

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tom Montgomery
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Palm Sunday 25th March 2018 page 177/183 of the Mass Book

‘I do not know the man...’ These are Peter’s words in today’s Passion Reading from St. Mark’s Gospel when he is put on the spot on the night before the Lord died. What would you have said? Would fear have left you tongue-tied? Would you have worried that the right words would not have come out to explain things clearly? Perhaps you might have hoped it would all go away as a bad dream? The fact is that Peter chickened out and denied he knew Jesus whom he had followed for three years and who had played such an important part in his life. This week - Holy Week - I am sure people will wonder what you are up to as the holidays set in! Will work colleagues ask you what you are getting up to? Will you have the courage to speak about Christ and the difference he makes to your life? Would you be prepared to invite someone along to church? Sometimes it can seem easier to remain silent and hope that others will have the questions put to them!

This Holy Week we journey with Christ re-living the power of love poured out to save us especially through Sacred Scripture: on Maundy Thursday at the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, we recall the great Gift of the Eucharist instituted that night with bread and wine becoming the Body and Blood of Christ; we are also confronted by the amazing scene of Jesus washing his disciples’ feet. On Good Friday there are the Stations of the Cross and Acts of Witness; in addition, and crucially, there is the Solemn Liturgy of the Passion when we recall the Death of Jesus and are given the opportunity to venerate the Cross. On Holy Saturday Night, the Easter Vigil bursts into the darkness of the evening with the Easter Fire and the Paschal Candle. Water is blessed and used to baptise many as well as to remind us of our own Baptism as we renew our Baptismal Promises. We proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and burst into life and song! How could we say ‘I do not know the man’? Surely this is the time to offer those around us a glimpse into what makes us tick and the conviction which we profess with all our hearts?

May God bless those who are going away, the visitors in our midst and our community gathered to worship.

Fr. Norbert

GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICES

Panshanger: The Good Friday Walk of Witness is from 10am till 10:45am concluding with an outdoor service and hot cross buns and Easter Crafts in the church.

Town Centre 11am Joint service Howardsgate followed by hot cross buns and refreshments at the United Reformed Church.

Woodhall Churches Walk of Witness starts at 10am at New Zion Christian Fellowship. The cross is carried to St Mary Magdalene, Hollybush Lane stopping along the way at churches and landmarks to read and sing the Passion Narrative: Ludwick Way Methodist Church, Woodhall Community Centre, The Salvation Army, Our Lady Queen of Apostles and the War Memorial. There will be tea/coffee and hot cross buns at St Mary Magdalene.

GOOD FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE at Our Lady's at 8pm. A chance at the end of the day to have a time of reflection with readings and music. Perhaps some of you have to work on that day and this will give you a chance to come to church? All welcome.

POLISH BLESSING OF FOOD Traditional Blessing of Food will take place in Our Lady's Church on Holy Saturday, 31st March at 4pm. This is also a tradition in other countries. All are welcome. Tradycyjne swiecenie pokarmow odbędzie się w kościele Our Lady's w Wielka Sobota 31 marca o godzinie 16:00. Serdecznie zapraszamy.

EASTER SACRAMENTS There will be 4 adults and 3 children baptised at the Easter Vigil on Saturday 31st March. There are 4 adults to be received into the Catholic Church and 2 children. There are 3 more who are already Catholic who are to be confirmed (so 11 in total). A real explosion of Faith as we celebrate the Lord's Resurrection!

CHRISM MASS at Westminster Cathedral (near Victoria) on Tuesday 27th March at 12 noon. The Holy Oils - Chrism (used in Baptism, Confirmation, Ordination and Consecration of churches and altars), Catechumens (used before Baptism) and the Oil of the Sick (for those who are infirm or seriously ill) are blessed and distributed to parishes all over the Diocese. The priests renew the promises they made at Ordination. If you are free, why not come?

MUSIC PRACTICE FOR EASTER VIGIL Monday 26th March in Our Lady's 7 - 8pm.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE for WGC on Tuesday at 8pm at Our Lady's. There will be six priests in total. Come and share in the joy of God's reconciling love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation in readiness for Easter. Don't worry if it has been some time since you last went. NOW is a great opportunity...don't let it go by!

TRANSPORT TO MASS SERVICE Several parishioners are now being given regular lifts to the Mass of their choice by our volunteer drivers. If you know of anybody in need of transport or feel you could offer a regular or occasional service as a driver please fill in a yellow or pink form at the back of each church. Thank you,

Volunteer Drivers and all involved, a Bring and share May 19th 1pm. at Our Lady's Parish Centre. Contact Rosaleen by 20th April text 07799416188

STORM MINNETTE RIP The Funeral Service for Baby Storm Minnette will be at Our Lady's on Wednesday 28th at 1pm.

DEIRDRE DAVIS RIP Deirdre's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family on Wednesday 28th March at 3pm. Deirdre's body will be received into the church on Tuesday at 4pm.

PAUL CONNOLLY RIP Paul's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 6th April at 12.30pm.

ADAM LINDSAY RIP Adam's Funeral Mass will be on Wednesday 18th April at 12.30pm at St. Bonaventure's.

MARGARET PENNETT RIP Margaret's Funeral Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's on Friday 20th April at 11.45am.

GARDENER AVAILABLE to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, edging, hedge cutting, pruning shrubs and roses and weeding. Call Daniel on 07751992492.

NEWSLETTER The Easter newsletter on Sunday 1st April will cover the weekends of 7th/8th and 14th/15th April, so please get all your information to Kathryn Hubbard in time for Easter. Thank you.

LENTEN PROGRAMME There will be half an hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday after 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's and Stations of the Cross on Wednesday at Holy Family after 9.30am Mass.

HCPT GROUP 183 will be going to Lourdes on Easter Monday setting off at 4am! Please keep them in your prayers. If you would like any intentions taken to Lourdes, please give them to Fr. Norbert by Easter Sunday morning. Group 183 will remember you in prayer and light a big candle for our parishes at the Grotto.

VISIT TO ST. EDMUND'S There will be an afternoon at St. Edmund's College, Old Hall Green, Ware on Sunday 22nd April 2 – 5pm with an opportunity to have a tour of the Pugin Chapel, the Museum which has many items from Penal Times and to have a time of prayer. There will also be tea and cake! Please give Fr. Norbert your name, the number coming and a contact phone number. This is essential as St. Edmund's will have to know the numbers (preferably by Easter). Many of you will be able to get there by your own cars (postcode SG11 1DS) However, if you need a lift, please let Fr. Norbert know. *25 have signed up so far!*

AYLESFORD On Saturday 5th May we will have a pilgrimage to Aylesford in Kent. Aylesford was founded in 1242 by Carmelites returning from the Holy Land. The present shrine dates from 1958 and it is a place of peace and serenity, welcoming people from many backgrounds, languages and cultures. The coach will leave from Our Lady's at 9am sharp and will return by 7pm. We will be joining about 900 pilgrims. There will be Mass, the Rosary and quiet time. Altar servers are welcome to take part: just take your alb and cincture. Please bring a picnic lunch. Price: £12 for adults and £8 for children. To book a seat on the coach, please contact Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 or email: parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk

AVIGNON 2018 Parish trip to Avignon in France Sunday 23rd - Friday 28th September. Between 1309 and 1377, seven successive popes resided in Avignon. There is an amazing Palace of the Popes and the renowned Bridge of Avignon where we are going to sing 'Sur le pont d'Avignon'. Close by is Chateauneuf-du-Pape where we will do wine tasting! Brochures and booking forms are now at the back of our churches. 27 have signed up already; just a few places left! Why not take a brochure from the back of the church and find out more?

ST. PATRICK'S DAY There was a lovely celebration after 6pm Mass last Saturday. Our thanks to musicians and singers at Mass, to all who helped with food, drink and the quiz. Huge appreciation to the dancers and their parents who organised everything on the dance floor! The craic was great!

CONFIRMATION The final session for candidates will be at Holy Family on Sunday 22nd April at 7.15pm in the Parish Room. Bishop Paul McAleenan will celebrate the Confirmation Mass on Friday 4th May at 7.30pm at Our Lady's. (Rehearsal on Friday 27th April at 7.45pm at Our Lady's)

The First Holy Communion families of our three parishes will have a Retreat Afternoon at St. Albans on Sunday 29th April.

BABYSITTING- I am a reliable and responsible pupil of the John Henry Newman School (previously Holy Family School) available for babysitting. I can provide my own transport and work weekday evenings and weekends. I love looking after children of all ages. Please feel free to contact me on 07580 757924. Ellen Day (Age 15) Reference available.

CHURCH CLEANING FOR EASTER

HOLY FAMILY

Tuesday 27th March at 11am

ST. BONAVENTURE'S

Maundy Thursday 29th at 10am

OUR LADY'S

Holy Saturday after morning prayer at 10am.

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. Tom 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

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

TIMES OF SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
	8pm	Reconciliation Service	Our Lady's
Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
	1pm	Funeral Service	Our Lady's
	3pm	Funeral Mass	Holy Family

EASTER TRIDUUM

Maundy Thursday

6pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	St. Bonaventure
7pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Holy Family
8pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Our Lady's

Good Friday

10am	Children's Way of the Cross	St. Bonaventure
12noon	Children's Way of the Cross	Our Lady's
3pm	Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion	St. Bonaventure
3pm	Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion	Holy Family
5pm	Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion	Our Lady's
8pm	Good Friday Service	Our Lady's

Holy Saturday

8pm	Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter	Our Lady's
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Easter Sunday

8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's

No evening Mass today

CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact **Chaplaincy Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333** via text message: **07876 526935** email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net