

# 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*

***Fifteenth Sunday of the Year (page 108) 10th July 2016***

The Good Samaritan is surely a parable each one of us knows so well? You could probably tell the story with your Bible shut and your eyes closed! *That is the problem.* ‘Why?’ I hear you asking yourself. Well, we can become so familiar with Scripture that it stops having an impact on our lives. We can feel we know the answer even before stopping to reflect. Perhaps you might even think there is no need for a homily today because we all know what Jesus expects! That’s the danger and it is this very trap that the parable challenges us not to fall into.

The priest and the Levite were religious people and probably very good; they were doing the things that were supposed to be done and their focus was totally on their duties, I would imagine. The Samaritan came from a race despised by the Jewish nation and Samaritans would have held the same opinion of the Jews. So, why did the Samaritan stop? Why did he take time to help the person in distress? And why did he spend so much of his own money on a stranger? The parable is so thought-provoking and it roots us in the reality of our lives and the people we encounter - our attitudes and our actions. As religious people, are our eyes open to the person in need? Are our hearts ready to reach out? Would we - and do we - put ourselves out for the stranger?

At the end of the passage, Jesus says: ‘Go and do the same yourself.’ Remember Jesus has set his face towards Jerusalem; he is on the way to the Cross. Jesus wants everyone to be saved and his journey will show us the way. At this point he is saying to YOU and to ME: ‘Action is required by you NOW!’ What a challenge from the Son of God! Please take time to reflect on the Lord’s parable. And let each one of us make the Good Samaritan’s actions OUR actions as well! God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

**LAMPEDUSA CROSS** is made from pieces of a boat that was wrecked on 11th October, 2013 off the coast of Lampedusa. 311 Eritrean and Somali refugees were drowned en route from Libya to Europe. Inhabitants of Lampedusa helped to save the lives of 155 others. After meeting some of the survivors who are Eritrean Christians in the church on Lampedusa, Mr Tuccio, the island's carpenter, was moved by their plight but felt frustrated that he could not make a difference to their situation. The best he could do was to use his skills as a carpenter to fashion each of them a cross from the wreckage of the boat as a reflection on their salvation from the sea and hope for the future. The Cross will be with us for at least two weeks and will be in each of our churches at some point for Mass. CAFOD has produced a card on which people can write a message to refugees or migrants offering hope and encouragement in all they face. Please fill out one if you feel able and these will be sent to CAFOD. Thank you.

### **Litany of prayer before the Lampedusa Cross**

For the grace to care for the suffering... Grant us your mercy.

For the grace to feed the hungry... Grant us your mercy.

For the grace to welcome the stranger... Grant us your mercy.

For the grace to stand in solidarity... Grant us your mercy.

For the grace to reject injustice... Grant us your mercy.

For the grace to love... Grant us your mercy.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY** is fast approaching! There will be a final meeting of our Deanery Group next Sunday (24th) at 7.30pm at Our Lady's, WGC in the Hall.

**CHAPLAIN AT THE LISTER** Mrs Jacqueline Humphreys has now left the Lister Hospital as Catholic Chaplain. We are so grateful to her for her total dedication to our parishioners and their families over the years and we wish her and her family every blessing in the future. Bishop Paul McAleenan celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving in the hospital chapel and a presentation was made on behalf of the Deanery. The new Catholic Chaplain has been appointed and he is a permanent deacon, Reverend Anthony Curran, who will probably be referred to as Deacon Anthony. He will formally start at the end of August. Until then, if people need a Catholic Chaplain, they can contact the Chaplaincy Office on 01438 285518 during working hours or, out of working hours, switchboard on 01438 314333, and they'll page whichever RC chaplain is on duty.

**THE FINAL MINIBUS OUTING** will be to St. Albans on Friday 22nd July with opportunity for midday Mass in the Abbey. Door to door transport for anybody of limited mobility. Please telephone Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579 to book your place.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH CLEANING** The monthly cleaning of the church will be on Thursday 14th July from 1 pm. If anyone can spare an hour or two to help it will be greatly appreciated.

**THE HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP** invites you to a Strawberry Tea on Sunday 24th July from 3pm at Sandy & Bob Leys house 401, Knightsfield WGC. There will be no charge for the event but there will be boxes available for donations.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S TUESDAY GROUP** We finish the term this Tuesday with games and tea. Please bring food to share. We meet next term on Tuesday 13th September. Our next Children's Mass is on Sunday and we will prepare for this during our time together.

**BRIAN McCANN RIP** Brian's Funeral Mass will be on Friday at 9.30am at Our Lady's.

**CARDINAL'S VISIT** The Cardinal was absolutely delighted with the welcome he received last Sunday and the engagement of all who were able to come to the various parts of his visit. He commented on the tremendous spirit. People of our three churches here in WGC worked so hard with the Liturgies, the hospitality and in creating a wonderful atmosphere for all the many visitors. Ten priests from across the Deanery concelebrated at the 6.30pm Mass. Fr. Norbert is so grateful to you all.

**HOLY FAMILY YEAR 3** will be coming on Monday to Our Lady's Church for 9.30am Mass and will then begin a town trail taking them to St. Bonaventure's and then back to school.

**\*ST BONAVENTURE'S FEAST & OPENING OF PATIO\*** This will be celebrated on Sunday 17th July at both 8am and 10.30 Masses. There will be light refreshments after both Masses. If you can bake something or help with tea and coffee it would be greatly appreciated. A relation of parishioners who is a Franciscan Father has given a relic of St. Bonaventure's for the church and so this will be available for veneration too!

**SEMINARIANS** Fran Trigo and Alfonso Pascual from the Seminary in Seville are with us until 22nd July. If you would like to invite them for a coffee and help them improve their English, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**PRAGUE & HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGES** Brochures are at the back of our churches. Please note Pax Travel's new address: Pax Travel Ltd, Second Floor, 102 Blundell Street, London N7 9BL.

**DAY OF RECOLLECTION** 'Breathe in Mercy. Breathe out Mercy' led by Bishop John Crowley, retired Bishop of Middlesbrough on Saturday 10th September for our Deanery in Our Lady's Hall, WGC. This Day will provide a great time of enrichment for us all but especially Catechists, Eucharist Ministers, Readers and Welcomers. Here in WGC in our parishes we will then have the Recommissioning of Ministers the following weekend (17th/18th September) at all the Masses.

**ST. ALBANS** Bishop John Sherrington will be preaching at an Ecumenical Evensong at St. Alban's Abbey Cathedral on Saturday 8th October at 4pm for this Year of Mercy. Bishop John would like all the schools of Hertfordshire to lead a procession from Verulamium Park at 2.30pm which will enter the Abbey and prepare for Evensong. Watch this space!

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CLEANING** Thank you to all those who came to clean the church last Tuesday, your help is very much appreciated. The next big clean is Thursday 4th August. All welcome.

**INTERFAITH MEETINGS** Tuesday 12th July Inter Faith Women's Social Group from 12.30pm - 2pm (bring a sandwich, tea and coffee provided) and at 7.15pm a talk open to all faith communities entitled 'Science and Religion, Friends or Foes?' presented by the Rev. Martin King who is a member of the Society of Ordained Scientists. Both events taking place at the Focolare Centre, 69 Parkway, WGC.

**NOTE:** This week Fr. Norbert will celebrate an early Mass at 8am on Tuesday in the chapel at Our Lady's.

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234  
**welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk**  
**Our Lady's Church**  
**141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP**

**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
**parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk**  
**St. Bonaventure's Church**  
**81 Parkway AL8 6JF**

Fr. Martin 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

**Website for our 3 parishes**  
**www.wgc-catholics.org.uk**

**SAVE THE CHILDREN** are hosting a garden party on 17th July at 33, Valley Road. Entrance is £1.00. There will be cream teas, a plant sale, cake sale, Pimms and live music from 2pm till 5pm.

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

**MASS TIMES**

11 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Benedict
12 Tuesday	8am	Mass	Our Lady's Chapel	
	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
13 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
14 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
15 Friday	9.30am	Funeral Mass	Brian McCann	Our Lady's
	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
16 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Our Lady of Mount Carmel

**Sixteenth Sunday of the Year**

<b>16 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
<b>17 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>9.30am</b>	Mass	Holy Family
	<b>10.30am</b>	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	<b>11.30am</b>	Mass	Our Lady's
	<b>6pm</b>	Mass	Holy Family



**CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS:** If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact 01438 285518 during working hours or 01438 314333 out of working hours.