

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. William Johnstone
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 3rd July 2022

In today's Gospel reading from St. Luke, Jesus appoints 72 to go ahead of him. There are some important phrases that the Lord uses: 'The harvest is rich...ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.' Later, we hear, 'Let your first words be: "Peace to this house"..."The Kingdom of God is very near to you."' After the 72 return rejoicing at how God has worked through them, Jesus tells them 'Rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'

Just picture the unfolding scene of the Lord on his way to Jerusalem, starting a multitude of mini-journeys with these others sent out in pairs. Do they know what lies in store for them? Do they realise that they too are still part of the trek up to the great city? They are the labourers, the proclaimers, the emissaries of peace. Their response to the Lord's commission results in a power stronger than evil emanating from them and being lavished upon people yearning to be set free.

Where does this leave US? Sunday by Sunday we return to tell the Lord about our week, seeking forgiveness for what has gone wrong and full of thanksgiving for blessings received. At the Eucharist the divine power of God is revealed in our Saviour's triumph over sin and evil through the Cross. In the every day, God's grace can be transmitted through us to call another person into Christ's embrace. God chooses to do this through us! So often, especially with the suffering we see in Ukraine, with the continuing scourge of the pandemic, we can feel utterly powerless. The Lord reminds us to call on him and to experience the strength he gives. May this be a sign each of us offers to those around us!

God bless you and have a good week. With love and prayers, ***Fr. Norbert***

FATHER WILLIAM writes: 'I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes, cards and gifts on the occasion of my first anniversary of priesthood. Last Sunday was a really joyful day. I am very grateful for the three receptions I was given, firstly at the Holy Family coffee morning and then at St Bonaventure's after the 10.30am Mass, thirdly the CWL coffee morning at Our Lady's which they invited me to and presented me with a card. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to these. It was wonderful to give thanks to God for the gift of my vocation and to be able to share this with you. Please keep me in your prayers as I embark on my second year as a priest.'

NEW PARISH HALL Much hard work is going on behind the scenes to help us move forward towards a formal opening of our new Parish Hall - Trinity Hall. The key issue is how it will be managed and the system of bookings. So many individuals, families and groups are ready to sign up. Hopefully there will be more news soon.

BARBECUE organised by the African Community for the people of our three parishes and beyond will take place today (Sunday 3rd) after the 11.30 Mass. The new hall will be in use and so this will be regarded as a 'test event' when we can monitor safety and other issues arising from a big event. The African Community are going to provide burgers, chicken piri-piri wings, pork and lamb sausages and vegetable skewers; there'll be salads too. The parish will provide the drinks. All are welcome.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Any couples wanting to marry this year or next either in WGC or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert to organise the paperwork and the Marriage Course. Thank you.

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

STREAMED MASS youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches We continue to stream Mass at 10am on Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS Fr. Norbert and Fr. William are celebrating the Mass Intentions week by week. If anyone wants Mass offered for a particular intention, please let them know. Donations for the Masses should be put in an envelope and given to Fr. Norbert or Fr. William or popped through the letterbox of one of the presbyteries. We are now publishing in the newsletter the intentions for the coming week.

CHURCH CLEANING The cleaning of St. Bonaventure's takes place this Tuesday at 10am. New volunteers are welcome. Our thanks to all who keep our churches clean and tidy and those who take care of the grounds. This is much appreciated.

CHAPEL at Our Lady's is open every weekday 7am until 6pm.

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 is the celebrant on 26th August.

SVP COLLECTION takes place this weekend after all Masses.

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK organised by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVP) will be on Saturday 16th July at 12 noon in the Focolare Centre on Parkway (next to St. Bonaventure's). During this celebration the priest lays hands on the head of the sick person and then anoints their forehead and the palms of their hands with the Oil of the Sick which was blessed by the Cardinal just before Easter. This Sacrament is a powerful reminder to us of the action of Christ's healing grace through the priest together with the prayer of the community for those who are sick or infirm. Fr. Frank Leonard and Monsignor Harry Turner will be coming to help Fr. Norbert and Fr. William. Afterwards there will be refreshments to which all are invited.

FUNERALS Teresa Sturt's Funeral Mass will be at Ealing Abbey, Charlbury Grove, London W5 2DY on Tuesday 12th July at 11.30am.

Barbara Gill's Funeral Service will be at Our Lady's on Friday 15th July at 10am.

FIRST FRIDAY Many adults and children have attended the early morning Mass. A huge 'Thank you' to the parishioner who prepares the breakfast and those who clear up afterwards. Next 6.30am Mass Friday 5th August.

SUPPLY PRIEST Monsignor Harry Turner has kindly agreed to celebrate the 7pm Masses at Our Lady's on Tuesday and Friday this week. We are most grateful to him for helping out.

SPANISH PRIEST Fr. Antonio Guerrero Quesada from the Diocese of Jaen in Spain has asked to come to Welwyn Garden City to improve his English and to discover the life of the Church in England. He is currently studying Scripture in Rome. All the necessary paperwork and testimonial have been completed and approved by the Vicar General. Fr. Antonio will arrive on 27th August and leave us on 20th September. If any of you would like to host him, take him out for the day or give him time to practise his English, please let Fr. Norbert know in due course.

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 foodbank@newzioncf.net and you will be given details as to how to make a donation.

TRANSPORT TO MASS If any parishioners need a lift to Mass the Transport to Mass Group is there! If anyone can offer a lift, please contact Kay Mason on 01707 335633. All necessary safeguarding and health and safety guidelines will be followed.

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CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 5pm-5.30pm Our Lady
Thursdays 10am - 10.30am Holy Family
Saturdays 10.30am - 11am St. Bonaventure

Website wgc-catholics.org.uk

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION Hall Grove Group Practice are looking for translators when some patients come to the surgeries are unable to explain properly in English what the problem is. The languages needed are Farsi, Arabic, Polish, Ukranian, Syrian. If you can help contact the practice on 01707 328528 (Hall Grove surgery) or 01707 332233 (Parkway surgery) and speak to Anne Knight Practice Manager.

CAN YOU HELP a Syrian family, in Letchworth, who need a laptop. The family, of three adults and four children, are refugees from the conflict in Syrian. Contact- (johnfogarty676@gmail.com, tel' 01707 395535). Thank you. Also volunteers are needed to help local asylum seekers families improve their English. Contact Caroline Herring if you would like to help: caroline.herring@hwsf.org

MASS TIMES

02 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady	Cherna Family intentions.
03 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Holy Family	Hanne Flynn Sheridan (R.I.P.)
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	People of the Parish
	11.30am	Our Lady	John Maguire R.I.P.)
	6pm	Holy Family	Elisa and her parents
04 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady	Michael Maher (R.I.P. anniversary)
05 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Our Lady	Evelyn and Esme (R.I.P.)
06 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Susan Cains (R.I.P.)
07 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Margaret Healy (R.I.P.)
08 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Our Lady	Rafael Velho Pereira R.I.P.
09 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Hannah, Margaret and Mary (R.I.P.)
	6pm	Our Lady	Peter Bonass (R.I.P. Birthday)

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 2nd July

Amos 9:11-15 Future restoration of many things by God

Matthew 9:14-17 The newness of Christ's presence in our lives

Sunday 3rd July FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 66:10-14 'Your heart will rejoice.'

Galatians 6:14-18 The Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 10:1-12,17-20 The 72 are sent out. They return and give an account of what happened.

Monday 4th July

Hosea 2:16,17-18,21-22 'I will betroth you to myself with integrity and justice, with tenderness and love...with faithfulness.'

Matthew 9:18-26 Faith and healing

Tuesday 5th July

Hosea 8:4-7,11-13 The infidelity of the people

Matthew 9:32-37 Jesus feels sorry for the crowds who are harassed and ejected.

Wednesday 6th July

Hosea 10:1-3,7-8,12 'Their heart is a divided heart.'

Matthew 10:1-7 The names of the Twelve.

Thursday 7th July

Hosea 11:1-4,8-9 God's intimate love for his people.

Matthew 10:7-15 The sending out of the Twelve.

Friday 8th July

Hosea 14:2-10 'I will love them with all my heart.'

Matthew 10:16-23 'Do not worry about how to speak or what you are to say....the Spirit of your Father will be speaking in you.'