



**St Bonaventure**  
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

**Our Lady Queen of Apostles**  
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP  
01707 323234

**Holy Family**  
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ  
01707 327434

## WELWYN GARDEN CITY PARISH

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 19th January, 2025**

**Parish Priest** Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234      [norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk)

**Assistant Priest** Fr. Marco Salvagnini 01707 327434      [marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator** Mrs Jacqui Boon (Tuesday - Friday 9am until 12 noon)

Parish Email: [wgc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:wgc@rcdow.org.uk)

Website [wgc-catholics.org.uk](http://wgc-catholics.org.uk)

**TRINITY HALL** Bookings + enquiries can be made through [www.wgc-catholics.org.uk](http://www.wgc-catholics.org.uk) which has terms and conditions of hire, as well as a live diary. General enquiries please call 01707 537464

*Fr. Norbert has been asked to sign the **Welwyn Hatfield Faith Covenant** on behalf of the Parish. If anyone has any comments, please let him know. Thank you.*

The Faith Covenant is a joint commitment to a shared set of principles that guide engagement between faith communities and public services.

It aims to promote open, practical modes of working together and to strengthen community cohesion. The principles are:

—Faith communities are free to practise their beliefs and religious observances, and to raise their voice in public debate and to be respected whilst respecting others, within the framework of UK law.

—Public services and faith-based social action should respect service users from all back-grounds, without discrimination.

—The voice, participation and solutions that faith communities bring are important. We intend that the active engagement of Faith Groups with our public services will benefit the wider community. Both faith groups and public services will commit to working together to:

—Pro-actively build trust/relationships and aim to remove any mistrust between faith groups and public services.

—Create opportunities to raise awareness and share learning and knowledge between different faith communities, and within the public services.

—Seek opportunities to bring people together to serve the community, particularly the most disadvantaged.

Both faith groups and public services will use the Faith Covenant as a tool to develop activity around uniting communities to better serve the residents of Welwyn Hatfield

**BAPTISMS** Please contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. Marco to arrange the Baptism of your child.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION** The next session for parents and children will be on Sunday 9th February at 3.30pm in Our Lady's Church. If you missed the first meeting, please contact Fr. Norbert.

**RCIA** Next session in Our Lady's Sacristy at 7.30pm on Monday 20th January.

**CONFIRMATION** Group B meets today (19th) at 7.15pm in Holy Family's Parish Room. Group A will meet next Sunday (26th) at 7.15pm.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY** on Saturday 22nd February in the Trinity Hall 10.30am until 5pm with Blessing of Engaged Couples at 6pm Mass. Contact Fr. Norbert. Couples who wish to marry in the Catholic Church in this Diocese are asked to give 6 months' notice so that all the paperwork and preparation can be initiated.

**FOOD BANK** New Zion Christian Fellowship continues its Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. Items received from 8am on a Wednesday at 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. Email [foodbank@newzioncf.net](mailto:foodbank@newzioncf.net) if you wish to donate money. Please use the Food Bank Baskets at the back of our churches if you wish to give items such as tins, pasta, rice and toiletries. *Many thanks.*

**TRANSPORT TO MASS GROUP** is there for parishioners who need a lift to Mass. Drivers are needed. Health & Safety training and Safeguarding requirements will be arranged. Call Anne Maclean-Eltham on 07811926002 or [macleaneltham@gmail.com](mailto:macleaneltham@gmail.com) *There is still time to offer your service in this way!*

**LISTER HOSPITAL** Non-urgent referrals to Chaplaincy Team 01438 285519, Urgent referrals 01438 314333 (and ask for duty chaplain), [emailspiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net](mailto:emailspiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net)

**ROME PILGRIMAGE FINAL CALL!** There are some places left Monday 31st March to Saturday 5th April. Please contact Fr. Marco as soon as possible by email.

**HCPT GROUP 183** Sadly, due to the increase in the cost of this year's Easter pilgrimage, Group 183 has taken the difficult decision not to travel this year. 2026 will be the next pilgrimage. Please continue to support fundraising events. Donations welcome too! There will be a Quiz Night on Friday 28th February at 8pm. Watch this space!

**CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE** at St. John's, Monks Rise AL8 7NX on Sunday 19th January at 4pm. *GATHER, WORSHIP, PRAY!* There will be Scripture, music and song, prayer and an address given by Matt Penny, the Lead Chaplain in Hertfordshire's OneYMCA. Afterwards there will be tea and cake. *Come and join your fellow Christians in this act of faith and worship!*

**CIVIC SERVICE** in Our Lady's Church on Sunday 26th January at 3pm. Councillor Frank Marsh, Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield, invites you to come to his Civic Service. Mayors of borough councils in Hertfordshire will be present as well as the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, the High Sherriff and the Chair of Hertfordshire County Council. You are also welcome at the reception which will follow in the Trinity Hall. The children of Holy Family and Our Lady Primary Schools will sing. *It should be a great occasion. Why not come?*

**INTERFAITH GROUP** Talk on Hinduism by Raj Nayer Wednesday 29th January 2.30pm at Focolare Centre, Parkway AL8 6JG.

**PEACE SUNDAY** is today! The theme 'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace.' Pope Francis asks us to reflect on hope and forgiveness which are at the heart of the Jubilee Year; this is a time for conversion which leads to reconciliation and peace.

**FOCOLARE COMMUNITY MEETING** at Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, AL6 6JG. Today (19th) 3-5 pm. All welcome! Separate programmes for children in 2 age groups (4-8 and 9-13). Supervised by adults with safe guarding training. Refreshments too!

**DO YOU WANT TO LEARN BALLROOM DANCING?** Shimmy Dance have a new Strictly Beginners Ballroom & Latin Course, starting at Trinity Hall on 22nd January 2025. It is open to all adults, and they say that they will even get those that think they have two left feet dancing! The beginners course runs for 8 weeks on Wednesdays from 8.45pm to 9.45pm and costs £96 per person. For further information please con-tact [info@shimmydance.co.uk](mailto:info@shimmydance.co.uk) or call 07824 581381. *Happy Dancing!*

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** on Saturday 25th January 6pm at Our Lady's Church followed by a gathering in the Trinity Hall with food, drink, a simple quiz and two rounds of bingo! It is a wonderful way to enjoy one another's company as well as supporting members of our community with learn disabilities and special needs. *All are welcome.*

**SOUTH ASIAN CARNIVAL MASS** Saturday 1st March 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a party in the Trinity Hall. This is last weekend before Lent begins! We need people from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India to lead the Mass in different languages, costumes and customs and afterwards share food, dance and song! Everyone is invited! There will be a planning meeting on Sunday 26th January at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy - lasting an hour. *Please let Fr. Norbert know if you would like to be involved.*

**FILIPINO MASS** on Sat. 14th June at 6pm at Our Lady's and then the Trinity Hall.

**AFRICAN MASS** on Sunday 29th June at 12 noon at Our Lady's and Trinity Hall.

**POLISH MASS** on Saturday 27th September at 6pm at Our Lady's and Trinity Hall.

#### **OTHER EVENTS:**

**Christian Churches' Outing to Winchester** on Saturday 7th June. There will be a Bible and Praise Service, guided tours, picnic lunch and free time.

**Jubilee Afternoon for Hertfordshire** at Our Lady's, WGC on Sunday 6th July culminating in catechesis given by the Cardinal and a concelebrated Mass at 4pm.

**Jubilee Day** at St. Edmund's Old Hall Green on Saturday 12th July. Time to be confirmed. The Cardinal will lead the day in the former Seminary of our Diocese.

**LISTED PLACES OF WORSHIP GRANT SCHEME** We have learned from the Bishops' Conference that there will be a debate on the future of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme in Westminster Hall next Wednesday 22nd January at 9.30am, and a Minister from DCMS will respond. We expect that a decision on the future of the scheme will be made very soon, and as such we have been asked to write to our MPs asking them to attend the debate. The text of the e-campaign on the website has been updated. **Please urgently encourage everyone to send in another email even if they have already done so – the time frame is very short on this, and the loss of the LPWGS would be disastrous.** The link to the e-campaign: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/listed-places-of-worship-grant-scheme>

## MASS INTENTIONS

### 18th Saturday

10am St. Bonaventure Alexander & Agnes Kennoy RIP  
6pm Our Lady Bill Smith RIP

### 19th Sunday *SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

9am St. Bonaventure Eric Fishwick RIP 1st Anniv  
10.30am Holy Family Bridget Knights RIP  
12 noon Our Lady Nelson D'Lima RIP Birthday  
6pm Holy Family Susan Formosa RIP

### 20th Monday

9.30am Our Lady MaryCate Coyle & Gregory Ferroni's Intentions

### 21st Tuesday *St. Agnes*

9.30am St. Bonaventure  
7pm Our Lady Deceased members of the Farrugia Family

### 22nd Wednesday

9.30am Holy Family

### 23rd Thursday

9.30am Holy Family Arthur Spranklen RIP Anniv

### 24th Friday *St. Francis de Sales*

9.30am St. Bonaventure  
7pm Our Lady In thanksgiving (RW)

### 25th Saturday *The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle*

10am St. Bonaventure Sr. Carmen Farrugia (health)  
6pm Our Lady Dorothy Bagge RIP

## CONFESSIONS (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Holy Family Thursday 10.00 - 10.30am with Exposition of Blessed Sacrament  
St. Bonaventure Saturday 10.30 - 11am Our Lady's 5.00 - 5.30pm

**CHAPEL** near the entrance to the Trinity Hall. Open Monday to Friday 8.30am until 4pm. Come and enjoy peace and quiet in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

**ST. ALBANS** There is a Catholic Mass every Friday in the Lady Chapel in St. Albans Cathedral at 12 noon.

**STREAMED MASS** on [youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches](https://www.youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches)