



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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 25th October 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

British Summer Time ends this weekend! It is going to get slightly brighter in the mornings to begin with but darker much sooner in the afternoons. Next Sunday November will be here with the remembering which accompanies it and then as it draws to a close Advent will mark the start of a new year in the Church's life. I'm not trying to make time race by - however, in general, it can sometimes be like that! This week for most schools it is half-term which affords a natural break in the rhythm of life. Many harvest festivals have taken place, thanking God for the wonder of Creation and the generosity of a multitude resulting in a sharing of food and necessities with those less well off. Each establishment is quite unique in its approach and yet all in harmony to ensure that those in need are remembered and supported.

In our Gospel reading today from St. Matthew, Jesus is tested again. This encounter with a lawyer's question is about the 'great commandment'. The Lord who is steeped in Scripture and whose relationship with the Father is beyond compare, quotes from Deuteronomy and Leviticus stating that Love for God comes first and hot on its heels Love for Neighbour. The Love overflowing in Jesus' life is Divine, returning to the Father and reaching out to humanity in the Spirit. Surely this is what he wants us to mirror in our own lives? The Mass is an intimate moment of Love as we come together with the Lord Jesus at the heart of the celebration, holding us in the Divine Arms of Mercy as we worship God and nourishing us with his very Life so that we can be like him deep within and in our connections with others.

May God bless you with a love rooted in eternity. May God watch over your loved ones. May we one day be united in God's presence rejoicing for ever! With love + prayers, ***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 continues on Monday 9th November at 7.30pm in the Sacristy of Our Lady's. This is also for Catholic adults who missed out on Confirmation when younger. There's still time to join! Call Fr. Norbert.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION The next workshop for parents and children will be in Our Lady's Church on Sunday 22nd November 3.30 - 5pm.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION The next session for young people will be at 7pm on Sunday 8th November in the Trinity Hall next door to Our Lady's Church.

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 Could you spare a little time once a month to take a fellow parishioner to the Mass you normally attend? Being part of a team of drivers means you are not having to commit to attending the same service every week and is a wonderful way of showing care for others. Otherwise, consider making a donation so that parishioners who require wheelchair enabled transport can attend Mass. Contact Anne Maclean-Eltham 07811 926002 or macleaneltham@gmail.com to discuss.

CHURCH CLEANING in November: Tuesday 3rd November at St. Bonaventure's after 9.30am Mass. Our Lady's on Saturday 7th at 10am together with the maintenance of the grounds. Holy Family on Wednesday 11th November after Mass and tea/coffee.

FAITH AND REASON - the great debate Fr. James will lead this evening for the Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith Group on Thursday 29th October 7.15pm for 7.30pm start to 9.00pm at Focolare Centre for Unity -69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JG

OPEN PARISH MEETING in Trinity Hall Wednesday 4th November 7 - 9pm. Fr. Norbert invites each group to present a report, the Parish Accounts for 2025 will be made available and looking ahead to the coming year. Some parishioners have asked about the possibility of the Precious Blood being offered from the chalice at Communion. What do you think? We need many of you to come and contribute to the discussion!

HAPPY HALF-TERM HOLIDAY to all involved in Education!
RED BOXES/MISSIO It is that time of year for the MISSIO Red Boxes to be emptied and the monies to be sent on to the Missions. Leave your box with us in the next couple of weeks or count the money yourself and donate by sending a cheque payable to Missio -Mill Hill to Red Box, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU Online missio.org.uk/ redbox or phone 020 7821 9755 (office hours) By Bank Transfer: Account Name Missio, Sort Code 16-00-16, Account number 10824230 (Reference RB+ your postcode)
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR CHILDREN The Salvation Army will be distributing gifts for children in need just before Christmas. More details soon.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Stefan Guerzoni**, our parishioner in training for the Permanent Diaconate who has recently received Candidacy - the formal acceptance for Ordination. Still 2 more years to go - many prayers and much loving support still needed !

BANK DETAILS To pay parish by bank transfer, HSBC account WRCDT 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.* Hall loan now £94k.

PARISH WEBSITE is being updated. Many groups in the parish need a fresh description of their work/ministry and an updated contact name and number or email. Please send information to Fr. Norbert as soon as possible.

BLESSING OF GRAVES Oakhill (Southway) Sunday 1st November. Welwyn Hat-field Council will open the Chapel at 1.30pm and serve tea/coffee + biscuits. The Service will begin in the Chapel at 2pm. Priests will bless individual graves as requested. Hatfield Hyde Sunday 8th 1.30pm and Welwyn New Cemetery Sunday 22nd 2pm.
NOVEMBER DEAD LIST There are sheets marked Holy Souls on which you can write the names of loved ones who have died. They will be remembered at Mass during the month of November. *There is no need to give any money.* On Monday 2nd November - **All Souls Day** - the Masses will be at 9.30am and 7pm at Our Lady's.
MASS FOR DECEASED CLERGY OF STEVENAGE DEANERY will this year be at St. Thomas More Church, London Road, Knebworth SG3 6HB at 11am on Tuesday 10th November. All are welcome. Tea and coffee afterwards in their hall.

HCPT GROUP 183 QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 14th November at 7.30pm in the Trinity Hall. Teams of up to 8 people, £5 per person. Bring drinks and snacks. All money raised will help take children with disability on holiday pilgrimage to Lourdes. Cash and cards accepted. To book a table contact Barbara on 07789743703

JHN SCHOOL writes: We're excited to welcome senior members of the community to The Saint John Henry Newman School's Annual Christmas Community Morning on **Friday, 27th November 2026**, from **10.00 to 11.30am** in our school hall. Live music & Christmas cheer. Light refreshments too. To help planing, please RSVP by emailing **events@jhn.herts.sch.uk** . Contact the school office on **01438 314643**.

CAFOD GROUP will meet in Holy Family's Parish Room after Mass and tea/coffee on Wednesday 4th November. All welcome. The recent Quiz Night raised £600. *Well done!*

WREATH-MAKING WORKSHOPS FOR HCPT GROUP 183 at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 22nd November at 2pm and Sunday 6th December at 2pm.

EARLY MORNING MASS at St. Bonaventure's on Friday 6th November at 6.30am followed by breakfast in the hall. Come and pray! Come and enjoy good company!

ASYLUM SEEKERS in local hotel need warm, rainproof jackets in M or L sizes, in good condition and suitable for young men. If you can help please contact Vicky on woodcraftvicky@gmail.com or 07950454150

INTERFAITH WEEK Shared supper at Focolare on Thursday 12th November 7pm.

SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFER Any parents who missed seeing Fr. Norbert should contact him as soon as possible!

MASS INTENTIONS

24th Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Brian McNulty RIP
6pm	Our Lady	Maria Jasionowicz RIP *Clocks go back one hour tonight!*

25th *THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

9am	St. Bonaventure	James and Helen Gallagher RIP
10.30am	Holy Family	Raphael Attard (Birthday Intention)
12 noon	Our Lady	Fr. Andrew Moore RIP Anniv
6pm	Holy Family	Roza D'Cunha RIP Anniv

26th Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	Maria Jasionowicz RIP

27th Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	In honour of St. Jude
7pm	Our Lady	Brian McNulty RIP

28th Wednesday *ST. SIMON AND ST. JUDE*

9.30am	Holy Family	Mary Tempany RIP

29th Thursday *Blessed Martyrs of Douai*

9.30am	Holy Family	Jane D'Souza (Special Intention)

30th Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Special Intention (CW)
7pm	Our Lady	Con Gilhooly RIP

31st Saturday

10am	St. Bonaventure	Augustus Joachim RIP
6pm	Our Lady	Derek Relph RIP and Deborah Martin RIP

1st November *ALL SAINTS DAY*

9am S	t. Bonaventure	The Wilson Family's Intention
10.30am	Holy Family	Vera Murphy RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Maria Scally RIP
6pm	Holy Family	RIP: Mr + Mrs Eligio Ventura, Mr + Mrs Dionisio Ventura, Dionisia Lustre, Fe + Alvino Ventura, Mr + Mrs Marcelino Corpuz, Euphrocino Egmidion Corpuz, Tomas Esteban and Allan Navallo

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 *Closed this week during the half-term break*
ST. ALBANS Catholic Mass St. Albans Cathedral Fridays 12 noon Lady Chapel *Fr. Norbert will next celebrate this Mass on 6th November*
STREAMED MASS on youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches

CHILDREN'S LITURGY Half-term break. Restarts 8th Nov. Our Lady's 12 noon