



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

19th SUNDAY 10th Aug 20th SUNDAY 17th Aug 21st SUNDAY 24th Aug

Parish Priest Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234

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Assistant Priest Fr. Marco Salvagnini 01707 327434

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Parish Administrator Mrs Jacqui Boon Contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. Marco

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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

*As we continue with St. Luke's Gospel, we mustn't forget that we are walking with Jesus on the way towards Jerusalem where the Lord will embrace his Cross and suffer for our salvation. There is so much for Jesus to do as he takes each step: accompanying people, teaching and challenging them, looking out for the stranger, the outcast and those who feel unworthy of God's love. How did Jesus manage to accomplish so much? In spite of everything, he never stopped carrying out his mission to bring salvation to the human race. The Son of God, fired up with love for his Father and for every single person, is empowered by the Holy Spirit to be a living experience for others of God's Presence. In the weeks of this newsletter, our young people will receive their examination results. Bang in the middle of the holidays the news will arrive! Decisions about next steps in life's journey will need to be taken, staff will reflect on how things have gone. In no time a fresh Academic Year will be beckoning and the circle of life will continue. Some of our young people will then prepare to leave for other towns and cities to continue their education. A new School Year nearly always results in families, couples and individuals taking the decisive step of relocating. I hope that those who move away will discover fulfilment and that those who come to our area will find joy and welcome. May the Summer of 2025 be a gift to you and your loved ones. May you receive an insight into how deeply God loves you, especially when times are hard with the Cross weighing upon you. May you come face to face with the splendour of God revealed in his Son, in Creation and in those around you. May God bless you! With love and prayers, **Fr. Norbert***

FR. MARCO'S FAREWELL Saturday 30th August 6pm Mass at Our Lady's followed by Reception in Trinity Hall. There are envelopes at the back of our churches for a presentation and cards for people to sign. Help is required to set up the Trinity Hall at 5pm. Finger food - savoury and sweet - is needed, ready on tray to be put on table. Please contact Ann Chappell if you can help: ahchappell@aol.com or text 07784781178. *Thank you!*

FR. JAMES BOYLE, our new Assistant Priest will start in WGC early September.

JACQUI BOON Administrator, is recovering from a minor operation. Back in 4 weeks.

FOOD BANK New Zion Christian Fellowship Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. Items received from 8am Wednesdays at 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. Email food-bank@newzioncf.net if you wish to donate money. Please use the Food Bank Baskets.

TRANSPORT TO MASS GROUP is there for parishioners who need a lift to Mass. 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

DEACON DUOLU (PEDRO) LI from China has had a great time in WGC and is grateful for the warm welcome and invitations. *Let's keep him in our prayers!*

SPANISH PRIESTS Fr. Jose Antonio Valls Fernandez and Fr. Javier Rodriguez Calmaestra, both from Cordoba, Spain, and studying in Rome, will arrive on 1st Sept.

FIRST FRIDAY There will not be 6.30am Mass 5th September.

POLISH/ENGLISH MASS on Saturday 27th September at 6pm at Our Lady's.

WEEKDAY MASSES There will not be Monday 9.30 Mass at Our Lady's 11th, 18th + 25th August. There will not be Tuesday 9.30 Mass at St. Bonaventure's 12th, 19th + 26th.

READERS' RETREAT on Sunday 12th October 3.30 - 5pm in Our Lady's Church.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' RETREAT Sun. 19th October 3.30 - 5pm Our Lady's.

CATECHISTS RETREAT run by the Diocese on Saturday 15th November Our Lady's.

OPEN PARISH MEETING Tuesday 14th October 7.45 - 9.30pm in Trinity Hall.

SACRAMENTS 2025/26

BAPTISM Please contact Fr. Norbert to arrange the Baptism of your child.

FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Registration for children for First Confession and First Holy Communion will be in Our Lady's Church on **Wednesday 15th October at 6pm**. Parents/carers are asked to come with the children who should be at least in Year 3 at Primary School. The meeting will last 45 minutes. Dates for the First Communion Masses will be given at this meeting. *The first parents and children's workshop will be before Christmas.*

CONFIRMATION Young people who wish to be confirmed next year are asked to come with their parents to an enrolment meeting on **Sunday 5th October at 7pm** in Holy Family Church. Young people should be at least in Year 9 at Secondary School. The meeting will last around 45 minutes. *The sessions for young people will start on Sunday 19th Oct.*

RCIA (Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults) If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church, come to a meeting on **Monday 6th October at 7.30pm** in Our Lady's Sacristy. There will be an opportunity to find out more. Adults for Baptism or Reception into the Catholic Church usually receive the Sacraments at the Easter Vigil (next year on Saturday 4th April). Perhaps you are a Catholic adult, baptised as a child, who missed out on Confirmation as teenager, why not consider preparing for this Sacrament? There will be a warm welcome and an explanation of the journey towards Easter.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Any couples planning to get married in 2026/27 should let Fr. Norbert know. The Marriage Preparation Day will be in the Trinity Hall **Saturday 7th February, 2026** starting at 10.30am and concluding with 6pm Mass in Our Lady's.

JUBILEE YEAR *Pilgrims of Hope*

Our Lady's WGC has been designated as the Jubilee 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.

DEAF SERVICE PILGRIMAGE A brilliant day was had by all. Thank you to those who provided a warm welcome and refreshments.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S & ST. ALBAN AND ST. STEPHEN'S PARISHES in St. Albans will walk to Our Lady's on Saturday 13th September as a Jubilee pilgrimage.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Our local Catholic Secondary Schools are oversubscribed and so governors have to look for the Certificate of Catholic Practice given by the Parish Priest. Fr. Norbert urges families to think about their weekly church-going as this is the main criterion for him issuing the certificate. Also, sometimes parents/carers, who have considered Baptism and First Holy Communion for a long time and never got round to it, should seek the next steps for the sake of their children.

CARITAS WESTMINSTER collected the items and are very grateful for everything received. In terms of future collection/s, nothing is as yet planned. *Watch this space!*

NEW SATURDAY CLUB Please join us for the launch of a new club for those with learning disabilities, their friends, families and carers on Saturday 11th October 2025 2pm- 4pm in the Trinity Hall. Volunteers will meet on Wednesday 10th September in Our Lady's Sacristy at 7pm. *Our next Special Needs Mass will be on Saturday 18th October at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a Get-together.*

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY will be on Friday 15th August. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses: 9.30am at HF, 12 noon at St.B and 7pm at OL.

MASS INTENTIONS

9th Saturday *ST. TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS (EDITH STEIN)*

| | | |
|------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 10am | St. Bonaventure | Monina Dador RIP |
| 6pm | Our Lady | Bob and Peggy Redding RIP |

10th NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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|---------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 9am | St. Bonaventure | Agnelo D'Souza (Special Intention) |
| 10.30am | Holy Family | Special Intention(CW) |
| 12 noon | Our Lady | Mary Doocey RIP |
| 6pm | Holy Family | Alfie O'Reilly RIP |

11th Monday *St. Clare*

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|--------|------------------|
| 9.30am | Our Lady NO MASS |
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12th Tuesday

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| 9.30am | St. Bonaventure NO MASS | |
| 7pm | Our Lady | Florence and Joe O'Brien RIP (Wedding Anniversary) |

13th Wednesday

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| 9.30am | Holy Family | Pat Frost RIP Birthday |
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14th Thursday *St. Maximilian Kolbe*

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|--------|-------------|
| 9.30am | Holy Family |
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15th Friday ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

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|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 9.30am | Holy Family | Waldemar Schmitt RIP |
| 12noon | St. Bonaventure | Guy Maclean-Eltham RIP |
| 7pm | Our Lady | Josephine Dinneen RIP Anniv |

16th Saturday

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|------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 10am | St. Bonaventure | Michael Reid RIP |
| 6pm | Our Lady | Franco Braganza RIP Anniv |

17th TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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|---------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 9am | St. Bonaventure | Mary Gallagher RIP |
| 10.30am | Holy Family | Agostina Loakes RIP Birthday |
| 12 noon | Our Lady | Mary Doocey RIP |
| 6pm | Holy Family | |

18th Monday

9.30am Our Lady NO MASS

19th Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure NO MASS
7pm Our Lady

20th Wednesday St. Bernard

9.30am Holy Family Liam Hayes RIP

21st Thursday St. Pius X

9.30am Holy Family Kevin Hayes RIP

22nd Friday Our Lady Mother and Queen

9.30am St. Bonaventure
7pm Our Lady Manoj Mampilly (Thanksgiving)

23rd Saturday

10am St. Bonaventure Martin Strain RIP Anniv
6pm Our Lady Mary Gallagher RIP

24th TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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|---------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 9am | St. Bonaventure | Tereza D'Souza RIP |
| 10.30am | Holy Family | Elias and Noemi Gonsalves RIP |
| 12 noon | Our Lady | Aleyamma Mooleparambil RIP Anniv |
| 6pm | Holy Family | Joss Innocent-Landers RIP Anniv |

25th Monday

9:30am Our Lady NO MASS

26th Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure NO MASS
7pm Our Lady Ela and Richard's First Wedding Anniversary

27th Wednesday St. Monica

9.30am Holy Family

28th Thursday *St. Augustine*

9.30am Holy Family

12.30pm Holy Family Michael Cole Funeral Mass

29th Friday *The Beheading of St. John the Baptist*

9.30am St. Bonaventure

12.30pm Our Lady Mary Doocey Funeral Mass

7pm Our Lady In thanksgiving from Adrian Hodgson

30th Saturday

10am St. Bonaventure

6pm Our Lady Fr. Marco's Intention

CONFESSIONS *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Holy Family Thursday 10.00 - 10.30

St. Bonaventure Saturday 10.30 - 11.00am

Our Lady Saturday 5 - 5.30pm

CHAPEL Closed during the school summer holidays until 1st September

ST. ALBANS Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral Friday at 12 noon in the Lady Chapel

STREAMED MASS resumes on 14th September