

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*

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year 28th October page 149 of the Mass Book

Bartimaeus is the blind beggar in today's passage from St. Mark. He shouts, calling out to Jesus. The bystanders try to silence the man - unsuccessfully! Jesus eventually stops and says to the people: 'Call him here.' There then ensues an amazing encounter between Jesus and Bartimaeus as the Lord asks him 'What do you want me to do for you?' and his straightforward response is 'Master, let me see again.' Faith leads to salvation. Sight returns and the newly healed man follows Jesus along the road. How tremendous!

In what sort of ways do you call out to God? When you are in dire straits or all is darkness and you are desperate to see through the gloom? When you are praying for someone else? Our God is so close, wanting us to speak to him, cry out to him...even shout! Sometimes people around us can come up with all sorts of excuses for us not to bother the Lord or reasons why something has happened or is unfolding. That should not deter us from crying out in our need. Does God call out to you? Who are the people carrying a word to you from the Lord? God can speak through creation, through situations and circumstances. God chooses a stranger, a friend, a family member to be his messenger. However, we do need to be listening, focusing on the response which might come. Can you imagine the sight of Jesus which Bartimaeus beheld as his sight returned? What was the scenery around him like? He followed Jesus on the road, a pathway to suffering and death in Jerusalem and the power of Resurrection shining out. Are you ready to make that journey with the Lord? How is he wanting you to feel his presence on your own pathway of life? The calling out, the listening, the encounter and the faithful love define the road Jesus treads.

Last week when the Confirmation Group met, we mentioned a free App entitled **God calls** which I found in Liverpool back in September. It has Prayers, Scripture and Saints for each day. Why not download this onto your phone? Maybe this might be an extra way of discovering the God who calls! God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

PRAYER SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE Next Saturday 3rd November 12.00 at St Bonaventure's. We invite you and your family and friends to join us for a short Service of Prayer to remember our loved ones who have died and comfort for all who mourn them. Tea/coffee afterwards.

GEN VERDE is coming back to the UK! Gen Verde is an International Performing Arts Group of the Focolare Movement. Their music and choreographies are an expression of their own experiences of living the Gospel and working for peace. Since the 20 artists come from 14 different countries, their styles are very varied and their concerts are suitable for people of all ages (from 8 years old upwards).

Gen Verde will lead the singing at Our Lady's 11.30am Mass NEXT Sunday (4th). On Tuesday 13th November they will hold a Concert at 7.30pm at Christ Church Baptist, 20 Tewin Rd, Welwyn Garden City AL7 1BW. Tickets £7.00 each (Family concessions) available on the door (cash only) or contact: cfu.responses@focolare.org.uk or tel: Lucy 01727 765 262 (evenings) Further information can be found on the leaflets at the back of the church. Also, there will be an interactive weekend with Gen Verde: music, workshops, life & more! From Friday 16th (7pm) to Sunday 18th November. To book your place go to: <https://tinyurl.com/GenVerde18> Cost: £45 (unwaged), £55 (waged) Age: 15-23 years old. 69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JG Contact: Anja: 07779 161243 | Davide: 07922 232643

FINANCE COMMITTEE Holy Family 31st October.

THOMAS O'LEARY RIP Thomas' Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 2nd November at 1.30pm.

RCIA Next session Monday 12th November at 7.30pm in Our Lady's sacristy.

CONFIRMATION Any young people who missed the enrolment meeting should see Fr. Norbert as soon as possible. The course begins with 6pm Mass at Holy Family Church on Sunday 11th November. (The session will end at 8.45pm)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Enrolment for Our Lady's Church will be on Tuesday 27th November at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church (children do not have to attend); the sessions are on a Sunday morning starting in the new year. Enrolment for Holy Family Church will be on Sunday 2nd December after 9.30 Mass. Holy Family's sessions begin in the new year and are usually after school midweek.

JULIAN OF NORWICH - a Meditation - seen and heard in original dance, music and image will be presented in the Catholic church of Our Lady & St Vincent, (243 Mutton Lane), Potters Bar, EN6 2AT on Sunday 4th November at 6pm. This inspiring work has been well received around the country. Please just turn up; there is no ticketing.

NEED A CLEANER? Then phone Elizabeth Anderson on 01707 883770 or 07980 887231 - regular cleans, one off, ironing etc.

EXPERIENCED GARDENER available to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, hedge cutting, pruning shrubs and roses and weeding of flower beds. Call Daniel on 07751992492.

FRENCH TEACHER Do you need a native French teacher? GCSE-AS/2-conversational. Please contact Sarah on 07986 700989

The CAFOD group will be holding a meeting on Tuesday 30th October at 2pm in the Parish room at Holy Family. All are welcome.

OUR LADY'S CLEANING On Saturday there will be cleaning and maintenance of the grounds at Our Lady's Church at 10am. All welcome. Refreshments provided.

NOVEMBER All Saints Day this Thursday (1st) is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks Catholics to come to Mass. Masses will be as follows: 9.30am at Holy Family, 12noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's. All Souls Day is on Friday (2nd) and this is such an important day to come and pray for the dead. Masses will be as follows: 6.30am at St. Bonaventure's (followed by breakfast), 9.30am at Holy Family, 12noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's. November Dead List There are sheets at the back of each church for you to write down the names of loved ones who have died. These will be near the altar during the month of November and will be remembered at Mass. There is no need to give any money. **Remembrance Day** The 11th November this year has great significance as we mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. As well as the Services in Howardsgate (at 10.45am) and Hatfield Hyde (at 3pm), there will be the ringing of church bells at 7.05pm (including St. Bonaventure's and Holy Family!) For this reason at the end of Holy Family's 6pm Mass there will be 15 minutes of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction leading into the ringing of the bells of Holy Family.

CAMINO We're now full! There's a waiting list!

BLESSING OF GRAVES Sunday 11th November at 1.30pm Hatfield Hyde. Sunday 18th November at 2pm Southway. Sunday 25th November 2pm at Welwyn New Cemetery.

DATES Day Pilgrimage with the Deaf to Walsingham Saturday 18th May. Trip to Canterbury Cathedral with Christian Churches of WGC Saturday 15th June 2019. Service in the Crypt, Guided Tours, picnic lunch, free (shopping!) time and Evensong. in Cathedral. Keep the dates free!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Filled boxes can be brought to St. Bonaventure's or whichever church you attend as soon as you have them ready.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP PARTY Come and have fun at our party (for all children) on Tuesday 6th November from 3.45pm - 5.15pm. Games, Spooky Tea and Fireworks. Come dressed up. 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.

NATIONAL INTERFAITH WEEK 11-18 NOVEMBER On Wednesday 14th November the local inter faith group warmly invites you to a shared supper at the Focolare Centre for Unity, 7pm - 9.30 pm. Please bring a dish of vegetarian food to share. After supper entertainment by Gen Verde.

RECLAIM HALLOWEEN WITH NIGHT OF LIGHTS On Wednesday 31st October between 9 and 10pm at Holy Family Church there will be an hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament by candlelight with gentle music and some prayers. The church will be open to the public, and any interested passers-by (dressed up ghosts and ghouls welcome) will be invited to light a candle and say a prayer if they so wish. Refreshments will be provided afterwards.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - NATIVITY PLAY AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's on 16th December, there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part (not just St. Bonaventure's). Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 2nd December from 3.30pm - 4.30pm.

A REMINDER that items for inclusion in the newsletter need to be in by Thursday evenings at the latest. Thank you.

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 6J

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

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

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

ST ALBANS Every Friday at St. Albans Abbey-Cathedral a Catholic Mass is celebrated at 12 noon. You are all welcome.

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.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Any couples wishing to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should speak to Fr. Norbert so that the necessary preparations can be made. The Marriage Preparation Day will be on Saturday 23rd March 2019.

MASS TIMES

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 29 Monday | 9.30am | Mass | Our Lady's | Blessed Martyrs of Douai College |
| 30 Tuesday | 9.30am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | feria |
| | 7pm | Mass | Our Lady's | |
| 31 Wednesday | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Family | feria |
| 01 Thursday | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Family | All Saints |
| | 12noon | Mass | St. Bonaventure | |
| | 7pm | Mass | Our Lady's | |
| 02 Friday | 6.30am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | All Souls |
| | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Family | |
| | 12noon | Mass | St. Bonaventure | |
| | 1.30pm | Funeral Mass | Our Lady's | |
| | 7pm | Mass | Our Lady's | |
| 03 Saturday | 10am | Mass | St. Bonaventure | feria |

Thirty-first Sunday of the Year

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|-------------|---------|------|-----------------|
| 03 Saturday | 6pm | Mass | Our Lady's |
| 04 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 **Chaplaincy Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333 via text message: 07876 526935 email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net**