

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*

Second Sunday of the Year 17th January 2010

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have chosen this Sunday as the Day of Prayer for World Peace. The theme chosen by Pope Benedict is: *'If you want to cultivate peace, protect creation.'* We are encouraged by the Pope to see how protecting the earth and making sure its gifts reach everyone, as God intends, is essential to reducing conflict between people. Pope Benedict's insight is that there is an intimate connection between environmental damage and warfare. Many wars in recent times have been over oil, drinking water supplies, grain and many other resources. Economic disruption and the flow of refugees have often come about through environmental degradation. Protecting creation can become a crucial tool for peace-making. We are called on to respect the earth and its natural rhythms, to be stewards of creation, and to live in harmony with each other. Peace Sunday is an opportunity to pray for, and act to create, a more just and peaceful world.

Our eyes now turn to Haiti and the pitiful sight of such extreme human suffering. We feel helpless and are probably wondering how to counter the voices which say: 'There can be no God if he allows such suffering!' There is no text book answer. All we can do is place the situation in God's hands and ask him to support us in our helplessness. We can also share our financial resources with those who have lost everything. Next weekend we'll have a special collection. Let us show the people of Haiti that we care and that they matter to us.

Finally, on a different note, I have spoken with Bishop George Stack about the Review Meeting on Wednesday 10th February. He has asked me to share with you different areas which will need to be reflected upon before, during and after the meeting itself. I will endeavour to do this next week through the newsletter.

May God bless you all. *Fr. Norbert*

HAITI EARTHQUAKE There will be a special retiring collection for Haiti next weekend to support the people of Haiti as they try to rebuild their lives after the devastating earthquake. The money will be sent to CAFOD. We know you will be generous. Thank you.

RCIA At present there are 11 adults preparing for the sacraments at Easter. Some will be baptised, some received into the Catholic Church; all will be confirmed at the Easter Vigil and receive Holy Communion. The group meets every Monday to reflect on, and explore, the Catholic Christian Faith. Next weekend, they will be presented at whichever Mass they attend. Please pray for them as they grow in Faith and journey towards the sacraments at Easter.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY This year it has been decided to have just one big celebration in Welwyn Garden City to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It will take place at Our Lady's on Sunday 24th January at 3pm and will be followed by tea in the Church Hall. There will be ministers and parishioners from many of the different Christian Churches in the area and it would be brilliant if we had good representation from our three Catholic churches. Come with your friends and neighbours!

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY will be marked on Wednesday 27th January by a ceremony in Hatfield (between Queensway and Link Drive) at 11am. All are most welcome to attend.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK The annual Diocesan Mass will be at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 13th February at 3pm. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass. Archbishop Vincent Nichols invites especially the sick and infirm to come. If you feel you need priority seating in the Cathedral, please let Fr. Norbert know as soon as possible.

CONFIRMATION 2010. Bishop George Stack will come to celebrate Confirmation here in Welwyn Garden City on **Friday 25th June** at 7pm. (Please note the new date from that previously advertised.) We ask all young people of our three churches who wish to be confirmed to fill out an application form available at the back of each church and return to Fr. Norbert or Fr. Michael by Sunday 7th February. Once we know how many candidates there are, the Preparation Course and its venue can be worked out. Candidates for Confirmation should be at least in Year 9 of secondary school.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP Meets Tuesday 3.34pm - 4.45pm in the parish hall. All welcome.

NEXT SATURDAY Mass at St. Bonaventure's will be at **9am** instead of 10am (for this week only) and there will be no Confessions.

CWL CHRISTMAS QUIZ Your answers should be given in today, there is a box at the back of church.

REVIEW MEETING There will be a review meeting to reflect on the changes in Welwyn Garden City these last sixth months. Bishop George Stack will be at this meeting on **Wednesday 10th February at 7.30pm** in Our Lady's Hall. Please put the date in your diary.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S FLOWER GROUP There will be a meeting for all members of the Flower Group at 5.15pm on Sunday 24th January in the parish hall. The rota for the following year will be worked out then. New members are very welcome to join this flower arranging group. If you need details phone Jenny on 01438 717798.

MEETING FOR ALL PARENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN The first of these meetings now takes place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th January in the lounge of the parish centre at Our Lady's.

CHURCH CLEANING AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S If you would like to help with keeping our church clean please put your details on the list at the back of church.

ROTAS Eucharistic Ministers and Children's Liturgy Leaders rotas for St. Bonaventure's are at the back of the church.

THANK YOU to all who came to clean Our Lady's Church last Saturday and to those brave souls who dismantled and stored the outdoor crib. Your efforts are much appreciated.

ROTAS for welcomers, readers and ministers at Our Lady's Church for the months of February and March are in preparation. If there are any dates when you are not available to help please inform your coordinator as soon as possible. Many thanks.

LATELY DEAD The following parishioners have recently died. We offer our sympathy and prayers to their families and friends.

JOSEPH (JOE) MAY R.I.P. Funeral Mass is at 2pm on Friday 22nd January at St. Bonaventure's.

PHYLLIS COUGHLAN R.I.P. Funeral Mass is at 12noon on Tuesday 26th January at Our Lady's Church.

BRIDGET WOODMAN R.I.P. Funeral Mass is at 10.30am on Friday 29th January at Our Lady's Church.

PATRICK (PADDY) COOK R.I.P. Funeral Mass is at 11am on Tuesday 2nd February at Our Lady's Church.

BRIDGET GARDINER R.I.P. Funeral Mass is at 11am on Friday 5th February at St. Bonaventure's.

RESULTS OF THE 400 CLUB Tommy Mansfield Draw for December
 1st £100 No. 136 Mr. J. Galloway; 2nd £50 No. 251 S. Bell; 3rd £25 No. 111 S. Rand
 Drawn on Monday 11th January. Our thanks to all who support this Church
 fundraising effort and congratulations to all the winners.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

St. Bonaventure's Saturday 10.30am - 11am

Our Lady's Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

Holy Family Friday 7.30pm - 8pm

CONTACTS

Fr. Norbert 323234
welwyngcdncityeast@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

Fr. Michael 327434
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	
	2pm	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Holy Family + Exposition, Benediction + Confessions	
Saturday	9am	St. Bonaventure	No Confessions



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