

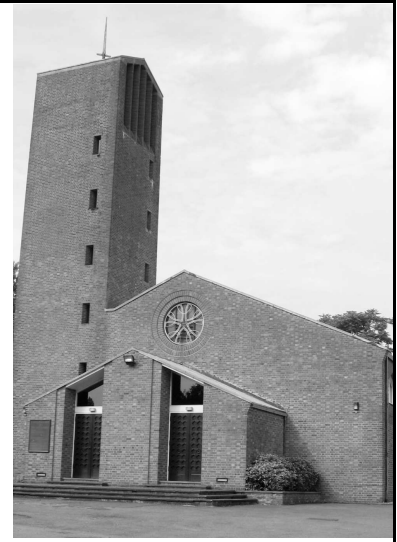
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

Twenty-second Sunday of the Year

30th August 2009

This Sunday afternoon I shall begin my summer holiday. I am fortunate enough to be going to Canada to visit my relations in Edmonton, Red Deer and Toronto; I will also have the opportunity to visit Vancouver. So, for the next three or four weeks Welwyn Garden City will be a safer place!

Fr. George Buleya will be returning to Malawi on Thursday to continue his work as Secretary to the Bishops' Conference of Malawi. We wish him well in his ministry and thank him for his presence in our midst. **Fr. Felix Phiri** has arrived to be the main supply priest for September. He has helped in the Garden City before and lectures now in Rome in Islamic Studies. He is a Missionary of Africa (a White Father!) who comes from Zambia. I know you will make him most welcome. On 16th September, **Fr. Ondrej Nagy**, a Slovakian priest who is the brother of a member of the Focolare community, will be coming to learn/improve his English. He is looking for support with conversation; so, if you have time, your assistance would be much appreciated. Both priests will live at Our Lady's but will serve the whole of the town. I have spoken to **Fr. McCoy** and his doctor has advised him to take complete rest. Fr. McCoy is nearly 89 years old; he deserves more time for himself. We are so grateful to him for his unstinting service in the Garden City. Let us keep him in our prayers.

From Monday a new schedule of weekday Masses will start in Welwyn Garden City (see back of the newsletter). Each day there will be at least one Mass in one of the three churches. *As a result of this there will only be a Service of Word and Holy Communion (Eucharistic Service) in exceptional cases* and these will be listed in the newsletter. For now this schedule will be in operation at least until the new Assistant Priest arrives in November. Thank you for your co-operation. God bless you and keep you in his loving care. I will pray for you; please pray for me. **Fr. Norbert**

FR. GEORGE BULEYA WRITES This is my fourth weekend with you and also the last for now as I will be leaving for Malawi on Thursday. So short a period I have been over here this year and yet, as always, so full with happy memories. I am grateful to the whole community for your support and hospitality throughout the period I have been with you. You took time to be with me, have a word with me, share a meal with me and pray together with me.

I am ever grateful to the late Fr. Bill for getting me connected to such a lovely and inspiring community. He is gone before us but his generous and open spirit is still in this community. I thank Fr. Norbert who facilitated my coming this year and for his dedication towards the people of Welwyn Garden City.

In a special way, allow me to take this occasion to thank you wholeheartedly for the support you give to the Malawi Education and Health project. The education component of the project aims at supporting needy students with school fees (now at £70 per term per student and £210 per year per student) during the entire duration of their secondary school (four years). Through this project, quite a number of students have and continue to pursue their secondary education each year thanks to your generous and unwavering support.

The Health component of this project has over the years provided support in the form resources to acquire essential medicines and food supplements to two rural health centres (Sukasanje and Namulenga) run by a local Congregation of Sisters.

Of particular mention this year is the spectacular response the Water Project has received. I am short of words with which to thank all the individuals, Church communities and other well wishers who joined hands together to produce an amazing £8,000! We will now be able to drill, install a manual pump, build a concrete support structure and maintain the water borehole for a long time. Water is life and thanks for giving life to our people!

I thank you wholeheartedly for what you are to me and to the people of Malawi. Distance may separate us, but we are one in mind and prayer. May God bless you all!
Fr. George Buleya (Box 30384, Lilongwe 3, Malawi) email: gbuleya@yahoo.co.uk)

FIRST FRIDAY 4TH JULY There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday from after the 9am Mass at St. Bonaventure's until 12noon Please sign the watching rota at the back of church.

CAFOD LUNCH This Friday's lunch raised £237. Thank you for your support.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP There will be a CAFOD meeting at 7.30pm in the parish room at Holy Family on Tuesday 1st September. All are welcome so please come and join us we are always looking for new faces and new ideas for fundraising.

There will be a BBQ in aid of CAFOD on Sunday 6th September at 48, London Road, Welwyn (01438 717806) from 1pm. £6 adults, £3 children.

CAFOD GROUP CALENDAR Holy Family CAFOD group are looking for good photos of events in the churches this year for a calendar to be out in time for Christmas. If you have any photos please email them to bob.leys@ntlworld.com.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER . For those who apply to Catholic Schools, a 'Priest's Reference' is often essential. Fr. Norbert will have a meeting with **all parents** who will need a 'Priest's Reference' on **Sunday 27th September in St. Bonaventure's at 7.15pm**. He will talk in a general way about many of the issues involved and will offer appointments when he 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 Church 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 when Fr. Norbert will fill in his part and return it to them. Catholic Schools also ask for the Baptismal Certificate of the child, please make sure you sort this out well in advance. For children baptised at Holy Family, Our Lady's or St. Bonaventure's, Kathryn Hubbard will issue the certificates and the appropriate parish Baptismal Registers will be held at St Bonaventure's to facilitate this.

JUSTICE AND PEACE The Westminster Justice and Peace Commission's annual day will be on Saturday 24th October (10.30am - 4.30pm) at St. John Vianney Church, Tottenham. The theme will be Climate Change, Credit Crunch, Christ and the Community. If anyone is interested in attending this event please contact John Fogarty (01707 327771 or email john.fogarty@ntlworld.com). Also, the annual CAFOD Pope Paul VI Memorial Lecture will be on Friday 27th November at the Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street, Westminster. Baroness Shirley Williams will be the speaker. More details over the next few weeks, but in the meantime if you would like more information contact John Fogarty.

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.

CAKE SALE Phyllis McKeough is holding a cake sale on Friday 4th September at 55 Broomhills WGC (on Panshanger) at 3pm, and a 'drop in' coffee morning on Saturday 5th September from 10.30am in aid of CAFOD. Please come along and support CAFOD and Phyllis in her very generous endeavours.

CLEANING AND GARDENING Cleaning the church and maintaining the grounds at Our Lady's will take place next Saturday 5th September from 10.0am for ONE hour. Everyone is welcome to help with this essential work. Again we would be grateful if as many as possible would help with this work. Thank you so much.

CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We meet again on Tuesday 8th September from 3.45pm - 4.45pm in St. Bonaventure's Parish Hall. More details next week.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Resumes again on Sunday 6th September.

ELIZABETH FALLON R.I.P. The Funeral Mass for Elizabeth Fallon will take place in Our Lady's Church on 10th September at 10am.

We wish Fr. Norbert a very well deserved holiday and look forward to him returning refreshed at the end of the month.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S COFFEE GROUP will be serving tea and coffee after 6pm Mass this Sunday. All welcome.

LOST PROPERTY This is the last weekend for you to claim any Lost Property from the hall in St. Bonaventure's.

SVP REQUEST A small fridge is required for a client. If you can help please contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456.

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.

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MASS TIMES IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass	6pm	Our Lady's	Confessions 5pm - 5.30pm
Sunday	12noon	Our Lady's	
	10am	Holy Family	
	8am	St. Bonaventure	
	6pm	St. Bonaventure	

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday	<u>10am</u>	Our Lady's (Bank Holiday)	
Tuesday	9am	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Our Lady's	
Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	
Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family (this week)	
	9.30am	Our Lady's	
Friday	9am	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Holy Family + Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession	
Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Confessions 10.30am - 11am

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