

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*

***Easter Sunday 17th April 2022
including Second Sunday of Easter 24th April***

A new beginning! God's Son who died on the Cross has risen from the dead - ALLELUIA! We have completed Lent and walked with the Lord through the Sacred Triduum. Now we bask in the light of the Resurrection for 50 days. I can remember trying to keep an Easter egg for each day of the Easter Season, to keep alive the joy of the Eastertide - not such a good idea in terms of sugar and one's figure!

Think about this year 2022 and what will help you keep alive the strength of your faith in the Risen Lord. What are you grateful to God for? How does Easter impact on your motivation and your hopes for the future? Would you be able each day for the next 50 days to find something or someone you want to say 'Thank you' to God for? This year we have the new members who have joined the Church - congratulations and blessings. There are people who have come to church for the first time and feel welcome - wonderful! There are those who have moved to the area from other parts of this country or from abroad - let's hope they settle down very quickly. Life brings many challenges but there is so often a smiling face, a kind word, the giving of time - surely gratitude beyond measure for these! As I reflect in these few moments, I already feel uplifted and happier - better than an Easter egg a day!

The Mass is Christ's Act of Thanksgiving to the Father from the Cross and his gratitude for the New Life of Resurrection. Just ponder that he really died...for you and for me - for humanity. He understands our sufferings and how overwhelming they can be. The agony of our world is at the heart of his self-giving; so, we hand over to him Ukraine and other lands torn apart by strife. Every time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are immersed in the joyful thanksgiving of Easter which radiates from his Cross and then the Tomb.

We ask God to bless Fr. William who has celebrated his first Easter as a Catholic Priest. Happy Easter and may God watch you and your loved ones. With much love, ***Fr. Norbert***

EASTER ANTHEM TO OUR LADY

Regina coeli, laetare, alleluia!

Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia!

Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia!

Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia!

O Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia!

Because he whom thou didst merit to bear, alleluia,

Has risen as he said, alleluia!

Pray for us to God, alleluia!

THANK YOU to so many who have helped us in our three churches to get ready for Easter and its celebration: musicians and singers, altar servers, readers and Eucharistic Ministers, church cleaners and flower arrangers, those who have prepared the Easter Candles and Easter Garden and all who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support everything which takes place. We hope you can enjoy a well-deserved rest! Fr. William and Fr. Norbert want to express their appreciation for the Easter cards and gifts they have received, the prayers and encouragement offered. Thank you!

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 parishes. The intentions celebrated will be published in the newsletter as below.

This week Masses have been celebrated for: People of the Parishes, John Kemp RIP Anniv, People of Ukraine, Fr. Emidio Alessandrini OFM RIP Anniv, John Davin RIP Funeral, John Maguire RIP, Deceased members of Amerigo and Araujo families, Con Gilhooly RIP Birthday, Cyrina Igbonusi RIP, Rafael Velho Pereira RIP, Francis Joseph Grimer (90th Birthday).

JOHN MAGUIRE RIP John's Funeral Mass will be at St. Bonaventure's on Friday 29th April at 12.30pm.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY will be celebrated in the Church's Calendar on Tuesday 26th April as the Easter Octave takes precedence over it.

HOLY FAMILY COFFEE GROUP will be serving coffee after Mass every Wednesday.

NEWSLETTER Next newsletter will be published weekend of 30th April/1st May.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Congratulations to the 80 or so children who made their First Confession before Easter. There will be an afternoon workshop for all parents and children in Our Lady's Church on Saturday 23rd April to get ready for First Holy Communion. The First Communion Masses will be as follows: Sunday 1st May 11.30am at Our Lady's, Sunday 8th May 10.30am at St. Bonaventure's, Sunday 15th May 9.30am at Holy Family & 11.30am at Our Lady's. Please keep the children in your prayers.

CONFIRMATION There will be an Afternoon Retreat for all the Confirmation candidates at the Focolare Centre on Sunday 8th May 2.30 - 5.00 pm. Bishop Paul McAleenan will confirm the 47 young people at Our Lady's on Friday 13th May at 7.30pm. Please keep these Confirmandi in your prayers.

HALF-TERM WEEK Looking ahead there will only be 10am Mass each day 30th May until 3rd June. There are two Bank Holidays that week to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

FIRST FRIDAY There will be 6.30am Mass at St. Bonaventure's on Friday 6th May followed by breakfast in the Hall. All are welcome. With 3rd June being a Bank Holiday, there will NOT be 6.30am Mass on that day.

DIVINE MERCY Devotions will take place at Holy Family Church on Sunday 24th April 3 - 4pm. Confessions will be available too.

SUPPLY PRIESTS Canon Michael Munnely, recently retired Parish Priest of Stanmore, will be helping us when the First Communion Masses take place: 1st & 15th May at 10.30 and 8th May 9.30 and 11.30. We are grateful to him for his offer of help. We are sure you will make him most welcome.

SERVICES Please note that this week (after Easter) there will only be a morning Mass each day at 10am. From 24th April times return back to normal.

CHAPEL at Our Lady's is closed and will reopen on Monday 25th April.

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.

ST ALBANS The Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral takes place at 12 noon every Friday in the Lady Chapel, All are welcome.

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.

Parish Priest
Fr. Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234
norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk
Our Lady's Church
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

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

Assistant Priest
Fr. William Johnstone 01707 327434
williamjohnstone@rcdow.org.uk
Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

SVP Request for a single mum.
Dining chairs, kettle, girls clothes
4,7 and 8 year olds. Contact Janet
on 01707 326456. Thank you.

SERVICES AND MASS TIMES FOR TWO WEEKS

18 Monday	10am	Our Lady
19 Tuesday	10am	St. Bonaventure
20 Wednesday	10am	Holy Family
21 Thursday	10am	Holy Family
22 Friday	10am	St. Bonaventure
23 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure

23 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady's
24 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Holy Family
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Our Lady
	6pm	Holy Family

25 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady
26 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Our Lady
27 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family
28 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family
29 Friday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Our Lady
30 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 16th April EASTER VIGIL

Genesis 1:1-2:2 The story of Creation. The beginning of the Bible.

Exodus 14:15-15:1 The crossing of the Red Sea. The Lord rescues his people.

Ezekiel 36:16-17,18-28 'I will give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you.'

Romans 6:3-11 When we were baptised, we went into the tomb with him....so that we too might live a new life with him.

Luke 24:1-12 Jesus has risen!

Sunday 17th April EASTER SUNDAY

Acts 10:34,37-43 Three days later, God raised Jesus to new life.

Colossians 3:1-4 You have been brought back to true life with Christ.

John 20:1-9 He saw and he believed!

Monday 18th April EASTER MONDAY

Acts 2:14,22-33 We are witnesses!

Matthew 28:8-15 The women meet the Risen Lord

Tuesday 19th April EASTER TUESDAY

Acts 2:36-41 'What must we do?'

John 20:11-18 Mary of Magdala, Apostle of the Resurrection

Wednesday 20th April EASTER WEDNESDAY

Acts 3:1-10 'I will give you what I have: in the name of Jesus Christ...'

Luke 24:13-35 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road?'

Thursday 21st April EASTER THURSDAY

Acts 3:11-26 The reaction to the miracle.

Luke 24:35-48 The Risen Lord eats with his disciples.

Friday 22nd April EASTER FRIDAY

Acts 4:1-12 'The stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone.'

John 21:1-14 Jesus cooks breakfast for the disciples by the sea.

Saturday 23rd April EASTER SATURDAY

Acts 4:13-21 The assurance of Peter and John

Mark 16:9-15 The Risen Lord appears in many ways to his disciples.

Sunday 24th April SECOND SUNDAY OF SUNDAY (DIVINE MERCY)

Acts 5:12-16 Many signs and wonders are worked through the hands of the apostles.

Monday 25th April ST. MARK Evangelist

1 Peter 5:5-14 God is looking after you.

Mark 16:15-20 The Lord worked with them and confirmed the word with signs.

Tuesday 26th April ST. GEORGE Martyred in Palestine in 303. Patron Saint of England and many other lands.

Apocalypse 12:10-12 They have triumphed by the blood of the Lamb and by the witness of their martyrdom.

Romans 5:1-5 Sufferings, patience, perseverance, hope and love.

John 15:18-21 A servant is not greater than his master.

Wednesday 27th April

Acts 5:17-26 The Lord rescues the apostles from imprisonment.

John 3:16-21 God loved the world so much...

Thursday 28th April

Acts 5:27-33 Obedience to God comes first....says Peter.

John 3:31-36 The Spirit, the Father's love and belief in the Son.

Friday 29th April ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA (1347-1380) Dominican, Doctor of the Church and Patron of Europe

1 John 1:5-2:2 Jesus is the sacrifice who takes our sins away.

Matthew 11:25-30 'Come to me...'