

# ST. BONAVENTURE'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Registered Charity 233699

*Parish Priest: Father Bill McConalogue*

*Parish Secretary: Mrs Kathryn Hubbard*

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

## Fifth Sunday of Lent 25th March 2007

Today's Gospel passage, perhaps more than any other, captures the immensity of God's mercy. The Lord Jesus shows the kind of mercy that we strive to show to others. When we take on the mind and heart of St. Paul, who considered everything as a loss compared to his knowledge of Jesus Christ, we will know the tender mercy of our God. As the word of God is proclaimed, let us ask God to open our hearts to the transforming power of that word.

### RESPONSE TO THE PSALM

*Psalm 125*

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
Seek good and not evil so that you may live,  
and that the Lord God of hosts may really be with you.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!



### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Has no one condemned you? The woman answered: No one, Lord.  
Neither do I condemn you: go and do not sin again.

*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**

Monday 26th Annunciation of the Lord.

**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES** This week in preparation for Holy Week and Easter we have the Penitential Services for our three parishes. • **Monday 26th** at Our Lady's Church, Woodhall Lane, at **7pm**. • **Tuesday 27th** at Holy Family Church, Knightsfield, at **8pm** and • **Wednesday 28th** here at St. Bonaventure's at **7pm**.

**PALM SUNDAY** Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and is the beginning of Holy Week. Please arrive in plenty of time for Mass. Palms will be blessed at the beginning of each Mass, but for 10.30am Mass we will process from the church, through the hall to the Presbytery garden for the blessing of the palms. We will then go out of the gates and round to the front of the church. Children can leave the procession at the front of the church to go into the hall for their own liturgy. At the end of each Mass please leave the church in silence signifying that this day leads to the most important week of the Church's year. There is no coffee after 10.30am Mass.

**CAFOD LUNCH** Please come to the next CAFOD Lunch on Friday from 12 noon until 1.30pm. Come and enjoy homemade soups, bread and delicious puddings. £3. At this lunch we hope to welcome representatives from CAFOD Westminster and Justice and Peace who may be taking photographs.

**EASTER EGG RAFFLE IN AID OF LOURDES** Some of our young people will be selling raffle tickets after both Masses. There are 8 eggs of varying sizes to be raffled and you can see them in the baptistery. The tickets are 20p or £1 a strip and we hope you will choose to buy a strip. The raffle will be drawn today during coffee.

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** Please collect your new set of envelopes from the back of the church. If you wish to join the Planned Giving Scheme please fill in a card that you'll find on the table near the envelopes.

**CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP** This Tuesday all groups meet and during our time together we will do some preparation for our Easter Children's Mass and also have some tea together. Please bring some food to share.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES CARD** Please take a card giving details of all the Holy Week and Easter Services in our three parishes.

**CHILDREN'S EASTER WORKSHOP** As part of our children's involvement in the Holy Week and Easter liturgies there will be an Easter Workshop for all children on Tuesday 3rd April from 2 - 5pm. Come and make our outdoor Easter Garden (and your own), make some Easter things, join in an Easter egg hunt, prepare for our Way of the Cross and Easter Day Family Mass, play some games and have a 'Happy Easter Tea'. We ask for a donation of £2 per child to cover some of our costs. Please bring a small amount of food.

**WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP** This Monday 26th March at 7.30pm Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith group presents a talk on 'Tabernacle of Unity; an Introduction to the Baha'i Faith' by the Hon. Barney Leith, Secretary for External Affairs of the Bahai's in the UK, at St. Francis Church Hall, Parkway. If you are interested please put your name on the list at the back of the church by the end of 10.30am Mass today.

**A FREE LUNCH!** The Interfaith Group invites you all to a community lunch in the Council Chamber at Campus West on this Thursday 29th March at 12.30pm followed by an update of news on the Interfaith Group and a talk entitled 'How faith communities can help the wider community to build an attractive shared vision'. Please take an invitation from the table at the back of the church if you would like to attend.

**CaFE** This Wednesday is the final week of this course and the theme is Knowing God's Hope. Hope carries and comforts us in all that life presents to us in our everyday lives. God never deserts those who trust in Him.

**CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS** Our Lady Catholic Primary School is looking to appoint a clerk to take the minutes at six Governors meetings a year. You will need to be able to distribute the minutes electronically thereafter, and help to set meeting agendas. In return for this work an honorarium of £250 will be paid. If you are interested please contact the school on 01707 324408.

**READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER** If you are available to carry out your ministry of Reader or Eucharistic Minister during this period please indicate on the lists at the back of the church.

**WASHING OF THE FEET** Male and female volunteers are needed, if you are willing please fill in the list at the back. Thank you.

**BIBLE ALIVE** The Easter edition of this magazine is now available. £1.95

*May God bless you all,  
Father Bill*

