

# 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 Lent  
28th February 2010***

I am sure that many of you will have experienced going through a long tunnel. There is a strange feeling as you enter. The darkness does not seem to go away. And finally you catch a glimpse of light which intensifies as you approach the other end. In exiting the tunnel and entering daylight once more, there is that blinding dazzling sensation.

In terms of Lent, we entered this penitential season by the imposition of ashes. Now we are in that tunnel supported by prayer, self-denial and good works. The end probably seems a long distance away and today the Church presents us with the account of the Transfiguration to give us a glimpse of the glory God wants us to share in just as Christ did as he prayed on the mountain. For Jesus it was a re-affirmation of what he experienced at his Baptism in the River Jordan. At that time he saw the Spirit come from heaven like a dove and heard the Father's voice: 'You are my Son, the Beloved'. Now he radiates glory beyond measure and hears the Father proclaiming: 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' When we finally leave Lent behind us at Easter, God wants us to be bathed in the light of the Resurrection and to be transformed even more so into the likeness of his Son as we renew our Faith and commitment to him.

The Light of Christ fills us with hope. His glory shows us what we shall mirror through the power of his grace. The radiance energises us when we find ourselves flagging and tempted to give up. The all-encompassing fire of his love sends us out as messengers of Good News, banishing the darkness of despondency with the spark of Faith. We must listen to him. He has a wonderful vision of what he has in mind for us and for our world!

May God continue to bless your Lent. *Fr. Norbert*

**EASTER TRIDUUM** On Maundy Thursday the Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at St. Bonaventure's at 6pm, at Holy Family at 7pm and at Our Lady's at 8pm. The Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion will be at 3pm at St. Bonaventure's and Holy Family; at Our Lady's it will be at 5pm. There will only be one Easter Vigil at which Bishop George Stack will preside. This will take place at Our Lady's at 8pm; at this celebration we want to involve musicians and singers, readers and Eucharistic Ministers and altar servers from all three churches.

**MUSIC PRACTICES** If any one would like to sing or play on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday at Our Lady's there will be practices on Thursdays: 25th February and 11th March 7.30 - 9pm in the church.

There will be a joint rehearsal for the three church choirs at Our Lady's for the Easter Vigil on Thursday 25th March 7.30 - 9pm. *All are welcome.*

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

**CLEANING AND GARDENING** This will take place at Our Lady's next Saturday 6th February at 10am. Everyone is invited to help clean the church or assist with the maintenance of the grounds for just ONE hour. Refreshments available!

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SESSION FOR OUR LADY'S CHILDREN** Next Sunday 7th March 10.30am-11.45am in the Parish Centre. Children should bring their books with them. The children will make their First Reconciliation (Confession) on Saturday 13th March at 11am.

**DAY OF RECOLLECTION** A reminder to all welcomers, readers and Eucharistic ministers in our parishes that this will take place on Saturday 20th March at Our Lady's. The day begins with Mass at 9.30am in the church and concludes with a Lenten Lunch at 1.00pm.

**OUR LADY'S FORUM** Meets in the sacristy on Tuesday 2nd March at 7.45pm.

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL MASS** Monday at 11am in the school. All welcome. You are also welcome to attend the Class Masses at 9.15am on Wednesdays 3rd and 10th March and on Tuesday 16th March.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP** We meet on Tuesday from 3.45pm - 4.45pm. All welcome.

**ARCHER FAMILY SPONSORED SWIM FOR THE ISABEL HOSPICE** The Archer family children completed their swim last Sunday. If you sponsored them you may give your contribution to Audrey (8am Mass) or put it through the Presbytery letter box of St. Bonaventure's (include your name). Thank you.

**WESTMINSTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** This takes place from 25th - 31st July. There will be a group going from St. Bonaventure's. 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).

**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.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S COFFEE GROUP SPRING BRING & BUY** for Aid to the Church in Need after the 8am and 6pm Masses on 21st March. Turn out your cupboards - donate your unused Christmas presents - bake a cake. Donations gratefully received.

**HOLY FAMILY CAFOD GROUP** There will be a meeting of the CAFOD group on Tuesday 2nd March at 7.30pm in the parish rooms at Holy Family. You will be made very welcome if you would like to come along and join us even if just the once.

**SCHOOL TOKENS** St. Bonaventure's are again collecting Sainsbury's, Tesco and Morrisons vouchers to be distributed to Holy Family and Our Lady's schools.

**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT** We are asked to get swapping for Fairtrade fortnight. Why not swap your usual purchases of tea, coffee, chocolate, cotton tops or socks for Fairtrade produce? Did you know that 65 million cups of tea are drunk in the UK every day and only 10% of this is Fairtrade? If you want to be part of making a difference this Lent "Get Swapping".

**FUNERALS** Stan (Mac) McDonald's Funeral Mass takes place this Tuesday at 11am in Our Lady's Church.

The Funeral Service (not Mass) for Joe Ryan R.I.P. takes place at 11am on Tuesday 9th March at St. Bonaventure's.

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE 2010** This will take place on Friday 5th March at 2pm in the Salvation Army Hall, Woodhall (next door to Our Lady's Church). The service is open to everyone and is an opportunity to join in prayer with women around the world. Theme: 'Let everything that has breath praise God' which has been prepared by Christian women of Cameroon.

**LENTEN LUNCHESES** On Saturdays in Lent the CWL, at Our Lady's, are holding Lenten Lunches (from 12noon to 1.30pm) of soup and bread. The cost is £3 for CAFOD. There will be a get-together on 17th March for St Patrick's day. Tickets £3. Next CWL meeting is on 9th March with a speaker from Platypus, Swimming for the Disabled.

**LAST YEAR'S CONFIRMATION GROUP** There will be a gathering of those who were confirmed last July. It will take place at the Focolare Centre, Parkway, on Friday 5th March 8pm - 9.30pm.

**A WEEKEND IN OSTEND AND BRUGES** A weekend away in Ostend and Bruges is planned for the weekend of Saturday 23rd - Sunday 24th October at a cost of £99 for adults and £64 for children . Please take a leaflet from the back of the church and if you intend going return it with your deposit as soon as possible.

**HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR FRENCH STUDENTS** Please see leaflets at the back of church.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)**

St. Bonaventure's Saturday 9.30am - 10am (for 2 weeks)

Our Lady's Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm

Holy Family Thursday after 9.30am Mass

**CONTACTS**

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**St. Bonaventure's**  
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**Holy Family Church**  
**194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ**

**MASS TIMES IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY**

**SUNDAY MASSES**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Our Lady's Confessions 5pm - 5.30pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure</b>
	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Family</b>
	<b>12noon</b>	<b>Our Lady's</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure</b>

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Our Lady's + Exposition</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Funeral Mass Stan McDonald R.I.P. Our Lady's</b>
	<b>7pm</b>	<b>Our Lady's</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Family + Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Family + Exposition + Confessions</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure + Stations of the Cross</b>
	<b>7pm</b>	<b>Our Lady's + Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>St. Bonaventure Exposition +</b>
		<b>Confessions 9.30am - 10am (on 28th, 6th + 13th)</b>

**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