



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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1st February, 2026

Parish Priest Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234

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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

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 2026 *Below are thoughts from the Bishops' Conference* Promoting Racial Justice in our Parishes is the theme for Racial Justice Sunday 2026. Where racial justice is concerned, we must never tire of repeating what has been said before, though we always seek new ways to convey the message. Racial Justice Sunday this year is devoted to the promotion of racial justice in our Catholic parishes across England and Wales and society. It seeks to foster an awareness of the need for justice in all its forms. In an increasingly tense climate, it is imperative that we listen to, and learn from, the experiences, challenges and opportunities encountered in the mission of promoting racial justice in Catholic parishes today. Our parishes should be places where we can all truly grow in ever deeper knowledge and love of each other, ourselves and God. We should create a culture of welcome and hospitality in our parishes, encourage inclusive approaches to parish ministry, and foster greater openness to acceptance while learning from other cultures and traditions. Questions to support parish reflection and action in promoting racial justice.

1. How does the line "Whoever loves God must also love his brother/sister" resonate with your own experiences or aspirations for racial justice in our parish?

a. In what ways can our faith guide us in promoting racial justice in our parish?

b. How does our parish ensure that all members feel included and involved in the life of the Church? Can you give examples?

c. What would you say are the main challenges and opportunities for promoting racial justice in our parish?

2. How has the understanding of racial justice changed in our parish over time? Have there been changes in how you think about it?

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

FIRST COMMUNION The next Workshop for parents and children will be today (Sunday 1st) at Our Lady's Church 3.30 - 5pm. The children will be making their First Confession this week and next. Please pray for them and their families at this special time.

CONFIRMATION Next session at 7pm Sunday 8th February in the Trinity Hall.

RCIA (Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults) The Group will attend the 7pm Mass on 2nd. The next session will be on Monday 9th February at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy. There are currently 25 adults preparing for the Easter Sacraments. Please keep them in your prayers. They will be presented at 12 noon Mass at Our Lady's on 15th then be presented to the Archbishop on 21st Feb. at the Rite of Election at Westminster Cathedral.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY is on Saturday 7th February. Fr. Norbert has emailed all the couples for whom he has a contact. If anyone has been forgotten, please let him know as soon as possible! The Day starts at 10.30am in the Trinity Hall and will conclude with a Blessing of Engaged Couples at 6pm Mass.

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS What a wonderful celebration last Saturday! Thank you to those who took part sharing their gifts with the community both at Mass and at the party. We are grateful to all who gave their support. Next celebration Saturday 9th May at 6pm.

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

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.

CARITAS WESTMINSTER Richard Harries, the Director, will be at the Sunday morning Masses next week to speak about the work of this Diocesan Agency and to meet us!

ASH WEDNESDAY on 18th February. If you have old palms bring them for burning to make the ashes. Masses at 9.30am Holy Family, 12 noon St. Bonaventure's and 7pm Our Lady's. It falls in half-term so we encourage parents to do their best to bring their children to one of these Masses. Bishop Paul McAleenan will celebrate 7pm Mass. It would be lovely to have many altar servers! Ash Wednesday is a Day of Fasting and Abstinence.

LENTEN LUNCHESES The Catholic Women's League are hosting Lenten lunches from Saturday, February 21st and every Saturday in Lent from 12.30 till 1.30pm in the Trinity Hall. £5 suggested donation for home made soup, hot drink and cake. All welcome!

SVP Request for curtains for a single mother. Please call Janet Lewis on 01707 326456

LENT PRAYER COURSE Fr. James & Stefan Guerzoni will be leading a six-week course on 'Prayer' starting on Wednesday 4th March 7 - 8pm in the Parish Room at Holy Family and online. The course will explore essential steps like how to greet God through engaging in Scripture. If you would like to join in person or online, please let Stefan know either via phone/text on 07425 775944 or via email: websg@hotmail.com.

CHILDREN'S MASS at Our Lady's on Sunday 8th February at 12 noon.

COME AND SEE for those interested in priesthood and permanent diaconate Saturday 14th March 12 - 3.30pm at St. Bonaventure's run by the Diocesan Vocations Team.

MAUREEN MURPHY RIP Funeral Mass Thurs. 19th February 12.30pm at Our Lady's.

DENNIS MURPHY RIP Funeral Mass on Tuesday 3rd March 10.30am at Our Lady's

SAFEGUARDING The safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults is at the heart of the Church's mission. There is no place in the Church, or indeed society, for abuse, a grievous crime which can affect people for their entire lives.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives (PSRs) are volunteers who provide assistance and support to their parish in Safeguarding matters. In our parish, they are Ann Chappell, Mary Stephenson and Cathy Staniforth. (email addresses next week)

The PSR's role is a very important one because it helps keep our parish communities safe from harm and abuse by creating safe environments where everyone flourishes. The PSR works in partnership with the Parish Priest, Parish Leaders, Volunteers and Diocesan Safeguarding Team to ensure everyone can participate in parish activities happily and safely, especially those considered vulnerable including children, young people, and adults at risk.

The 4 main areas of a PSR's work involve:

Reporting and Responding to all Safeguarding concerns

Safe Recruitment of volunteers (including DBS applications)

Sustaining a safe environment in your parish

Promote a Culture of Safeguarding in parishes

BANK DETAILS To pay parish by bank transfer, HSBC account WRC DT 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!

CARDINAL'S FAREWELL MASS at Cathedral Thurs. 5th Feb. 5.30pm. *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 all who help.*

HCPT GROUP 183 will have a retiring collection after every Mass this weekend Your generosity is vital. The Group takes children with special needs on a life-changing pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter. It 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. Gift Aid envelopes available. *Thank you!*

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 by 8th.

SOUTH ASIAN MASS Saturday 28th February 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a party in the Trinity Hall. If you would like to help in any way, especially through contributing food, please contact Sharon Macaulay on 07985648169.

PRAYER + MEDITATION ACROSS FAITHS Tuesday 10th February 2.30pm - 4pm in the Focolare Centre. Come and discover the similarities and the differences.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May at 2.30pm. The Archbishop is inviting all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2026. Please give Fr. Norbert these details: husband and wife's names, Wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email).

PARISH PILGRIMAGE to Guadalupe, Mexico 6th - 14th October 2026. Deposits need to be in by Friday 6th February. There are brochures at the back of church. Email www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/mx1128/ 22 have signed up. *Would you like to join them?*

MASS INTENTIONS

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	Vittorio Tomaso RIP

2nd Monday ***THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)***

9.30am	Our Lady	Margaret O'Neill RIP
7pm	Our Lady	Don and Heather Coakley (60th Wedding Anniversary)

3rd Tuesday *St. Laurence, St. Dunstan and St. Theodore (Also, St. Blaise)*

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	John Christoferou RIP
7pm	Our Lady	Mary O'Driscoll RIP Anniv

4th Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Family	Sophie Constable (Baptism Anniv) + Pat Frost RIP(3rd Anniv)
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5th Thursday *St. Agatha*

9.30am	Holy Family	Pauline O'Toole RIP
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6th Friday *St. Paul Miki and his Companions*

6.30am	St. Bonaventure	Lily and Fiona Doherty (sick)
9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Arnold Muceros RIP Birthday
7pm	Our Lady	Kim and Barrom (Intention)

7th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	For the People
6pm	Our Lady	Christina Bonass RIP Birthday

8th ***FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

9am	St. Bonaventure	John McShane RIP Anniv
10.30am	Holy Family	Pauline Morrissey RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Keegan Jerome Menezes (Birthday Intention)
6pm	Holy Family	Maureen Schneider RIP

CONFESSIONS *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Holy Family Thursday 10.00 - 10.30

St. Bonaventure Saturday 10.30 - 11am

Our Lady Saturday 5 - 5.30pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Thursdays 10am Holy Family

CHAPEL Open Monday to Friday 8.30am until 4pm.

ST. ALBANS Catholic Mass St. Albans Cathedral Fridays 12 noon in Lady Chapel.

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

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

LOOKING AHEAD Morning Mass on Monday 9th February will be at 8.30am at Our Lady's. On Friday 13th February 7pm Mass and on Saturday 14th February 10am Mass will both be cancelled because of the Installation of the new Archbishop