



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

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TRINITY HALL Bookings + enquiries can be made through www.wgc-catholics.org.uk which contains terms and conditions of hire, as well as a live diary. General enquiries please call 01707 537464

EDUCATION SUNDAY MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARCUS STOCK

'Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them'

As you gather today in your schools and universities, you can take these words to heart, for our Lord Jesus Christ always keeps His promise. You are gathered together in His name and He is with you as you work, learn, pray, grow and live out your mission. The great desire of Jesus is to be with us and to invite us to enter into a personal relationship with Him, a relationship of love. When a person knows they are truly loved, a new confidence abounds. St John Bosco, the great patron saint of young people and of education, once said: "Without confidence and love, there can be no true education. If you want to be loved you must love yourselves, and make your children feel that you love them."

The mission of our Catholic schools, colleges and universities is to provide a holistic education which enables the lives of children and young people to flourish and for them to be formed into the men and women that God the Father has created them to be. May our Catholic schools, colleges and universities always be places where children and young people discover that they are known and loved by the Lord in their uniqueness. May they be able to look back and recognise that our Lord Jesus Christ was present to them throughout their education. May the gift of faith inspire them, the gift of hope encourage them, and the gift of love sustain them as they strive to live out their unique mission in the world.

When young people leave our institutions, with Christ at their centre, may they do so with stronger faith and greater confidence, to share the love that they have received with others, in whatever vocation or work they undertake.

We owe much gratitude to all those who, over the past 175 years, have governed, led, taught and supported the children and young people in our Catholic schools, colleges and universities, and who have created the environments and opportunities for a loving encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. On this 175th Education Sunday, as we gather in the name of the Lord Jesus and have confidence that He is with us as He promised, let us give thanks to Almighty God for all the ways He has been present to us amidst the joys and sorrows of our life. Let us invite Him to be with us over the coming academic year.

RCIA Any adults who wish to join the Catholic Church are invited to a first meeting on **Monday 2nd October** in the Sacristy of Our Lady's Church. We will start at **7.30pm** and finish by 8.30pm. It will be a chance to find out what is involved in the Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) and to meet others who are similarly interested. Adults who were baptised as children and who missed out on the Sacrament of Confirmation are very welcome to come as well. Sometimes there are people waiting to be invited! So, why not think about a person you know and encourage them to come along. This is such an important part of the life of a parish - growth and development in faith are crucial.

POLISH MASS AND PARTY There will be a Polish-English Mass at Our Lady's Church on Saturday 30th September at 6pm followed by a party in the Trinity Hall. There will be food and drink and music. Everyone is invited! If anyone would like to help with the celebration, please contact Anna on anna.skiba@gmail.com

Polska Msza odbędzie się w sobotę 30 września o 18.00 w kościele Our Lady. Po Mszy zorganizowane jest wspólne spotkanie przy polskim poczęstunku w Trinity Hall. Wszystkich serdecznie zapraszamy. Jeśli ktoś jest zainteresowany pomocą przy organizacji, proszę o kontakt na e-mail: anna.skiba1005@gmail.com

OPEN PARISH MEETING Fr. Norbert would like to invite parishioners to an Open Parish Meeting on Tuesday 7th November at 8pm in the Trinity Hall. We have not had an opportunity since lockdown to meet in this way. The accounts will be presented and hopefully every parish group will report on their activities. There will be time to plan for the coming year. Please put the date in your diary and come along. Everyone is welcome and needed!

BAPTISMS Please contact Fr. Norbert if you wish to arrange the Baptism of your child and he will organise all that is needed.

MARRIAGE Any couples who are planning on getting married in WGC or elsewhere next year or in 2025 should contact Fr. Norbert. **Saturday 10th February 2024** has been set as the Marriage Preparation Day.

FOOD BANK New Zion Christian Fellowship continues its Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. If you are able to drop off non-perishable food for the needy members of our community, New Zion is happy to receive contributions from 8am on a Wednesday. The address is 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. If anyone would like to make a financial contribution to the Food Bank, please email food-bank@newzioncf.net and you will be given details as to how to make a donation. The Food Bank Baskets will be at the back of our churches and so items may be left in them. Thank you.

HERTS WELCOMES REFUGEES are asking for any good quality second hand school uniforms or donations to buy new ones for the refugee children living in our area. If you can help please contact Vicky Woodcraft on woodcraftvicky@gmail.com

ANY QUESTIONS members of five different faiths will answer questions on how they live their faith on a day-to-day basis. At the Focolare Centre on Thursday 28th September at 7.30 pm.

CHURCH CLEANING Thank you to everyone who helps in our three churches!

SPECIAL NEEDS MASS Next celebration on Saturday 4th November at 6pm at Our Lady's.

FR. WILLIAM JOHNSTONE writes: I would like to express my deepest thanks for all the cards, gifts and messages that I received from so many parishioners over the last few weeks. Your generosity to me has been extraordinary. The Mass and farewell gathering last week was an occasion I will never forget. You certainly know how to throw a party in Welwyn Garden City! As I said after my final Mass, it is here in WGC where I learnt how to be a priest. For this reason you will always have a special place in my heart. Please continue to pray for me as I will pray for you. And do come and visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden where I will be based.

KATHRYN HUBBARD writes: A very big thank you for last Sunday's party and presentation. It was lovely to see so many there particularly those young people who attended the Tuesday group where we all had so much fun learning about our faith. I have thoroughly enjoyed the job and would like to wish the new administrator every success.

FR. MARCO SALVAGNINI will be the new Assistant Priest starting on 12th September and will be resident at Holy Family.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR Mrs Jacqui Boon has been appointed as Parish Administrator. She will start work on Tuesday 26th September. We look forward to welcoming Jacqui to this new role.

FINANCE IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY Standing order forms are available at the back of church. Consider setting up a standing order to make your regular gift to the church. Standing orders give us a steady income. *We also ask those of you who are tax-payers to allow the parish to claim back the tax you have paid - GiftAid.* This results in an extra source of income which doesn't cost you anything as long as you are a tax-payer. The donation must come from a bank account in the name of the taxpayer who is claiming Gift Aid which can be a joint account. Thanks!

LISTER HOSPITAL If a parishioner or a family member goes into the Lister Hospital, the following links might be helpful: Non-urgent referrals 01438 285519, Urgent referrals 01438 314333 (and ask for duty chaplain), Chaplaincy Team email is spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net Please remember that the sick person must want the Chaplaincy to know that they are Catholic and that they want to be seen by a priest!

FR. JULIO BARCUDI GODOY from Mallorca is with us until 18th September. This Friday's 7pm Mass will be in Spanish followed by tapas in the Sacristy of Our Lady's. On Monday 18th there will be coffee and cake in the Sacristy after 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's to say 'Adios!'

BISHOP PAUL McALEENAN will be celebrating 9.30am and 11.30am Masses this weekend. We are very grateful for his support.

OPUS DEI EVENING OF RECOLLECTION at Holy Family Church on Thursday 28th September at 7pm. This recollection is intended for men. There will be an evening for women at St. Peter's, Hatfield on Wednesday 20th September. Call Ed Newman-Sanders (07984149320).

HOLY LAND MEETING All pilgrims are invited to a gathering in the Trinity Hall on Saturday 21st October starting at 11am and ending with a shared lunch (finishing around 1pm).

TRANSPORT TO MASS If any parishioners need a lift to Mass, the Transport to Mass Group is there! All necessary safeguarding and health and safety guidelines are followed. The coordinator is Anne Maclean-Eltham 07811926002.

MASS INTENTIONS *If anyone wants Mass offered for a particular intention, please contact Fr. Norbert. The three church diaries are now with him.*

09 Saturday

6pm	Our Lady	Ita Pugh (In thanksgiving)
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10 Sunday

8am	St. Bonaventure	Cherna family intentions
9.30am	Holy Family	Sheila Fitzgerald RIP
10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Sheila Fitzgerald RIP
11.30am	Our Lady	Deceased members of Divey Family
6pm	Holy Family	Ellen Castelo RIP Birthday

11 Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	Callum Oliver RIP
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12 Tuesday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Jimmy Conway RIP
7pm	Our Lady	Melissa Angel de Souza RIP

13 Wednesday *St. John Chrysostom*

9.30am	Holy Family	Sheila Fitzgerald RIP
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14 Thursday ***The Exaltation of the Cross***

9.30am	Holy Family	Sheila Fitzgerald RIP
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15 Friday *Our Lady of Sorrows*

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Fr. William's Intention
7pm	Our Lady	Fr. Julio's Intention

16 Saturday *St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian*

10am	St. Bonaventure	Noel Brady RIP (8th Anniv)
6pm	Our Lady	Fr. Marco's Intention

CONFESSIONS (Sacrament of Reconciliation)

Saturdays 5pm-5.30pm Our Lady

Thursdays 10am - 10.30am Holy Family

Saturdays 10.30am - 11am St. Bonaventure

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 10am - 10.30am HOLY FAMILY

CHAPEL at Our Lady's (near entrance to the Trinity Hall) is open Monday to Friday 7.30am until 6pm. Pop in for a moment of silence, to light a candle, to say a prayer.

JOSS INNOCENT LANDERS RIP Joss's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Thursday 21st September at 12.15pm.

ST. ALBANS The Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral takes place at 12 noon every Friday in the Lady Chapel. All are welcome. *Fr. Norbert will celebrate this Mass on 22nd September.*

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