



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

SECOND SUNDAY (18.01) AND THIRD SUNDAY (25.01) IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Priest Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234

norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest Fr. James Boyle 01707 327434

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Parish Administrator Mrs Jacqui Boon 01707 323234 (Tues. Wed. Fri. 9am - 12 noon,
Thurs. 1 - 4pm)

Parish Email: wgc@rcdow.org.uk

Website wgc-catholics.org.uk

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

We have a **new Archbishop!** **Richard Moth** will be installed as the twelfth Archbishop of Westminster on **Saturday 14th February** in the Cathedral. Let us pray for him as he takes on this responsibility and pray for our Diocese as we respond to his leadership. The Mass of Installation will be livestreamed on the Cathedral's channel. As a Canon of Westminster Cathedral, Fr. Norbert will have a part to play in the ceremony. Each parish of the Diocese will be allocated one ticket to the Mass at 12 noon. The evening before there will be Solemn Vespers in the Cathedral at 5.30pm. Again, one ticket has been allocated to each parish. If you would like to attend, please give your name and contact details to Fr. Norbert. He will pull a name out of a hat for each occasion.

Peace Sunday (18.01) Pope Leo XIV reflects on a world marked by fear, militarisation and the threat of war. He addresses the seriousness of the moment while proposing a vision of peace that is “unarmed and disarming,” resisting violence not through force but through moral clarity, dialogue and the conversion of hearts. “Peace be with you!”—the greeting of the Risen Christ—stands at the centre of the Message. Pope Leo XIV writes that these words “do not merely desire peace, but truly bring about a lasting transformation in those who receive it,” affirming that Christian peace is active and disruptive in its refusal of violence.

Word of God Sunday (25.01) Pope Leo XIV invites the faithful to pray frequently with the Word of God. Only the Gospel, he says, can give peace and fullness to the human heart, which he notes is restless and hungers for meaning. “Teach us to listen to you each day in the Scriptures,” he says, “to let ourselves be challenged by your voice, and to discern our decisions from the closeness to your Heart.” God’s Word in Sacred Scripture provides nourishment in weariness, hope in darkness, and strength in our communities. He prays that all Christians may draw strength and guidance from the Word of God and that the Church may always proclaim the Gospel with joy. “May our faith grow in the encounter with you through your Word,” concludes the Pope, “moving us from the heart to reach out to others, to serve the most vulnerable, to forgive, build bridges, and proclaim life.”

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (18th - 25th January) **Churches United Gather - Worship - Pray** with other Christians from *Churches in WGC* **Sunday 25th January, 2026 4-5pm at the Focolare Centre for Unity** 69 Parkway AL8 6JG Speaker: Fr. Norbert, Chair of *Churches in WGC*.

It is powerful to meet with other Christians for this service, to reflect on our *mission* and *ministry* in the town and surrounding area and to *pray* for God's love and presence to be made known. There will be refreshments following the Service. Parking is available on Parkway, or the car park entrance is via "The Cloisters," a side road off Parkway.

Why not come and give your support to this important gathering?

Fr. Norbert would love there to be many from our three churches joining all the others!

BAPTISM Contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. James to arrange the Baptism of your child.

FIRST COMMUNION The next Workshops for parents and children will be Sunday 18th January and Sunday 1st February at Our Lady's Church 3.30 - 5pm.

CONFIRMATION Next sessions 7.15pm Sundays 18th Jan. + 1st Feb. in Trinity Hall.

RCIA (Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults) Next sessions Mondays 19th and 26th January at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

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

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS The next celebration will be on Saturday 24th January at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a Get-together in the Trinity Hall. Please bring food to share. We will have bingo, a simple quiz, karaoke and a few new treats! Why not come?

SATURDAY CLUB for adults and children with learning disabilities, their families and friends. 2 - 4pm in the Trinity Hall on 14th February with a Valentine's Day theme!

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 to donate money. Please use Food Bank Baskets.

LISTER HOSPITAL Non-urgent referrals to Chaplaincy Team 01438 285519, Urgent referrals 01438 314333 (ask for duty chaplain) emailspiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net

TRANSPORT TO MASS GROUP is there for parishioners who need a lift to Mass. Call Anne Maclean-Eltham on 07811926002 or macleaneltham@gmail.com

RESTORATION HOLY HOUR The coming second Fridays of the month are going to have other things happening. So the next Restoration Hour Friday 12th June.

CIVIC SERVICE Councillor Lynn Chesterman OBE, Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield, was absolutely delighted by the Service on 11th January. We are grateful to all who helped in church and in the Trinity Hall. The guests were thrilled to enjoy such a warm welcome.

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS) is on Monday 2nd February. Candles will be blessed at 9.30am Mass and 7pm Mass both in Our Lady's.

ASH WEDNESDAY this year will be on 18th February. If you have old palms from previous years, please bring them into whichever church for burning to make the ashes.

NBS Science and Faith Symposium on Monday 26th January 5.00 - 7.10pm '**AI- Tool or Weapon?**' Discover, dialogue, and discern together about the overlap between science, technology, and faith. Speakers: Zac Johnson co-founder of Truthly (a Catholic AI app) and Tomislav Karacic assistant professor of information systems at LSE. This is a FREE event. Food will be served and parking is free but pre-booking is essential. To reserve your place and find out more about the event, please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nbs-science-faith-symposiums-artificial-intelligence-tool-or-weapon-tickets-1977493348839> Any questions to Miss Gallego, the project co-ordinator, at galle-gom@nbs.herts.sch.uk

BANK DETAILS To pay parish by bank transfer, HSBC account WRCDT Welwyn Garden City, Sort code 400520 No. 51094459. *It is essential that there is paperwork or an email to stipulate how money is to be spent and who has made the payment. Thanks!*

FIRST FRIDAY Early Mass at 6.30am at St. Bonaventure's Church on 6th February followed by breakfast in the Hall. All welcome!

CHURCH CLEANING St. Bonaventure's after 9.30am Mass on Tuesday 3rd February. Holy Family after 9.30 Mass on Wednesday 4th February. Our Lady's on Saturday 7th February 10am...plus maintenance of the grounds. Thank you to everyone who helped with cribs and Christmas decorations being stored away!

HCPT GROUP 183 will be holding a retiring collection after every Mass the weekend of **31st Jan./ 1st Feb.** Your generosity is vital as we currently face a shortfall in the funds needed to take children with special needs on a life-changing pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter. For many of these children, this pilgrimage is more than a holiday—it's a rare opportunity to experience joy, friendship, and spiritual renewal in a supportive environment. With your help, the Group can make this dream a reality for them. Gift Aid envelopes will be available at the back of each church, and every contribution—big or small—will make a real difference. Thank you in advance for your kindness and support

CAFOD Group is appealing for any unwanted Christmas gifts to be regifted. There will be a sale of these gifts along with some cakes on Sunday 8th February at Holy Family after the 10.30 Mass. **Please** bring these gifts to Holy Family before 8th. Thank you for your generous support; during 2025, a total of £2778.92 was raised in addition to the Fast Day collections. You are directly helping those most in need to help themselves.

LENTEN LUNCHES organised by the CWL from Saturday 21st February.

SOUTH ASIAN MASS Saturday 28th February 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a party in the Trinity Hall. First planning meeting Sunday 18th Jan 7.15pm Our Lady's Sacristy

MASS INTENTIONS

17th Saturday St. Anthony

10am	St. Bonaventure	Pauline Reed (Intention)
6pm	Our Lady	Thomas Nichols Senior RIP & Jacqueline Gauchard RIP

18th SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Peace Sunday

9am	St. Bonaventure	For the People
10.30am	Holy Family	Diana Jean Attard RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Mai Collins RIP
6pm	Holy Family	Mai Lovett (Intention)

19th Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	Margaret O'Neill RIP
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20th Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Sadie Glynn (Intention)
7pm	Our Lady	Augustus Joachim RIP

21st Wednesday St. Agnes

9.30am	Holy Family	Mangion Family (Intention)
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22nd Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family	Stephen and Carol Cade (Intention)
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23rd Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Augsutus Joachim RIP
7pm	Our Lady	Georgina Mendes RIP

24th Saturday St. Francis de Sales

10am	St. Bonaventure	Marion Thomas RIP & Louiza Fearn RIP
6pm	Our Lady	Ken Shaw RIP

25th THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9am	St. Bonaventure	Leslie and Hertha Edwards RIP
10.30am	Holy Family	Evans Family (Intention)
12 noon	Our Lady	Jim Hetherington RIP
6pm	Holy Family	Michael Vincent Lovett RIP Anniv & Michael Lovett RIP

26th Monday St. Timothy and St. Titus

9.30am	Our Lady	Mary Laggan (Intention)
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27th Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Margaret O'Neill RIP
7pm	Our Lady	Godfrey Joachim RIP

28th Wednesday St. Thomas Aquinas

9.30am	Holy Family	Romualdo Gurjao RIP (2nd Anniv)
9.30am	Our Lady	Funeral Mass for Pauline O'Toole

29th Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family	Margaret Painter (Intention)
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30th Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Pauline O'Toole RIP
7pm	Our Lady	Maduge Joachim RIP

31st Saturday St. John Bosco

10am	St. Bonaventure	Special Intention (CW)
6pm	Our Lady	Carol Shaw RIP Anniv

1st February FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9am	St. Bonaventure	Nicola Troiano RIP
10.30am	Holy Family	Margaret O'Neill RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Joan Mary Coates RIP
6pm	Holy Family	Vittoio Tomaso RIP

CONFESIONS 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. All are welcome.

STREAMED MASS on youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches

CHILDREN'S LITURGY at Our Lady's 12 noon Mass. Children's Mass 8th Feb

LOOKING AHEAD

Morning Mass on Monday 9th February will be at 8.30am at Our Lady's. The following Masses will have to be cancelled: Friday 13th February 7pm and Saturday 14th February 10am because of the Installation of the new Archbishop.