

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*

Eleventh Sunday of the Year 13th June 2010

I write this piece on the feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. On this day we proclaim the tremendous love God has for us which has been revealed in the Heart of his Son. This love is sacrificial and brings salvation; this love is overwhelming and is a fire which never goes out. God grants us a share in this love through the power of his Holy Spirit. His love will draw us to heaven.

In our Gospel passage today, Jesus speaks about the person who is forgiven a great deal who loves the most. The image of the penitent lady weeping over the feet of Jesus, drying them with her hair and lavishing kisses galore reveals a human heart truly contrite and overflowing with love for the Saviour who brings her forgiveness. Jesus' forgiving love draws the very best out of us. His desire to save us means there is not anything he would not do to bring back the lost. His patience with us is immeasurable as he waits for us to respond to the call he extends to us. In opening ourselves up to his love, he can draw out even more. What is crucial is the recognition from us that we need him.

This week there will be the Bishop's meeting with the twelve representatives from our three churches. They will express, I know for certain, a spectrum of feelings about the changes which have taken place in the Catholic Church here in Welwyn Garden City over the last 18 months and they come from a variety of backgrounds which reflect the make up of the Garden City and its surrounding villages. The developments which have taken place have been in response to the challenging initiatives coming from the Diocese. Bishop George Stack will set the agenda for the meeting. Whether you are on this committee or not, please pray hard that its deliberations will bear fruit. Please be open to hearing the many viewpoints and reflect on them in the light of the wider Diocesan picture. We all do need to keep at the heart of who we are, and what we do, the love Christ offers us. This love brings harmony and sees possibilities. This love is creative and never condemns. This love reaches out through us for others to see, experience and be transformed by. This love is the essence of our identity as Catholic Christians.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in thee. May God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

BISHOP'S MEETING The following have kindly agreed to represent the three parishes at the meeting with Bishop George Stack in the sacristy of Our Lady's on Tuesday 15th June after 7pm Mass: Ernest Afriye-Owusu, Peter Bell, James Beringuel, Michael Cade, Michael Cole, Siana Hetherington, Kathryn Hubbard, Ann Keller, Kay Mason, Freda McKenzie, Hugh Milbourn and Kate Worley. The meeting will be chaired by Sally McAllister of the Focolare and, of course, Fr. Michael and Fr. Norbert will be there. The Bishop has asked that the group reflect on the changes which have been made in our parishes and to look constructively at ways of continuing to move forward and of developing the life of the Catholic Church in the Garden City and the surrounding villages. Do talk to each other and to these representatives. Please be realistic in your aspirations. Let us all continue to pray that God's Spirit will guide us as we respond to the huge enterprise which has been entrusted to us by the Diocese.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 20th June at 12noon and Holy Family on Sunday 27th June at 12noon.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REHEARSALS St. Bonaventure's is on Saturday 19th June at 10.30am and Holy Family's is on Friday 25th June at 5.30pm. Parents and children must attend.

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. If you are in need of a lift or can offer lifts for people please contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE GROUNDS This will take place on Saturday 18th June, not 3rd July.

ROTA FOR JUNE TO MID-AUGUST This 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.

CONFIRMATION FUNDRAISING EVENT The Confirmation Group has decided to do a Cake Sale after all Masses on Sunday 20th June (not Saturday evening). The proceeds will go to Great Ormond Street Hospital. People are asked to support our young people.

TRIP TO INDIA Anyone still thinking about going to India next February needs to put down the deposit this week or speak to Fr. Nobert as soon as possible if you have any questions about the trip.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP This Tuesday both groups meet All welcome 3.45pm - 4.45pm.

LATELY DEAD Please pray for the repose of the soul of Tom Higgins who died recently. The funeral Mass is at 11am on Monday 21st June at Holy Family Church.

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.

VISIT TO ST. JOHN'S, DIGSWELL Reverend Carl Garner, the Vicar of St. John's, Digswell has kindly invited the Catholic community to visit his church, part of which dates back to the early Middle Ages, on Sunday 27th June. The visit will start with a tour at 3.30pm followed by tea and will finish with a time of prayer. Keep this date free!

SCHOOL SUMMER FAIRS **Our Lady School** Summer Fete takes place on Saturday 19th June 11.30am – 3.30pm. Everyone welcome. There will also be a **Car Wash** in the church car park from 11.30am - 3.30pm and it will cost £3.50 per car. It is being run by some of the dads from the school and the children in Year 5 & 6.

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.

PICNIC AND WALK You are all invited to join the Inter Faith Group for their annual picnic on Sunday 4th July at 12.30pm at 305 Knightsfield followed at 2.30pm by a guided walk in the woods. Please bring your own picnic and a chair – drinks will be provided. Further details from Theresa McCrave on 01707 335716.

PRAISE IN THE PARK Sunday 18th July 2010, Campus Arena, WGC, to include a short Thanksgiving Service for the 90th Anniversary of WGC 2pm-4pm. A Christian celebration including a varied musical programme incorporating a barbecue.

COFFEE MORNING for Myeloma Awareness Week. Our Lady's Church Hall on Saturday 26th June from 10.30am to 12noon. Donations of cakes etc. welcome. To find out more about Myeloma go to www.myeloma.org.uk.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES Barn Dance for our three churches Saturday 9th October in the evening in Our Lady's Hall.

Christmas Concert by the WGC Band in Our Lady's Church with a get-together in the Hall afterwards on Saturday 11th December at 8pm.

Next Sunday is Father's Day and we wish all fathers a happy day.

ALTAR SERVERS TEN PIN BOWLING One evening in July. If interested sign the list the sacristy of each church. Under 16's must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Further details to follow.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
(CONFESSION)**

| | |
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| 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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Holy Family Church
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MASS TIMES

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|--------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 14 Monday | 9.30am | Our Lady's | feria |
| 15 Tuesday | 9am | St. Bonaventure | feria |
| | 7pm | Our Lady's | |
| 16 Wednesday | 9.30am | Holy Family | St. Richard of Chichester, Bishop |
| 17 Thursday | 9.30am | Holy Family | feria |
| 18 Friday | 9am | St. Bonaventure | feria |
| | 2pm | St. Bonaventure | Nuptial Mass |
| | 7pm | Our Lady's | |
| 19 Saturday | 10am | St. Bonaventure | feria |

12th Sunday of the Year

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| 19 Saturday | 6pm | Our Lady's |
| 20 Sunday | 8am | St. Bonaventure |
| | 10am | Holy Family |
| | 12noon | Our Lady's |
| | 12noon | St. Bonaventure (First Communion Mass) |
| | 6pm | 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