

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*

Sixth Sunday of the Year 12th February 2017 p. 136 of book

Today in our Gospel passage, Jesus continues his teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. Remember last week - he was telling the people that they were salt and light; previously there were Blessings in abundance being showered. Now he takes some of the commandments and gives them a deeper, more challenging edge. As Jesus speaks, he wants us to hear and really understand the full impact of his words. As he shares with us the profundity of his wisdom, he is calling on us to trust him and change where we are able.

‘I have come not to abolish the Law or the Prophets...I have come to complete them’ is the gist of what Jesus utters. The person ‘who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the Kingdom of Heaven.’ Do you want to be great? Is it straightforward keeping this teaching? How do we hand it on to others? So many questions and no easy answers when our lives are so complicated! Jesus refers to how we regard our brothers/sisters and the anger we may harbour against them...he challenges the way in which we look at others perhaps with desire...he speaks about Marriage and its sanctity...he says we should mean what we say and not have to have recourse to the taking of oaths. I am sure that the people gathered with him on the hill must have been staggered by the power of his words and wondered about their own lives.

As the Sermon draws to a close (which we won't hear because of Lent breaking in) Jesus uses the image of building a house on rock and the strength it will have - this is what it means to keep his Word. So, our being the Lord's disciples is something which is happening and progressing. Our readiness to try with all our might will hold us in good stead for when we face battles, trials and storms. The gracious mercy and forgiveness of God revealed in his Son pick us up when we fall. Let's keep going!

May God bless your week. ***Fr. Norbert***

MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS On Saturday 11th March at 2.30pm in the Cathedral, a Mass will be celebrated for all bereaved parents. As parents arrive in the Cathedral that day they will be invited to write the name of their deceased child, which will later be collected and taken to the sanctuary. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are planning to go.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE is having a Spiritual Evening led by Father Frank. It is on 14th February, following the 7pm Mass in Our Lady's Church. It will be in the Family Centre and we would like to invite all that would like to, to come and join us. We expect it to be a lovely spiritual and sociable evening. Transport can be arranged if you would like some. We will be delighted to see you. Please contact Anne Davidson if you would like a lift 01707 327569.

INTERFAITH What comes to mind when you read the word Spirituality? Probably different things to different people. Come and explore the subject at the Friends Meeting House, Handside Lane AL8 6SP on Monday 13th February - 7.15 - 9.30 pm. All welcome.

CAKE SALE The CAFOD group will be holding a cake sale at Holy Family on Sunday 26th February after the 9.30 am Mass.

JULIAN OF NORWICH After its success at St John's, Digswell, the 'JULIAN OF NORWICH - MEDITATION' will move to the medieval splendour of Norwich Cathedral for its second presentation on Sunday 26th February, 6.30pm - 7.45pm. Free entry.

Julian was a woman who in the fourteenth century received 16 Revelations when she was about 30 years old. She spent the rest of her life, locked away in a cell, at her own choosing, reflecting on all that God had revealed to her. It is proposed that a coach be booked to Norwich for the Hatfield Parishes leaving St Peter's at 2pm, calling at Our Lady's at 2.15pm and returning home at 8.30pm. The cost of the coach will be about £24.00 per person. Please contact Tessa Banfield 07759 391537 or Anne Stapleton 01707 707063 by February 10th, if you would like to come.

BRIDGET (BRIDIE) RYALL R.I.P. Bridie's Funeral Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's on Friday at 12.30pm.

HELP!! Please join us - St. Bonaventure's Coffee Group. We enable parishioners to meet, talk, build bonds after the 10.30am Mass. At the same time we are raising money for CAFOD. One is only called to help every 6 to 8 weeks; there are two people on duty; it is not hard work; it is a very easy way to be of service. Ring Jenny on 01438717798 if interested or come and talk to us after Mass we are in the Parish Room.

ASH WEDNESDAY this year will be on 1st March.

PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL met last Tuesday. Minutes will be left at the back of our churches when they are ready.

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES Cathy Staniforth has completed her training and is now the new Safeguarding Representative at St. Bonaventure's following Peter Bell's retirement from this role. Cathy joins Barbara Moore (from Our Lady's) and Ann Chappell (from Holy Family). We are grateful to Peter for all the hard work he has put in over many years to ensure everything has been in order. The three Safeguarding Representatives will meet with Fr. Norbert in due course.

WOMEN OF VALOUR is a Prayer Group made up of women who meet every Saturday at 4pm in Our Lady's Chapel (near the entrance to the Hall) to say the Rosary and to share the Word. They would like to invite you to join them and encourage you to bring your children along.

NURSERY PRIEST'S REFERENCES Fr. Norbert will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice forms for Nursery entry on Wednesday 8th March 3.30 - 5.30pm and Monday 13th March 3.30 - 5.30pm at Our Lady's Church. Parents are asked to contact Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to arrange an appointment with Fr. Norbert. After half-term, Fr. Norbert will be giving out his 'extra' form either before or after Mass at weekends. On the day of the appointment, parent/s should come into Our Lady's Church with their child and wait to be called. Parents whose children were baptised in one of our three churches in WGC may request a Baptismal Certificate from Kathryn Hubbard.

FR. MARIUS COJAN is a Romanian priest from the Diocese of Iasi who will be with us in WGC sharing in the life of our parishes. He will arrive on Monday 20th February and stay until Friday 3rd March.

HOLY FAMILY'S 50TH The next meeting to continue planning for Holy Family Church's 50th Anniversary will be on Tuesday 7th March at 8pm in the Parish Room (after the CAFOD Meeting). All welcome.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Holy Family's Finance Committee will meet this Sunday (12th) at 7pm in the Parish Room.

CARDINAL'S MASS FOR WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES will be on Saturday 3rd June at 3pm at Westminster Cathedral. If you are celebrating your 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or more, and would like to be invited to this Mass, please give the details of your names and address, email, phone number and date of wedding to Fr. Norbert and he will send them on. Every year many couples have attended this Mass and have come home extremely happy!

FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION The next parents' meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Church. Children from St. Bonaventure's will make their First Confession in the church at 11am on Saturday 25th February. Holy Family's will be on the same day at 2pm at Holy Family Church. Our Lady's First Confession will be on Saturday 4th March at 11am. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

CONFIRMATION Next session will be on Sunday 5th March at 7.15pm in the Parish Room of Holy Family.

RCIA Next meeting on Monday 20th February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. The Rite of Election at Westminster Cathedral will be on Sunday 5th March at 3pm. The adults and child for the Sacraments at Easter will be presented to the Cardinal and Bishops of our Diocese on that day. The weekend before (24th/25th February) they will sign scrolls at Mass which will be taken up to the Cathedral.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FIRST COMMUNION GROUP Meet again next Saturday at 10.30am. Children's Mass on Sunday - *Love your Enemies*.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Our next celebration will be on Saturday 25th February at 6pm at Our Lady's. This is the last weekend before Lent begins and so the Mass will have a Carnival dimension to it! The Diocesan Deaf Service will be coming and so the whole Mass will be signed. There are members of the deaf community in this part of Hertfordshire who would like to come. If you are aware of anyone who would like to be invited, please let them know. Please bring food to share for the celebration afterwards in the hall. As ever, there will be bingo and a quiz!

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

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

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

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

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

LOOKING AHEAD We will be having our Mass with the Anointing of the Sick on Saturday 10th June. We have been asked to host a Mental Health Awareness Day on Saturday 1st July in Our Lady's Hall; MIND mid-Herts will be assisting.

HOLY LAND (Sat 27th May - Sunday 4th June, 2017: 46 have booked) and **FATIMA** (Sunday 10th - Thursday 14th September 2017: 20 have booked so far) £689. We have run out of brochures for both pilgrimages, so best to contact Pax Travel for more details on 020 7485 3003 or info@paxtravel.co.uk *Not many places left!*

NEED A CLEANER? Then phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980 887231.

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

MASS TIMES

13 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
14 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	SS Cyril and Methodius
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
15 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
16 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
17 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	12.30pm	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
18 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

Seventh Sunday of the Year

18 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
19 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 and need a Catholic Chaplain contact Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) Office Tel: **01438 285138 (24/7)**
Urgent need: 01438 314 333 via text message: 07876 526935 email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net