! If you are interested please contact Emma Moore on 07740858313 or email group183@hcpt.org.uk

ROSARY During October, the Rosary will be prayed every Sat. at 10am in Our Lady's chapel.

BEREAVEMENT TEA An afternoon tea will be held Friday, 23 October for those who have recently been bereaved or have experienced a loss. The tea will begin at 3pm and will be held at the home of one of our parishioners. If you would like to attend the tea, please contact Ann Chappell (01438 714 846) for further details and to arrange transportation, if necessary. There's room for 12 people; please let her know if you would like to come.

SYNOD ON THE FAMILY Starting today, 4th October until 25th October; the General Synod on the Family will be held in Rome. Please pray daily for God's guidance during the Synod. A candle and prayer card will be handed out at the back of the church after Masses this weekend. This is also a time to pray for our own families and loved ones, and for families who are facing difficulties. May the Holy Spirit inspire all of those who are participating in the Synod.

NICHOLAS BREAKSPEAR CATHOLIC SCHOOL warmly invites you to their Open Evening on Thursday, 8th October 2015. The evening begins at 5.30pm with tours of the school which will be followed by the Headteacher's address at 7.30pm.

PLANNED GIVING DRIVE in our three parishes is completed this weekend. Please fill out one of the pledge cards today at the end of Mass or take it home and return it as soon as possible. Many thanks for your co-operation and continuing generosity.

LISTER HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY There will be a Hospital Chaplaincy Visitor Course beginning first week in November 2015 in Lister hospital for 5 weeks. If you are interested in visiting patients, please contact Jacqueline Humphreys, Catholic Chaplain 0788 4187463 or 01438 285518.

BLESSING OF GRAVES Hatfield Hyde Cemetery, Hollybush Lane on Sunday 1st November at 1.30pm. Hatfield Lawn Cemetery, Southway on Sunday 8th November at 2pm. Old Welwyn Cemetery, Fulling Mill Lane at 2pm.

ROOM FOR RENT NEEDED Near to QEII and Our Lady's for a Romanian lady to be close to grandchildren. Call Cecilia if you can help 0777677112.

CHILDMINDER AVAILABLE Phone 07533077879 or 01707 552288 for details.

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234
welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk

Our Lady's
141 Woodhall Lane
AL7 3TP

Website: www.ourladys-parish.info

Fr. Martin 01707 327434

Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ
welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk

Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579
parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk

St. Bonaventure's
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Website:
www.stbonaventure.org.uk

OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE
Bookings should be made with Phil Johnson
01707 377442

YEAR OF MERCY Fr. John Hemer will be leading a day for the catechists of our Deanery on the Year of Mercy. It will be at Our Lady Immaculate and St. Andrew Church in Hitchin (16 Nightingale Road, Hitchin SG5 1QS) on Saturday 21st November 10am - 3pm. Fr. John has led the days for catechists for the last couple of years and has always given an inspiring presentation. For this reason, and with the importance of the Year of Mercy for everyone, ALL parishioners are welcome to attend as well. Please bring food to share at lunchtime.

WORLD YOUTH DAY brochures should soon be ready. There will be a meeting for anyone interested on Saturday 7th November at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Hall, WGC. Pax Travel will give a presentation and young people from the parishes of the Deanery will be invited too. So, please let your friends know! Parents whose sons and daughters are at university, pass on this info to them too.

The dates are 23rd July - 3rd August, 2016. 2 - 3 million young people (16 - 30 years old) will gather in Krakow with Pope Francis. Why not be one of them?

CONFESSIONS

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

MASS TIMES

05 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
06 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
07 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Our Lady of the Rosary
08 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
09 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
10 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

Twenty-eighth Sunday of the Year

10 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
11 Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
	10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
	6pm	Mass	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