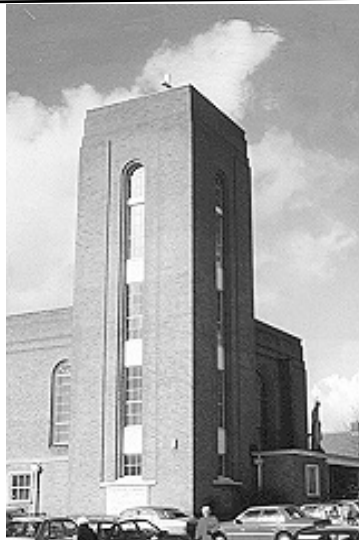


# WELWYN GARDEN CITY



**ST. BONAVENTURE**



**OUR LADY,  
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



**HOLY FAMILY**

*Parish Priest: Canon Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. William Johnstone  
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

## ***Pentecost Sunday 28th May 2023***

Easter started a long time ago! For 50 Days the Church has been asking us to celebrate, to feel the Risen Lord's presence and to reflect on the message we will take back into Ordinary Time, having been empowered by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. That is TODAY! I think back to the huge number of adults who were baptised, confirmed and made First Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. Faith shone out. Joy radiated from people's faces. Delight was experienced as we welcomed new members. Since then, we have celebrated First Holy Communion Masses, a pilgrimage to Walsingham and the colder weather has even turned into warm sunshine!

Pentecost is referred to as the birthday of the Church. Community was sealed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and then the Apostles started to proclaim boldly the Good News of Jesus Christ. Their words were understood by their audience on Pentecost Day; no-one missed out on hearing about God's Son and the wonders worked in his name. To be Church truly is to belong to the Lord's Body/Family and to share with others what this means. We can speak, serve, forgive, reach out and many other things also which put those around us in contact with the Christ in whom we believe. Our conviction is that God loves the world so much that by giving his Son, we are then given the invitation to be in communion with the salvation won through the Cross and Resurrection.

As Roman Catholics, we depend on Scripture and Tradition as we read from the Bible and hold on to the truth handed on by the Apostles, one generation to the next. The Deposit of the Faith offered and received is nearly always in fresh circumstances as history unfolds and so the Faith has to be articulated in new ways so that people can understand what we are saying and its impact for the present day taking us to eternity. God is Mystery as a Trinity of Persons! We do our best to find images and vocabulary to unpack who God is. The same is true of speaking of Jesus Christ as God and Human - it is not always easy to explain this. However, the Holy Spirit is the Wisdom from the Father and Son, the dynamic Love between them and through the Spirit being poured out on us today, we are helped to offer others a message which brings life and a way of living which is preparing us too for the Resurrection.

God bless each and every one of you! With love and prayers, *Fr. Norbert*

**EMAIL ADDRESS** Please note that the Diocese has created a new email address for our one parish of Welwyn Garden City: [wgc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:wgc@rcdow.org.uk) Please start using this new address from now on. Thank you.

**FINANCE IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY** Fr. Norbert writes: At Easter the new standing order forms were distributed with the one account for the merged Welwyn Garden City Parish. Many of you have returned these completed. Thank you! I would ask others please to consider setting up a standing order to make your regular gift to the church. Sometimes (or often) the machines at the back of the churches play up! Standing orders should be more straightforward and give us a steady income.

**We also ask those of you who are tax-payers to allow the parish to claim back the tax you have paid - GiftAid.** This results in an extra source of income which doesn't cost you anything as long as you are a tax-payer. The donation must come from a bank account in the name of the taxpayer who is claiming Gift Aid which can be a joint account.

*Thank you for your great generosity - it is much appreciated.*

**BANK HOLIDAY** Please note that on Monday 29th May morning Mass at Our Lady's will be at 10am. It is the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church so we will sing some hymns!

**LISTER HOSPITAL** If a parishioner or a family member goes into the Lister Hospital, the following links might be helpful: Non-urgent referrals 01438 285519, Urgent referrals 01438 314333 (and ask for duty chaplain), Chaplaincy Team email is [spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net](mailto:spiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net) *Please remember that the sick person must want the Chaplaincy to know that they are Catholic and that they want to be seen by a priest!*

**VISITING PRIESTS** Fr. Juan de Dios Prieto Garralda from the Diocese of Granada (Spain), studying Scripture in Rome, will come at the beginning of July to improve his English

Fr. Julio Barcudi from the Diocese of Mallorca (Spain) will come at the end of August to improve his English. He also studies Scripture in Rome. *All the necessary paperwork will be in place regarding safeguarding and testimonials.*

Monsignor Harry Turner is helping us this Sunday(28th) at 9.30am and 11.30am Masses. Fr. Stephen Coker from Letchworth will celebrate 9.30am and 11.30 Masses on Sunday 4th June and 10.30 Mass on Sunday 11th June. We are grateful to them for their support.

**WALSINGHAM** The sun shone last Saturday as 16 of us went on pilgrimage to Walsingham joining the Catholic Deaf Association. We prayed for you all! There were many people from the Diocese of Salford and so we had a great time meeting a huge multitude and spending time in prayer with Our Lady.

**ELY** The Christian Churches in WGC have arranged a day out in Ely on Saturday 10th June. The 57-seater coach is now full. We will leave from outside Our Lady's at 8.15am and depart from Ely at 6.15pm. You will all be in our prayers.

**FIRST FRIDAY** Our next early morning Mass will be on Friday 2nd June at 6.30am at St. Bonaventure's followed by breakfast in the hall. All are welcome.

**WELWYN HATFIELD INTERFAITH** are pleased to invite you to our Summer Shared Supper on Thursday 8th June at 7 pm. Please bring a cold dish, savoury or sweet, to share. Our new mayor will be our guest of honour. **ALL WELCOME**

**STREAMED MASS** [youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches](https://youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches) for Mass on Sunday 28th May.

**LOOKING AHEAD** There will be a Polish-English Mass at 6pm on Saturday 17th June with a reception afterwards. The Filipino Community will lead 6pm Mass on Saturday 24th June with a party afterwards. There will be a Signed Mass on Sunday 25th June at 11.30am at Our Lady's. The annual African Mass will be on Sunday 2nd July at 11.30 with a celebration afterwards. *Please put these dates in your diaries and come!*

**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.

**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.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES** 28th May 10.30 at St. Bonaventure's and 11th June 11.30 at Our Lady's.

**CONFIRMATION** Bishop Paul McAleenan will celebrate the Confirmation Mass on Friday 9th June at 7.30pm at Our Lady's.

**MARRIAGE** Any couples planning on getting married this year or next should speak to Fr. Norbert to arrange the necessary preparations.

**HOLY LAND AND JORDAN** 59 people have booked for November! Fr. Norbert plans to have a meeting of pilgrims in October to go through the travel plans. Also, a coach will be organised to take pilgrims to and from the airport (from WGC). All Saints Travel will keep pilgrims posted.

**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 Ann on 07811926002. All necessary safeguarding and health and safety guidelines will be followed.

**MISSIO RED BOXES 2022 In 2022** our Welwyn Garden City Missio members raised the wonderful total of £3560.15 through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you so much! The Missio members here in Welwyn Garden City are part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial assistance. Do visit [missio.org.uk](https://www.missio.org.uk) to find out more about how your support changes lives for the better. Thank you again for your generosity.

**CHURCH CLEANING** Thank you to all those who came and cleaned this week

**PLEASE SPONSOR** Spencer White, one of our parishioners for his first full iron distance triathlon on the 15th July 2023. A gruelling 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride, and 26.2 mile run, in aid of Parkinson's UK, something his mother-in-law and Auntie are suffering terribly from. You can donate to his JustGiving page by searching here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/spencer-white6> or if easier Spencer or his wife Jenny will be at Mass at both HF and Our Lady's over the coming weeks. Many thanks.

**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. The Food Bank Baskets will be at the back of our churches and so items may be left in them. Thank you.

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Our Lady's Church  
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St. Bonaventure's Church  
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

**Assistant Priest**  
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**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)**

**TRINITY HALL** The Hall is now available for general hire. Bookings and enquiries can be made through the [www.wgc-catholics.org.uk](http://www.wgc-catholics.org.uk) website, which contains the terms and conditions of hire, as well as a live diary showing bookings and time available for hire. Please enjoy this wonderful resource and spread the word amongst friends and family who may be looking for a Hall to hire. General enquiries please call 01707 537464

**CHAPEL** at Our Lady's is open. On weekdays (except bank holidays), come and spend a moment in prayer, light a candle and feel the peace of the Lord's presence in the Tabernacle 7.30am until 6pm.

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

**AN EVENING WITH ANTONIA SALZANO** As advised in Westminster Information, Antonia Salzano, the mother of Carlo Acutis, will visit the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, 7.30pm-9pm on 31st May, as part of her visit to London. The evening will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

### MASS INTENTIONS

27 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady	Pauline Reed
28 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	Anthony Anene (R.I.P. anniversary)
	9.30am	Holy Family	Brian Hall (R.I.P. 5 <sup>th</sup> anniversary)
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	First Communion
	11.30am	Our Lady	Nora Ashmore (R.I.P.)
	6pm	Holy Family	Sheila Thomas (R.I.P. birthday)
	29 Monday	10am	Our Lady
30 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Our Lady	Private intention
31 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Carol Organ (R.I.P.)
01 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Special intention
02 Friday	6.30am	St Bonaventure	
	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	
	7pm	Our Lady	Owen Meenan (R.I.P.)
03 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	John Rodger (R.I.P. anniversary )
	6pm	Our Lady	Patricia Hart (R.I.P.)