

# 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-second Sunday of the Year 3rd September 2017 p. 122 of Mass book*

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor died on Friday. He was our Archbishop from 2000 to 2009. The following is a letter he sent out to us all through our present Archbishop, Cardinal Vincent Nichols:

My dear Cardinal Vincent,

I would be very grateful if you would convey this short message to the priests, religious and lay faithful of the Diocese, of which I as well as you have been privileged to serve as their Bishop.

At this time, the words I pray every night are never far from my thoughts: "Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit". Please tell them that I am at peace and have no fear of what is to come. I have received many blessings in my life, especially from my family and friends. I thank God for the many priests, religious and lay faithful who have helped and sustained me in my Episcopal life. Nor should I forget the many Anglican and Free Church colleagues whose friendship I have valued very much. Above all, as I now commend myself to the loving mercy of God, I ask them all to pray for me as I remember and pray for them.

Fraternally in the Lord, +Cormac

Cardinal Cormac is the Archbishop who appointed me to Welwyn Garden City and soon I will start my 10th year in this place! Let us pray for Cardinal Cormac, commending him into God's merciful hands.

It's all change as September begins. Fr. Martin left us on Thursday and now we await Fr. Tom's arrival on Monday. Let us pray for them both that they may be happy and fulfilled in their new appointments enriching the lives of those they serve. Please pray for me as I begin another year that God will guide me as your Parish Priest.

With love and may God bless you. *Fr. Norbert*

**FR. MARTIN** really enjoyed his Farewell Mass and Celebration and is grateful for the presentation. Our thanks to all who helped with the Mass and contributed to the Reception. We wish Fr. Martin every blessing as he takes up his new post in Stoke Newington as Parish Priest. Adieu!

**FR. TOM** Our new Assistant priest, Fr. Tom Montgomery moves into Holy Family's Presbytery on Monday, coming to us from Enfield. We wish him a happy and fruitful ministry here in Welwyn Garden City serving our three parishes.

**SCHOOLS** We wish our children and young people, staff and governors a really good start of year and ask God's Spirit to guide them. Holy Family School will mark Education Sunday on 17th September at 9.30am at Holy Family Church and Our Lady School will mark it on 8th October at 11.30 Mass.

**VISITORS** The seminarians and their priest from Seville had a wonderful time in Welwyn Garden City and have already told their friends about their experience. Let us pray for them and all students as a new academic year begins.

**SUPPLY PRIESTS** We are very grateful to the priests who have been - and are - helping us: Fr. Frank Leonard, Fr. Brian Reynolds and Fr. Frank Johnson. May God bless them!

**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.

**SUPPORT FRIENDS OF WELWYN CARE HOMES** During the month of September the Green Disc Scheme at Waitrose will have the Friends as one of their charities. If you do any shopping there please support us so that we can, in our turn, support the residents in the Care Homes. Many thanks.

**SVP** Thank you for your generous response to our last appeal which raised £1204.62.

**CAN YOU HELP?** A single mum needs clothes for a 9-12 month old boy. Contact Janet on 01707 326456 if you can help.

**OUR LADY'S** Many thanks to all who came on Saturday morning to clean the church and maintain the grounds. Your help is much appreciated.

**MISSIO/APF** Red Boxes at Our Lady's. It is that time of year when we collect in the Red Boxes and bank your donations. If you are able to bring your box to church in the next couple of weeks we will empty it, bank the contributions, and then return the box to you as soon as possible. Thank you all again for your support and generosity.

The **CAFOD** group would like to thank everyone who joined them for the BBQ on 20th Aug and for making it such an enjoyable afternoon. Thankfully the rain held off and we raised £400 for CAFOD. So huge big thanks to Sandy & Bob for all their hard work and to everyone who attended or helped in any way. The CAFOD group will be meeting on Tuesday 5th September at 7pm in the parish room at Holy Family. All are welcome.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH CLEANING** This Thursday at 10am. All are welcome to help.

**IN NEED OF HELP** finding direction in your life; struggling with relationships, exams, career, or any of life's transitions? Coaching could be just the help you need. Short-term and proven, it can help you to refocus, set your own goals and reach them. Contact parishioner Jessica Wall on 07859053772 for more information.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S TUESDAY GROUP** We meet again on Tuesday 12th September in St. Bonaventure's hall from 3.45pm - 4.45pm. More details next week.

**SACRAMENTS** for young people and children. Next weekend dates will be advertised for enrolments meetings for First Confession & First Holy Communion and for Confirmation. Children for Confession and Holy Communion are in Year 3 or above and young people for Confirmation in Year 9 or above.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY** A date will be published after the summer holidays for early next year. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are planning to marry in the next year or two 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. 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.

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

**SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER** Time is racing by and parents will be thinking about a secondary school for their children soon to be in Year 6. Fr. Norbert always suggests to 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 the autumn 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. Should you need any other help, speak to Fr. Norbert or ask at school.

**FATIMA** The pilgrimage to Fatima takes place from Sunday 10th till Thursday 14th September. If anyone would like Fr. Norbert to take intentions to the Shrine, please drop them off at Our Lady's by Saturday.

**400 CLUB** The Tommy Mansfield 400 Club often called the 400 Club was started in 1975; sadly we now have to end the run, and must declare that the Draw in July was the last. The 400 Club has been very successful over the 42 years raising in excess of £90,000 for the Parish. We are very grateful to the members and congratulate them on this magnificent achievement. Some of the members had paid in advance and their accounts are in credit. Please contact or see me Norman Merry or Eileen Meenan after one of the Masses at Our Lady's or contact me on 01707 326089 and this money will be refunded.

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** are back. They are meeting this month on 19th September at Our Lady's Family Centre at 8pm after the 7pm Mass. It will be very nice to see some new faces and they will be made most welcome. On 22nd September we are having our first fund raising activity and it will be a Quiz Night, also in the family centre 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".

**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](http://www.wgc-catholics.org.uk)**

**LIVE FOR TODAY ...** HRJ Foreman Laws invite you to a free estate protection seminar "LIVE FOR TODAY; PLAN FOR TOMORROW" - Thursday 14th September, from 6pm - *Focolare Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JD* -. Are you concerned about care fees, inheritance tax or simply need to put your Estate in order? If so please come along. There will be an opportunity to ask questions during the presentation or after the session, when light refreshments will be served. For more information or to book a place please contact Julie Carslake at HRJ Foreman Laws on 01707 448253.

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

### MASS TIMES

04 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	St. Cuthbert
05 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	St. Benedict
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
06 Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
07 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	feria
08 Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
09 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria

### Twenty-third Sunday of the Year

09 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
10 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	



**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](mailto:chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net)**