

# 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*

## ***26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022***

Our Gospel parable from St. Luke is such a challenge! It calls each one of us to account in our attitude towards the poor and our readiness to help them. The destitute Lazarus is carried to heaven and the tables are turned on the rich man who ignored him totally. What response is the Lord demanding of each one of us?

Our week began with the sadness of the late Queen's Funeral with pomp, splendour, crowds in their tens of thousands and billions worldwide glued to the television. There was a huge outpouring of love and an avalanche of prayer offered to God. There was a coming together of nations, social groups, a variety of ages and a determination to pay respect. A multitude being interviewed remembered their own loved ones who had died. Space and time came together. Getting back to 'normal' has not been straightforward though the mini-budget has just been announced and will require analysis.

Our Gospel reading speaks of someone coming back from the dead. For us as Christians, that person is Jesus Christ! He is the source of Life and the One who teaches us how to live in the hope of heaven. God's Son through his Cross and Resurrection offers a vision of generous living here on earth which takes us to eternity.

God bless you and your loved ones. ***Fr. Norbert***

**RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION** Please come to the Parish Meeting on Wednesday 28th September at 8pm in Our Lady's Church. The detailed report will be available for discussion and result in a final draft to be sent to the Cardinal. Each one of you is so important in this consultation process. We need MANY of you to come to the meeting (finish by 9.30pm)!

**CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLICTY** Fr. Norbert will be available to sign these forms on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 4.30pm - 6.30pm, Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 4.30pm - 6.30pm and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 4.30pm - 6.30pm in Our Lady's Church. Please phone Kathryn Hubbard on 01707 322579 to make a five-minute appointment or email [parishsec@st.bonaventure.org.uk](mailto:parishsec@st.bonaventure.org.uk) Parent/s and child are expected. Please download 'Extra Form' from the website and bring it filled in to the meeting. Thank you.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION** for First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation will start after Christmas. Soon we will ask parents to enrol their children for Communion and young people to enrol for Confirmation. We will let you know when the application Forms are on the website. Also, if any adults would like to be catechists for these Sacraments, please let Fr. Norbert know.

**RCIA** The Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults for adults who would like to join the Catholic Church will start on Monday 7th November at 7.30pm in the Sacristy of Our Lady's. There are a number who have made themselves known. If you are interested please speak to Fr. Norbert. This is also a great way for adults, who missed out on Confirmation when they were younger, to prepare for Confirmation. In some countries you cannot get married in the Catholic Church if not confirmed.

**ST. BERNADETTE** Some of the relics of St. Bernadette are now in our country. Details can be found on [stbernadette.org.uk](http://stbernadette.org.uk) They will arrive at St. Joseph's Church, Bedwell, Stevenage on Monday 17th October at 1pm and leave on Tuesday 18th October at 8.15am. There are various forms of prayer as well as Masses being planned for Stevenage. Please see the item on the parish website with the details.

**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.

**HOLY FAMILY CHURCH CLEANING** will take place on Wednesday 28th September. Tea and coffee will be served after the 9.30 am mass and cleaning will start after that. All volunteers will be warmly welcomed.

**CAFOD** Fast Day – Fast Day envelopes will be distributed on weekend 1/2nd October and collected weekend 8/9th October. The food crisis is severe and it is going to take commitment and dedication to help as many people affected as possible. They need our support to recover and rebuild. The **CAFOD** group will be holding a coffee morning at Holy Family in the parish room after the 9.30 am Mass on Sunday 2nd October. Please do join us if you can.

The CAFOD group will be meeting in the parish room at Holy Family on Tuesday 4th Oct at 2.30pm. Anyone wishing to come along will be very welcome.

**FR. ANTONIO** writes: 'I couldn't be more grateful. This month in Welwyn Garden City has been one of the best experiences of my life. I have met wonderful and welcoming people that I will never forget. Not only have I improved my English, but I have learned from a community that reflects identity and a strong faith in God. I hope to see you again soon, in the meantime we remain united in prayer. Thank you for everything family and ...HASTA LA VISTA!!'

**FR. WILLIAM WRITES:** We will be beginning a study course in October on the lives of the saints. Please note that this will now take place on Friday evenings and the first session will start on Friday 7th October and not on Wednesday 5th as previously advertised. I would be grateful for an indication of who is interested in attending this. We will be meeting in the parish room at Holy Family from 7pm onwards for refreshments with the intention of starting the course promptly at 7.30pm.

**ST. JOSEPH'S CENTRE** (which supports adults and children with intellectual disabilities, their families and friends) is celebrating its 45th Anniversary with Mass at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 8th October at 2.30pm. It would be really great if we (from WGC) could take a group to this Mass and join in the celebrations. There will be refreshments in the Cathedral Hall afterwards. It would be a significant moment in starting up again our Special Needs Masses in WGC. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you are interested so he can inform St. Joseph's. Thank you.

**CHAPEL** at Our Lady's is open Monday to Friday 7.30am until 6pm. It is a quiet, reflective place to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, light a candle or experience a moment of serenity. Why not pop in?

**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.

**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 will next celebrate this Mass on 18th November.

**FIRST FRIDAY** Next 6.30am Mass on Friday 7th October at St. Bonaventure's followed by breakfast in the hall. All 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.

**COFFEE AT ST. BONAVENTURE'S** Sundays after 10.30am Mass, more volunteers welcome. The group is in need of a person to help co-ordinate this group, please let us know if you can help.

**STREAMED MASS** [youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches](https://youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches) This Sunday 25th September Mass will be livestreamed at 10.30am from St. Bonaventure's Church. Each week we will inform you of the timings.

**INTER FAITH MEETING** Following Fr. Norbert's talk on Sacred Numbers we will be presenting a similar evening featuring the Muslim, Jain, Hindu and Sikh Faiths on Thursday 29th September at 7.30pm at the Focolare Centre. All welcome.

**THANK YOU** On Sunday 18th September Spencer White took part in Ironman Weymouth 70.3. He completed the 1.2 mile swim, 56 mile ride and half marathon run in 5 hours 49 minutes finishing in the top third. He says, "it was an amazing event with over 2000 competitors, hundreds of volunteers and thousands cheering us on." Due to the generosity of others Spencer managed to raise over £1400 for the Multiple Sclerosis Society and would like to thank those parishioners who donated to this cause.

**FUNERALS** Funeral Service for Nekane Mandaluniz R.I.P. is on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm in Our Lady's.

Funeral Mass for Paula Feeney R.I.P. is at 12.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October in Our Lady's Church.

**Parish Priest**  
**Fr. Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234**  
**[norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk)**  
Our Lady's Church  
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP

**Parish Secretary**  
**Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579**  
**[parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk](mailto:parishsec@stbonaventure.org.uk)**  
St. Bonaventure's Church  
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

**Assistant Priest**  
**Fr. William Johnstone 01707 327434**  
**[williamjohnstone@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:williamjohnstone@rcdow.org.uk)**  
Holy Family Church  
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

### CONFESSIONS

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

**Website [wgc-catholics.org.uk](http://wgc-catholics.org.uk)**

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION** Any couples wanting to marry in 2023/2024 either in WGC or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert to organise the paperwork. We are hoping to have the Preparation Day on Saturday 18th February (after Valentine's Day!) It will be the whole day and end with a Blessing of Engaged Couples at 6pm Mass. Please let Fr. Norbert know if you would like to attend. 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.

**RED BOXES - MISSION ST. BONAVENTURE'S** It's the time of the year for collecting in the money in the Red Boxes, so please leave your box at the back of the church. Cheques are acceptable made out to Missio.

### MASS TIMES

<b>24 Saturday</b>	<b>6pm</b>	Our Lady	Jesús Muñiz Castelo R.I.P. Birthday and Ellen Castelo (R.I.P. Birthday)
<b>25 Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Paeder Hyland & Cissie Bargh (R.I.P.)
	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	Special intention (cw)
	<b>10.30am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Anthony Ayke Okechukwu (R.I.P.)
	<b>11.30am</b>	Our Lady	Rev. Canon Joseph Micallef (R.I.P.)
	<b>6pm</b>	Holy Family	Mrs Cooper (R.I.P.)
<b>26 Monday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Our Lady	
	<b>3pm</b>	Our Lady	Funeral Service Nekane Mandaluniz
<b>27 Tuesday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Rodney Fernandes (R.I.P.) also remembering Lucrecia Marquez (1 <sup>st</sup> anni) and Katarzyna Lacina (4 <sup>th</sup> anni)
	<b>7pm</b>	Our Lady	Benedict Farrugia (R.I.P.)
<b>28 Wednesday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	Philip Tash (R.I.P.)
<b>29 Thursday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Holy Family	Brian Haughton (R.I.P.)
<b>30 Friday</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	St. Bonaventure	Alan and Margaret Staples (intentions)
	<b>7pm</b>	Our Lady	Augustus Joachim(R.I.P.)
<b>01 Saturday</b>	<b>10am</b>	St. Bonaventure	John and Margaret Brophy (R.I.P.)
	<b>6pm</b>	Our Lady	Martin and Margita Vrabel