



**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

**8<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Parish Priest** Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234      [norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk)

**Assistant Priest** Fr. Marco Salvagnini 01707 327434      [marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:marcosalvagnini@rcdow.org.uk)

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

Parish Email: [wgc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:wgc@rcdow.org.uk)

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

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

It's harvest time! In many schools and churches produce is collected creating beautiful displays and non-perishable goods are gathered to be shared with those who are less fortunate. CAFOD this weekend will receive from us funds which will support people in developing countries, giving them hope and enabling them to look after themselves. Our local Food Bank at New Zion offers good which will help members of community benefit from items which are essential for the everyday but which in the present economic crisis can be hard to purchase. There are groups like the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and Herts Welcomes Refugees which reach out to people who for a variety of reasons find themselves in dire straits. As we look around at Creation, the autumn colours are setting in and Nature is preparing for the winter. It is the moment of change, thanksgiving and sharing.

In our Gospel reading from St. Matthew, Jesus offers the religious leaders the parable of the vineyard. The produce is grapes - beautiful colours and flavours which create wine in all its splendour! Jesus wants people to bear fruit, reminding them that he is the keystone which will be rejected but which will prove to be the keystone. The Lord Jesus has an essential part to play in the growth of the Kingdom of Heaven. Vines have long roots which penetrate the soil deeply; they have to be pruned to bear much fruit. Much patience is required! The gift of salvation is what the Lord wants us to share in. The Father sent his Son to be the source of unending life and love. Let's cooperate with this grace and work for the Kingdom and its fruits!

**God bless you all. With love and prayers, Fr. Norbert**

**RCIA** We started last Monday and 8 people came - brilliant! If you want to become a Catholic or if you are an adult Catholic who missed out on Confirmation, there is still time to join the group. Next session on Monday 9th October 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy.

**POLISH MASS AND PARTY** A huge thank you to everyone who made last Saturday's celebration so wonderful! Everyone had a great time!

**OPEN PARISH MEETING** Fr. Norbert would like to invite parishioners to an Open Parish Meeting on Tuesday 7th November at 8pm in the Trinity Hall. The accounts will be presented and hopefully every parish group will report on their activities. There will be time to plan for the coming year. Please put the date in your diary and come along.

**BAPTISMS** Please contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. Marco if you wish to arrange the Baptism of your child and they will organise all that is needed.

**MARRIAGE** Couples planning on getting married in WGC or elsewhere 2024/2025 should contact Fr. Norbert. **Saturday 10th February 2024** - the Marriage Prep Day.

**FOOD BANK** New Zion Christian Fellowship continues its Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. If you are able to drop off non-perishable food, New Zion is happy to receive contributions from 8am on a Wednesday. The address is 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. To make a financial contribution to the Food Bank, email [foodbank@newzioncf.net](mailto:foodbank@newzioncf.net) There are Food Bank Baskets at the back of our churches. Thank you.

**HERTS WELCOMES REFUGEES** needs good quality second hand school uniforms or donations to buy new ones for the refugee children. Contact [woodcraftvicky@gmail.com](mailto:woodcraftvicky@gmail.com)

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** on Saturday 4th November at 6pm at Our Lady's.

**SECOND-HAND BICYCLE** needed for a 13-year-old refugee from Ukraine. If you can help, contact Janet Lewis from SVP on 01707 326456. Thank you.

**HCPT GROUP 183** are gearing up for another pilgrimage at Easter 2024, taking disabled and disadvantaged children on a pilgrimage holiday to Lourdes. We have already had a few children interested in joining us, but currently we don't have enough helpers to take these amazing children away. We are in desperate need for more volunteers to come away and help look after our young people. If this is something you think you might be able to do, please contact Emma Moore on 07740858313

**MISSIO/RED BOXES** It is that time of year for the MISSIO Red Boxes to be emptied and the monies to be sent on to the Missions. Please do leave your box with us in Church in the next couple of weeks if you would like us to count and bank the contents and return the box to you in due course. Alternatively you can count the money yourself and donate by one of the ways listed below:

- Send cheque payable Missio-Mill Hill to Red Box, 23 Eccleston Sq London SW1V 1NU
- Online [missio.org.uk/redbox](http://missio.org.uk/redbox) - By text REDBOX 5 (to donate £5) or REDBOX 10 (to donate £10) to 70085 Or by phone 020 7821 9755 (office hours) - By Bank Transfer: Account Name Missio, Sort Code 16-00-16, Account number 10824230 (Reference RB+ your postcode)

*Your generosity makes such a difference and supports the work of the Missions. Thanks!*

**MASS INTENTIONS** *These can be booked through Fr. Norbert*

7th Saturday

6pm Our Lady Rosaleen And John Dicks' Intention

8th Sunday ***TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

8am St. Bonaventure Justin Gill and Aaron Dowell (intentions)

9.30am Holy Family Annie Clarke's Intention (80th birthday)

10.30am St. Bonaventure Johanna D'Costa RIP

11.30am Our Lady Tracey Laycock RIP

6pm Holy Family Peter McDermott RIP

9th Monday ***St. John Henry Newman***

9.30am Our Lady In thanksgiving (MF)

10th Tuesday

9.30am St. Bonaventure Peggy Moore RIP

7pm Our Lady Christy Gillispie RIP

11th Wednesday

9.30am Holy Family

12th Thursday

9.30am Holy Family

13th Friday ***St. Edward the Confessor***

9.30am St. Bonaventure Gerard Connolly RIP

7pm Our Lady

14th Saturday

10am St. Bonaventure Gerard Connolly RIP

6pm Our Lady Thomas Ryan RIP (month's mind)

**CONFESSIONS (Sacrament of Reconciliation)**

Saturdays 5pm-5.30pm Our Lady

Thursdays 10am - 10.30am Holy Family

Saturdays 10.30am - 11am St. Bonaventure

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** 10am - 10.30am Holy Family

**CHAPEL** at Our Lady's (near the Trinity Hall) is open Monday to Friday 7.30am until 6pm. Pop in for a moment of silence, to light a candle, to say a prayer.

**ST. ALBANS** The Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral takes place at 12 noon every Friday in the Lady Chapel. All are welcome. *13th October marks the 40th Anniversary of Catholic Mass in the Cathedral. There will be Choral Evensong on Sunday 15th 6pm followed by refreshments. All welcome.*

**STREAMED MASS** on [youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches](https://www.youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches) This Sunday's 10.30 Mass will be livestreamed.