



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

Holy Family
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ
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WELWYN GARDEN CITY PARISH

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 20th October 2024

Parish Priest Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234 norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk

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

Parish Email: wgc@rcdow.org.uk

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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

Last Tuesday I attended Choral Evensong at Westminster Abbey to mark the feast of St. Edward the Confessor, the King who built the Abbey. The choirs of Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral joined in song, clergy from both walked in procession and hundreds attended. I felt really privileged as a Canon to be part of the celebration and to experience the historic nature of this act of worship. A particularly striking moment was when the clergy moved to the Shrine of St. Edward to pray. There was incredible harmony as we honoured the King who died in 1066 - Anglicans and Catholics together - and the heavenly strains of organ, trombones and voices carrying us to heaven! There was a reception in a room dating back to 1380 (I think) - amazing!

I was also struck by a certain Chair near the entrance to the Abbey - the Coronation Chair! Significant for us today as we hear about James and John who want two of the best seats in Jesus' glory! The Lord asks them to drink the cup he must drink and they state they will do this. There ensues what must have been a big argument about the greatest among them. All Jesus can say to them is that the Son of Man came to serve and give his life as a ransom for many. Can you picture their faces as Christ speaks of his sacrificial, loving service? In the silence which must have followed, what did they think? Indeed, when the Lord went to the Cross and they all ran away, did they remember his words and hang their heads in shame? It is so easy to get things wrong in life. Thank God for the loving mercy shown to us in his Son and the powerful reconciliation which can bear fruit in us because of the Cross. God bless you. With love and prayers, **Fr. Norbert**

CARDINAL'S PASTORAL LETTER There are copies at the back of church.

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

CONFIRMATION COURSE 2024/25 The Enrolment Evening with Presentation for parents and young people (at least in Year 9 at school) will be on Sunday 3rd November at Holy Family Church 7.15 - 8.30pm. *Forms at back of church or on parish website*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION Many families came last Monday! If you missed the meeting, please speak to Fr. Norbert.

RCIA There's still time to join if you are interested in becoming a Catholic or if you are a Catholic who missed out on Confirmation as a child. Come to Our Lady's Sacristy at 7.30pm on Monday 21st. The meeting lasts an hour.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY will be on Saturday 22nd February in the Trinity Hall 10.30am until 5pm with the Blessing of Engaged Couples at the 6pm Mass. Let Fr. Norbert know if you would like to attend. In this Diocese, 6 months' notice is required to prepare all that is needed for Marriage. Couples getting married in 2025/26 are invited.

ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICE *today* (Sunday 20th) at 10.45am at Our Lady's. New altar servers are welcome to come to this training. *Thank you.*

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 to donate. Use Food Bank Baskets at the back of church.

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

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Parents/carers together with their child are asked to make an appointment to meet Fr. Norbert at Our Lady's Church for him to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice for Secondary School transfer. He will be available: Monday 21st October 4.00 - 6.30pm, Tuesday 22nd October 4.00 - 6.30pm and Friday 25th October 4.00 - 6.30pm. There is a *blue* parish form at the back of each church. This should be filled in and brought to the meeting. Please wait in church until called. Please ring Jacqui on 01707 323234 for an appointment. *Don't forget that the applications to schools (through County) have to be in by 31st October!*

NEW BOOKS If anyone would like to contribute towards new Mass books (with the new Scripture translation) for use in our 3 churches, let Fr. Norbert know. Thank you.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM Our new digital system still has teething problems, including the voice messaging service. Apologies. Email if necessary.

ROSARY PROCESSION *A message from Lucia:* "Thank you everyone who attended the Rosary procession last Saturday. It was wonderful to see so many families with children. A very special thanks to Joy and Geraldine for decorating the bier and to all the marshalls for keeping everyone safe on the procession. *We are grateful to Lucia and Fr. Marco for organising everything!*

OUR LADY SCHOOL Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will be joining the 9.30am Mass on Monday 21st October and Key Stage 2 on Monday 4th November.

DON'T FORGET Clocks go **back one hour** next weekend.

OPEN PARISH MEETING on **Sunday 27th October 7.30pm - 9pm** in the Trinity Hall. There will be tea/coffee from 7pm. We will start on time! All groups in the parish are asked to give a short presentation about their work. It will be a chance to plan for the Jubilee Year 2025. *Cardinal Nichols has asked that Our Lady's be the Jubilee Church in Hertfordshire for the Holy Year.* There's lots to prepare and we need many volunteers. PLEASE put this date in your diary and **COME!**

STELLA WORTHINGTON RIP Stella (from the Focolare Community in London) will have her Funeral at Our Lady's on Monday 21st October at 11.30am.

JOHANNA NEALL RIP Johanna's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Monday 11th November at 9.30am.

VERA CHASE RIP Vera's Funeral Service will be at Harwood Park Crematorium on Monday 11th November at 2pm.

INTERFAITH GROUP Tuesday 22nd October 7.30pm in the Focolare Centre, Parkway. The second in a series of talks on different faiths - 'Christianity'.

COFFEE/TEA Wednesdays after 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church and Thursdays 10.30am - 12 noon in Our Lady's Sacristy. Come and meet fellow parishioners!

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Oakhill Cemetery, Southway, (formerly Hatfield Lawn) AL10 8HS Sunday 3rd November at 3pm. *The Council would like to take the opportunity to open up the Chapel for people to see. There will be light refreshments on offer and the availability of toilets.*

Hatfield Hyde Cemetery, Hollybush Lane AL7 4JU Sunday 10th November 2pm

Welwyn New Cemetery, Fulling Mill Lane AL6 9NJ Sunday 17th November 2pm

RED BOXES/MISSIO Please leave your box with us in church if you would like us to count and bank the contents and return the box to you in due course. Or send a cheque payable to Missio-Mill Hill to Red Box, 23 Eccleston Square, SW1V 1NU Online missio.org.uk/redbox Bank Transfer: Account Name Missio, Sort Code 16-00-16, Account number 10824230 (Reference RB+ your postcode) *Thank you very much!*

ALL SAINTS DAY Friday 1st November is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be as follows: 9.30am at Holy Family Church, 12 noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

ALL SOULS DAY Saturday 2nd November is a day when we especially remember and pray for the dead. There will be morning Mass at 10am at St. Bonaventure's and the 6pm at Our Lady's will be an All Souls Day Mass (which counts for Sunday!)

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST Lists for you to write the names of loved ones who have died are at the back of the churches. Please return to the Presbytery. And they will be remembered throughout November. *There is no need to give money!*

RESTORATION HOLY HOUR will take place on Friday 8th November after 7pm Mass at Our Lady's. It is a great opportunity to rest in the Lord's presence with music and silence. Everyone is welcome!

FIRST FRIDAY The next early morning Mass for First Friday will be on 6th December at 6.30 at St. Bonaventure's followed by breakfast in the hall. All are welcome!

HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS We wish all involved in Education a wonderful and refreshing break in the coming period. The hard work of staff and governors makes such a difference to lives of our children and young people - as does the support of parents and carers! *Thank you!*

MASS INTENTIONS

19th October Saturday

6pm Our Lady Leona Harper RIP

20th Sunday *TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

8am St. Bonaventure Brand Families *Bishop Paul McAleenan celebrant*
9.30am Holy Family Brown Family Intentions
10.30am St. Bonaventure Roy D'Cunha RIP *Bishop Paul McAleenan celebrant*
11.30am Our Lady Ellen Allardice's Intention
6pm Holy Family Clemente Antonio Fernandes RIP

21st Monday

9.30am Our Lady Liz Davin's Intention
11.30pm Our Lady Funeral of Stella Worthington

22nd Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure Roza Joan D'Cunha RIP
7pm Our Lady + Novena to Our Lady Michael Maher RIP Birthday

23rd Wednesday

9.30am Holy Family Terence Brady RIP Anniv

24th Thursday

9.30am Holy Family

25th Friday

9.30am St. Bonaventure Billy Moran RIP
7pm Our Lady Sean Cox's Intention

26th Saturday

10am St. Bonaventure John Negri RIP
6pm Our Lady Brian Davidson RIP
remembering Milena Braganza's Birthday Intention

CONFESSIONS (Sacrament of Reconciliation)

Thursdays 10.00 - 10.30am Holy Family (with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)

Saturdays 10.30am - 11am St. Bonaventure 5pm - 5.30pm Our Lady

CHAPEL This is next to the Trinity Hall and open Monday to Friday 7.30am until 6pm. Come for a moment of quiet prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Light a candle for an intention. *Chapel will be closed during half-term (28.10 - 3.11)*

ST. ALBANS There is a Catholic Mass every Friday in the Lady Chapel in St. Albans Cathedral at 12 noon. *Fr. Norbert celebrating next on 22nd December*

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