



St Bonaventure
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Our Lady Queen of Apostles
141 Woodhall Lane AL7 3TP
01707 323234

Holy Family
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ
01707 327434

WELWYN GARDEN CITY PARISH

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 10th November 2024

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 17th November 2024

CHRIST THE KING 24th November 2024

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 1st December 2024

2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT 8th December 2024

Parish Priest Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234 norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest Fr. Marco Salvagnini 01707 327434 marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator Mrs Jacqui Boon (Tuesday - Friday 9am until 12 noon)

Parish Email: wgc@rcdow.org.uk

Website wgc-catholics.org.uk

TRINITY HALL Bookings + enquiries can be made through www.wgc-catholics.org.uk which has terms and conditions of hire, as well as a live diary. General enquiries please call 01707 537464

My family originates from Goa in India and soon there will be the Exposition of the Body of St. Francis Xavier who took the faith from Europe to the East. He died in 1552. I was last there in 2014 and it is a part of my heritage, identity and faith to spend time there. My brother and his wife have organised an itinerary to take me to Kerala, Pondicherry and Velankanni (Our Lady of Good Health) and then Goa. It is a unique opportunity for me to celebrate my roots and rejoice in faith-filled experiences. I have witnessed in the past thousands of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs as well as Catholic Christians braving extreme heat in the sunshine to have a glimpse of the Saint's relics. Unfortunately, my parents lost our language of Konkanim in East Africa and so I will not be able to understand everything spoken. However, the Cardinal Archbishop of Goa is from the same village as my Dad and in the past he has invited me to meals at his place! You will be in my heart every step of the way. The 10th November is Remembrance Sunday as we recall the sacrifice of so many for the freedom of the world. We give thanks to God for them and pray for those who serve the cause of peace and stability in the world. The Season of Advent will burst into our lives on 1st December bringing the new translation of the Bible in our Sunday Readings. The Spirit of Christ will envelope us offering us the hope of the Christ Child's Light as well as affording us lots of extra busyness! Be assured of my love and prayers. You are a great gift to me and I will tell others about WGC on my travels!! **Fr. Norbert**

BAPTISMS Please contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. Marco to arrange the Baptism of your child.

CONFIRMATION COURSE 2024/25 Please contact Fr. Marco.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION The first session for parents and children will be in early January. Please email Fr. Norbert if you missed the registration.

RCIA Sessions in Our Lady's Sacristy at 7.30pm on Monday 11th November and then on 9th December. The meeting lasts an hour.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION DAY on Sat. 22nd February in the Trinity Hall 10.30am until 5pm with Blessing of Engaged Couples at 6pm Mass. Contact Fr. Norbert

FOOD BANK New Zion Christian Fellowship continues its Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. Items received from 8am on a Wednesday at 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. Email foodbank@newzioncf.net to donate. Use Food Bank Baskets at the back of church.

TRANSPORT TO MASS GROUP is there for parishioners who need a lift to Mass. Drivers are needed. Health & Safety training and Safeguarding requirements will be arranged. Call Anne Maclean-Eltham on 07811926002 or macleaneltham@gmail.com

LISTER HOSPITAL Non-urgent referrals to Chaplaincy Team 01438 285519, Urgent referrals 01438 314333 (and ask for duty chaplain), emailspiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net

NEW MASS BOOKS The order has been placed and the books should arrive in time for First Sunday of Advent. Thank you to all who have donated towards their purchase.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM Our new digital system still has teething problems, including the voice messaging service. Apologies. Email if necessary.

CHURCH CLEANING Our Lady's Maintenance of the Grounds and putting up of Christmas Tree on Saturday 30th November at 10am and church cleaning Saturday 7th December at 10am. St. Bonaventure's Tuesday 3rd December after 9.30am Mass. Holy Family on Wednesday 18th December after 9.30am Mass. *Thank you to all who help.*

FOCOLARE COMMUNITY MEETING 3 - 5 pm Sunday 17th November at Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, AL8 6JG. Everyone welcome! Includes programmes for children in 2 age groups (4-8 and 9-13), supervised by adults with safeguarding training.

'COME & CELEBRATE' - an opportunity to hear about Winter Festivals in the different faiths, and to taste traditional food on Thursday 14th November at 7.30pm at the Focolare Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, AL8 6JG. All welcome

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL On Monday 25th November in St. Thomas More Church, Knebworth (SG3 6HB) there will be Exposition and a Vigil of Prayer following 7.15pm Mass until 10pm. Come and pray that wisdom and compassion may guide politicians and our country. If you need a lift, contact J. Ball 07899 924381.

OPEN PARISH MEETING The Minutes from the recent parish meeting are available at the back of our churches. Please take a copy and find out what was discussed and shared. Most importantly, the **Masses for Christmas Eve** will be reduced. So, 5pm Our Lady's, 6pm St. Bonaventure's, 8pm Holy Family and 9pm Our Lady's. Christmas Day continues with 9am St. Bonaventure's, 10am Holy Family and 11am Our Lady's. The usual **Sunday morning schedule of Masses** was discussed especially thinking about the possibility of there only being one priest in WGC or the need of our helping another parish in the event of illness. It was agreed to alter the schedule - initially from the summer. However, given that clergy time away will start in early January, Fr. Norbert has decided to make the change from the beginning of January 2025. The new Sunday morning schedule will be 9am St. Bonaventure's, 10.30am Holy Family and 12 noon Our Lady's. There will be Saturday 10am Mass at St. Bonaventure's, Saturday 6pm at Our Lady's and Sunday 6pm at Holy Family. *Tea/coffee still after St. Bonaventure's and Holy Family's Masses. Organisers of the Readers' and Eucharistic Ministers' Rotas, please amend lists for 2025.* Fr. Norbert is grateful for the understanding shown.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Hatfield Hyde Cemetery, Hollybush Lane AL7 4JU Sunday 10th November 2pm
Welwyn New Cemetery, Fulling Mill Lane AL6 9NJ Sunday 17th November 2pm

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST Lists for you to write the names of loved ones who have died are at the back of the churches. Please return to the Presbytery. And they will be remembered throughout November. *There is no need to give money!*

COFFEE/TEA Wednesdays after 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church and Thursdays 10.30am - 12 noon in Our Lady's Sacristy. Come and meet fellow parishioners!

ROME PILGRIMAGE led by Fr. Marco Monday 31st March to Saturday 5th April. £900 for a shared room, £1000 for a single room. Price includes half-board accommodation at Casa Madre Nazarena, medical insurance and entry to sites. If you want to secure a place, fill out a form at back of church or on website and return to Parish Office with a deposit of £200 (non-refundable). By bank transfer WRC DT Welwyn Garden City Sort code 40-05-20 Acct number 51094459 Pilgrim's surname + Rome 2025

YOUTH EVENT for 14- to 17- year olds on Friday 15th November 7 - 10pm in Trinity Hall (AL7 3TP) The film 'The Mission' will be screened followed by discussion and refreshments. Safeguarding protocol will be followed. Email Fr. Marco to confirm attendance marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk.

SUPPLY PRIESTS We are grateful to Bishop Paul McAleenan, to Canon Colin Davies (retired Parish Priest of Burnt Oak), and to Monsignor Harry Turner (retired Parish Priest of Harpenden) for offering support in the coming weeks. Their help is invaluable!

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND The annual collection takes place next weekend. Please use one of the special envelopes. There are 72 retired priests the Diocese cares for at a cost of £976000. Your generous donation can make such a difference. Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS for the period 9th November to 14th December are on pink sheets at the back of our churches *and at the end of this newsletter.*

ADVENT 2024

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Mondays at Our Lady 10 - 10.30am
Thursdays at Holy Family 10 - 10.30am
Fridays at St. Bonaventure 10 - 10.30am

RESTORATION HOLY HOUR at Our Lady's 7.30pm on Friday 13th December.

FIRST FRIDAY (6th Dec.) Early Mass 6.30am followed by breakfast St. Bonaventure.

ROSARY (Friday 6th Dec.) after 9.30 Mass at St Bonaventure and Saturday 7th Dec. 9.30am.

ADVENT COURSE through *Lectio Divina* reflecting on the readings of the four Sundays of Advent: Fridays 29th November, 13th and 20th December and Thursday 5th December 7.00 - 8.30pm in Holy Family's Parish Room. *Fr. Marco asks those coming to bring a Bible, notepad and pen.*

TUESDAY 10TH DECEMBER There will NOT be 9.30am Mass at St. Bonaventure's. Parishioners are most welcome at Our Lady's School for 11am Mass or at Holy Family School for 2pm Mass. *Fr. Norbert has been asked to lead prayers at Hertfordshire County Council.*

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE on Tuesday 17th December in Our Lady's Church at 8pm. There will be a number of priests to hear Confessions.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE on Friday 6th December 3.30pm to 6.30pm. Donations of bottled drinks and boxes of chocolates gratefully received. Please email holyfamilyfa@gmail.com *All welcome!*

CAROL SERVICE with a mix of carols and readings at St Bonaventure's on 15th December at 3pm followed by light refreshments. If you would like to volunteer as a reader or to help with the choir/music, please contact Chris Baker 07880 355746 or cmjbaker@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS on Sunday 22nd December after St. Bonaventure's 10.30 Mass. Bring and share food together with carol singing. All welcome!

SIGNED MASS on Sunday 15th December at 11.30am at Our Lady's.

CAROL SERVICES

Sherrardswood School in Our Lady's Monday 2nd December
Commonswood Primary School in Our Lady's on Monday 9th December at 6pm
Our Lady's Primary School at 3.30pm in Our Lady's Church.

CONCERT by *Somewhere to Sing Choir* 8pm in Our Lady's Church Thursday 11th December (1 hour) £10 per head to cover costs and any extra donations to charity.

CAROL SINGING IN THE HOWARD CENTRE by the Christian Churches in Welwyn Garden City on Saturday 14th December 2 - 4pm. All money raised goes to the Food Bank at New Zion Christian Fellowship. *Come and lend a voice for those doing Christmas shopping and raise money for a good cause.*

CAROLS IN THE CLOISTERS 13th December 7-9pm. All are warmly invited to celebrate the Christmas season singing carols in The Cloisters AL8 6DX. Bring and share festive refreshments and more carols to follow!

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL Carol Service in HF Church on Wednesday 18th Dec. 5.30pm.

POLISH CAROL CONCERT on Sat. 4th Jan. 7.30 - 8.30pm in Our Lady's. All welcome.

CONFESSIONS (Sacrament of Reconciliation)

Thursdays 10.00 - 10.30am Holy Family with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturdays 10.30am - 11am St. Bonaventure 5pm - 5.30pm Our Lady

CHAPEL open Monday to Friday 9am - 4pm. (*Near the Trinity Hall*)

ST. ALBANS There is a Catholic Mass every Friday in the Lady Chapel in St. Albans Cathedral at 12 noon. *Fr. Norbert celebrating next on 20th December*

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

MASS INTENTIONS

9th November Saturday DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

10am	St. Bonaventure	Holy Souls
11am	Our Lady Catholic	Women's League Diocesan Mass
6pm	Our Lady	James Bonass RIP Anniv

10th Sunday THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8am	St. Bonaventure	Holy Souls <i>Bishop Paul McAleenan</i>
9.30am	Holy Family	Holy Souls
10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Roy D'Cunha RIP <i>Bishop Paul McAleenan</i>
11.30am	Our Lady	Nancy and Tom Hogan RIP
6pm	Holy Family	Holy Souls

11th Monday St. Martin of Tours

9.30am	Our Lady	Johanna Neall's Funeral Mass
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12th Tuesday St. Josaphat

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Patricia Cunningham's Intention
7pm	Our Lady + Novena to Our Lady	Catholic Women's League Deceased Members

13th Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Family	Holy Souls
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14th Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family	Margaret Coyle RIP (3rd Anniv)
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15th Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Holy Souls
7pm	Our Lady	Maria Olinda Dias RIP Anniv <i>Mgr. Harry Turner</i>

16th Saturday *St. Edmund of Abingdon*

10am St. Bonaventure Fr. Laurence Freeman OSB (Intention)
6pm Our Lady Derek Relph RIP + Deborah Martin RIP
Canon Colin Davies

17th Sunday ***THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

8am St. Bonaventure Holy Souls
9.30am Holy Family Rebecca Brown RIP *Canon Colin Davies*
10.30am St. Bonaventure Marguerite and Harold Miles RIP
11.30am Our Lady Kathleen Crowley RIP (1st Anniv) + John Crowley RIP
(9th Anniv) *Canon Colin Davies*
6pm Holy Family Kathleen Nolan RIP

18th Monday

9.30am Our Lady Holy Souls *Canon Colin Davies*

19th Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure Joy Burrows-Gee Intention
7pm Our Lady + Novena to Our Lady Thomas Nichols Senior RIP *Mgr. Harry Turner*

20th Wednesday

9.30am Holy Family Deirdre Harrell RIP Anniv

21st Thursday *Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

9.30am Holy Family Christine Kirke's Intention

22nd Friday *St. Cecilia*

9.30am St. Bonaventure Holy Souls
7pm Our Lady Tracey Laycock RIP Anniv *Mgr. Harry Turner*

23rd Saturday

10am St. Bonaventure Antonio Clemente Fernandes RIP Birthday
6pm Our Lady James Bonass RIP Birthday *Canon Colin Davies*

24th Sunday ***CHRIST THE KING***

8am St. Bonaventure Holy Souls *Canon Colin Davies*
9.30am Holy Family Special Intention (CW)
10.30am St. Bonaventure Holy Souls *Canon Colin Davies*
11.30am Our Lady Mary Donoghoe RIP (3rd Anniv)
6pm Holy Family Holy Souls

25th Monday

9.30am Our Lady Michael Connolly RIP Anniv *Canon Colin Davies*

26th Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure Holy Souls
7pm Our Lady + Novena to Our Lady Holy Souls

27th Wednesday

9.30am Holy Family Holy Souls

28th Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family	John Dineen RIP (1st Anniv)
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29th Friday

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Special Intention (CW)
7pm	Our Lady	Gabrielle and Peter Sealey's Intentions <i>Mgr. Harry Turner</i>

30th Saturday *ST. ANDREW*

10am	St. Bonaventure	Holy Souls
6pm	Our Lady	Eithne McShane RIP Anniv <i>Canon Colin Davies</i>

1st Sunday *FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

8am	St. Bonaventure	Bernard Gallagher RIP
9.30am	Holy Family	<i>Canon Colin Davies</i>
10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Glenn King RIP
11.30am	Our Lady	<i>Canon Colin Davies</i>
6pm	Holy Family	Maureen Schneider RIP, Pauline O'Neill RIP, Tony O'Neill RIP, Nancy O'Neill RIP

2nd Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	<i>Canon Colin Davies</i>
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3rd Tuesday *St. Francis Xavier*

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	
7pm	Our Lady + Novena to Our Lady	<i>Mgr. Harry Turner</i>

4th Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Family	
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5th Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family	
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6th Friday

6.30am	St. Bonaventure	
9.30am	St. Bonaventure	
7pm	Our Lady	Rafael Antonio Velho Pereira RIP (3rd Anniv) <i>Mgr. Harry Turner</i>

7th Saturday *St. Ambrose*

10am	St. Bonaventure	
6pm	Our Lady	James Haughian RIP Anniv <i>Canon Colin Davies</i>

8th Sunday *SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

8am	St. Bonaventure	<i>Canon Colin Davies</i>
9.30am	Holy Family	Glenn King RIP
10.30am	St. Bonaventure	<i>Canon Colin Davies</i>
11.30am	Our Lady	
6pm	Holy Family	

9th Monday *IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY*

9.30am Our Lady *Canon Colin Davies*

10th Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure NO MASS

7pm Our Lady + Novena to Our Lady Paddy O'Reilly RIP Anniv

11th Wednesday

9.30am Holy Family

12th Thursday

9.30am Holy Family

13th Friday *St. Lucy*

9.30am St. Bonaventure

7pm Our Lady

14th Saturday

10am St. Bonaventure

6pm Our Lady

Tommy Harrell RIP Anniv

Derek Relph RIP + Deborah Martin RIP