

# 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-ninth Sunday of the Year 18th October 2015 (p.146 of Mass book)***

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

*Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.*

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

This traditional spiritual hymn asks us ‘Were you there?’ In one sense we were not there and yet in another and much deeper way we were! When Jesus was crucified he did it out of love for us, revealing himself as a servant, a slave, who gave his life as ransom for many. This loving mercy reaches out from the Cross to each one of us and to the whole of creation; in this way we are put in touch with the riches of his grace. Surely this is awe-inspiring and should make us tremble?

In today’s Gospel reading from St. Mark, Jesus has just spoken for the third time about his Passion, Death and Resurrection. The brothers James and John demand the best seats in heaven! He asks them ‘Can you drink the cup I must drink or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?’ And they answer ‘We can.’ It is amazing that they seek their preferment. The other disciples are not happy! Jesus then outlines the quality of the love which will be poured out.

To be a true disciple of Jesus means following him every step of the way, staying with him no matter what, and suffering with him as he gives his life for many. To reach his glory, we must carry the cross. This was something all the disciples needed to learn and the lesson is still there for us. Of course, at the Crucifixion we are told about the disciples running away - fear and a lack of courage get in the way. However, the Lord does not give up on them and in due course they do share in his suffering.

Let us pray that this week we will allow the Lord’s love to overwhelm us to such a degree that we make sacrifices for others, give him our time and reflect through our words and actions his presence in us who count ourselves his disciples. When we find ourselves falling away or overcome by fear, let us remember the power of his Cross and make a fresh start with his help.

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

**PLANNED GIVING DRIVE** Please fill out your pledge card and return it as soon as possible to the Presbytery (office mailbox for St. B's) of your church in an envelope marked 'Planned Giving'. Many thanks for your co-operation and great generosity.

**PADUA PILGRIMAGE** If any parishioners would like petitions taken to St. Anthony's Shrine in Padua, please give them to Fr. Norbert by Sunday 18th October. The pilgrimage leaves on Sunday 25th and returns on Friday 30th.

**DAVID KRUPA** from the Diocese of St. Denis will be ordained a deacon in Paris on Saturday 24th October. Let us keep him in our prayers.

**EXTRA MASS** There will be an extra Mass on Wednesday 21st October at 8am in the Chapel of Our Lady's (near the Hall).

**SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER** Fr. Norbert will be available at Our Lady's Church to meet parents and Year 6 children who will need a Priest's Reference for Secondary School Transfer. The final session is on 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.

**FUTURE PRIEST'S REFERENCES** The Bishops of England and Wales have had to respond to challenges against the way a Priest's Reference is given and have accordingly decided on a Certificate of Catholicity. This will come into operation for Reception and Nursery Admissions in January and March respectively. Basically a priest can only give a family a Certificate of Catholicity if the family attends Mass every week. So the responsibility is on each family to do all they can to live up to what has always been the Catholic Church's expectation that Catholics attend Mass every week. This Certificate of Catholicity will also be used for Secondary School transfer this time next year.

**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** continues on Monday evening. Please pray for the adults who are taking this important step in their lives.

**CONFIRMATION** Young people who wish to be confirmed next year should come to an enrolment meeting together with their parents in Holy Family Church today (Sunday 18th) at 7pm. They should be at least in Year 9 at school. The course begins on Sunday 22nd November.

**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.

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** Our thanks to all who helped with the Special Needs Mass and the Reception last Saturday. There was a wonderful spirit and the barn dance group commented on the happiness on everyone's faces. Thank you!

**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT DAY** 13 couples came for the day led by Edmund Adamus last Saturday. There was a real spectrum of ages and backgrounds. All definitely felt enriched by the time spent together and another day will take place next year.

**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 on Sunday 22nd November.

**LIKE TO SING?** Then come to the choir practice on Tuesday 27th at 10.15am at St. Bonaventure's.

**HCPT** For anyone who is interested in becoming a helper for HCPT group 183 next Easter there is a meeting this Sunday at 6pm in Our Lady's sacristy.

**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, 23rd 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.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** We are again supporting this charity by filling and sending shoe boxes to children in need around the world particularly migrants. As you go around the shops please buy some little gifts to put in these boxes (they don't need to be expensive) - there are leaflets at the back of each church advising you about what can or cannot be included. Filled boxes, knitted hats, scarves, gloves/mittens can be brought to St. Bonaventure's or whichever church you attend as soon as you have them ready. If you were unable to get a flat pack box please use a normal shoebox and cover it - lid and box separately (all boxes have to be opened to check the contents before they can be shipped).

**HOLY FAMILY CAFOD Group** are holding a Michaelmas Fayre on Sunday 1st Nov where you can buy homemade preserves, chutneys, homemade Christmas puddings, craft items, Christmas presents and Fairtrade goods.

**LORETO** Parents from WGC with children attending Loreto school have expressed interest in a school bus service between WGC via Hatfield to St Albans during the school term. Please contact pbspillane@outlook.com if you are interested. The first step is to identify if there are sufficient numbers to take this further. Thank you.

**EVENING OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS** A suggestion has been made of having an informal evening of carols in different languages in Our Lady's Hall. The date chosen is Saturday 12th December after 6pm Mass at around 7.15/7.30pm. If you are interested in taking part, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**PILGRIMAGES** Pax Travel is organising for us a Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to Prague next year 22nd - 26th October, 2016. Brochures will be available soon. There will be an Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Saturday 27th May - Sunday 4th June, 2017. There will be a meeting about the Holy Land trip on Tuesday 26th January, 2016 at 8pm in Our Lady's Hall.

**OUR LADY SCHOOL** Years 5 and 6 will attend 9.30 Mass at Our Lady's Church on Monday 19th October.

**OUR LADY'S ROTA FOR MINISTERS:** The rota for Welcomers, Readers and Holy Communion Ministers for the period November 2015 to January 2016 is now available. Copies are at the back of Our Lady's Church. However, if you have provided a regular email address you will receive it by email. Thank you for your commitment to these ministries.

**LILIAN ECCLESTON R.I.P.** The Funeral Mass for Lilian Eccleston will be in Holy family Church on Wednesday 28th October at 11am. We offer our prayers and sympathy to family and friends.

**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. Please return to the presbyteries for OL's and HF and the office for St. B's.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP PARTY** We have our party on Tuesday 3rd November from 3.45pm - 5.15pm. Games, Spooky Tea and Fireworks. Bring a small amount of food (pizza provided). Parents are welcome to stay but those who don't must return by 4.45pm so there is maximum supervision for the fireworks. £2 to cover costs.

**REMEMBER** Clocks go back one hour next weekend. Don't forget!

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

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141 Woodhall Lane  
AL7 3TP

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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?

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

**MASS TIMES**

19 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
20 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
21 Wednesday	8am	Mass	Our Lady's Chapel	feria
	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	
22 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
23 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
24 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

**Thirtieth Sunday of the Year**

24 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
25 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