

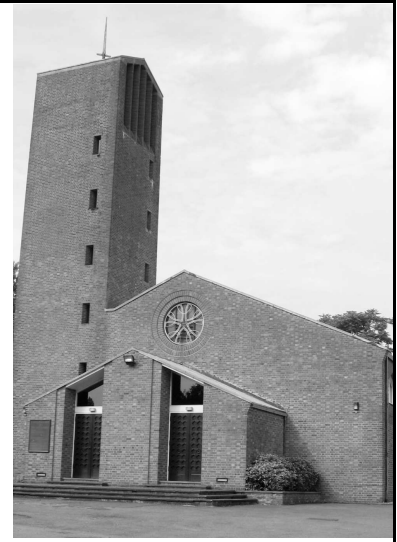
# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

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

## ***Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 16th August 2009***

In our Gospel reading, Our Lady proclaims: 'The Almighty has done great things for me!' Mary, who was conceived without Original Sin, was asked to become Mother of God at the Annunciation and she conceived in her womb the Word of God through the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary walked with her Son to the Cross and watched him die. Mary was gathered in prayer with the Apostles at Pentecost and with them received the Holy Spirit. Today we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven. The Church proclaims that Mary, at the end of her life, was assumed body and soul into heaven; no decay touched the body of the one who bore in her womb the Word made Flesh, Jesus Christ, God's Son. This grace is God's gift to the one chosen to be Mother of his Son and from the moment of her conception to her last breath on earth, Mary was filled with grace and finally taken to the glory of heaven *all because of her Son - his life, death and resurrection.*

Where does that leave us as we celebrate this Feast? Firstly, a member of the human race has made it to heaven - definitely! The Assumption is Our Lady's Easter, her experience of the complete risen life of her Son. *That is what God wants for each one of us.* God works marvels for us in a variety of ways. God's saving grace is made available to us and he continues to invite us to share in his life. We have to trace the path to the Cross from time to time or perhaps very often. God's destiny for us is one day to share in his Son's resurrection, to enter into Easter life. We must, however, be very patient!

Let us pray today for those who have died, that eternal life may be theirs. Let us remember the dying that they may be filled with the hope which comes from the Assumption of Our Lady. Let us live for God and, through his Holy Spirit, serve those around us with Christ-like love. Happy Feast and God bless you! **Fr. Norbert**

**SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Fr. Norbert writes:** After the holidays many parents will be embarking on the whole process of 'Secondary School Transfer'. My experience from London is that it is a fraught time with tremendous anxiety for parents, their children and for schools both Primary and Secondary. For those of you applying to Catholic Secondary Schools, a 'Priest's Reference' is often essential and so here in Welwyn Garden City my involvement will be very important. I shall be leading the WGC Group to the Holy Land 9th - 17th October and I understand that the forms will have to be in soon after that date. What I propose is to have a meeting with **all parents** of WGC who will need a 'Priest's Reference' on **Sunday 27th September** in St. Bonaventure's Church at **7.15pm**. (The meeting should not last more than an hour). It will give me an opportunity to talk in a general way about many of the issues and to offer ten-minute appointments when I can meet a **child and parent/s**. The appointments will be at **Holy Family Church on Monday 28th September 5-7pm**, at **Our Lady's Church on Tuesday 29th September 5-7pm** and at **St. Bonaventure's on Wednesday 30th September 5-7pm**. Parents should make sure they acquire from the relevant Catholic School the 'Self-Assessment Form' about religious practice and bring it to the appointment. I will then be able to complete my part of the form and give it back to parents immediately. Please remember also that Catholic Schools ask for the Baptismal Certificate of the child. Parents are asked to make sure that they sort this out well in advance. For children baptised at Holy Family, Our Lady's or St. Bonaventure's, Kathryn Hubbard has kindly agreed to issue the certificates and the appropriate parish Baptismal Registers will be held at St Bonaventure's to facilitate this. I want to offer my support to all our children and their parents and I have found this to be one the fairest and most efficient ways of approaching the process as Parish Priest. I will need your co-operation. Thank you.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** If you are attending Mass in a different church to the one named on your offertory envelope please be reassured that these envelopes are returned to the named church for counting. This has been the case for some time.

**RCIA** Anyone interested in joining the Catholic Church - or wanting to find out more - is invited to come to the sacristy of Our Lady's Church, Woodhall Lane on Monday 2nd November at 7.45pm. Also, Catholic adults who missed out on Confirmation would be most welcome. There is still some time to go but we wanted you to put this date in your diaries and to start encouraging people to come. Perhaps this might be the right year for them...or for you!

**TRANSPORT TO CHURCH** If you are interested in having a lift to church or can offer your services as a driver for the Welwyn Hatfield Community bus please let Kathryn know.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP** This group will not meet for the next two weeks. Back to normal on Wednesday 2nd September.

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMS** There will be a meeting for all those going on the Holy Land pilgrimage in October on Sunday, 23rd August, at 3.30 pm in the Lounge of the Parish Centre adjacent to Our Lady Queen of Apostles Church. This will provide an opportunity to meet each other and share information and answer questions about the visit.

**CAFOD GROUP BBQ** There will be a BBQ in aid of CAFOD on Sunday 6th September at 48, London Road, Welwyn from 1pm. £6 adults, £3 children. All are welcome. Please contact John and Winifrid Blackburn (HF) 01438 717806, Joyce Maguire (SB) 01707 328502 or John Fogarty (OL) 01707 327771.

**PRESENTATION TO FR. GEORGE BULEYA** On Sunday 30th August at 10am Mass a cheque for nearly £8000 for a well in the village of Makunami in Malawi will be presented to Fr. George. The fund was started in February 2009 and has been contributed to by many people from the local community. After the Mass everyone is invited for refreshments in the Parish Room, giving people a chance to bid farewell to Fr. George for another year.

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL PTA** Holy Family School PTA will be holding a Race Night in the hall at Our Lady's Church on Saturday 17th October. All parishioners are welcome. More details to follow nearer the time.

**OUR LADY'S CHURCH 50TH ANNIVERSARY** Our Lady's Church will be marking the 50th Anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation Stone on Sunday 4th October with Mass at 11am followed by lunch and a party to which all are welcome. As part of the party afterwards there will be a pantomime, Dick Whittington, being performed. Adults and children are needed to act, and adults and children for the chorus as well. Please contact Barbara Moore on 01707 333645 or Hayley on 01438 362436 if you would like to take part.

**OUR LADY'S WEBSITE** We have been encountering some difficulties with our website in recent weeks. As a result we are changing our supplier of web hosting. Hopefully this will be up and running by this weekend. However, we suggest you try [www.ourladys.110mb.com](http://www.ourladys.110mb.com) as a temporary alternative meanwhile. We apologise for any disruption to our service and hope that in future we will be problem free! Thank you for being patient.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)**

St. Bonaventure's	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
Our Lady's	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm
Holy Family	10am - 10.30am and 5.30pm - 6pm (next two weeks)

**PERSONAL ASSISTANT/COMPANION** My name is Sophie. I am 18 years old and have Down's Syndrome and diabetes. I am looking for a part-time PA/Companion. Flexible hours. Car driver/owner essential, mileage paid. Must be a non smoker. I love life, I have been an altar server at Holy family for 10 years. My interests include: music, dancing, cooking, shopping, T.V., theatre and all sports e.g. football (watching and playing), netball and horse riding. Please phone 07956287130 for more information.

**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** Items for the newsletter to Kathryn Hubbard at St. Bonaventure's by Friday morning at the latest. You can phone (322579), put them through the presbytery letterbox or email: parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk.

### CONTACTS

**Fr. Norbert 323234**  
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**Our Lady's**  
**141 Woodhall Lane**  
**AL7 3TP**  
**Website:**  
**www.ourladys-parish.info**

**Kathryn Hubbard 322579**  
**parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk**  
**St. Bonaventure's**  
**81 Parkway AL8 6JF**  
**Website:**  
**www.stbonaventure.org.uk**

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

**St. Bonaventure** (note changes for this week)

81 Parkway AL8 6JF

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

**Our Lady, Queen of Apostles**

141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

Saturday **6pm**  
Sunday **12noon**  
Mon 9.30am Mass  
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 Mass  
Tues 9.30am Mass  
Wed Eucharistic Service  
Thurs 9.30am Mass  
Fri 9.30am Mass  
Confessions 10am - 10.30am  
5.30pm - 6pm

**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