

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tony Thomas

Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard

The Most Holy Trinity 30th May 2021

It's hard to believe that we have nearly completed five months of the calendar year! Time races by and while we have an easing of so many regulations there is much to think about in regard to a return to 'normal'. Obviously we are all aware of the new strain and possible additional challenges as people return from abroad. We have to be so careful and keep up our guard whilst allowing an enjoyment of life to animate us.

In our Gospel reading today, the Church takes us to the final verses of St. Matthew's Gospel as we celebrate Trinity Sunday. Jesus gives the Great Commission, sending his Apostles out to all nations, baptising in the name of the Trinity and teaching his commands. He ends with those powerful words: 'Know that I am with you; yes, to the end of time.' The evangelist describes the disciples worshipping the Lord though some hesitated. He fills us with hope and confidence in the abiding presence of Jesus. We are left with the image of sending out; this continues in our day.

In our present situation, we cannot go to the nations! Travel and a venturing out are not as straightforward as they might have been centuries ago! We have transport and speed but not the permission. The first Apostles made use of what we would regard as primitive modes of transport and managed to get everywhere! Someone people are ready to jump back into ordinary life; others are slowly feeling their way forward and are hesitant.

Let us never forget that our God, who is the source of all creation, desired to come to share our lives and offer us a pathway to his eternal life and love. The life of the Trinity is revealed in Jesus Christ who was obedient to the Father, filled with the

Spirit and became the revelation of the Eternal Word who became flesh for our salvation. Jesus Christ shows us humanity at its very best and is the pattern of how we can and should be with the strength of divine grace.

Let us ask God to watch over us all in the coming months and to bless us in all we undertake. With much love, *Fr. Norbert*

SACRAMENTS

Fr Norbert and Fr Tony are to review how the latest government guidelines affect the Covid-secure measures we have implemented in our parishes. Baptisms, wedding and funerals can all take place. *Please note that it is important to check in advance with Fr Norbert or Fr Tony to find out how many people can attend these liturgies.*

Baptism If you are thinking about Baptism of your child, contact Fr. Tony or Fr. Norbert to arrange a date.

Weddings If you are planning to get married this year or next in WGC or beyond, please let Fr. Norbert know so that the necessary preparation and paperwork can be organised.

Funerals Potential Funeral attendees MUST check with the immediate bereaved family that there is space and NOT turn up unexpectedly.

CONFIRMATION MASSES Congratulations to the newly confirmed young people. They need our prayers as they move into the future. We have completed all the Confirmation celebrations. Our thanks to catechists, musicians and singers, those who prepared the flowers and our stewards.

MASS INTENTIONS Fr. Norbert and Fr. Tony are celebrating the Mass Intentions week by week. If anyone wants Mass offered for a particular intention, please let Fr. Norbert or Fr. Tony know. Donations for the Masses should be put in an envelope and given to one of the priests or popped through the letterbox of one of the presbyteries.. The intentions will be published in the newsletter as below.

This week Masses have been celebrated for: Patrick Ryan RIP, Joan Patricia Davey RIP, Brian Hall RIP Anniv, Special Intention, Harry Carrick RIP Funeral, Josie Bell RIP, Rosa Joan D’Cunha RIP Anniv

**PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF MASS
IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY**

*Places of Worship can remain open. We are doing all we can to keep people safe.
This schedule of Masses will continue at least until September/October.*

Saturday

10am Mass at Holy Family

6pm Mass at Our Lady's

Sunday

10am Mass at Our Lady's

6pm Mass at Holy Family

Monday 31st May

10am Mass at Our Lady's

Tuesday

9.30am Mass at Holy Family

Wednesday

No Mass

Thursday

9.30am Mass at Holy Family

Friday

7pm Mass at Our Lady's

CONFESSION Only by appointment - Fr. Tony on 01707 327434 or Fr. Norbert on 01707 323234. *All necessary precautions have to be undertaken in terms of distancing and the safety of priest and penitent.*

FR. TONY has been asked by the Cardinal to become a Parish Priest, which sadly means he will leave us after the summer. We are grateful for all Fr. Tony has done to contribute to the life of our parishes. Unfortunately, he does not yet know where he is going. In due course, we will find a way of expressing our appreciation and saying 'Farewell'. The new Assistant Priest for Welwyn Garden City has been announced by the Vicar General - we are going to welcome William Johnstone, at present a deacon, who is to be ordained priest on 26th June. He will join us in September. For now let us keep Fr. Tony and Deacon William in our prayers.

STREAMED MASS

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

We continue to stream Mass on Sunday at 10am

FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/Welwyn-Garden-City-Catholic-Churches-113038463699672/>

Gospel reflections, the latest news, live rosaries and so on.

MASS ON RADIO

If you are aware of someone not on the internet who would like to follow Mass, RTE Radio broadcasts Mass on 252 Longwave. For those who have a digital radio, Radio Maria broadcasts in London on DAB+ and in the Cambridge area on DAB.

OUR LADY'S CHAPEL looks out onto the car park of the new Parish Hall which means that people can come to the windows and look into the Chapel and see the Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady's statue. Not ideal in the cold, but a possible place to offer a (quick) prayer.

BANK HOLIDAY On Monday 31st May there will only be Mass at 10am at Our Lady's. (No evening Mass).

MAY DEVOTIONS On Monday 31st May the Rosary and other prayers will be recited after 10am Mass to mark the Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady to her cousin Elizabeth. If the weather is good, we will gather outside near the statue of Our Lady at the front of the church and we will be able to sing! Stay afterwards if you are free. It will be a wonderful way of closing the month of May.

HALF-TERM We wish our children and staff a refreshing half-term holiday. Soon it'll be the summer! Our thanks to the Governors who work so hard behind the scenes.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF OUR PARISHES Fr. Norbert writes: We have had the standing order campaign and many of you have taken the forms. Please return them to one of the presbyteries. If you did not get one, ask either Fr. Tony or Fr. Norbert. Thank you for your co-operation, generosity and encouragement, all of which are much appreciated.

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.

SIGNED MASSES On the first Sunday of the month at 4.30pm, there will be a signed Mass streamed with a split screen: Shell Roca, Director of the Deaf Service, will respond in sign as Fr. Norbert celebrates the Mass in sign. This will be in place of the monthly Mass from the Cathedral. All welcome to follow and please give the details to any deaf or hard of hearing people you know. Next Mass on Sunday 6th June available from 4.30pm.

ST ALBANS The Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral takes place at 12 noon every Friday. Admission to the Cathedral Mass does not require ticketing and there is social distancing in a very big space in the nave. All welcome!

COVID-SECURE MEASURES IN CHURCH

Extensive new guidelines have been issued following the easing of government restrictions on 17th May. In the coming days Fr Norbert and Fr Tony will review these guidelines and, in due course, announce how they impact the Covid-secure measures we have implemented in church. Your safety and comfort remain our overriding priority

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK
BEGINNING 30TH MAY**

Saturday 29th May

Ecclesiasticus 51:17-27 'I am determined to put wisdom into practice!'

Mark 11:27-33 A question about Jesus' authority for his actions

Sunday 30th May MOST HOLY TRINITY

Deuteronomy 4:32-34,39-40 The Lord is God!

Romans 8:14-17 The Trinity in our lives

Matthew 28:16-20 'I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Monday 31st May THE VISITATION OF OUR LADY TO ELIZABETH

Zephaniah 3:14-18 'Shout for joy...rejoice...exult with all your heart!'

Luke 1:39-56 Mary's song of joy

Tuesday 1st June St. Justin (Died 165) Martyr of the early Church whose writings give us a great insight into the life of the Community.

Tobit 2:9-14 Tobit loses his sight

Mark 12:13-17 'Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar?'

Wednesday 2nd June

Tobit 3:1-11,16-17 Raphael is sent to bring various kinds of healing

Mark 12:18-27 God is the God of the living!

**Thursday 3rd June St. Charles Lwanga and his 21 Companions (Died 1885/7)
Ugandan Martyrs**

Tobit 6:10-11, 7:1,9-14, 8:4-9 Tobias and Sarah pray together on the night before their Wedding

Mark 12:28-34 The Greatest Commandment

Friday 4th June

Tobit 11:5-17 Raphael restores Tobit's sight

Mark 12:35-37 Most people listened to Jesus with delight