



**St Bonaventure**  
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

**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

**CHRIST THE KING 23rd November, 2025**

**Parish Priest** Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234

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**Parish Administrator** Mrs Jacqui Boon 01707 323234 (Tuesday to Friday 9am until 12 noon)

Parish Email: [wgc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:wgc@rcdow.org.uk)

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

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

Today we arrive at the final Sunday of the Church's Year. We are invited to honour Christ who is Lord of every place and every time. Jesus Christ is our King! We also mark Youth Sunday this weekend and reflect on the message the Saviour brings to the younger generation - this is a word of hope, light in darkness, the very presence of Divine Love in our midst! Of course, everyone is important to God; we enrich one another's lives and can be a source of inspiration. A community needs the wisdom of age and the vitality of the young; the journey through life is shared with so many and we can complement our gifts and our experience. In today's Gospel passage from St. Luke, we are taken to the Cross. Jesus has just prayed 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.' Now the encounter between Jesus and the Good Thief is significant: 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom'... 'Today you will be with me in paradise.' The criminal dying with Jesus leaves this world with the hope of eternity. Jesus entrusts himself into the Father's hands having brought reconciliation and peace. What a Kingdom we are called to share in! In the Preface of Christ the King, Jesus is referred to as eternal Priest and King of all Creation who offered himself on the Altar of the Cross. Just think about what we do at Mass, at this Eucharist, and how the grace of the Kingdom can be a reality even now. The Preface continues 'an eternal and universal Kingdom...of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, love and peace.' We are instruments of this Kingdom *here and now*. Our mission is to continue Christ's work in the power of the Holy Spirit. We are called to be beacons of Gospel light, shining forth in our world. May God give us the courage to do so!

God bless you. With love and prayers, **Fr. Norbert**

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

**FIRST CONFESSION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** The first joint Parents and Children's workshop will be today (Sunday 23rd) in Our Lady's Church 3.30 – 5pm.

**CONFIRMATION** Young people have their next session at the Youth Summit and then 7.15pm on Sunday 7th December in Our Lady's Church.

**RCIA** (Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults) Next session on Monday 24th November 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

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

**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](mailto:food-bank@newzioncf.net) if you wish to donate money. Please use the Food Bank Baskets. *With it soon being Christmas, please think about those who need the basics even for Christmas. Your generosity towards the Food Bank makes a huge difference. Thank you!*

**TRANSPORT TO MASS GROUP** is there for parishioners who need a lift to Mass. Call Anne Maclean-Eltham on 07811926002 or [macleaneltham@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:emailspiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net)

**CRIB BUILDING** The Outdoor Crib at Our Lady's Church will be put up on Saturday 29th November at 10am. Extra help is needed and lots of muscle. Come and lend a hand!

**NOVEMBER DEAD LIST** There are sheets at the back of the church on which you can write the names of loved ones who have died. Please return them and they will be remembered at Masses in November. *There is no need to give any money.*

**CWL** will be selling raffle tickets (£1 a strip) the weekend of 29th/30th November to raise money for the charities they support. Prizes are Christmas hampers. The Draw will take place on 11th December. *Good luck!*

**CAKE SALE** after 9am Mass at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 23rd November to raise funds for a Christmas Coffee Morning on Sunday 14th December after 9am Mass.

**SVP** There is a single mother who needs items for an unfurnished flat: chairs, cupboards, wardrobe, pillows and rugs/mats. Please call Janet Lewis on 01707 326456. Thank you.

**PEACE VIGIL** Focolare is hosting a Peace Vigil at the Centre for Unity, Parkway, on Saturday 29th November at 3pm. All welcome.

**CHILDREN'S MASS** at Our Lady's today (Sunday 23rd) at 12 noon.

**FIRST FRIDAY** 6.30am Mass and breakfast at St. Bonaventure's on 5th December.

**MARGARET O'NEILL RIP** was a founder member of Our Lady's Church and died recently. Funeral arrangements to follow. May she rest in peace.

**CHURCH CLEANING** Holy Family church cleaning will take place on Wednesday 26th November when tea and coffee has finished after the 9.30 am Mass. St. Bonaventure's will be cleaned on Tuesday 2nd December after 9.30 Mass. Our Lady's cleaning will be on Saturday 6th December. The help offered by volunteers makes such a difference. Thank you!

**CAFOD GROUP** will have a cake sale at Holy Family on Sunday 30th November after 10.30am Mass. Donations of cakes would be welcome - drop them off before Mass.

**SATURDAY CLUB** for adults and children with learning disabilities, their families and friends. 2 - 4pm in the Trinity Hall on 13th December. There'll be a Christmas flavour!

**POLISH-ENGLISH CAROLS** in Trinity Hall, on Sunday 14th December. 4pm for 4.30 start. Cakes, tea, coffee and mulled wine. Everyone is welcome.

### **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.

**YOUTH SUMMIT** at Our Lady's on Saturday (22nd). Welcome to the Diocesan Youth Service which will lead the Day. We will be blessed with around 150 young people and hope their lives and their faith will be enriched by this time of reflection. There will be a Youth Mass at 6pm and a Reception in the Trinity Hall to which everyone is invited.

**DECEASED CLERGY DEANERY MASS** On Tuesday 25th November, Bishop Paul McAleenan and the priests of Stevenage Deanery will celebrate Mass at 11am in Our Lady's. *There will not be 9.30am Mass that day.* Afterwards there will be tea and coffee in the Trinity Hall. *Everyone is welcome!*

**HERTS WELCOMES REFUGEES** needs men's winter clothing, especially water-proofs, for refugees living in WGC not allowed to work. Call Vicky 07905454150.

**JOHN PRIDMORE** a one-time gangster, who had a conversion experience some years ago, will be with us in December. John will speak at the end of each Mass that weekend (6th/7th) and then speak at length at 7.15pm at Our Lady's to which everyone is welcome. On Monday 8th December there will be Mass for the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady at 6pm at Holy Family Church followed by another input from John.

**RESPOSITORY** Christmas cards, calendars, candles and gifts are now available in the repository at Our Lady's and at Holy Family. Why not have a look!

### **CHRISTMAS PARTIES FOR SENIORS!** *Last chance to book!*

**St. John Henry Newman School** in Stevenage on Friday 5th December 10 - 11.30am. Cakes, seasonal music & entertainment! RSVP 01438 314 643 [events@jhn.herts.sch.uk](mailto:events@jhn.herts.sch.uk)

**Nicholas Breakspear School** in St. Albans on Friday 5th December 12.15 - 2.30pm. Festive activities and entertainment. RSVP 01727 860079 [admin@nbs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@nbs.herts.sch.uk)

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2026 TO GUADALUPE, MEXICO** After our recent successful pilgrimage to Medjugorje, All Saints Travel have put together a good package for next year. Travelling 6th - 14th October 2026. Flying with British Airways from London Heathrow, direct non-stop. £1947 per person + £40 tips for guide etc. 5 nights in Mexico City at the Casa Blanca Hotel \*\*\*\*\* half board. 2 nights in Puebla at the San Pedro Hotel \*\*\*\*\* half board. Guided throughout, touring coach, entrance fees included as usual. Full day in Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and revisit on last day before flying home. One day includes Mass at Church of the Holy Family and visit to the Blessed Miguel Pro museum next door. Visits to anthropology museum, canal boat ride in Xochimilco and pyramids in Teotihuacan. Brochures are in each church.

**MEDJUGORJE REUNION** on Saturday 29th November after 6pm Mass.

**SALVATION ARMY APPEAL** for Christmas presents for children and young people. The local Salvation Army in Cole Green Lane WGC AL7 3TN has had requests for presents for those less well off. If you can provide one/some, they can be dropped off Mondays: 9am - 1pm, Tuesdays: 9am - 7pm and Thursdays: 9am - 4.30pm. Thank you.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY** is on Monday 8th December. It is not a Holy Day of Obligation in this country. There will be 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's and 6pm Mass at Holy Family Church.

**CAROL SINGING IN THE HOWARD CENTRE** on Saturday 13th December 2 - 4pm. Join the Christian Churches in supporting the Food Bank and cheering shoppers

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

### **22nd Saturday** *St. Cecilia*

10am	St. Bonaventure	Special Intention (George Family)
6pm	Our Lady	James Bonass RIP Birthday

### **23rd CHRIST THE KING**

9am	St. Bonaventure	Holy Souls
10.30am	Holy Family	Michael Cole RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Mary Donoghue RIP Anniv
6pm	Holy Family	David Brand Intention

### **24th Monday** *St. Andrew Dung-Lac and his Companions*

9.30am	Our Lady	Special Intention (George Family)
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### **25th Tuesday**

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	NO MASS
11am	Our Lady	Mass for Deceased Priests of Stevenage Deanery
7pm	Our Lady	Frank Cafferty RIP

### **26th Wednesday**

9.30am	Holy Family	Eleanor Shanahan RIP
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### **27th Thursday**

9.30am	Holy Family	Joe Leech RIP
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### **28th Friday**

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Holy Souls
7pm	Our Lady	John Dineen RIP Anniv

### **29th Saturday**

10am	St. Bonaventure	Holy Souls
6pm	Our Lady	Fr. Michael Moriarty RIP

### **30th FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

9am	St. Bonaventure	Eithne McShane RIP Anniv
10.30am	Holy Family	Sean Brophy RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Maurice Scally RIP
6pm	Holy Family	Jirka Cherny Intention

## **CONFESSIONS** *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Holy Family Thursday 10.00 - 10.30

St. Bonaventure Saturday 10.30 - 11am

Our Lady Saturday 5 - 5.30pm

**CHAPEL** Open Monday to Friday 8.30am until 4pm.

**ST. ALBANS** Catholic Mass in St. Albans Cathedral on Fridays at 12 noon in the Lady Chapel. The Jubilee Icon will be at St. Albans on 12th December. After 12 noon Mass there will be an explanation and a time of guided prayer until 1.30pm. All are welcome. *Fr. Norbert will celebrate Mass on 19th December.*

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

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** at Our Lady's at 12 noon Mass.