

WELWYN GARDEN CITY



ST. BONAVENTURE



**OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES**



HOLY FAMILY

*Parish Priest: Fr. Norbert Fernandes Assistant Priest: Fr. Tom Montgomery
Parish Secretary: Kathryn Hubbard*

Summer Newsletter 2019 to include 28th July, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th August

Summer has come and we enter a different rhythm of life! There have been record temperatures and we have a new Prime Minister. Who knows what the holiday season will bring but now is a chance to think and reflect.

Firstly, I would like to thank Fr. Tom for the many ways he has contributed to the life of our parishes, especially by visiting the sick and housebound, and the care offered to the children and staff of Holy Family School. During his time with us here, he lost his Dad and I know how hard this can be. Getting ready for a new appointment will mean learning new ways and new faces. Our prayers are with him as his life moves into a new chapter.

In our parishes there are so many of you who offer help, give support and are ready to share in much of what has to be done. There are those involved in the Liturgy, creating a taste of heaven through what we see, hear, feel and experience. This is really appreciated. A parish isn't just about the Liturgy in church - the Mass continues in the every day with sacrifices, reaching out, service and befriending. There is a huge amount of work with the maintenance and upkeep of buildings and grounds, the Committees required by Canon and Civil Law and all the 'behind the scenes' work which keeps everything moving efficiently. Thank you too to Kathryn our Secretary for her dedication. There are hundreds who come every Sunday and on weekdays to pray and worship, gathering as community - your presence, commitment and enthusiasm is crucial to the life of our parishes here in Welwyn Garden City. With the onset of the summer, I hope you all have time to rest and be renewed.

As I come to the end of my eleventh year in Welwyn Garden City, I am so grateful for the privilege of being your Parish Priest and the extra opportunities I have received to discover further the wonder of being the Lord's priest. Please pray for me; I pray for you every day.
God bless you. ***Fr. Norbert***

NEWSLETTER This week's newsletter will be for the whole summer period. The next edition will be on 1st September.

FR. TOM Fr. Tom is leaving Welwyn Garden City on 2nd September to start as Assistant Priest at St. Bernard and St. Gabriel's Parish in Northolt and South Harrow. We wish Fr. Tom every blessing in his new posting. Fr. Tom's 'Farewell' will be at the 6 o'clock Mass on Sunday 1st September at Holy Family Church. Please keep this free and come if you can. If you are able to bring finger food to share at the reception, please let Kathryn Hubbard know on 01707 322579. There are envelopes at the back of our churches for those who wish to contribute to a 'Farewell Gift'; these should be returned to Kathryn Hubbard at St. Bonaventure's.

The new Assistant Priest will be Fr. Tony Thomas who is currently at St. George's, Sudbury (Harrow). Fr. Tony's first weekend will be 7th/8th September.

SEMINARIAN Dániel Vörös writes: "My time in Welwyn Garden City is coming to an end. I have really enjoyed myself. The people at every Mass in the three churches have been very important to me. Thank you for the kindness, hospitality and welcome I have received in so many ways. Please pray for me as I continue with my formation for priesthood. And I will pray for you. :) " May God bless Dániel in the years ahead!

FIRST FRIDAY The next early morning Masses at St. Bonaventure's will be on 2nd August and 6th September at 6.30am followed by breakfast in the hall. All welcome.

HOLY HOUR The next Restoration Holy Hours at Our Lady's will be on Friday 9th August and Friday 13th September at 7.30pm. There will be Scripture, prayer, music and silence before the Blessed Sacrament.

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY on Thursday 15th August is a Holy Day of Obligation when the Church asks Catholics to attend Mass. There will be 9.30am Mass at Holy Family, 12 noon Mass at St. Bonaventure's and 7pm Mass at Our Lady's.

BANK HOLIDAY Mass on Monday 26th August at Our Lady's will be at 10am.

MEDAL Sophie Constable has been an altar server at Holy Family for 20 years. She will receive a special medal from the Guild of St. Stephen at 9.30 Mass on Sunday 8th September. There'll be a 'Get-together' afterwards.

CHAPEL at Our Lady's will have to remain closed while the new Parish Centre is being built. We are sorry for the inconvenience caused.

MARRIAGE Any couples who wish to get married in Welwyn Garden City or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS Both Holy Family and Our Lady's Primary Schools are in need of Foundation Governors. These are appointed by the Diocese and play a crucial role in the life of our schools. Please have a word with Fr. Norbert if you are interested.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Dates for enrolment of children for First Confession and Holy Communion and young people for Confirmation will be published after the summer. **OPEN PARISH MEETING** on Wednesday 2nd October at 7.30pm (venue to be confirmed). Representatives of the various groups in our parishes are invited to give short reports, the finances of the three churches will be published. It will be an opportunity to plan for the coming year, so the presence of as many parishioners as possible will be crucial. Please come!

RECOMMISSIONING OF MINISTERS will be the weekend of 5th/6th October at all Masses. In preparation for this there will be an Evening of Reflection on Wednesday 18th September 7.30 - 9pm for all Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Musicians and Singers, Welcomers, Adult Servers and Catechists. (Venue is yet to be decided.)

SPECIAL NEEDS Masses in the autumn will be on 12th October and 30th November.

OUR LADY'S 60TH The Foundation Stone of Our Lady's Church was laid on 30th September 1959. The Cardinal has kindly agreed to celebrate Mass at Our Lady's on Sunday 15th September at 11.30am. Please let former parishioners know. Everyone is welcome. If anyone would like contribute 'finger-food' for the reception afterwards, please let Ann Chappell of the hospitality group know by 6th September (ahchappell@aol.com). Thank you.

ASSISI 2020 Brochures and booking forms are now available at the back of our churches. The pilgrimage will have Christians from WGC to mark the Centenary and will be from Sunday 24th May until Friday 29th May 2020. There will be limited places so if you are interested, please return your booking form to Pax Travel as soon as possible. If anyone needs an electronic version, please let Fr. Norbert know.

OBERRAMMAGAU Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th September, 2020. The brochures and booking forms are at the back of our churches. Let Fr. Norbert know if you require an electronic version.

MOTHER AND TODDLER This group has a break for a few weeks but will meet again on Wednesday 21st and 28th August. Why not come along. After the holiday the group will meet each week during term time. A good opportunity for your children to play together and for mums etc. to get to know one another.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S TUESDAY GROUP Meets again on Tuesday 10th September at 3.45pm in the parish hall.

ST. BONAVENTURE'S CHURCH CLEANING takes place at 10am on Thursday 1st August and **OUR LADY'S CHURCH CLEANING** and grounds maintenance takes place on Saturday 3rd August at 10am. All welcome to help.

CAFOD The next CAFOD meeting is on Tuesday 6th August at 2pm in the parish room at Holy Family. All are welcome.

The **CAFOD** group would like to thank parishioners who attended the Strawberry Tea. We raised £237.50. Thank you for your amazing support and generosity.

CAFOD BBQ is on 1st September from 1.30pm at Sandy and Bob Leys 401 Knightsfield WGC. Tickets will be £9.50 for children over 7 and adults and £5 for children under 7. The cost covers the cost of the BBQ which is usually homemade burgers, speciality sausages, chicken, fish, salad, bread, potatoes, dessert, cake, wine and soft drinks. It is a lovely social event with many supporters from all 3 churches in our parish and we hope to see you all there. There will also be a raffle.

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Kathryn Hubbard 01707 322579
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St. Bonaventure's Church
81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Fr. Tom 01707 327434
welwyngdncitydigs@rcdow.org.uk
Holy Family Church
194 Knightsfield AL8 7RQ

CONFESSIONS

Holy Family: Thursday **10am**
St. Bonaventure: Saturday **10.30am -11am**
Our Lady's: Saturday **5pm -5.30pm.**

Website for our 3 parishes
www.wgc-catholics.org.uk

ST ALBANS Every Friday at St. Albans Abbey-Cathedral a Catholic Mass is celebrated at 12 noon. You are all welcome.

DANCE CLUB Every Monday (except Bank Holidays) in the Woodhall Community Centre 2 - 4pm. Price for those who join in the tea dance £5. However, pensioners, those in wheelchairs or people on their own who would like to come for a cup of tea and a chat are welcome; no entry charge just price of a cup of tea.

MASS TIMES

Monday	9.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
Tuesday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
Wednesday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
Thursday	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
Friday	9.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	7pm	Mass	Our Lady's
Saturday	10am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	6pm	Mass	Our Lady's
Sunday	8am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	9.30am	Mass	Holy Family
	10.30am	Mass	St. Bonaventure
	11.30am	Mass	Our Lady's
	6pm	Mass	Holy Family

PLEASE NOTE 6.30am Mass on Friday 2nd August at St. Bonaventure.

Thursday 15th August is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses are as follows: **9.30am Mass at Holy Family, 12noon Mass at St. Bonaventure 7pm Mass at Our Lady's**

CHAPLAIN TO THE Q.E.II AND LISTER HOSPITALS: If you are going into hospital and need a Catholic Chaplain contact **Chaplaincy Office Tel: 01438 285138 (24/7) Urgent need: 01438 314 333 via text message: 07876 526935 email: chaplaincy.enh-tr@nhs.net**