

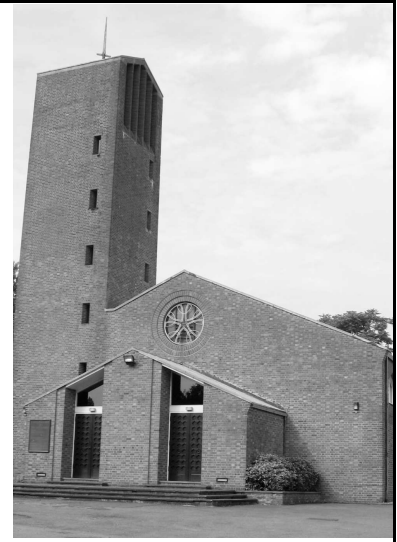
# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## ***Eighteenth Sunday of the Year 2nd August 2009***

In today's Gospel passage, the people are looking for Jesus. Jesus wants them to work for food that endures to eternal life. He says that he himself is the Bread of Life. The one who comes to him will never be hungry; the one who believes in him will never thirst. These are amazing words from St. John's Gospel which speak of faith as a relationship between the believer and Jesus, a loving union which takes a person to life which lasts for ever.

Our destiny is to be with God for eternity, to share in the loving bond of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The presence of Jesus Christ, God's Son, here on earth is the opening of that gate which leads us on the path to heaven. God wants all people to be saved and his Son's death and resurrection are the pledge of the grace needed to support us on this journey. We meet Christ in personal prayer, in other people and in the circumstances of our lives. We meet Christ in a heightened, powerful, intense, intimate way in the Eucharist when he speaks through his Word, he is encountered in the gathered community which is his Body, in his priest who speaks his words and especially in the consecrated bread and wine which are his Body and Blood, nourishing us with the Divine and putting us in touch with his great Sacrifice. What a dynamic relationship of love we are called into as we celebrate Mass! What an incredible offer of divine friendship to be experienced in the every day!

Today we celebrate Mass in fresh circumstances, perhaps in a different church, at a new time. It is the same Christ who asks us to work for food which endures to eternal life and who satisfies our hunger with the Bread of Life. There is a whole world searching for him, trying to get to know him, longing to enter this relationship of love. May the strength of our faith and the power of our witness to him draw many more to him. God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

**TRANSPORT TO CHURCH** Further to Fr Norbert's indication in last week's newsletter concerning Community Transport, arrangements can be made through Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council to use their minibuses. Firstly, we need to provide two drivers who hold D1 category on their driving licence and are willing to undergo a test with the Council officer in charge. Secondly we would need to know who would like to make use of this transport and the details of their travel requirements. Please let Kathryn at St. Bonaventure's know if this is of interest to you or you are willing to act as a driver. Contact details on the back page of this newsletter.

**HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP** The next meeting of this group is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th August in the parish room of Holy Family Church. All who are interested in the work of CAFOD please come along, you are most welcome.

**FR. JOE** Fr. Joe would love to hear from parishioners. His address is as follows: Fr. Joe Boward, St. John's Convent, Lindenhill Lane, Kiln Green, Reading, RG10 9XP.

**FIRST FRIDAY 7TH AUGUST** There will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Bonaventure's this Friday but the sick and housebound will be visited as usual. Don't forget that the Church is open in the mornings so that you can spend a quiet moment with the Lord, should you be passing by.

**CLEANING AND GARDENING AT OUR LADY'S** Many, many thanks to all those who came and helped with the church cleaning and maintenance of the grounds last Saturday.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP** All are welcome to come along to this group on a Wednesday morning in the parish hall from 10am. The group continues to meet during the school holidays.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2010** Application forms for St. Bonaventure's children are available at the back of church. Forms for Holy Family and Our Lady's will be available in due course.

**CAN YOU HELP?** We would be grateful for offers of help from Holy Family parishioners with folding their newsletters each week before Mass. If you can help please contact Kathryn at St. Bonaventure's. Thank you.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S ROTAS** The new rota for Extraordinary Ministers of Communion is available at the back of the church. The readers rota will be sent out during the week.

**FR. GEORGE BULEYA** Fr. George Buleya's visit to Welwyn Garden City has been delayed again and as yet we are waiting for confirmation of when he will arrive. Before he arrives we would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have contributed to the appeal for a well in the village of Makunani in Malawi. £7722.48 has been raised. If anyone has missed the chance to donate there are two weeks left to do so. (The shortfall of an amazing £8000 is just £277.52). Cheques (payable to M.S. Edwards), cash or loose change very welcome. Any contributions can be handed to the following: John Fogarty or Norman Merry at Our Lady's, John Blackburn or Sue Edwards at Holy Family, and Kathryn Hubbard at St. Bonaventure's. Thank you.

**FR. MARK CONNOLLY** Fr. Mark will be returning to Australia this week. We thank him for helping out in all three churches and we wish him a safe journey and assure him of our prayers for his work amongst the aborigines.

**CAFOD LUNCH** The CAFOD Lunch at St. Bonaventure's on Friday raised £200. Thank you to all who came and gave their support. The next Lunch is on Friday 28th August.

**WELCOME** to Victory Olusola, Trinity Olusola and Isabelle Ford who were baptised at Our Lady's recently.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Uchanna and Augustin Ekwunife who were married recently at Our Lady's.

**400 CLUB RESULTS** Results of Our Lady's 400 Club Draw for July are as follows: 1st £100 no. 392 Mr. Woodfield Agent 28, 2nd £50 no. 251 Mr. S. Bell Agent 28, 3rd £25 no. 168 M. Parkhouse Agent 28. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all the members who support this parish fundraising event.

**CHARITY BOX** Donations in the Charity Box for the Summer months at St. Bonaventure's will go to Housing Justice which is the national voice of Christian action in the field of housing and homelessness. It exists because it believes that human dignity is challenged by the lack of decent housing. It supports night-shelters, drop-ins and hundreds of practical projects nationwide by providing advice and training for churches and other community groups who work with homeless people. It works by uniting Christians and churches of all denominations across the country to work for change, embraces partnerships with people of all faiths (and none) who share their values of social justice and compassion.

**MINISTERS' ROTA** The combined rota for Our Lady's Welcomers, Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for August and September is available this weekend. It is also accessible on Our Lady's website.

**JAMES TIERNEY R.I.P.** The Funeral Mass for James Tierney R.I.P. will be at Holy Family Church on Tuesday 11th August at 11am.

**EDWARD MULLIN R.I.P.** The Funeral Service (not Mass) for Edward Mullin R.I.P will be at Our Lady's Church on Monday 10th August at 10.30am.

*We offer our prayers and sympathy to the families and friends of James and Edward.*

**HOLY FAMILY MASS INTENTIONS** If you want to book a Mass at Holy Family Church please fill in the usual envelope and place it in the offertory collection and then you need to phone or email St. Bonaventure's to have it entered in the diary.

**ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER** If you have an item you wish to be included in the newsletter please get the information to Kathryn Hubbard at St. Bonaventure's by Friday morning at the latest. You can phone (322579), put it through the presbytery letterbox or email: parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk.

### CONTACTS

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**Kathryn Hubbard 322579**  
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**81 Parkway AL8 6JF**  
**Website:**  
**www.stbonaventure.org.uk**

### THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY

#### St. Bonaventure

81 Parkway AL8 6JF  
Sunday **8am & 6pm**  
Mon 9am (Eucharistic Service)  
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, 9am Mass  
Sat 10am Mass  
Confessions 10.30am-11am (Sat)

*I am the bread of life.  
He who comes to me will never be hungry;  
He who believes in me will never thirst.  
-John 6*

#### Our Lady, Queen of Apostles

141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP  
Saturday **6pm**  
Sunday **12noon**  
Mon 9.30am  
Tues & Fri 7pm Mass  
Wed 9.30am  
Thurs & Sat 9.30am Mass  
Confessions 5pm - 5.30pm (Sat).

#### Holy Family

194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ  
Sunday **10am**  
Mon 9.30am Eucharistic Service  
Tues 9.30am Mass  
Wed 9.30am Eucharistic Service  
Thurs 9.30am Eucharistic Service  
Fri 9.30am Mass

**CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II HOSPITAL:** If you are going into hospital you can contact the R.C. Chaplain, Mrs Bernadette Cassidy, on 07884187463