

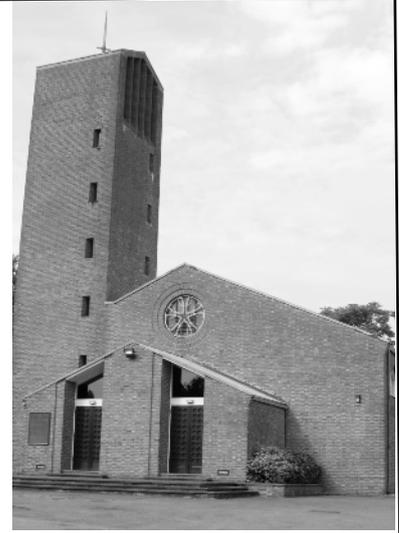
WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tom Montgomery
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Twenty-third Sunday of the Year 10th September 2017 p. 125 of Mass book

FR. TOM WRITES: I am Fr Tom Montgomery, I am Scottish, my father is Glaswegian and my mother was from Fife. I lived in Glasgow until I was nine and then moved to Corby in Northamptonshire where my father still lives. I come from a non-church family but I started going to church when I was seven or eight. With my move to Corby I began going to the local C of E Church and was baptised and confirmed as an Anglican.

From an early age I felt called to be a priest. Whilst a student in Wales I came to know the Anglican Franciscans and felt called to be a friar. In 1998 I was admitted and became Br Augustine Thomas SSF. After being solemnly professed the sense of being called to be a priest wouldn't go away and so I started discerning priesthood within community life. As I began a process of discernment, it became clear that I had another thing to discern – becoming a Catholic. So in 2008 I was released from my vows and was admitted into Full Communion with the Catholic Church.

I thought I might become a Catholic Friar, but with the help of others I discerned that God was calling me to be a diocesan priest. So after a year of working in St Paul's Bookshop by Westminster Cathedral and thirteen months in the Cathedral itself, I began seminary life. First in Valladolid in Spain and then at the Beda College in Rome. I was ordained Deacon in St Paul's outside the Walls at the end of my time there in 2015.

As a deacon I served in the parish of Ruislip and then last year I was ordained as a priest and was sent to serve in Enfield. It was therefore a surprise when I received a call in June telling me that I was to come to Welwyn Garden City, but as you can see – my life has been one of change. This brief introduction only gives you the basic bones – I hope that over my time here, I'll be able to get to know you and you me. If you have any questions, then do ask.

FR. TOM We welcome our new Assistant priest, Fr. Tom Montgomery, to Welwyn Garden City and wish him a happy and fruitful ministry serving our three parishes.

MICHAEL MESSER RIP There will be a Memorial Mass in Our Lady's for Michael (who died abroad) on Friday 15th September at 12.30pm.

KEN FIRMINER RIP Ken's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family on Wednesday 20th September at 1.30pm.

EDUCATION SUNDAY This will be marked by Holy Family School on 17th September at 9.30am at Holy Family Church and by Our Lady School on 8th October at 11.30 Mass. Our Lady School will be coming 9.30 Mass on Monday 18th September.

FATIMA Fr. Norbert and the pilgrims to Fatima will remember you all at the Shrine of Our Lady. Please pray for them too. Thank you.

FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST COMMUNION Sessions for the parents of the children for First Confession and First Holy Communion will take place early next year. Children for Confession and Holy Communion are in Year 3 or above. **At St. Bonaventure's** the children have classes once a month on Saturdays - the Enrolment Meeting will be on Saturday 7th October at 11am in St. Bonaventure's Hall (with the first class on Saturday 14th October). **At Holy Family Church** the classes are weekly usually on a Wednesday afternoon after school starting in January/February - the Enrolment Meeting will be in Holy Family Church after 9.30 Mass on Sunday 5th November. **At Our Lady's Church** the classes are on Sunday mornings before 11.30 Mass starting in January - the Enrolment Meeting will be on Tuesday 14th November at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church.

CONFIRMATION Young people from our three churches in Year 9 and above at school are invited to come with their parents to an Enrolment Meeting for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 15th October at 7pm in Holy Family Church. The course will begin November.

HOLY FAMILY KNEELERS The kneelers of Holy Family Church are going to be reupholstered. They will be taken away on Monday 25th September and returned on Thursday 5th October. This means for Masses during these weeks there will only be the floor to kneel on. Those of you unable to do so may sit.

SUPPLY PRIESTS We are very grateful to Fr. Frank Johnson from Focolare who is helping us this Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

OPEN PARISH MEETING Monday 18th September at 7.30pm in the Hall to look at the year ahead including the plans for the refurbishment of the Hall and a sharing of presentations of all the great work done by groups in our three churches. Please keep this date free and come.

RED BOX APPEAL Fr. John Hemer will be with us the weekend of 30th September/1st October to make the 'Red Box' Appeal on behalf of *Missio* (APF). Many of you already contribute generously but this gives everyone an opportunity to get a box. Our Lady's parishioners are asked to bring their boxes to church in the next couple of weeks.

CAFOD CAKE SALE Next Sunday, 19th after 9.30am Mass at Holy Family. Donations welcome. Also CAFOD meeting this Tuesday 7pm Holy Family (postponed from last week)

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHILDREN'S TUESDAY GROUP We meet again this Tuesday 12th September. Children from our three parishes are welcome to attend from 3.45pm - 4.45pm (in the parish hall) to learn more about their faith in a relaxed and fun way. Come and get to know other parish children. If you haven't been before just turn up. Parents welcome. Next Children's Mass will be on Sunday 24th September at 10.30am.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY This will take place next year on Saturday 24th March (venue to be confirmed). Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are planning to marry in 2018/19 whether in Welwyn Garden City or further away so that the Papers for Marriage can be sorted out.

RCIA For those who want to join the Catholic Church or to find out more, the next RCIA Course will be on Monday evenings starting on 9th October at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. Perhaps you are an adult baptised as a child who have not been confirmed? You are most welcome too! Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are interested.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Our next celebration will be on Saturday 23rd September at 6pm Mass at Our Lady's with a gathering in the Hall afterwards. There will be a quiz and bingo! Please bring food to share.

POLISH/ENGLISH MASS will be celebrated on Saturday 7th Oct. at 6pm at Our Lady's.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Fr. Norbert urges parents to visit the different schools with their children. An open morning allows you to see the school in action and the way the pupils and staff are. Think about where your child will flourish, taking into account his/her gifts, travelling, friendship groups and what schools offer. Definitely read the admissions criteria and try to see whether or not your child has a good chance of getting in. Some Catholic schools will need a Certificate of Catholicity which implies weekly attendance at Mass. Fr. Norbert will be available in October (dates and times will be in the newsletter) to sign these certificates. All Catholic schools will need a Baptismal Certificate, so now is a good time to request one if you have not got the original. If the Baptism was here in Welwyn Garden City, contact Kathryn Hubbard (01707 322579); otherwise make sure you give yourself time to acquire one from the church of Baptism.

INTERFAITH Music and Religion: following our recent musical event which drew a large audience, the local inter faith group will be presenting the second in a series of how music is viewed and used by different faiths. You are warmly invited to the Focolare Centre on Tuesday 19 September at 7.15 when we will be hearing from representatives from the Hindu, Muslim and Baha'i faiths.

CWL meet on 19th September at Our Lady's after the 7pm Mass. On 22nd September there will be a Quiz Night starting at 7.30 - please come and bring a friend, make up a table of six and join us for a friendly, sociable night and "stretch your minds". If there are any questions please contact Anne Davidson on 01707 327569.

CARDINAL CORMAC funeral arrangements On Tuesday, 12th September, the reception of the Cardinal's body will take place at 10am at Westminster Cathedral with a short service. All are welcome to attend the service. The Cardinal's body will lie in the cathedral throughout the day and all are welcome to visit to pay their respects, pray and sign the book of condolence. At 5pm on the same day, Cardinal Vincent will preside at the Solemn Vespers of the Dead, and Archbishop Bernard Longley will preach. All are welcome to this service. The cathedral will remain open until 8pm for visitors who may wish to pay their respects.

On Wednesday, 13th September, the Requiem Mass and burial of Cardinal Cormac will take place at 12noon. Cardinal Vincent will preside and Archbishop George Stack will preach the homily. In order to allow as many parishes and schools of the diocese to be represented, **admission to the cathedral for the Requiem Mass will be by ticket only** (these have already been allocated).

Fr. Norbert 01707 323234
welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk

Our Lady's Church
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

Fr. Tom 01707 327434
welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk

Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579
parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk

St. Bonaventure's Church
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE Bookings
should be made with Phil Johnson 01707
377442

Website for our 3 parishes
www.wgc-catholics.org.uk

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS We find that the Catholic papers at the back of our three churches are not being taken and very often many are left. If this continues to be the case, perhaps it might be better for individuals to take out subscriptions so that these papers are sent directly to your homes? Please let Fr. Norbert know what you think.

ALTAR SERVERS Over the years altar servers retire from active service but do not return their albs and cinctures. We urge parents to check cupboards and bring back any which are no longer in use. Thank you!

CONFESSIONS	Holy Family:	Thursday 10am
	St. Bonaventure:	Saturday 10.30am - 11am
	Our Lady's:	Saturday 5pm -5.30pm.

MASS TIMES

11 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
12 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
13 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. John Chrysostom
14 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
15 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Our Lady of Sorrows
	12.30pm	Memorial Mass	for Michael Messer	Our Lady's
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
16 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	SS Cornelius and Cyprian

Twenty-fourth Sunday of the Year

16 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
17 Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
	10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
	6pm	Mass	Holy Family

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CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact Rev. Anthony Curran (Deacon) **Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333 via text message: 07876 526935 email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net**