

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*

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time 25th June 2023

Saturday 24th June is the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist - his birthday! It has pre-eminence in the Church's Calendar and so Saturday evening's 6pm Mass will have the Baptist dimension. John's role was to point to Christ and prepare the world for his coming. In some countries St. John the Baptist's Birthday is a public holiday and there is no end to the partying. On Sunday we return to Ordinary Time's 12th Sunday and St. Matthew Gospel is read. A few days later the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul comes our way; we mark their birth into heavenly, eternal life through their martyrdoms and witness to Jesus Christ.

Last Thursday I went to Cardiff for a special Mass at which the Archbishop, Mark O'Toole, had the 'pallium' imposed! Sounds frightening! The pallium is made of wool, has crosses embroidered on it and pins attached. It is worn by an Archbishop who oversees a province of several dioceses. The Papal Nuncio, the Pope's ambassador in this country, journeyed from Wimbledon to Cardiff to place it on Archbishop Mark's shoulders - a reminder of our communion with the Holy Father in Rome. Archbishop Mark preached about the Good Shepherd who finds the lost sheep and carries it home on his shoulders - like the pallium. What I knew was that Thursday was the Archbishop's 60th birthday and so there was even more of a party atmosphere at the ensuing reception. I did ask some of the Welsh clergy if they were going to give him 60 bumps but they thought I was mad!! It was really interesting to share in the joy of the Church in another part of our land, to see different traditions and to hear some parts of the Mass in Welsh! The hospitality afterwards was great.

At the end of Mass, before the Blessing, the Archbishop spoke about vocation, prizing every kind of calling and its significance for the Church and the world. He asked people especially to think about the Priesthood because the Church desperately needs more priests and he asked the school children and young people present to take that message back to their parishes. WE need more priests to serve our people, to celebrate the Mass and the Sacraments, to journey with their flock through the ups and downs of life and to be signposts of what it means to be followers of Christ. This is not always easy but in Sunday's Gospel reading the Lord says a number of times 'Do not be afraid!' We must trust, we should deepen our love of him and then proceed to share this relationship with others. Not all are called to be priests but the fostering of this particular vocation nourishes vocations in the Church which complement each other and result in the outpouring of exuberant joy in the Gospel.

Have a good week and God bless you! With love and prayers, *Fr. Norbert*

FR. WILLIAM JOHNSTONE will be moving in September to The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, London NW10. Once the exact date for his move has been finalised, there will be a Farewell and Reception planned.

FR. MARCO SALVAGNINI will be the new Assistant Priest starting in September and resident at Holy Family.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR Please have a look at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/parish-administrator-welwyn-garden-city/> for this new post in WGC. Friday 7th July is the closing date for the applications.

KATHRYN HUBBARD Kathryn's last day will be Tuesday 5th September. 10.30 Mass at St. Bonaventure's on Sunday 3rd September will be a Farewell with a Reception afterwards to which everyone is invited. We pray for God's Blessing upon Kathryn, her husband David and their family.

FUNERALS

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.

GERDA STANLEY RIP Gerda's Funeral Mass will be on Thursday 13th July at 11.30am at Our Lady's.

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

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. Thank you.

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. Standing orders 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.

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.

PLEASE SPONSOR Spencer White, one of our parishoners 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.

SINGING FOR PLEASURE Come and join our friendly choir! Singing For Pleasure was formed 43 years ago by Glynis Rogers. Glynis is a professionally trained singer and musician, as well as our musical director. Singing is excellent for your physical and mental health. SFP is open to all abilities and none! We rehearse every Friday evening at Howlands Baptist Church 8pm. Come along and try us out. 3 free taster sessions on offer! Who knows, you might even enjoy it! Contact Glynis Rogers, tel: 0771329921, email: sfpwgc80@gmail.com

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!

FIRST FRIDAY The early Mass at St. Bonaventure's will next be on Friday 7th July at 6.30am followed by breakfast in the hall. All welcome!

VISITING PRIEST Fr. Juan de Dios Prieto Garralda writes:

Dear Church of Welwyn, I'm glad for this letter, because I have writing to my new family to England for fifteen days. An affectionate greeting. I introduce myself. My name is Juan de Dios (John of God in English) and I'm 29 years old. I'm from Granada, the most beautiful city in Spain. I'm priest for three years. I entered in the seminary when I was fifteen years old, I'm an early vocation. I have been seven years in the seminary and in 2020 my bishop ordained me a priest. After that I have been in a beautiful town in the beach of Granada, Almuñecar, like assistant of the parish. There I have been three years unforgettable: with the young people, with the marriages, with all the people there. Now last summer my bishop asked me to study philosophy in Rome. Then I had to leave my dear parish and I went to Rome for study. This year I have studied philosophy in Rome and I have started the doctorate in philosophy. For that I don't have any parish and I can be with you these days. I really want to see you and to meet you. But you must apologize me for my English, because it's not very well. An affectionate greeting for all of you, Juan de Dios

Fr. Juan arrives in WGC on Saturday 1st July. 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.

FILIPINO MASS Saturday 24th June at 6pm followed by food, drink and entertainment in the Trinity Hall. All welcome and a big thank you to everyone who has helped prepare the celebration.

SIGNED MASS Our thanks to Sarah Metcalf from the Deaf Service for being with us at 11.30 Mass this weekend and helping us with our Signed Mass.

AFRICAN MASS on Sunday 2nd July at 11.30 at Our Lady's followed by a party in the Trinity Hall. Come and celebrate!

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.

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.

INTERFAITH On Thursday 6th July at 7.30 in the Focolare Centre we have invited a very special speaker, Rev. Hosoya who is the director of a world wide Buddhist movement for peace and inter-religious cooperation formed during WWII. We look forward to a very interesting evening.

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.

CHURCH CLEANING at Our Lady's on Saturday 1st July at 10am as well as the maintenance of the grounds. Come and lend a hand for an hour. Thank you!

OUR LADY SCHOOL 70TH ANNIVERSARY MASS Congratulations to Our Lady's School for the wonderful way they led last Tuesday's celebration! The singing, reading and engagement in all that happened highlight the hard work and dedication of the staff, parents and governors. The Cardinal really enjoyed himself! It was great to welcome back former heads, staff governors and pupils. There were two former pupils who started on the first day back in 1953!

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 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.

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Parish Secretary
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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.

STREAMED MASS on youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches

Mass will be streamed at 10am recorded from the previous Saturday 6pm Mass.

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.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

24 Saturday	6pm	Our Lady	Annie Mohan (R.I.P.)
25 Sunday	8am	St. Bonaventure	Anthony Anene Okechukwi (R.I.P.)
	9.30am	Holy Family	John McGeehan (R.I.P. anniversary)
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Maria Fernandes family intentions
	11.30am	Our Lady	Teresa Sturt (R.I.P. anniversary)
	6pm	Holy Family	Pat Frost (R.I.P.)
26 Monday	9.30am	Our Lady	Stan Griffin (7 th anniversary)
	11am	St. Bonaventure	Funeral Mass
27 Tuesday	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Ruby Gray (sick)
	7pm	Our Lady	Maureen Brennan (R.I.P.)
28 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Family	Fr. John Casey
	12noon	Holy Family	Funeral Mass
29 Thursday	9.30am	Holy Family	Andrei Shah (R.I.P. birthday)
	12noon	St. Bonaventure	Patrick Glynn (R.I.P.)
	7pm	Our Lady	Pat Kennedy (R.I.P.)
30 Friday	9am	Holy Family	Funeral Mass
	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Maureen Brennan (R.I.,P.)
	7pm	Our Lady	Michael Large (R.I.P.)
01 Saturday	10am	St. Bonaventure	Susan Cairns (R.I.P.)
	6pm	Our Lady	Deceased members of Mulvany family