



**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

**17th September, 2023**

**Parish Priest** Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234 [norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk)

**Assistant Priest** Fr. Marco Salvagnini 01707 327434 [marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Email: [wgc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:wgc@rcdow.org.uk)

Website [wgc-catholics.org.uk](http://wgc-catholics.org.uk)

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

I would like to take the occasion to introduce myself to the parish community as I'm starting my new appointment as an assistant priest here in Welwyn Garden City. I'm Italian from Padua, the third eldest of nine siblings. My parents brought me up to the faith since I was a child as all my family belongs to the Neocatechumenal Way which is one of the ecclesiastical realities born as a fruit of the Second Vatican Council. The Neocatechumenal Way is an ongoing itinerary of Christian initiation in faith for both young and adult people. Through it, not only I was able to experience the love of God for me through the Church, in a concrete community of people who strive to grow in faith and put into practice the Word of God, but I also saw how God has a plan of salvation and love for each person.

Therefore, little by little, I have been helped to see more clearly the presence of God in my life and to discern his will for me. This eventually led me to discern the calling of God to become a priest and brought me here to England in 2011.

After a time of formation spent discerning and preparing myself for the priesthood, I was ordained two years ago for the Diocese of Westminster. Over the past two years, I had the grace of serving as an assistant priest in the parish of Our Lady of Victories in High Street Kensington. It has been a challenging yet very rewarding experience where once again I saw the faithfulness of God and how he works through me in spite of my weaknesses and fears.

I was able to grow in confidence and joy in the priestly ministry he entrusted to me and I'm eager to start serving in this parish community. To him be the glory. I look forward to getting to know you. Please pray for me. **Fr. Marco**

**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](mailto:anna.skiba@gmail.com)

**Polska Msza** odbędzie się w sobotę 30 września o 18.00 w kościele Our Lady. Po Mszy organizowane 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](mailto: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 or Fr. Marco if you wish to arrange the Baptism of your child and they 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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

**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](mailto: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 leaves us on Monday 18th September. There will be coffee and cake in the Sacristy after 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's to say 'Adios!'

**MONSIGNOR HARRY TURNER** will celebrate 8am and 10.30 Masses this Sunday. We are grateful to him 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.

**CHURCH CLEANING** will take place at Holy Family on Wednesday 20th September when tea and coffee have finished after the 9.30 am Mass. Volunteers to help us with cleaning would be very welcome.

#### **OPEN EVENINGS**

**Loreto College** Tuesday 26th September 4.30 - 7.30pm

**St. John Henry Newman School** Thursday 28th September 5.30 - 8.30pm

**Nicholas Breakspear School** Thursday 5th October 5.30 - 8.30pm

**PRIEST'S REFERENCE** for Secondary School Transfer. Fr. Norbert will announce next weekend how this will happen.

**ENROLMENT FOR THE SACRAMENTS** of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation (for teenagers) will be announced next weekend.

**MASS INTENTIONS** *These can be booked through Fr. Norbert*

16 Saturday

6pm Our Lady Fr. Marco's Intention

17 Sunday **TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8am St. Bonaventure Robi Brand's Intention

9.30am Holy Family Joss Innocent Landers RIP

10.30am St. Bonaventure Roy D'Cunha RIP

11.30am Our Lady

6pm Holy Family Biddy Boyle RIP

18 Monday

9.30am Our Lady

19 Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure

7pm Our Lady Maureen Louth RIP

20 Wednesday *St. Andrew Kim Taegon and his Companions (Korean Martyrs)*

9.30am Holy Family Rosemary McGovern (sick)

21 Thursday **St. Matthew** *Apostle and Evangelist*

9.30am Holy Family

12.15pm Holy Family Joss Innocent Landers RIP Funeral Mass

22 Friday

9.30am St. Bonaventure

7pm Our Lady

23 Saturday *St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)*

10am St. Bonaventure George Guinda RIP

6pm Our Lady Franco Braganza RIP (month's mind)

**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.

**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) Saturday's 6pm Mass will be streamed at 10am on Sunday 17th.