

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Michael Mannion
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Thirty-third Sunday of the Year 15th November 2009

This week we welcome Fr. Michael Mannion from Stoke Newington. Fr. Michael will be living in the Presbytery of Holy Family Church and together we will serve the three churches of Welwyn Garden City and the surrounding villages. I am sure you will make him very welcome. On Friday I shall be going on retreat to St. Beuno's in North Wales and so Fr. Michael will celebrate all the Masses next weekend and the following week. Please keep me in your prayers and I will remember you in mine. There are a few other things I wanted to draw your attention to:

This week is the first national Inter-Faith Week. There are fliers detailing special services throughout the Garden City. In addition, the times of our services have been published so we might find visitors from other faiths coming to experience Catholic Liturgy. If you are free, why not try to attend something somewhere locally and get a flavour of the worship being offered. Next month (on 9th December) I have been asked to speak to the Welwyn Hatfield Inter-Faith Group about Christmas. It will be a privilege to share with others what we celebrate and the wonderful news of Jesus Christ.

In regard to Holy Water, some of you like to take some home to fill your fonts. Holy Water is, of course, connected with the sacrament of Baptism. When we enter church we bless ourselves with the Holy Water as a reminder of the Baptism we received and share in. If you want to take Holy Water away, I suggest you take the Water from the Baptismal Font of the church. This might entail lifting the lid. The link with Baptism will be so much stronger.

Finally, we had eleven at the RCIA meeting last Monday. There still is the opportunity to come and discover more about joining the Church. Why not come along at 7.30pm in Our Lady's? May God bless you all. ***Fr. Norbert***

SVP SALE Please support the SVP sale after the 8am and 6pm Masses at St. Bonaventure's today.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS on Saturday 5th December at 6pm at Our Lady's Church. The Mass will be led by adults and children with special needs and learning difficulties. Sign language will be used. The Mass will be followed by a get-together. If you are interested in helping or supporting the celebration, please contact Fr. Norbert.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS MEETING for the three churches of Welwyn Garden City on Tuesday 8th December at 7.45 pm at Our Lady's.

NURSERY AND RECEPTION APPLICATIONS Fr. Norbert will be available to sign your forms on Wednesday 18th November between 4pm and 6pm at Our Lady's. Please wait in the church and bring your child with you. If you can't make that date Fr. Norbert will be available on Tuesday 1st December (time and venue as before).

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL RECEPTION CLASS If you are considering applying to Holy Family School, there will be a meeting at the school on Tuesday, 17th November at 7pm.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS For the last 2 years parishioners at Holy Family Church have donated items to make Christmas Hampers for the elderly and housebound. The recipients of these hampers have been really grateful not only with the contents of their hampers but because they indicated the parish was thinking of them at this sometimes very lonely time of year. We would like to carry on this tradition and would like to include the elderly and housebound from St Bonaventure's and Our Lady's. To this end there is a crate at the back of each church where you can deposit your contributions and a list of possible hamper contents. (If you would rather make a monetary contribution that is fine.) The hampers will be assembled in Holy Family Parish room on Friday 18th Dec at 7.00pm and distributed on Saturday 19th Dec from 10.00am. We also need names of people who you think would benefit from receiving a hamper. If you can help in any way please contact Sally Kee 01707 261394, Joss Innocent Landers 01707 396172 or Jackie McCallum 01707 331551.

HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S MASS AND CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE There will be Children's Mass at Holy Family Church on the 13th December where the children of the parish will take an active part in the celebration and think about others less fortunate than themselves. During the offertory of this Mass the children will be invited to take up a gift as an offering and place it around a Christmas Giving Tree. These presents will then be distributed to children who might not get any presents this Christmas. If you intend to come to this Mass please bring with you a wrapped gift labelled Boy/Girl Under 12 or Boy/ Girl Teenager. The children will also be invited to play along to the music of the last hymn so will need to bring with them a small, simple percussion instrument. If you have no instruments perhaps you could make one? There will be a short practice for readers and singers on 12th Dec at 10am led by Fr. Norbert. Any queries please contact Sally Kee 01707 261394. Joss Innocent Landers 01707 396172, Jackie McCallum 01707 331551 or Suzanne Meenan 01438717783.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MEETING for **Holy Family parents** is on 17th November from 8pm - 8.30pm in the parish room. At least one parent to attend.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MEETING for **Our Lady's parents** who wish to register their children for the sacraments of First Reconciliation (Confession) and First Holy Communion on Tuesday 1st December at 7.45pm following the 7.00pm Mass.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD We have 66 filled boxes so far. All boxes need to be at St. Bonaventure's by next weekend as they are being collected on Wednesday 25th November.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Malawi Appeal Friday 27th November, new Slide Show by Dr Roger Aubrey + Amazing 3D Slides shown by Bryan Parkes. Our Lady's Parish Hall, 7.30 for 8pm. Car Park, raffle, refreshments, retiring collection.

WELWYN HATFIELD INTER FAITH WEEK (15th-21st November) Bring and Share Meal You are warmly invited to come to a Bring & Share Meal as part of the National Interfaith Week on Tuesday 17th November 7.30pm at the Focolare Centre. If you would like to come please put your name on the list at the back of the church and indicate what food you will be bringing. The bring and share supper is only a part of a week of events - please pick up a leaflet with all the information. The other faith communities will be invited to attend Mass as part of the 'Open Door' aspect. Further details from Valerie Skottowe 01707 324828.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP This week the 7-11's meet again at 3.45pm. New children and parents always welcome.

NATIVITY PLAY ST. BONAVENTURE'S Once again as part of our Carol Service at St. Bonaventure's at 3pm on 13th December there will be a Nativity Play. All children/young people are invited to take part. Our first rehearsal is on Sunday 29th November from 2.30pm - 4pm.

HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP would like to say a huge "Thank You" to everyone from St. Bonaventure's, Our Lady's and Holy Family who helped to make our fundraising race night such a success. With your help we raised the magnificent sum of £557.62 for CAFOD. Well done to the group.

CAN YOU HELP? Tereza, the sister of Fr. Ondrej, is looking for a room to share in the area of Our Lady's or St. Bonaventure's. She is 30 years old and is in employment. If you are an English lady keen to share house/flat with someone then please contact Tereza after Tuesday 07522802304 (after 5pm).

ROTA FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY for Welcomers, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers at Our Lady's is being prepared. Please advise your co-ordinator of any dates when you are not available to minister.

CRIB BUILDING The outdoor crib at Our Lady's will be assembled on **Saturday 5th December commencing at 10am**. We welcome any help and especially from the young and strong!

THANK YOU to all who came and cleaned Our Lady's last Saturday (7th Nov) and those who worked to maintain the grounds.

QUIZ NIGHT in aid of Children in Need on Friday 20th November 6.45pm at 26 Reynards Road, Welwyn. Organised by Sophie Constable.

THE WAVE On **5th December** CAFOD asks you to come together to stop Climate Change. Gather in Brook Street, which runs off Grosvenor Square, where the march will start, some supporters from WGC will catch the 10.20am train from the station.

HOLY FAMILY CHRISTMAS TABLEAU There will be a children's Christmas tableau at the 6.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve. If you would like your child/children to be involved please put their names on the list at the back of the church. Rehearsals for this will be every Sunday in December after 10am Mass for no more than an hour. Costumes will be given out on Sunday 20th. If you want further details please contact Sally Kee 01707 261394, Joss Innocent Landers 01707 396172, Jackie McCallum 01707 331551 or any of the children's liturgy helpers.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2010 This will take place on Friday 2nd July.

CONTACTS

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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, Benediction + Confessions	
Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Confessions 10.30am - 11am

<p>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</p>
