



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

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

Parish Priest Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234 norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest Fr. James Boyle 01707 327434 jamesboyle@rcdow.org.uk

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

Helen Meyer who heads the Hospitality Group writes: What a joyful celebration of the Centenary of St Bonaventure's! It was truly special to see so many people come together to give thanks to God for 100 years of faith, worship and community, while remembering with gratitude the generations who have gone before us and helped shape the parish we know today. A personal thank you to everyone who made the celebration possible: parishioners, clergy and all who joined us on this historic occasion. May God continue to bless St Bonaventure's and its vibrant Community for generations to come. If you would like to be involved in supporting future parish events and want to find out more please contact Helen 07973 363214 or helenannstoy@hotmail.com

I have had many messages from those who came. Everyone agrees the day was wonderful - a success in giving praise to God. I know that a huge number of people worked extremely hard to make the church and grounds look so beautiful as well as an exquisite High Tea afterwards in Focolare. St. John Henry Newman School's band did us proud. I am so grateful and feel extremely proud to be your Parish Priest. It will be a long time until one of our other Catholic churches reaches a centenary; so let us bask in the delight of St. Bonaventure's and look forward to God's grace continuing to shine upon us.

Today's Gospel reading from St. Matthew reminds us of God's generous, merciful love. He does not want anyone to miss out on his grace. Let him in! With love, **Fr. Norbert**

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

MARRIAGE Any couples planning to get married this year or next should let Fr. Norbert know. Marriage Preparation Day will be on Saturday 6th February.

RCIA for adults who wish to join the Catholic Church starts on Monday 5th October at 7.30pm in the Sacristy of Our Lady's. This is also for Catholic adults who missed out on Confirmation when younger. Come and find out more!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION for children at least in Year 3 at Primary School will take place on Tuesday 22nd September at 6pm in Our Lady's Church. The meeting is for parents and children. The first workshop for parents and children will be in Our Lady's Church on Sunday 18th October 3.30 - 5pm. For children baptised outside of WGC, we will need to see their Baptismal Certificates.

CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION on Sunday 4th October at 7pm in Holy Family Church. The meeting will last for one hour and is for parents and young people who are at least in Year 9 at Secondary School. We will need to know the Baptismal date of the young people; for young people baptised outside of WGC, we will need to see the Baptismal Certificate. First session for young people 7pm on Sunday 18th October.

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

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & BREAKFAST Next celebration at St. Bonaventure's on Friday 2nd October 6.30am. It's an early start but sets you up for the day!

CHURCH CLEANING in October: St. Bonaventure's on Tuesday 6th after 9.30am Mass, at Our Lady's on Saturday 10th at 10am plus maintenance of the grounds, Holy Family Wednesday 14th after 9.30am Mass. Thank you.

ROSARY PROCESSION on Saturday 3rd October starting with 10am Mass at Our Lady's Church. There will be refreshments in the Trinity Hall afterwards.

POLISH-ENGLISH MASS The Polish Community invites everyone to join the annual Polish-English Mass on Saturday 3rd October at 6pm at Our Lady's. After Mass, every-one is welcome in the Trinity Hall for food, drinks and party with music and dancing. Serdecznie zapraszamy na coroczną Polsko-Angielską Mszę w kościele Our Lady w sobotę 3 października o 18:00. Po mszy zapraszamy na wspólne świętowanie przy pol-skim poczęstunku, z muzyką oraz tańcem. Jeśli ktoś chciałby pomóc w przygotowaniach to prosimy o kontakt: Anna Skiba, tel 07944728696.

ITALIAN MASS Friday 16th October 7pm Our Lady's with gathering in Sacristy. If you would like to be involved, please let Fr. Norbert know.

BLESSING OF GRAVES in November: Oakhill (Southway) Sunday 1st 2pm. Hatfield Hyde Sunday 8th 1.30pm and Welwyn New Cemetery Sunday 22nd 2pm.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Parents/carers together with their child are asked to make an appointment to meet Fr. Norbert at Our Lady's Church for him to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice for Secondary School transfer. He will be available: Monday 28th September 4.00 - 6.30pm, Monday 5th October 4.00 - 6.30pm + Monday 19th October 4.00 - 6.30pm. There is a green parish form at the back of each church. This should be filled in and brought to the meeting. Please wait in church until called. To make an appointment, please ring Jacqui, our Parish Administrator, on 01707 323234. If you do not understand the system or if English is not your first language, Fr. Norbert is happy to help. However, he will not be able to sign the certificates before/after Mass.

MORE MONEY NEEDED! It would be gratefully received in paying off the remaining loan on the Trinity Hall (£99k) and works which have been undertaken.

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's paperwork or an email to stipulate how money is to be spent and name of donor.*

CAFOD GROUP has a cake sale at Holy Family after the 10.30 am Mass on Sunday 27th September. Donations of home baked cakes welcome and can be delivered on the morning of the sale. We operate on a cash only basis so please remember to bring cash.

CAFOD QUIZ in the Trinity Hall on Saturday 17th October starting at 7.30pm. 10 tables of 8. Ticket prices £10 per person. Please telephone Caroline Sherar to reserve a table on 07929709901. Please bring your own food and drink. There will be a raffle.

SVP REPORT (The Society of St. Vincent de Paul) During the 12 months ending March 2026, 971 calls/visits were made to approx. 80 Clients providing assistance in the form of transport, financial help, shopping, keeping medical appointments, hospital visits and general face-to-face meetings. Our financial commitment includes: giving super-market vouchers at Christmas 2025 to 20 families and similarly 17 families at Easter 2026, amounting to £3000, supplying furniture and purchasing school uniforms and white goods for three Clients amounting to £350, continuing support of our twinnage scheme with India at £150 per annum, a one-off payment of £1000 to the South Sudan appeal, organising the Mass With The Anointing of the Sick at the Focolare Centre. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our parishioners who give of their time with practical assistance when requested. We are indebted to the financial contributions made throughout the year and at the SVP annual collection. £2200 was raised following the 2025 collection. The **2026 annual collection** will take place this weekend. For more details contact 07715 5799319. Thank you and God bless you.

PARISH WEBSITE to be updated soon in line with other parishes in Westminster Diocese. Many groups in the parish need a fresh description of their work/ministry and an updated contact name and number or email. Send to Fr. Norbert soon. Thank you.

DANIEL KELLY RIP Funeral Mass at Our Lady's on Thursday 1st October 9.30am.

SCHOOL OPEN DAYS St. John Henry Newman Thursday 24th Sept. 5.30 - 7.30pm. Loreto College Tuesday 29th Sept. 4 - 6pm, Nicholas Breakspear School Thursday 1st October 5 - 8pm

MASS INTENTIONS

19th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Noel Brady RIP (11th Anniv)
6pm	Our Lady	Deceased members of the Mulvany Family

20th TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9am	St. Bonaventure	Robi Brand's Intention
10.30am	Holy Family	Mary + Derek Kelly's Silver Wedding Intention
12 noon	Our Lady	Chris Doocey RIP
6pm	Holy Family	Birthday Thanksgiving (Lorena Lim)

21st Monday ST. MATTHEW

9.30am	Our Lady	Bridget Gleeson RIP
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22nd Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Jane D'Souza (Special Intention)
7pm	Our Lady	

23rd Wednesday (Padre Pio) St. Pio of Pietrelcina

9.30am	Holy Family	
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24th Thursday OUR LADY OF WALSHINGHAM

9.30am	Holy Family	
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25th Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Mary Pearce and Family Intention
7pm	Our Lady	Ellen and Jon Bonner RIP

26th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Marion and James Brogan's Intentions
6pm	Our Lady	Chizite and Anyina Osefo's Intention

27th TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9am	St. Bonaventure	Robert + Val Callingham and families' Intention
10.30am	Holy Family	Crux Family (In thanksgiving)
12 noon	Our Lady	Brunno Gabriel Rodrigues de Souza Intention
6pm	Holy Family	

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 (near Trinity Hall entrance) Open Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm

ST. ALBANS Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral on Fridays at 12 noon in the Lady Chapel *Fr. Norbert will next celebrate this Mass on 25th September*

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

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