

# 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*

***Corpus Christi 6th June 2021***

St. Mark takes us to the scene of the Last Supper in today's Gospel reading for Corpus Christi. The significance of Jesus' actions unfolds in his taking bread and wine and pronouncing them to be his Body and his Blood, the ultimate signs of his love revealed in his Passion, Death and Resurrection. What would it have been like to be present? Looking at the faces of his disciples, what would you have learned? Watching those Sacred hands clutching the unleavened bread and clasping the cup of wine, would the intensity of love have overwhelmed you? This saving Sacrifice and Sacred Banquet formed such an amazing parting gift to his friends and, in turn, to us.

This coming Friday I will celebrate 33 years of being a priest. What is so wonderful is that I have never got bored or fed up with what the Lord has asked of me! The parish setting puts me in touch with you, the variety of your lives, the challenges we face together and the joys we experience. No two days are the same with doorbells and phone calls, the expected and the unexpected, the mysterious and the mundane. For me, the heightened moment of my ministry and calling comes at the Eucharist: WE are together - live or through the internet; the Lord is intimately close to us, sharing passionate love through his offering of himself to the Father; heaven and earth touch one another in an amazing exchange; we are united with a multitude across the world and in God's presence; in a moment of sheer bliss, time is not the most important consideration. When I speak in persona Christi (in the person of Christ), the words uttered by the Lord at the Last Supper: 'This is my Body...this is my Blood', I am aware of you and consciously draw you into this mystical consecration of the earthly into the heavenly, the human into the divine. We are all members of Christ's Body, offered to the Father. Jesus Christ, who nourishes us with his very life, draws us into a profound act of worship. It is not always easy to find

words adequate enough to express the reality; nevertheless God breaks into our lives and supports us in our journey to him.

Today's great Solemnity gives us an opportunity to reflect on the Eucharist and say 'Thank you' to God for this gift. The Church presents us with teaching to get our minds and hearts racing as we fathom the enormity of what it means for bread and wine to become Christ's Body and Blood, to be our nourishment and food for the journey to heaven.

May God bless you and all your loved ones. You are in my prayers.

With much love, *Fr. Norbert*

## SACRAMENTS

Fr Norbert and Fr Tony are going 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.

**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: Marie Crowley RIP, Kosi and Odera Anyaegbunam's Intentions, Augustus Joachim RIP, Gerry Hurrell RIP Funeral, Celia Howley RIP Funeral, Bernadette Strickland RIP Funeral, Josie Bell RIP, Audrey Isherwood RIP, Mary Free RIP, In thanksgiving to St Jude, Marion Moore RIP

**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. He still does not 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 will be 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.

**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](mailto: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 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!

## **CATHOLIC TEACHING ON OUR LADY**

*Fr Tony writes:* Following the enjoyable series of courses we ran on Zoom during lockdown, we are going to hold a couple of standalone, follow-up events over the summer. The first will be a session covering Catholic teaching on Mary, on Thursday 24th June at 8.00pm. We will watch a video called 'The Woman' which explains the doctrines of Mary the Mother of God; the Immaculate Conception; Mary's Perpetual Virginity; and Mary's Assumption into heaven. There will also be discussion afterwards. For Zoom details of further information, please email Adam Coeur-de-Lion on [adamcdlion@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:adamcdlion@yahoo.co.uk). All welcome!

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 6TH JUNE**

**Saturday 5th June** St. Boniface (675-754) Englishman who took the Gospel to Germany and served as a Bishop and died a Martyr

Tobit 12:1,5-15,20 Raphael's tasks are completed

Mark 12:38-44 The poor widow gives everything

### **Sunday 6th June CORPUS CHRISTI**

Exodus 24:3-8 The blood of the Covenant is sprinkled on the people and on the altar

Hebrews 9:11-15 The New Covenant in Christ's blood.

Mark 14:12-16,22-26 The Last Supper

### **Monday 7th June**

2 Corinthians 1:1-7 Consolation, comfort and salvation

Matthew 5:1-12 The Sermon on the Mount begins with the Beatitudes

### **Tuesday 8th June**

2 Corinthians 1:18-22 The Son of God's Yes!

Matthew 5:13-16 You are salt....you are light

### **Wednesday 9th June**

2 Corinthians 3:4-11 The New Covenant in the Spirit gives life

Matthew 5:17-19 Greatness through keeping and teaching the Lord's commandments

### **Thursday 10th June**

2 Corinthians 3:15 - 4:1,3-6 The work of the Lord who is Spirit

Matthew 5:20-26 'But I say this to you...'

### **Friday 11th June MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

Hosea 11:1,3-4,8-9 God's tender love

Ephesians 3:8-12,14-19 Knowing the love of God...

John 19:31-37 Blood and water flowed from the side of Jesus