



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

SIXTH SUNDAY (10.05) + SEVENTH SUNDAY (17.05) OF EASTER

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, Thurs1 - 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

In recent weeks I have celebrated Leavers' Masses in Secondary Schools before the Public Examinations begin. A time of gratitude and memories, a moment of laughter and tears, the breaking in of the seriousness of a next stage in life with all that will unfold. Not so long ago our young people were confirmed by Bishop Paul. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit were conferred as they renewed their Baptismal Promises and were anointed with Sacred Chrism. In the week of 11th May, Year 6 children in Primary School will have their SATS tests. So many need our prayers at this time!

Our celebration of the Easter Season is reaching its final phase as this week we mark the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday and then commence our journey towards Pentecost and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit helps us to *remember*. The Spirit strengthens our *bond with Jesus Christ*. And the Spirit *sends us out* with the mission of sharing the Good News with others. How many times can the Spirit come to us? As many as the Spirit wants!! Every year when we come to this point, we pray that we will be renewed. None of us can say we have made it or understand every-thing completely. We need to keep yearning for the Gift of the Lord and never to stop opening our-selves to the Holy Spirit.

On the Sixth Sunday of Easter we are told in the Acts of the Apostles that the Church in Jerusalem sent Peter and John to Samaria, praying that they might receive the Holy Spirit. They laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit - another Pentecost! In the Gospel passage, Jesus speaks of the Spirit of truth who will be another Helper and dwell within his disciples. St. Peter's Epistle has the phrase that Jesus brings us to God by being put to death in the flesh but made alive *in the spirit*. Do you want to alive in the spirit? On the Seventh Sunday of Easter, we have the picture of Our Lady at prayer with the disciples as they await the promise of the Holy Spirit. The Gospel passage is the conclusion of the Last Supper narrative of St. John as Jesus prays to the Father. He does not specifically mention the Holy Spirit, but his words are filled with the Spirit. The Spirit helps us to pray as we long for Divine Love to be shared with us. May these coming weeks bring you peace and contentment.

With love, **Fr. Norbert**

ASCENSION OF THE LORD This Thursday 14th is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks Catholics to attend Mass. There will be 9.30 Mass at Holy Family Church, 12 noon Mass at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

PENTECOST is on 24th May and completes on this 50th Day our celebration of Easter.

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

FIRST COMMUNION MASSES *Please keep our children in your prayers.* Our Lady's: Sundays 17th May, 7th June all at 12 noon. Holy Family: Sunday 10th May 10.30am. St. Bonaventure: Sunday 24th May 9am.

CONFIRMATION Congratulations to the 31 young people confirmed last Friday. We are proud of them and ask God to watch over them in this important stage of their lives. We are grateful to all who helped with the Liturgy, getting the church ready and the party which followed. Thank you also to Fr. James and the catechists for their dedicated service over the months. The newly confirmed will have a gathering on Friday 5th June with Mass at 7pm in Our Lady's and a social in the Trinity Hall.

MARRIAGE Any couples planning to get married this year or next should let Fr. Norbert know so that all the necessary preparations can be made.

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 07811926002 or macleaneltham@gmail.com

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Saturday 9th May 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a Get-together in the Trinity Hall with bingo, quiz, a raffle, refreshments. All welcome!

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & BREAKFAST The next early Mass will be on 5th June at 6.30am at St. Bonaventure's. *Thank you to the Team which gets everything ready!*

CHARLIE BRUNT RIP Charlie's Funeral Service will be in the Chapel at Oakhill Cemetery on Thursday 14th May at 10am.

CHURCH CLEANING Thank you to all who look after our churches and keep every-thing clean and tidy; also to those who look after the grounds.

CROWNING OF OUR LADY We are grateful to all who helped with last Monday's celebration - the Mass, the Crowning and the reception. What a great occasion!

PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS 30 minutes of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday 15th May after 7pm Mass at Our Lady's, similarly on Wednesday 20th May after Holy Family's 9.30 Mass and finally on Saturday 23rd May after St. Bonaventure's 10am Mass. *There are special Prayer Sheets sent from the Diocese. Please take one and pray at home for this important intention. Thank you.*

INTERFAITH GROUP 'Religious education in Schools' Speaker: Shammi Rahman, Equalities and Diversity Adviser (HFL Education) & Lead RE Adviser for Hertfordshire Thursday 14th May 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Focolare Centre, 69 Parkway AL8 6JG

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

FILIPINO MASS Saturday 6th June 6pm.

AFRICAN MASS on Sunday 28th June 12 noon.

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK organised by the SVP on Saturday 4th July at 12 noon at the Focolare Centre.

ROSARY PROCESSION on Saturday 3rd October starting with 10am Mass at Our Lady's and then walking around the streets of Woodhall *with the necessary permissions!*

POLISH-ENGLISH MASS on Saturday 3rd October 6pm.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CENTENARY The second phase of the redecoration of St. Bonaventure's Church will begin at the start of June. The Foundation Stone was laid on 10th March 1926 and the first celebration of Mass on 14th September 1926. Bishop Paul McAleenan will celebrate a Centenary Mass on Sunday 13th September at 3pm. Also, on the Feast of St. Bonaventure (Wednesday 15th July) the 9.30am Mass will be celebrated at St. Bonaventure's. There will be a planning meeting on Wednesday 10th June at 7pm in St. Bonaventure's. *Come and share your ideas for the Centenary.*

MORE MONEY NEEDED! If anyone has money to spare, it would be gratefully received in paying off the remaining loan on the Trinity Hall (£100k) and the works which have been undertaken in our three churches. Already an extra £12k has been donated for which we are very grateful. Any more out there? Thanking you in advance!

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!*

VOLUNTEERS The Diocese of Westminster asks that all volunteers complete a Confidentiality Agreement Form. *This is a requirement.* More forms are available at the back of each church. Parents should complete one for their son/daughter who serves at the altar or who reads at Mass if they are under age. Another requirement is for people to agree to be in a livestreamed Mass - readers, servers especially. Fr. Norbert has the forms. Please speak to him if you are seen in an online Mass. Thanks for your cooperation

MASS INTENTIONS

9th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Con + Margaret McAuliffe RIP Anniv + Family's Int.
6pm	Our Lady	Valerie Umaefulam (Birthday Blessing)

10th SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9am	St. Bonaventure	Jennifer Tyler RIP
10.30am	Holy Family	Mary Marron RIP Anniv
12 noon	Our Lady	Vata Family Intention
6pm	Holy Family	Emerson Gatpo RIP

11th Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	Special Intention
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12th Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Mary Cade RIP
7pm	Our Lady	Violeta Palad (Birthday Thanksgiving)

13th Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Family	Special Intention
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14th Thursday ASCENSION OF THE LORD Holy Day of Obligation

9.30am	Holy Family	Denis and Bella Dunne RIP
12noon	St. Bonaventure	Gerard and Joan Murphy and Family Intentions
7pm	Our Lady	Helena Ogunsanya RIP

15th Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Lucia Federici (Birthday Intention)
7pm	Our Lady	Helena Ogunsanya RIP

16th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Cade Family Intentions.
6pm	Our Lady	Josie Shakeshaft RIP

17th SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9am	St. Bonaventure	Eileen Harrington RIP Birthday
10.30am	Holy Family	Michael Mackinnon RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Artur Montenegro RIP Anniv
6pm	Holy Family	Vata Family Intention

18th Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	Guillermo Muceros RIP Anniv & Anna Liza Sabalvaro RIP Anniv
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19th Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Laura Coffey and family (Intention)
7pm	Our Lady	Suinerto and Pionia Curilan RIP Anniv

20th Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Family	Tricia Knights RIP Anniv
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21st Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family	
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22nd Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Special Intention
7pm	Our Lady	

23rd Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Maureen Oaks (Intention)
6pm	Our Lady	Joe Hensy RIP

24th PENTECOST

9am	St. Bonaventure	Anene Okechukwu RIP
10.30am	Holy Family	Sheila Thomas RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Joe Carroll RIP
6pm	Holy Family	Roza D'Cunha RIP

CONFESSIONS *Sacrament of Reconciliation* Holy Family Thursday 10.00 - 10.30 (Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament also) St. Bonaventure Saturday 10.30 - 11am Our Lady Saturday 5 - 5.30pm

CHAPEL Open Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4pm

ST. ALBANS Catholic Mass St. Albans Cathedral on Fridays 12 noon Lady Chapel. *Fr. Norbert will celebrate this Mass on 22nd May*

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Our Lady's 12 noon Mass