

# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. William Johnstone  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## ***28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year 9<sup>th</sup> October 2022***

'Jesus, Master! Take pity on us' is the cry of ten lepers who come to meet Jesus. St. Luke tells us that only one comes back to thank Jesus...and this was a Samaritan! 'Stand up and go on your way. Your faith has saved you.' These are the concluding words of our passage.

What have you asked the Lord for? How hard have you prayed? Was the plea answered? Did you remember to say 'Thank you'? Today's Gospel reading urges us to think hard and not hold back from a spirit of gratitude. Sometimes we don't find the answer to our prayers in the ways we expect; at times we are bowled over by the amazing response of God way beyond our wildest dreams. Perhaps one approach to prompt us to thank God is to find opportunities to thank others: for love expressed, for friendship offered, for kindness shown. I am always so grateful just for the fact that someone else is there! Knowing that a listening ear or a smiling face is on offer makes such a difference.

The ten lepers were all healed but only one was saved. Jesus brings salvation into our world and personally into our lives. There is a relationship of love, whereby we know he is there. There is the trust that he is willing to forgive us. There is the experience of heaven breaking into our whole being through him. THIS IS SALVATION! Jesus' journey is taking him and so many others to Jerusalem; it is there that the power of salvation will radiate intensely from his Cross.

As another week begins, let us feel the presence of God's Son empowering us to be messengers of the saving grace he offers. May these coming days be a source of blessing for us. Let us never forget to say 'Thank you' to others and to God.

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

**STREAMED MASS** [youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches](https://youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches) Each week we will inform you of the timings. This Sunday (9th) at 10.30am from St. Bonaventure's; next Sunday (16th) 9.30am from Holy Family. We are grateful to Eddy Gallucci for his hard work in bringing the streamed Masses to us. If anyone would like to be available to help from time to time in the future, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** Any couples wanting to marry in 2023/2024 either in WGC or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert to organise the paperwork. We are hoping to have the Preparation Day on Saturday 18th February (after Valentine's Day!) It will be the whole day and end with a Blessing of Engaged Couples at 6pm Mass. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you would like to attend. Thank you.

**BAPTISMS** Please contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. William if you wish to arrange the Baptism of your child and they will organise all that is needed.

**MASS INTENTIONS** Fr. Norbert and Fr. William are celebrating the Mass Intentions week by week. If anyone wants Mass offered for a particular intention, please let them know. Donations for the Masses should be put in an envelope and given to Fr. Norbert or Fr. William or popped through the letterbox of one of the presbyteries.

**CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLICITY** Fr. Norbert will be available to sign these forms on Monday 10th October 4.30 - 6.30pm and Tuesday 11th October 4.30 - 6.30pm, all in Our Lady's Church. Please contact Kathryn Hubbard to make a five-minute appointment, email [parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk](mailto:parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk). Please download the 'Extra Form' from parish website and bring it filled in to the meeting. Parent/s and child are expected to come; please wait in the church for your turn. Thank you.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION** for First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation will start after Christmas. Soon we will ask parents to enrol their children for Communion and young people to enrol for Confirmation. We will let you know when the application Forms are on the website. Also, if any adults would like to be catechists for these Sacraments, please let Fr. Norbert know. There would be training and all the necessary safeguarding guidelines would have to be followed.

**RCIA** The Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults for adults who would like to join the Catholic Church will start on Monday 7th November at 7.30pm in the Sacristy of Our Lady's. There are a number who have made themselves known. If you are interested, please speak to Fr. Norbert. This is also a great way for adults, who missed out on Confirmation when they were younger, to prepare for Confirmation. In some countries you cannot get married in the Catholic Church if not confirmed.

**ST. BERNADETTE** Some of the relics of St. Bernadette are now in our country. Details can be found on [stbernadette.org.uk](http://stbernadette.org.uk) They will arrive at St. Joseph's Church, Bedwell, Stevenage on Monday 17th October at 1pm and leave on Tuesday 18th October at 8.15am. There are various forms of prayer as well as Masses being planned for Stevenage. Please see the item on the parish website with the details.

**FOOD BANK** New Zion Christian Fellowship continues its Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. If you are able to drop off non-perishable food for the needy members of our community, New Zion is happy to receive contributions from 8am on a Wednesday. The address is 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. If anyone would like to make a financial contribution to the Food Bank, please email [foodbank@newzioncf.net](mailto:foodbank@newzioncf.net) and you will be given details as to how to make a donation.

**FR. WILLIAM WRITES:** Our study group on the Lives of the Saints continues on Fridays in the Parish Room of Holy Family. Each week we will be looking at a particular saint and exploring how we can grow in our own faith through their witness and example. Refreshments will be served at 7.15pm and the session start at 7.45pm. All are welcome!

**CHAPEL** at Our Lady's is open Monday to Friday 7.30am until 6pm. It is a quiet, reflective place to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, light a candle or experience a moment of serenity. Why not pop in? *The Chapel will be closed in half-term (24th - 28th October)*

**NOVEMBER** There are sheets at the back of each of our churches for you to write down the names of loved ones who have died. They should be returned to whichever church you attend and the names will be prayed for collectively during the month of November. There is no need to give any money.

**ALL SAINTS DAY** (Tuesday 1st November) This is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks Catholics to attend Mass. There will be 9.30am Mass at Holy Family, 12 noon Mass at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm Mass at Our Lady's.

**ALL SOULS DAY** (Wednesday 2nd November) A day when we remember and pray for the dead. Masses as follows: 9.30am at Holy Family, 12 noon at St. Bonaventure and 7pm at Our Lady's.

**BLESSING OF GRAVES** Hatfield Lawn Cemetery (Southway) Sunday 6th November at 2pm.

Hatfield Hyde Cemetery (Hollybush Lane) Sunday 13th November at 1.30pm (followed by the Remembrance Day Service at War Memorial at 3pm).

Welwyn New Cemetery (Fulling Mill Lane) Sunday 20th November at 2pm..

**COFFEE AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S** Sundays after 10.30am Mass, more volunteers welcome. The group is in need of a person to help co-ordinate this group, please let us know if you can help. Proceeds go to CAFOD.

**CHURCH CLEANING** Our thanks to all who work so hard to keep our churches and grounds looking so clean and beautiful.

### **RED BOXES/MISSIO**

It is that time of year for the MISSIO Red Boxes to be emptied and the monies to be sent on to the Missions.

Please do leave your box with us in Church in the next couple of weeks if you would like us to count and bank the contents and return the box to you in due course.

Alternatively you can count the money yourself and donate by one of the ways listed below:

Sent by cheque payable to Missio-Mill Hill to Red Box, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU  
Online [missio.org.uk/redbox](http://missio.org.uk/redbox)

By text REDBOX 5 (to donate £5) or REDBOX 10 (to donate £10) to 70085 Or by phone 020 7821 9755 (office hours) By Bank Transfer: Account Name Missio, Sort Code 16-00-16, Account number 10824230 (Reference RB+ your postcode) *Your generosity makes such a difference and supports the work of the Missions. Thank you!*

**OPEN EVENING AT THE FOCOLARE CENTRE FOR UNITY** Friday 21st October 7.30-9pm: BEING A BOROUGH COUNCILLOR - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES. Michal Siewniak will share his experience as a Christian and newly elected Councillor for Welwyn Hatfield. Tea/coffee provided.

**Parish Priest**  
**Fr. Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234**  
**norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk**  
Our Lady's Church  
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

**Parish Secretary**  
**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
**parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk**  
St. Bonaventure's Church  
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

**Assistant Priest**  
**Fr. William Johnstone 01707 327434**  
**williamjohnstone@rcdow.org.uk**  
Holy Family Church  
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

### **CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays 5pm-5.30pm Our Lady  
Thursdays 10am - 10.30am Holy Family  
Saturdays 10.30am - 11am St. Bonaventure

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

**ST ALBANS** The Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral takes place at 12 noon every Friday in the Lady Chapel, All are welcome. Fr. Norbert will next celebrate this Mass on 18th November.  
**FIRST FRIDAY** Next 6.30am Mass on Friday 4th November at St. Bonaventure's followed by breakfast in the hall. All welcome.

**TRANSPORT TO MASS** If any parishioners need a lift to Mass the Transport to Mass Group is there! If anyone can offer a lift, please contact Kay Mason on 01707 335633. All necessary safeguarding and health and safety guidelines will be followed.

**CAFOD FAST DAY** Fast Day envelopes will be collected at the end of Masses this weekend. The food crisis is severe and it is going to take commitment and dedication to help as many people affected as possible. They need our support to recover and rebuild. *Thank you in advance for your generosity.*

### **MASS TIMES**

<b>08 Saturday 6pm</b>	Our Lady	Kamil and Josefina Florek
<b>09 Sunday 8am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Mr. Anthony Alfonso (R.I.P.)
<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	People of the Parish
<b>10.30am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Anthony Ayke Okechukwu (R.I.P.)
<b>11.30am</b>	Our Lady	Neil Coyle (R.I.P. 40 <sup>th</sup> anniversary)
<b>6pm</b>	Holy Family	Sadie Dempsey (R.I.P.)
10 Monday	<b>9.30am</b> Our Lady	John Swift (R.I.P.30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary)
11 Tuesday	<b>9.30am</b> St. Bonaventure	Anthony Anene Okechukwu (R.I.P.)
	<b>7pm</b> Our Lady	
12 Wednesday	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Family	Robert Chronnell (R.I.P.)
13 Thursday	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Family	Patty Smith
14 Friday	<b>9.30am</b> St. Bonaventure	Anthony Ayke Okechukwu (R.I.P.)
	<b>7pm</b> Our Lady	Johnny Fernandes (R.I.P. anniversary)
15 Saturday	<b>10am</b> St. Bonaventure	Barry Kilkenny (R.I.P.)
	<b>6pm</b> Our Lady	Hedvika Juchelkova