



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

4th SUNDAY OF LENT 30th March 2025

Parish Priest Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234

norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest Fr. Marco Salvagnini 01707 327434

marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk

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

Parish Email: wgc@rcdow.org.uk

Website wgc-catholics.org.uk

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

British Summer Time has arrived! And we are half-way through Lent! Are you going to breathe a sigh of relief and *rejoice* as the purple turns to rose/pink just for one Sunday?! It has been a busy time and there is more still to come!

I am so grateful to you for your patience over the last few weeks with the Stewardship and Planned Giving Drive. Please return the forms as soon as possible so that the next steps can take place. Thank you for your generosity with time, talents and finance. The census aspect is really important *both now and in the future* so that we have a complete list of parishioners with their details.

On Monday, pilgrims set off for their Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome and Subiaco under Fr. Marco's leadership. We wish them a safe journey and pray for many blessings both for them and for the parish. Hopefully Pope Francis will find a moment to greet them (and the thousands who will be in Rome)!

With the late Easter this year, the schools holidays are starting at the end of this week. We wish all involved in Education a time of refreshment. Parents, don't forget to find ways of sharing with your children the Easter Message celebrated in church and at home. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is such a beautiful and powerful way of getting ready to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord. There are Easter Services cards which give the times of everything...*don't miss out!*

Today the Church gives us the parable of the Prodigal Son. Take time to reflect on the generous, unconditional love of God revealed in Jesus. Allow the grace of God to enfold you with mercy. Make a fresh start and celebrate God's forgiveness. How fortunate we are to be so treasured by God! Have a good week.

With love and prayers, **Fr. Norbert**

HAPPY MOTHERING SUNDAY to all mothers and honorary mums! God bless you.
BAPTISMS Please contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. Marco to arrange the Baptism of your child.
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION The final session took place last week. Please pray for the children and their families as they get ready to receive the Lord.
RCIA Next session in Our Lady's Sacristy at 7.30pm on Monday 31st March at 7.30pm.
CONFIRMATION Group has a break until after Easter.

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 if you wish to donate money. Please use the Food Bank Baskets at the back of our churches if you wish to give items: tins, pasta, rice & toiletries.

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

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

ELIZABETH KING RIP Liz's Funeral Mass on Friday 4th at Holy Family at 12.30pm.

LIZ DAVIN RIP Liz's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 11th April at 10am.

MEDJUGORJE Fr. Norbert will lead a group to this Shrine of Our Lady in Croatia from Tuesday 21st - Tuesday 28th October 2025. The apparitions are still happening and Pope Francis has given permission for official pilgrimages to take place. 37 have signed up. Online link:

<https://www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/MJ1035/>

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 17th May 2.30pm for couples celebrating in 2025 their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60) Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage. Please give Fr. Norbert these details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email).

MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 5th April at 2pm. A chance for family and friends to be together, remember and pray for comfort.

TUESDAY 1ST There will not be 7pm Mass at Our Lady's. *This is not an April Fool!*

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Our next celebration will be on Saturday 17th May at 6pm.

JUDAISM A talk by Reynold Rosenberg for the Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith Group at the Focolare Centre, 69 Parkway AL8 6JG Thursday 3rd April 7.30 - 9pm. All welcome!

FR. LORENZO ANDREINI from the Seminary has asked to celebrate Mass at Our Lady's today (Sunday) at 12 noon as part of the Jubilee Year. *Welcome!*

CARDINAL'S PASTORAL LETTER for next Sunday urges parishioners to write to their MPs about the Assisted Dying Bill. This is available for you to take home with you *today* at the end of Mass so you can read clearly all that he is asking. He also encourages parishes to have a Holy Hour next weekend to pray for the Protection of Life. Here in Welwyn Garden City, the time of Exposition on Saturday 5th will be extended to 60 minutes - so from 10.30 - 11.30am. *Come, if you can, and pray!*

WINCHESTER trip (organised by the Christian Churches in WGC) in June has been cancelled. We will aim for a place closer to WGC next year.

CHURCH CLEANING St. Bonaventure's Tuesday 1st April after 9.30am Mass. **Our Lady's** Saturday 5th April 10am including the maintenance of the grounds. **Holy Family** Saturday 12th April from 10am; muscle is needed to move the benches so that the floor can be washed. Come and lend a hand in our churches as Easter approaches!

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL is 60 this year! There will be Mass at the school on Thursday 26th June at 9.15am for 9.30am. Please let all associated with the school - past and present - know! RSVP: admin@holyfamily.herts.sch.uk by 1st May.

LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Wednesdays after 9.30am Mass at Holy Family, on Fridays after 9.30 Mass at St. Bonaventure's & Fridays after 7pm Mass at Our Lady's.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for half an hour on Mondays at Our Lady's after 9.30 Mass, on Thursdays at Holy Family after 9.30 Mass and on Saturdays at St.

Bonaventure's after 10am Mass. *Come and enjoy peace and serenity in the Lord's Presence!*

FIRST FRIDAY There will be the early morning Mass at St. Bonaventure's at 6.30 followed by a simple breakfast in the hall on 4th April. Rosary on Friday 4th at 9am and on First Saturday 5th before 10am Mass.

RESTORATION HOLY HOUR on Friday 11th April after 7pm Mass at Our Lady's - music, prayer and silence with the Stations of the Cross.

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION before Easter will be on Tuesday 15th April at 8pm at Our Lady's with visiting priests helping with Confessions.

CAFOD FAST DAY COLLECTION here in Welwyn Garden City will be next weekend (5th/6th April). The special CAFOD envelopes are available at the back of our churches. Jubilee Year resources available for downloading cafod.org.uk/jubilee-guide

CARDINAL'S APPEAL supporting Youth & Evangelisation, Social Action, Marriage & Family Life and Catholic Education Initiatives. *Take one of the special envelopes!*

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE The Lent Appeal is to support those in detention. More info www.jrsuk.net/lent

LENTEN LUNCHESES hosted by the Catholic Women's League every Saturday until 12th April 12.30 until 1.30pm. £5 per person with soup, roll, cake and a hot drink in the Trinity Hall. The CWL are very grateful for the support they have received.

PALM SUNDAY Children are invited to take part in the acting of the Passion at Our Lady's Church on Sunday 13th April 12 noon. There will be practices on Sunday 6th April at 11am and on Sunday 13th April at 11.15am. *All are welcome!*

ALTAR SERVERS are asked to sign up for the Easter Services. *Lists in each sacristy.*

JUBILEE YEAR *Pilgrims of Hope*

In our Diocese a number of churches have been designated as Jubilee Churches. Our Lady's WGC is the church for Hertfordshire. This means that by receiving Holy Communion, going to Confession, saying the Creed and praying for the Pope's Intention, you can receive a Plenary Indulgence for yourself or for someone who has died - helping you or the deceased towards eternity. In addition to Mass and devotions, works of charity or mercy are possible elements. On **Sunday 6th July**, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions at 3pm. The Cardinal will offer catechesis at 4pm. He will celebrate Mass at 5pm. This will be a very special time for us as we host this great gathering for the Jubilee Year in Hertfordshire.

ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE in Old Hall Green (near Ware) is an historic site in our Diocese. The Cardinal will celebrate Mass there - as a part of the Diocesan Jubilee celebrations - on Saturday 12th July at 12 noon. There will be time for picnic lunch and then at 2.30pm a Blessed Sacrament Procession concluding with Benediction. *Parishioners are invited to make their own way there. Parking should be easy on the site.*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Fr. William Johnstone will lead the devotions at Holy Family Church on Sunday 27th April at 2pm. Please join us for the Rosary, an hour of Divine Mercy, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Chaplet and veneration of the Divine Mercy Image. *All are welcome!*

MASS INTENTIONS

29th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Josephine and Patrick Brogan RIP Anniv
6pm	Our Lady	Philomena Kinsella RIP Anniv

30th Sunday *FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT*

9am	St. Bonaventure	Maureen Bell RIP
10.30am	Holy Family	Mary Kennedy RIP (1st Anniv)
12 noon	Our Lady	Nellie Brophy RIP (6th Anniv)
6pm	Holy Family	Bob Leys RIP (1st Anniv)

31st Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	Josie Treacy RIP
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1st April Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Owen Coyle's Intention
7pm	Our Lady	NO MASS

2nd Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Family	Phyllis McKeogh RIP
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3rd Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family	Shirley and Margaret's Intentions
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4th Friday

6.30am	St. Bonaventure	James Coyle's Intention
9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Andrei Shah RIP Anniv
12.30pm	Holy Family	Funeral Mass for Elizabeth King
7pm	Our Lady	Donald Whyte RIP Anniv

5th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Augustus Joachim RIP
6pm	Our Lady	Carole Shaw RIP

6th Sunday

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

9am	St. Bonaventure	Andrei Shah RIP Anniv
10.30am	Holy Family	Timothy McCarthy RIP and his family
12 noon	Our Lady	Lucy Dias RIP (7th Anniv)
6pm	Holy Family	Amelia and Jenny Joachim's Intentions

CONFESSIONS (SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION)

Holy Family Thursday 10.00 - 10.30am

St. Bonaventure Saturday 10.30 - 11am Our Lady's Saturday 5.00 - 5.30pm

CHAPEL near the Trinity Hall is open 8.30am - 4pm Monday to Friday. *Chapel will be closed from Monday 14th April and reopen on Monday 28th April.*

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)