

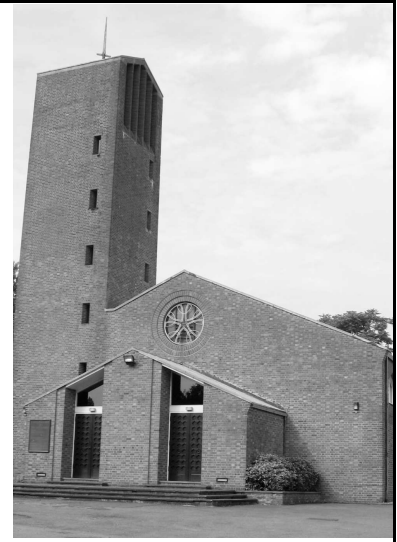
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

*Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year
4th October 2009*

This weekend we bid farewell to Fr. Felix who will be returning to Rome to continue his teaching there. I am very grateful to him for covering the three churches while I was away in Canada on holiday. Fr. Ondrej Nagy is with us for one more weekend and then he will return to Slovakia early on 16th October. I know he is enjoying the experience of being in the Garden City and I hope that he can feel we have helped him improve his English! On Friday evening I shall be leading a group of pilgrims from Welwyn Garden City to the Holy Land. We will definitely think of you every day as we journey in the footsteps of Christ. Please pray that we may be kept safe and return in one piece!

Today's Gospel reading is a tricky one! On the one hand, Jesus presents us with a very high ideal of marriage: it is God-given with an unbreakable bond. On the other hand, many of us know of people whose marriages have broken or are filled with much unhappiness; perhaps some of you are in that position. The Church, of course, upholds the teaching of Christ and yet, like Christ, tries to be a compassionate Mother. We all have the unenviable task of holding in tension the teaching of Christ and his Church and the reality of people's lives. The Church's teaching moreover proclaims that a married couple is called to reflect the love Christ has for his Church, to be a sign and reflection of divine love. This *is* possible with God's grace. Perhaps today as we celebrate Mass we might remember those who are married that their lives together may be blessed with joy and peace. Let us pray for those who experience pain and disappointment in marriage that they may find healing and love. Let us pray for those preparing to enter the Sacrament of Marriage that they may be supported by family, friends and the parish in the great and awesome undertaking which lies ahead. May God bless you all. **Fr. Norbert**

FR. FELIX WRITES: On this last Sunday of my stay among you I would like to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to you all for this bit of our Christian Journey done together. Not all roads lead to Rome anymore, but should you happen to be there you are welcome for a cup of cappuccino: P.I.S.A.I., Viale di Trastevere 89, 00153 Roma; +39 06 58 39 26 11. felixjphiri@yahoo.co.uk.

We thank Fr. Felix very much for his ministry to us all during the last month. We wish him well as he returns to his work in Rome.

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY Friday was Harvest Fast Day, please place your envelope or donation in the retiring collection as you leave the church today. Your donation will help CAFOD to continue to stand alongside the poor in Latin America, Africa, and Asia tackling poverty and injustice.

COMBONI MISSIONARIES APPEAL There will be an appeal on behalf of the Comboni Missionaries next Sunday at St. Bonaventure's. Fr. Benito De Marchi of the Comboni Community in Notting Hill will be here to celebrate the 8am and 6pm Masses and to make the appeal. Our Lady's and Holy Family churches had this appeal earlier this year.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP This Tuesday the 7-11's meet from 3.45pm - 4.45pm. All welcome.

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!

PETER LATCHFORD R.I.P. It is with sadness that we let you know of the death of Peter Latchford R.I.P. who died peacefully in the Isabel Hospice on Thursday after a very short illness. We offer our prayers and sympathy to his wife Linda, who is one of our choir members, and all his family and friends. May he rest in peace. We will let you know the funeral details next week.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL MASS All parishioners are very welcome to attend Holy Family School Mass this Wednesday at 11am in the school. This is the start of school year Mass and the theme is 'Family'. Please note there is no 9.30am Mass in Holy Family Church on this day, but there is one at Our Lady's at 9.30am.

CAFOD GROUP The Holy Family CAFOD group meets on Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Parish Room. Anyone who would like to come along is very welcome.

A NEW SVP REQUEST Children's clothes are needed for a boy aged 5 years, and a baby boy aged 6 months, if you can help please contact Janet Lewis. 01707 326456. Also if you have need of a qualified painter and decorator, or need some odd jobs doing contact Janet who can give you details. Leaflets about the work of the SVP will be given out at Masses during the next couple of weeks.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP This active 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.

WELCOME We welcome Rev. Andrew Hemmens to Welwyn Garden City. Andrew is to be inducted as pastor at Christchurch Baptist Church this Saturday.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD St. Bonaventure's will again be supporting this charity by filling and sending shoe boxes to children in need around the world. This year we will be a collection point for the filled boxes. As you go around the shops please think about what you might put in these boxes - there are leaflets at the back of the church advising you about what can be included. Maybe you have some shoe boxes at home, bring them in and we can fill them or they can be given to those who might like to fill a box but haven't one at home. These can be left on the filing cabinet by the confessional. We will be obtaining more leaflets so that they can be given out at Holy Family and Our Lady's.

400 CLUB DRAW The results for the September draw are as follows: 1st £100 no. 206 Fr. Peter Maher, 2nd £50 no. 30 O. Meenan, 3rd £25 no. 355 G. Meenan. Congratulations to all the winners and our thanks to all the members who continue to support this Parish fund raising event.

DO YOU NEED A CHILDMINDER? Celine, who organises our Mother and Toddler group, is an OFSTED registered childminder. If you are in need of a childminder contact Celine on 01707 331346 / 07952 356912 or email egamaury@yahoo.co.uk.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|----------------|
| St. Bonaventure's | Saturday | 10.30am - 11am |
| Our Lady's | Saturday | 5pm - 5.30pm |
| Holy Family | Friday | 7.30pm - 8pm |

MORRISONS 'LET'S GROW' VOUCHERS We are collecting these vouchers for gardening equipment for schools. If you collect some vouchers when you shop at Morrisons please bring them to church (St. B's) and put them in the basket at the back and we will give them to our two Catholic primary schools. 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 | |
| | <u>11am</u> | Our Lady's (for this week only) | |
| | 6pm | St. Bonaventure | |

WEEKDAY MASSES

| | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Monday | 9.30am | Our Lady's |  | |
| Tuesday | 9am | St. Bonaventure | | |
| | 7pm | Our Lady's | | |
| Wednesday | 11am | Holy Family School | | |
| | + 9.30am | Our Lady's | | |
| 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