

# **ST. BONAVENTURE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*81 Parkway*

*Tel: 01707 322579*

*Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JF*

*email: parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk*

*website: www.stbonaventure.org.uk*

*Registered Charity 233699*

*Parish Priest: Father Bill McConalogue*

*Parish Secretary: Mrs Kathryn Hubbard*

*(Father Bill can also be contacted on 01707 327434)*

## **First Sunday of Lent 25th February 2007**

Lent gives us the opportunity to recall everything that God has accomplished for us. We walk with the Lord Jesus through the desert of temptation, praying that the Holy Spirit will strengthen us during this Lenten journey of repentance. Emboldened by God's living word, we sing the praise of the One who called us out of darkness into wonderful light.

### **RESPONSE TO THE PSALM**

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

*Psalm 90*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.



## *My dear Parishioners and Visitors,*

**WELCOME** I extend a very warm welcome to everyone. If you have recently moved into the parish, or have started coming to Mass here, please do introduce yourselves to me or Father Joe after Mass.

### **FEASTS THIS WEEK**

Thursday 1st St. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales

**WELCOME** Today we welcome Bishop George Stack to our parish. Bishop George is our bishop in Hertfordshire and he will be celebrating our 10.30am Mass.

**LENT FAST DAY** This takes place on Friday 2nd March. We are invited to 'look at our lifestyles and choose to live more simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor'. Fast Days are one of the key activities in CAFOD's year when we are invited to go without something and give what we save to CAFOD. You will find a donation envelope with your newsletter today, please fill it up and return it next Sunday with your usual weekly offering. Thank you.

**FIRST FRIDAY 2ND MARCH** There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday 2nd March from after 9am Mass until 12.30pm when there will be Benediction. This day is an opportunity to pray for all our sick relatives and friends, those in the Q. E. II hospital and in the Isabel Hospice. Please sign the Watching Rota at the back of the church. Please note that Holy Communion will be taken to the sick and housebound on Thursday this week, not Friday.

**LENTEN ALMS** Your donations in the Charity Box during the season of Lent will be for Lenten Alms. Here in the Diocese of Westminster the money is distributed to charities that are decided by the Cardinal. In our country it is 'For the Care of the Elderly in our Catholic Nursing Homes' and abroad 'For the relief of the Poor in Zimbabwe and South Africa'. The Cardinal will be making a pastoral visit to those countries early next year and will be taking the money raised in the diocese this Lent to various projects supported by CAFOD and the Pontifical Mission Societies.

**CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP** We had a very successful Pancake Party last Tuesday which was attended by 44 of our children. A big thank you to all the mums who kept us supplied with pancakes, and thank you to the children who behaved so well! This Tuesday the 7-11's meet and we will learn some more about Lent. 3.45pm, all welcome.

**CAFOD LUNCH** This Friday's CAFOD Lunch raised £200! Many thanks to all who gave their support. The next lunch is on Friday 30th March.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** Stations of the Cross will take place on Wednesday this week because of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday.

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY 2ND MARCH** Women's World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women who come together to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday in March each year. 'United under God's Tent' is the theme of this year's day of prayer and it has been prepared by the women of Paraguay. Please come along to the prayer service at St. Francis Church at 1.30pm.

**LOURDES 2007** If you are interested in coming on the Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes from 22nd - 28th July please contact Kathryn in the office (322579) or at home (331906). Our Redcaps will be doing some fundraising in the near future and we hope you will support them.

**CaFE - KNOWING GOD BETTER** This Wednesday is the third week of this course of video talks and the theme this week is 'Knowing God's Forgiveness'. Why not come along to the lounge of Our Lady's Parish Hall on Wednesday at 8pm? It doesn't matter if you haven't been before. If an evening meeting isn't convenient there is a morning session at 10am on a Wednesday in the Sacristy at Our Lady's.

**WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP** This Wednesday, 28th February at 7.30pm Welwyn Hatfield Faith Group presents, a talk on 'A Basic Knowledge about Islam' by Amin Ullah Khan of the International Muslim Community at Woodhall Community Centre. If you are coming please fill in the list today.

**FIRST CONFESSIONS** Please pray for our young parishioners who are receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time next Saturday. Parents and children meet at 10.30am for a period of preparation prior to our service and Confessions at 11am.

**YOUR OFFERINGS TO GOD AND HIS CHURCH** The average weekly collection for the month of January came to £1075.31. This includes weekly envelopes, standing orders and loose. Thank you for your continued and very generous support of the parish.

**QUIZ EVENING** There is to be a Quiz Evening organised by the Tamale Coffee Group at 7.30pm on Saturday 24th March in St. Francis Church hall. Tickets are £8 (tables of 8), concessions £6. Ticket price includes Ploughman's Supper, tea and cake. Application forms for tickets will be available next weekend.

*May God bless you all,*

*Father Bill*

## SERVICES FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 25TH FEBRUARY

**25 Sunday**      8am      Len Bramwell (birthday R.I.P.)  
                         10.30am      Betty Brady (lately dead)

### **Weekdays**

26 Monday      9am      Eucharistic Service  
27 Tuesday      9am      Helen Smith (anniversary)  
28 Wednesday      9am      Frank Meenan (lately dead)  
01 Thursday      9am      Thanksgiving (P.M.)  
02 Friday      9am      Richard Tobias (lately dead)  
03 Saturday      10am      Margaret Staples (special intention)  
04 Sunday      8am      Frank Meenan (lately dead)  
                         10.30am      Grayling family

**Please note:** There is Mass at 7pm every Sunday in Holy Family Church.

Morning Prayer of the Church begins 15 minutes before Mass on each weekday. The Rosary is recited on Wednesdays after Mass. **Stations of the Cross on Fridays after Mass.**

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** First Friday of the month from 9.30am concluding with **BENEDICTION at 12.30pm.**

**CONFESSIONS** Saturdays 10.30am - 11am.

**READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS** are on a sheet at the back of church. Readings for Ash Wednesday are on page 71 of your Mass book.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:** Bishop James O'Brien, Susan Hughes, Kathleen Campbell, Teresa Mitchell, Jim Crowe, Charlie Botwright, Phyllis Coughlan, Meg Ansell, Marjorie Davis, Peter Conroy, Catherine Conroy, Nora O'Loughlin, Pat Wells, Ted Evans, Ruth Bauer-Flynn, Mollie Brennan, Anna Bushell, Patrick Burke, Ruth Williams, James May, Keith Kerrison, Mrs Power, Peter Ferguson, Michael Burke, Kitty Stephens, and all the sick amongst our personal friends and relations, those in the Q.E. II hospital and all who are in need of our prayers.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Please remember William McMillan, Helen MacDougall, Elizabeth Hollingsworth, Nan Smyth, Andrew Gray, Fredrick Simpson, Lily McGoldrick and all those who have no one to pray for them.

<p><b>CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II HOSPITAL:</b> If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplain, Mrs Bernadette Cassidy, on 07623 897178.</p>
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