

# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tom Montgomery  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## *The Nativity of St. John the Baptist 24th June 2018 page 167 of the Mass Book*

*From Cardinal Vincent Nichols:* Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

In Westminster Cathedral lie the mortal remains of St John Southworth, who has a very special place in our history and in our hearts. He was ordained a priest in 1619 at the English College in Douai, in northern France, at a time when it was impossible to prepare men for the Catholic priesthood in this country. This year, Douai College is celebrating its 450th anniversary. The College is a crucial part of Catholic survival and heritage, succeeded first by St Edmund's College in Ware, and then by Allen Hall, Chelsea. To be a Catholic priest in England in those days was considered to be an act of treason and punished by the cruel death of hanging, drawing and quartering. This is how St John Southworth died on 28 June 1654 at Tyburn, near Marble Arch in central London. He had ministered in the streets of central London, around Westminster, to those impoverished and sick because of the plague. St John Southworth is a key patron saint of the priests of this Diocese. He is an inspiration and an intercessor for us. Next Saturday, in the Cathedral, six men will be ordained priests for service in our parishes. During the singing of the Litany of the Saints, they will prostrate themselves, face down on the floor. In their midst will be the prostrate body of this Martyr. But he lies face up, reflecting the glory of God shining in him as he now enjoys the fullness of God's grace in heaven. He is indeed our special patron.

Today I ask you to pray for all our priests who strive to express in their daily ministry the same dedication to the mission of Jesus Our Lord as he did. Like him, they depend on the support and love of faithful people. For St John Southworth that was literally a matter of life and death. While that deadly drama has ended, over the centuries a marvellous tradition has remained of genuine love for priests and a readiness to support them, through thick and thin. I ask you, today, to continue that tradition and share it with your families. Of course, we priests and bishops are sinners. There is no hiding our mistakes and faults. Indeed, we have learned painfully, that trying to hide major failures, especially in relation to the most vulnerable, seriously compounds the failures and betrayals that so damages our shared mission. Today I express my sorrow at our failings and I ask for your patience, forbearance and, indeed, forgiveness. In the Church, we are bound together in Christ Jesus. He is full of mercy. We can only strive to show that mercy to each other, always and everywhere.

At Mass today we hear these words: 'The Lord called me before I was born, from my mother's womb he pronounced my name' (Isaiah 49:1). Today they are applied to St John the Baptist. Yet they are words of truth for everyone who hears them, for each of us has a God-given purpose in our lives. Pray, then, for each other, that you may all have that same sense of purpose and dedication in your life. Then you will pray with joy, as I do, the words of today's Psalm: 'I thank you, Lord, for the wonder of my being' (Psalm 138).

**ST PETER AND ST PAUL** This Friday (29th) is the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul. It is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks Catholics to attend Mass. Masses will be at 9.30am (please note at Holy Family Church), 12 noon at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm at Our Lady's.

**FIRST FRIDAY** The next early morning Mass at St. Bonaventure's will be on Friday 6th July at 6.30am followed by breakfast in the hall. All welcome.

**MONTHLY ADORATION** The next 'Restoration' Holy Hour will be on Friday 13th July at 7.45pm in Our Lady's Church. The Holy Hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, worship music, reflections and silence. All are welcome.

**SAM TOBIN RIP** Sam's Funeral will be this Monday (25th) at 11.30am at St. Bonaventure's.

**VIRGINIA REES RIP** Virginia's Memorial Mass will be at Holy Family Church this Wednesday (27th) at 11am. (Her family will have a Service at the Crematorium beforehand.) Please note that there will not be a 9.30 Mass that morning at Holy Family Church.

**PHILOMENA FLANAGAN RIP** Philomena's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Monday 9th July at 12.30pm.

**JOE LAGGAN RIP** Joe's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Friday 20th July at 1.30pm. His body will be received into the church on Thursday at 4.30pm.

**AVIGNON** Some places have become available on the Pilgrimage to Avignon (Sunday 23rd - Friday 28th September). If you are interested, please contact Pax Travel directly on 020 7485 3003.

**BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE TASTER COURSE** Shell Roca who is Director of the Diocesan Deaf Service is offering a six-week course at Our Lady's in the autumn. There will be Deaf awareness, tips for communicating with the Deaf and hard of hearing, finger-spelling, basic sign language, i.e. every day greetings, Liturgical sign language, Hail Mary, Our Father and the Mass responses. The dates are on Wednesdays 7.00 - 8.00pm (in the sacristy): 3rd, 10th & 17th October and 7th, 14th & 21st November. The cost of the course will be £30 to cover the materials etc. There are booking forms available at the back of our churches. Please fill one in and return directly to Shell.

**PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL** will be meeting next on Wednesday 27th June at 7.30pm. If you would like any matters raised, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**TRANSPORT TO MASS SERVICE** Several parishioners are now being given regular lifts to the Mass of their choice by our volunteer drivers. If you know of anybody in need of transport or feel you could offer a regular or occasional service as a driver please fill in a yellow or pink form at the back of each church or contact Kay on 01707 335633.

**FOOD BANK** New Zion Christian Fellowship which runs the Food Bank on Cole Green Lane every Wednesday 9.00 - 11.00am is very grateful for all the donations made. Please ensure that tins and packets of food are in date and that egg cartons are for six eggs only. Donations of unused toiletries would also be most welcome. There are baskets at the back of each of our churches for this purpose.

**LORETO COLLEGE PAST PUPILS' REUNION** Saturday 30th June. Did you attend Loreto College, St. Albans? If so why not come along to the past pupils' reunion from 2.30 - 4.30pm next Saturday? Please email [loretoreunion@outlook.com](mailto:loretoreunion@outlook.com) for more information or to let them know you are coming.

**MASS INTENTIONS** If you would like a Mass said at Holy Family in the near future i.e. in July/August there are days available. You may phone the parish office, email [parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk](mailto:parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk) or speak to Fr. Norbert or Fr. Tom.

**EXAMINATIONS** Public examinations are coming to an end. We hope all has gone well - enjoy your summer! Many internal tests and exams are coming up...may God's Spirit guide you.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH CLEANING** will take place on Monday 25th June from 11.30 am. If anyone can spare any time to help our very depleted band of helpers it would be very greatly appreciated.

**TASTES AND COLOURS OF SYRIA** You are invited to a fund-raising event for the Focolare Community in Syria - an evening with a taste of Syrian food and a quiz. Moris and Reem Abd, a Syrian family living in Welwyn Garden City - will lead us on a very special journey. Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7.30pm Focolare Centre.(Suggested contribution £10)

**ST ALBANS** Every Friday at St. Albans Abbey-Cathedral a Catholic Mass is celebrated at 12noon. You are all welcome.

**AFRICAN MASS** will be on Sunday 8th July at 11.30am. The parishioners of various African countries will lead Mass and have a party afterwards in the hall with food and dance. All are welcome.

**POLISH-ENGLISH MASS** has been set for Saturday 22nd September at 6pm at Our Lady's.

**CAMINO** from Opporto to Santiago de Compostella Saturday 25th May - Sunday 2nd June 2019. Brochures with booking forms are at the back of our churches. If you would like one emailed to you, please contact Fr. Norbert on [welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk)

In 2020 there will be an Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Assisi 25th - 30th May and the Passion Play in Oberammergau 9th - 11th September.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** Cardinal Vincent is leading the diocesan pilgrimage on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. A coach will be going from the deanery with pick up points from Holy Family, (where parking is available), Stevenage and Royston. The cost for the day is £17.50 per person. See the poster at the back of church for full details. See Fr Tom to book a place on the coach (or call him on 01707 327434 or email [tommontgomery@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:tommontgomery@rcdow.org.uk) )

**CWL** The Catholic Women's League are having their annual Tombola Stall at The Peartree Fun Day. If you have any toiletries, toys, jewellery etc that you no longer need (or you need the space), please can you bring it to Our Lady's before Saturday, 14th July, or ring Anne Davidson on 01707 327569 to arrange for collection

**THE MIXED GROUP** are holding an Afternoon Tea at Mill Green Museum on 7<sup>th</sup> July from 1.00 to 4.00pm with entertainment. Donation will be £15 and the proceeds enable us to arrange the Christmas Day Dinner for the Lonely and Elderly with presents as well as a Cream Tea during the Summer for all our guests and others.

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** Any couples wishing to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should speak to Fr. Norbert so that the necessary preparations can be made.

**HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP** are looking for new volunteers. If you are interested please contact Sarah Duffey (07984 253426) or Fr. Norbert, or come along to the Children's Liturgy group meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd July in the parish room

**GARDENER AVAILABLE** to maintain the beauty of your garden. Lawn cutting, edging, hedge cutting, pruning shrubs and roses and weeding. Call Daniel on 07751992492.

**MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP** meets on Wednesdays from 10am -11.30am in the hall at St. Bonaventure's

**Fr. Norbert 01707 323234**  
**welwyngdncityeast@rcdow.org.uk**  
Our Lady's Church  
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
**parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk**  
St. Bonaventure's Church  
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

**Fr. Tom 01707 327434**  
**welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk**  
Holy Family Church  
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

**OUR LADY'S PARISH CENTRE**  
Bookings should be made with Phil  
Johnson 01707 377442

**Website for our 3 parishes**  
**www.wgc-catholics.org.uk**

**CONFESSIONS**  
Holy Family: Thursday **10am**  
St. Bonaventure: Saturday **10.30am -11am**  
Our Lady's: Saturday **5pm -5.30pm.**

**GARDEN RETREAT** in the beautiful grounds of Rosary Priory and the Niland Centre with Sr Laurentia Carroll OP & Sr Anne Walsh OP on Tuesday, 10th July from 10.00 am - 3.30 pm. We hunger for beauty. Nourish your soul and your senses. Please bring a packed lunch (tea/coffee provided) & rain gear (precaution). Suggested donation £14. Registrations welcome at nilandcentre@gmail.com or 020 8950 4000. Niland Conference Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE.

**FR. MARK CONNOLLY CSSp** (Holy Ghost/Spiritan Fathers) who was the first priestly vocation from Welwyn Garden City, will be celebrating his Golden Jubilee (50 years!) of Priesthood on Friday 21st September at 7pm at Our Lady's where he was ordained priest. Please keep the date free and watch this space!

### **MASS TIMES**

25 Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	feria
	11.30am	Funeral Mass	St. Bonaventure	
26 Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
27 Wednesday	*11am*	Memorial Mass	Holy Family	St. John Southworth
28 Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	St. Irenaeus
29 Friday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	SS Peter and Paul
	12noon	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
30 Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	feria
	<b>Thirteenth Sunday of the Year</b>			
30 Saturday	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's	
01 Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family	
	10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure	
	11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's	
	6pm	Mass	Holy Family	



**CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS:** If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact **Chaplaincy Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333 via text message: 07876 526935 email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net**