

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*

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18th June 2023

We are definitely back with St. Matthew today! The Lord is busy as he sees the needs of the crowds: he commissions the Twelve asking them to reach out with ministry similar to his. It all seems to be happening!

Do you remember that St. Matthew is keen that his community listening to, and reflecting on, the Good News should be aware of the PRESENCE of God revealed in Jesus - Emmanuel? God's Son wants the people to FEEL that presence through the ministry of the Twelve. Later we will discover 72 being sent out. The Lord gives them authority and power which result in the healing of the multitudes. Their responsibility is to proclaim the Kingdom of Heaven. Even the dead will be raised. Did the Twelve realise the impact of what the Lord was asking of them? Did they experience the presence of God through their activity? What did they feel as extraordinary deeds unfolded?

Christ looks to us in our day to continue his work in word and deed, through radiating his presence. Wonderful things can happen through what we speak, the actions we undertake and the conviction we show. This week LOOK, LISTEN, BE OPEN to God's presence and allow the Lord Jesus to use you as his instrument of healing love and mercy.

May God bless you and your loved ones. Have a great week.
With love and prayers, *Fr. Norbert*

FILIPINO MASS Saturday 24th June at 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a Reception in the Trinity Hall. There will be a variety of Filipino dishes, a programme of 2 folk dances and Filipino songs performed by talented youngsters, disco dances and karaoke. EVERYONE is welcome!

SIGNED MASS at Our Lady's on Sunday 25th June at 11.30am. If anyone would like to come for a practice, Sarah Metcalfe from the Deaf Service will have a session on Wednesday 21st June 7-8pm at Our Lady's. All are welcome.

AFRICAN MASS on Sunday 2nd July at 11.30 at Our Lady's followed by a party in the Trinity Hall. Ama Owusu-Afriyie is organising a Children's Gospel Choir for this celebration. If any child would like to take part, their parent is asked to contact Ama on 0750052870 to find out about practices. Parents are asked to come to the rehearsals. This should make for a brilliant experience with uplifting Gospel songs!

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY to each and every father and honorary dad!

CHANGES:

FR. WILLIAM JOHNSTONE After nearly two years with us, Fr. William will be moving this summer to take up a new appointment as Assistant Priest at The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, London NW10. The move was announced earlier this week. We are grateful to Fr. William for his service here in our churches and we ask God's blessing upon him in this new role. A date for a Farewell Mass and Reception will be announced in due course.

FR. MARCO SALVAGNINI will be the new Assistant Priest starting in September and resident at Holy Family. He was ordained with Fr. William for our Diocese and will come to us from Our Lady of Victories, Kensington High Street. We look forward to welcoming him to our community.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR With the new canonical parish, it has been necessary to restructure and create the post of Parish Administrator which includes the responsibility of book-keeping for all three churches. We are very grateful to the volunteers who have given of themselves for many years: Bill Hayes at St. Bonaventure, Alison Augur at Holy Family and Linda O'Loughlin, Ernest Owusu-Afryie and Affie Osayande at Our Lady's. The post will be advertised and open to applications.

KATHRYN HUBBARD With the changes which have been made, the post of Parish Secretary will no longer exist. A process of consultation has taken place and Kathryn Hubbard who has served in this role for over 21 years has agreed to be made redundant after the summer. Fr. Norbert would like to express his gratitude on behalf of the parish for Kathryn's loyal and dedicated service over these decades in his time as Parish Priest and previously. There was a period with no resident Parish Priest of St. Bonaventure and Kathryn worked tirelessly to keep things going. She also kept a watchful eye on Fr. Joe Boward who lived in the Presbytery. There will be a Mass and Reception which will be announced soon. We pray for God's Blessing upon Kathryn, her husband David and their family.

FUNERALS

PATRICK GLYNN RIP Paddy's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Monday 19th June at 1.15pm.

ROY RANDALL RIP Roy's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family on Wednesday 28th June at 12noon.

ROY D'CUNHA RIP Roy's Funeral Mass will be on Friday 30th June at 9am at Holy Family. His body will be received into Holy Family Church on Thursday 29th at 4pm.

PATRICIA KENNEDY RIP Pat's Funeral Mass will be on Monday 3rd July at 12.30pm. At Our Lady's.

MAUREEN BRENNAN RIP Maureen's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Wednesday 19th July at 12.30pm.

GERDA STANLEY RIP No Funeral details yet.

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 Please start using this new address from now on.

WORLD REFUGEE DAY World Refugee Day takes place every year on 20th June. 2023 marks the 25th anniversary of Refugee Week, which is an initiative founded in the UK. The theme for this year's Refugee Week is COMPASSION. Pope Francis has called compassion 'the language of God' and 'the path of true justice'. He also says that 'closeness, tenderness, compassion are the style of God. God draws near, and he draws near with tenderness and compassion.' Recently the Catholic Bishops' Conference shared the new document 'Love the Stranger'. You can read this at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/love-the-stranger/>

HERTS WELCOMES REFUGEES is trying to find some local support for a deaf-mute Indian couple who are asylum-seekers. They have 2 sons who normally communicate for them but are now at school; so the parents are very lost and isolated. If anyone local has experience of this disability and might be able to offer them - or HWR volunteers- any support, please contact India Lind (Community Partnerships Support Officer -Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council) on 07880012275 or email i.lind@welhat.gov.uk Thank you.

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL in Hoddesdon, is looking to employ two class teachers: one in Nursery and one in Key Stage 2. Are you looking for an inspiring and rewarding job in a fantastic and friendly school, where children are valued and at the heart of all we do? If so, please contact the Headteacher's PA on 01992 463549.

FINANCE IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY Fr. Norbert writes: New standing order forms are available at the back of our churches. Thank you to all who have signed up! 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.*

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 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 Philosophy in Rome, arrives in WGC on Saturday 1st July. He wants to improve his English and if anyone would like to spend conversational time with him or show him one of the sights in our area, please let Fr. Norbert know - especially 5th to 10th July. Fr. Juan will be hearing Confessions on Thursday 6th July 10.00 -10.30am at Holy Family and on Saturday 8th July 10.30 -11.00am at St. Bonaventure and 5.00 - 5.30pm at Our Lady's. He will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in English, Spanish and Italian! All the necessary paperwork is in place regarding safeguarding and testimonials.

OPUS DEI RECOLLECTION EVENING The next gathering will be at Holy Family Church on Thursday 22nd June at 7pm. An Evening of Recollection is a couple of hours when you can reflect on how you live your faith in your everyday work and with your family, friends and colleagues. One or two meditations will be given by a priest, along with a talk and Benediction at the end of the evening. A priest will also be available for confession throughout the evening. This recollection is intended for men, however, there is also a recollection for women at St. Peter's Church, Hatfield on 21st at 7pm. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. William or Ed Newman-Sanders (07984149320).

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.

OUR LADY SCHOOL 70TH ANNIVERSARY MASS Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate Mass in Our Lady's Church on Tuesday 20th June at 11am to mark this special occasion. The whole parish is invited to join the school for the Mass together with many visitors. Congratulations to Our Lady's!

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK This great celebration organised by the SVP (Society of St. Vincent de Paul) will this year take place on Saturday 15th July at 12 noon at the Focolare Centre. Refreshments will be served after the Mass. If you need a lift contact Janet Lewis on 01707 326456.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS Congratulations to all the children who have made their First Holy Communion this year. May God bless you and your families. We are very grateful to everyone who helped with the celebrations and made our churches look so beautiful and welcoming.

CONFIRMATION Congratulations to the young people confirmed a week ago. We ask God to bless them in the future. Our thanks to Fr. William and the team of catechists as well as to Bishop Paul McAleenan for coming to celebrate the Confirmation Mass. We are also grateful to all who helped with the reception.

ST. PETER & ST. PAUL This Solemnity which is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Catholic Church asks Catholics to attend Mass is on Thursday 29th June. There will be 9.30am Mass at Holy Family Church, 12 noon Mass at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm Mass at Our Lady's.

PLEASE NOTE There will be no Confessions after 10am Mass next Saturday 24th.

Parish Priest
Canon 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

CONFESSIONS

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

Website 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 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), 7.30am until 6pm.

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.

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.

STREAMED MASS on youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches This weekend and next Mass will be streamed at 10am recorded from the previous Saturday 6pm Mass.

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

TRANSPORT TO MASS If any parishioners need a lift to Mass, the Transport to Mass Group is there! All necessary safeguarding and health and safety guidelines are followed. The new co-ordinator is Anne Maclean-Eltham.

MASS INTENTIONS

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|--------------|---------|-----------------|--|
| 17 Saturday | 6pm | Our Lady | Mary Davin (R.I.P. Anniversary) |
| 18 Sunday | 8am | St. Bonaventure | Angelo and Elizabeth Laurie and families |
| | 9.30am | Holy Family | Elias and Noemi Gonsalves (R.I.P.) |
| | 10.30am | St. Bonaventure | Eileen Noonan (R.I.P.) |
| | 11.30am | Our Lady | Aleyamma Mooleparambil (R.I.P.) |
| | 6pm | Holy Family | Special intention (cw) |
| 19 Monday | 9.30am | Our Lady | Peter Vincent's intentions |
| | 1.15pm | Our Lady | Funeral Mass Paddy Glynn R.I.P. |
| 20 Tuesday | 9.30am | St. Bonaventure | Ruby Gray (sick) |
| | 11am | Our Lady | 70 th Anniversary School Mass |
| | 7pm | Our Lady | Paddy Glynn (R.I.P.) |
| 21 Wednesday | 9.30am | Holy Family | Sue Greenwood (R.I.P.) |
| 22 Thursday | 9.30am | Holy Family | Bobby McGrath intentions |
| 23 Friday | 9.30am | St. Bonaventure | Paddy Glynn (R.I.P.) |
| | 7pm | Our Lady | Kitty Coakley |
| 24 Saturday | 10am | St. Bonaventure | Paul Chappell (R.I.P. anniversary) |