

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

***Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year
20th September 2009***

Is it imaginable that there are people who are absolutely wicked at all times, people without a thread of goodness in them and whose most distressful moment is seeing justice prevail? Does such a dualistic world-view between them (the wicked) and us (the just) tell it all? Isn't there rather a bit of wickedness in those of us who are just, and vice versa; or more decisively, are we not all equally responsible for the existence of wickedness and of justice in the world? In as much as it is true that we may have succumbed to the ploys of the wicked described in the Book of Wisdom in today's 1st reading (2:12, 17-20), we are not exempted from giving a consequential response to St James' poignant question: Where do the wars and where do the conflicts among you come from? Yes, there are situations that appear to be forced on us because indeed the wicked do not delight in seeing us shine forth with God's righteousness. No wonder we have to constantly pray ... *do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.* But this alone cannot suffice as a response to St James' question; it would be shifting responsibility over our failures to others. Rather, we are required to examine our conscience, by looking into our hearts so that we can acknowledge our part of responsibility for the existence of wars and conflicts.

In today's Gospel, Jesus makes known to his disciples the way chosen by God to bring salvation; love to the very end leading to death on the cross. At this crucial moment in his life Jesus could have done with some sympathy and compassion from his closest friends, the disciples. The way he was to die and resurrect held the key to understanding the whole of his mission. They must have been telling themselves, the whistle for the final assault on the 'prince of this world' is about to be blown, and this is the moment to strategise for prominent ministerial posts!!

continued on next page →

To their surprise (disappointment) to be great in God's kingdom one has to be like a child, to adopt child-like attitudes – simplicity, trust, innocence, purity of intentions – and not to load it over others but to serve them. Were our passions and ambitions to be inspired by such Gospel values and a life of prayer enrooted in Christ the world – better, our homes - would be inhabited by people vying do good and not by those bent on inflicting suffering on others. As expressed in this Sunday's Archbishop Vincent's Pastoral letter, ... our relationship with Christ, expressed in prayer, is central to the stability and fruitfulness of our lives. God bless you. *Fr. Felix*
(copies of the Pastoral letter are at the back of our churches)

TAMALE NEWS A cheque for £870 has been sent to Tamale, Ghana, making a total of £2,370 for this year. This marks the end of our Tamale Project which has been running since 1992 when we began supporting the work of the little group of sisters there, and Fr. Andrew Moore was parish priest here at St. Bonaventure's. Over the years the number of sisters there has dwindled from 6 to just 1 now and she, Sr. Joan, retires at the end of this year. Together with a receipt we had a thank you card from Sr. Odile, our contact here in England:

“Thank you for your final cheque which I found on my return from France. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the sisters and the people you have helped over the years, to say a big thank you for all your effort. May God bless you all at St. Bonaventure's. Yours sincerely, Sr. Odile.” Well done, St. Bonaventure's!

CAFOD LUNCH This Friday from 12noon -1.30pm in St. Bonaventure's hall, please come along. All proceeds to CAFOD.

CWL Meets this Tuesday in Our Lady's after the 7pm Mass. All ladies welcome.

WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH GROUP 'Autumn Festivals' A description and discussion on the current festivals for Faith groups: Christian - Harvest, Islam - Ramadan, Eid, Hindu - Divali, Jewish - Rosh Hasanah, Yom Kippur. Wednesday 30th September 7.30pm in the Park Lounge, Campus West.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP This Tuesday we go to the Pizza Hut for tea. Meet in the hall by 3.45pm. You will need £5 for your Children's Meal and unlimited visits to the Ice Cream Factory.

FIRST COMMUNION 2009 ST. BONAVENTURE'S If you haven't collected an application form for First Holy Communion in 2009 you will find a form at the back of the church. Please return it as soon as possible. Preparation begins on Saturday 3rd October and you will receive a letter prior to that date.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2009 HOLY FAMILY If you would like your child to make their First Holy Communion at Holy Family Church please pick up a form from the back of the church and make yourself known to Joss Innocent Landers 01707 396172. *Our Lady's application forms available soon.*

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 27TH SEPTEMBER A pilgrimage of reparation and prayer for the Sanctity of Life. Leaflets at the back of churches. Coach pick up point - Our Lady's Church at 8am on 27th September.

WINNIE MCKAY R.I.P. Following the reception of her body into the church at 7pm on Thursday 24th September, Winnie's Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 2pm on Friday 25th September at St. Thomas More RC Church, London Road, Knebworth. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Isabel Hospice c/o Nicholsons Chartered Accountants, 2 Codicote Road, Welwyn AL6 9NB. May Winnie rest in peace.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER. Fr. Norbert meets with all parents who will need a 'Priest's Reference' on Sunday 27th September in St. Bonaventure's at 7.15pm. If you need a copy of your child's baptism certificate this can be obtained from Kathryn at St. Bonaventure's (for all parishes).

APF RED BOXES St. Bonaventure's If your box hasn't been collected please bring it to church.

Our Lady's boxes can be brought into Our Lady's church for counting, please take them in to the sacristy for security.

Holy Family's boxes can be left at the back of the church or if you need yours to be collected please phone Jenny White 07709239055.

HOLY FAMILY MASS INTENTIONS Holy Family parishioners are reminded that they need to phone through or email Mass intentions to St. Bonaventure's, Mass envelopes can be put in the collection if you wish or they can be put through St. Bonaventure's letter box.

OUR LADY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS There are forms at the back of Our Lady's Church for anyone intending to attend the celebration on Sunday 4th October. Filling in a form will help with the catering arrangements. Forms should be returned in the box at the back of the church by this weekend.

ALTAR SERVERS All altar servers at Our Lady's Church are asked to attend a meeting and practice for the 50th Anniversary Celebration Mass on **3rd October at 12noon**. It is hoped that all servers will attend.

SVP REQUEST If you have a chest of drawers, a wardrobe and unwanted, but new, single and double mattresses please contact Janet Lewis. 01707 326456

ST. BONAVENTURE'S MOTHER AND TODDLER This group meets every Wednesday in the Parish Hall from 10am. Lots of toys to play with songs to sing and other activities. All are very welcome, do come along.

CAFOD John Fogarty has entered the Great South (not North) Run on 25th October in Portsmouth. CAFOD are arranging support for their runners and, if anyone is going to be in Portsmouth that day and would like to become involved, they would be most welcome. If you would like to sponsor John go to the website www.justgiving.com/John-J-Fogarty or send a donation to 23 Duncan Close AL7 3XP.

PROLIFE BATTLE AHEAD A meeting on 23rd September at 7.30pm in St Joseph's Church Hall, Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage. Guest Speaker John Smeaton National Director of SPUC.

PRAISE CONCERT In Our Lady's parish hall, 6pm 26th September.

READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS If you find you are now attending a different church and would like to exercise your ministry there please sign the list at the back of the church for Our Lady's. For St. Bonaventure's please phone Peter Bell on 01707 322579 if you would like to be on the Eucharistic Ministers rota, likewise if you would like to read please phone Kathryn in the office. Those attending Holy Family should also phone St. Bonaventure's if they would like to read, be a Eucharistic Minister or welcomer and your details will be given to the co-ordinators of those groups. Thank you.

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
welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk
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

Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield
AL8 7RQ

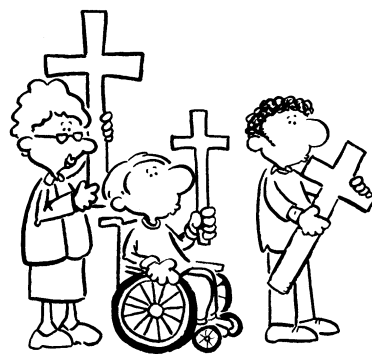
MASS TIMES IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY

SUNDAY MASSES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday	9.30am	Our Lady's	
Tuesday	9am	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Our Lady's	
Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	
Thursday	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