

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*

***Pentecost Sunday
23rd May 2010***

Pentecost Day has arrived! The Fiftieth Day of our celebration of Easter and the great feast which completes the Event of our salvation. Jesus, after rising from the dead, communicates his Spirit to the disciples and gives them the great commission to be ministers of forgiveness. In our First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, the Holy Spirit seizes hold of those gathered in prayer and they proclaim boldly the Good News of Jesus Christ. An amazing spectacle - an incredible experience. Today we celebrate the birthday of the Church and ask God to help us to be living signs of his saving power in our world.

Let us reflect for a few moments on the Gift sent to us by the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit keeps us in touch with God and establishes a communion here on earth between God and his creation. The Holy Spirit breathes life into us just as God breathed life into the lungs of Adam at the dawn of creation in the Book of Genesis and as Jesus breathed upon his disciples on Easter Day. The Holy Spirit gives courage to those who are afraid and locked up in worry and hesitation. We see Peter speaking out on behalf of the disciples and calling his audience to faith in Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit creates unity, overcoming the barriers of different languages, and establishes harmony. The Spirit is the powerhouse of Love and Faith. What a Gift!

God empowers us with his Spirit so that we do not remain only as disciples - literally 'learners' - but are transformed into apostles - literally 'those sent out'. The Good News of Easter which we have reflected on for these Fifty Days must flow out through us for our world to hear, to see and to experience. Let us thank God for Easter and ask him to send us his Spirit. God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

PAPAL VISIT COLLECTION This weekend there is a retiring collection to raise funds for the Catholic events which will take place when Pope Benedict comes to this country in September. The Bishops have made this request of all parishes throughout the land. Please be generous.

TRINITY SUNDAY On Sunday 30th May there are five adults who will complete their initiation into the Catholic Church at the 12 noon Mass at Our Lady's. One will be baptised, one received into the Catholic Church and they and three others will be confirmed. Please pray for them.

FUNERALS The Funeral Mass for Peggy Hughes R.I.P. is at 12 noon on Thursday, 27th May, in Holy Family Church. Peggy died last weekend. We offer our sympathy and prayers to her family and friends.

The Funeral Mass for Zenaida Capajo-Castor R.I.P. takes place on Friday 28th May in Our Lady's Church at 2pm. We offer our sympathy and prayers to her family and friends.

REDCAP FUNDRAISING Thank you to those who supported our Red Caps last Sunday at St. Bonaventure's. £127 was raised. The winner of the competition will be announced as soon as the coins are counted.

HOLY FAMILY RED MISSION BOXES (APF) Those Holy Family parishioners who have Red Boxes are asked to bring them into church so that the money can be counted.

PARISH REGISTRATION FORMS (St. Bonaventure's and Holy Family). Thank you to those who filled in a form last Sunday. If you were away there are forms at the back of both churches - you may return the form in the basket or put it through the presbytery letter box.

CARE OF THE ELDERLY There will be a meeting on Tuesday June 29th from 7.45pm until 9.15pm in Our Lady's Parish Centre. The subject will be the care of the elderly and housebound (including those in Care Homes), in our three churches, with special emphasis on their spiritual needs and due attention paid to proper safeguarding. Anne Keller of Hyde Valley Home will speak, and there will be tea and coffee. Everyone concerned with the needs of the elderly and/or interested in improving our response is welcome. Please contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456 for further details.

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK will be celebrated on 3rd July at 11am at Our Lady's. The Mass and Reception will be organised by the SVP.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS St. Bonaventure's Finance Committee meets at 7.30pm this Monday 24th May in the presbytery, and Our Lady's Finance Committee meets at 7.45pm on Tuesday 25th May in Our Lady's presbytery. Holy Family Committee meets on Friday June 18th at 10am.

SVP REQUEST Do you have a washing machine you no longer need? The SVP would like to hear from you if you do. Contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456.

THE CELLAR CLUB is a meeting place for anyone who would like somewhere friendly and relaxing to chat and enjoy a snack and cup of tea. It meets on Thursday afternoons in the United Reformed Church in Church Road from 4.15pm to 6.30pm. Helpers are on duty to prepare drinks and light snacks such as baked potatoes, sandwiches and beans on toast, and to chat and provide 'friendly ear'. They would like to recruit new members - if you are interested please contact Vicky Woodcraft on 01707 326109 or email vicky_woodcraft@hotmail.com.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Fr. Norbert would like to meet parents of Year 5 children who will be transferring to Secondary School next academic year (2011) and will need a 'Priest's Reference'. The meeting will be at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 13th June 7.30pm - 8.30pm. Fr. Norbert hopes to give parents useful information about the process. In the autumn he will arrange to meet with each individual family to fill out the actual 'Priest's Reference' form.

MEETING GOD IN FRIEND AND STRANGER This is a teaching document from the Catholic bishops of England and Wales. It outlines how essential it is for Catholics to be in dialogue with those of other faiths. There will be a Study Evening, based on this document, in Marychurch Church Hall, Hatfield at 7.30pm on Tuesday 25th May. All welcome.

SCHOOL SUMMER FAIRS Our Lady School Summer Fete takes place on Saturday 19th June 11.30am – 3.30pm. Everyone welcome.

Holy Family School Summer Fair takes place on Saturday 26th June from 12noon to 3pm. All welcome.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL SUMMER RAFFLE Tickets now on sale after most Masses (Holy Family & St. Bonaventure). Prizes include: 'Flik' Handheld Camcorder, West End Theatre & Meal tickets, Game Vouchers. Draw to be made at Holy Family School Summer Fair, 26th June.

QUIZ NIGHT 'Thank you to all the parishioners who attended the quiz night for Save the Children. We raised the fantastic sum of £508.60! Thank you for making it such a great success!' Sylvie Nichols, minutes secretary for Save the Children.

40 HOURS To mark the conclusion of the Year of Priests, the Stevenage Deanery will have 40 hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the week commencing 7th June. Each of our churches in Welwyn Garden City will have two hours as follows: Our Lady's Tuesday 8th June 7.30-9.30pm, Holy Family Wednesday 9th June 10am-12noon and St. Bonaventure's Friday 11th June 9.30-11.30am. There will be more details available closer to the time.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
(CONFESSION)**

St. Bonaventure	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
Our Lady's	Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm
Holy Family	Thursday after 9.30am Mass

CONTACTS

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MASS TIMES

Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	10am	Mass	Holy Family
	12noon	Mass	Our Lady's
	6pm	Mass	St. Bonaventure
Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
Tuesday	9am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
	12noon	Funeral Mass (Peggy Hughes)	Holy Family
Friday	9am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	2pm	Funeral Mass (Zenaida Capajo-Castor)	Our Lady's
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure

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