

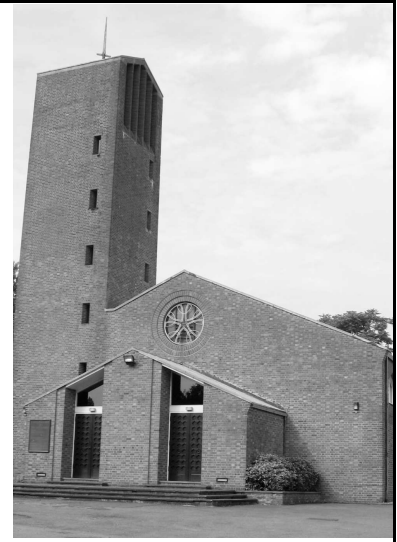
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

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

***Fifth Sunday of the Year
7th February 2010***

I invite you to come to the **Review Meeting** this **Wednesday at 7.30pm** in Our Lady's Hall. As I have mentioned, this is an opportunity to consider the changes which have taken place in the parishes of Welwyn Garden City and to let Bishop George Stack, the Auxiliary Bishop who oversees Hertfordshire, hear what you think. I have asked Sally McAllister of Focolare to chair the meeting. She is the Pastoral Director at Allen Hall our Diocesan Seminary and worked closely with Cardinal Hume when he was our Archbishop.

I remind you of the questions which will outline the discussion: 1. What are some of the **positive outcomes** of the changes? 2. What are the **challenges** we face? 3. What is our **vision** of where we want to be in a year's time or in ten years' time? What will help us to achieve this? 4. What have been the major **disappointments** of the changes?

Obviously not all of you will be in a position to come to the meeting and you are most welcome to send your thoughts in writing. Some of you have said that you would not want to stand up in a big gathering and air your views; again, you are encouraged to put pen to paper.

In our Gospel today, Jesus invites Simon Peter to cast out his nets and there is a huge haul of fish. Peter listens to the voice of Jesus. He responds and he realises what Jesus can do for him in spite of his own unworthiness. He is now called upon to branch out from catching fish to be a fisher of men. This new calling requires fresh skills based upon what had previously been the case. As long as he stays close to Jesus, he will continue to learn and his ministry bear fruit. *(continued on next page)*

In Welwyn Garden City, the Bishop has presented all of us with the challenge of being Church in a new way. With our gaze fixed on Jesus, we have to discover fresh approaches, develop stronger bonds with each other and reach out even more clearly to our wider society with the message of Jesus Christ. Our task is to build up God's Kingdom and to offer many more the chance to experience the wonder of following God's Son who is the Saviour of the world. Let this too be a very important part of the discussions among ourselves in the run up to Wednesday and at the meeting itself. Let us ask God's Spirit to guide us and bless us! **Fr. Norbert**

ASH WEDNESDAY this year falls on 17th February. We are asking you to bring in your old palms from previous years and these will be burned to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday. The old palms will be burned in a very simple ceremony after the 10am Mass at Holy Family on Sunday 14th, and after 9am Mass at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm Mass at Our Lady's on Tuesday 16th.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY for those getting married is on Saturday 8th May at Our Lady and St. Andrew's Church, Hitchin. Phone 01462 459126.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

For those celebrating 10, 25, 40, 50 and 60 years of marriage, the Archbishop is inviting you to Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 22nd May at 3pm. If you qualify and would like to receive an invitation, please give Fr. Norbert the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and e-mail (or phone number). *This must be done by the end of February.*

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK The annual Diocesan Mass will be at Westminster Cathedral next 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.

FR. DAVID WILLIAMSON will be in WGC to give his talk on *What can we know about Jesus from the Bible?* on Sunday 28th February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Hall.

THE INTERFAITH WOMEN'S SOCIAL GROUP will meet at Space (next door to Sainsbury's) on Tuesday 9th February between 12.30pm and 2pm. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a picnic lunch if you would like to. This social group has been meeting for some considerable time on most 2nd Tuesdays of each month - it is a small group at present but the **Welwyn Hatfield Inter Faith Group** would like more of the local faith communities to participate.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP Meets Tuesday 3.45pm - 4.45pm in the parish hall. Two of our children wanted to raise some extra money for the Haiti Appeal so this week children are asked to bring at least 20p to pay for their drinks and biscuits/cakes. Some preparation today for our next Children's Mass (at the end of half-term).

WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES This takes place from 25th - 31st July. There will be a group going from St. Bonaventure's. We will stay at the Hotel Mediteranee. We plan to travel as a group by air at a cost of £725 for the week. Young people who will be 16 years old by the time of travel are invited to come as Redcaps helping the sick and disabled. There are brochures at the back of the churches for those who are interested in coming. A meeting will be arranged at the beginning of March, until then do not fill in any forms. If you would like to know more please contact Kathryn at St. Bonaventure's (322579).

CONFIRMATION 2010 Forms need to be returned as soon as possible to whichever church you are attending.

NEED ANY JOBS DOING? If you have need of a general handyman/gardener who is a skilled tiler and patio layer please contact Janet Lewis who has the details. Phone 01707 326456.

CAN YOU HELP A disabled parishioner needs help to connect a DVD player to the television. If you can help please contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456.

THANK YOU - to all those who came to Our Lady's on Saturday morning to clean the church and to work on the grounds maintenance. Your work for the church community is greatly appreciated. Everyone is welcome to assist with this work on the first Saturday of the month.

ROTA FOR FEBRUARY TO MARCH - is now available for Our Lady's welcomers, readers and eucharistic ministers. Please do take a copy. Note that is also available on Our Lady's website - link on the home page.

RESULTS OF 400 CLUB FOR JANUARY 1st £100 F. McKenzie No 106, 2nd £50 J. Rowland No.009, 3rd £25 C. Crawley No.258. Our congratulations to all the winners and our thanks to all who continue to support this Church fund raising activity. There are numbers available, anyone wishing to join and have a chance to win some of the £175 monthly prizes, see one of the organisers at the rear of the church at the end of the month or call Norman Merry 01707 326089.

FUNERAL The Funeral Mass for Patricia Taylor (nee Harding) is on Friday 12th February at 12noon in St. Bonaventure's Church. The body will be received into the church on Thursday at 4.30pm.

ST. DAVID'S DAY will be celebrated on Monday 1st March with the 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's and a 'get-together' in the Sacristy afterwards. Virginia Rees has kindly agreed to co-ordinate the celebration. If any other Welsh parishioners would like to help, please let Fr. Norbert know.

PARISH DIARIES These have come at last! Take one, they are free.

SWIM FOR THE ISABEL HOSPICE Sunday 21st February at Haileybury College Pool, Hertford Heath. Leaflets at the back of St. Bonaventure's Church. The Archer family ask if you could sponsor them for this event.

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

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St. Bonaventure's

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Website:

www.stbonaventure.org.uk

Fr. Michael 327434

Holy Family Church

194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

MASS TIMES IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday	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
	4.30pm	Reception of the body of Patricia Taylor R.I.P.
		St. Bonaventure's
Friday	9am	St. Bonaventure's
	12noon	Funeral Mass Patricia Taylor R.I.P. St.
		Bonaventure's
	7pm	Holy Family + Exposition, Benediction + Confessions
Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure Confessions 10.30 - 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