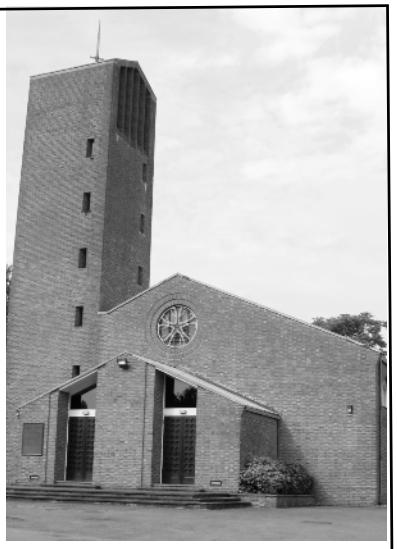
WELWYN GARDEN CITY

ST. BONAVENTURE

OUR LADY,
QUEEN OF APOSTLES



HOLY FAMILY

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

Summer Newsletter up to 3rd/4th September 2022

Another year is coming to an end! Just think back to 12 months ago. We still had reduced Masses with St. Bonaventure's closed. Mass was celebrated in half an hour even on a Sunday! Holy Communion was given out at the end of Mass and every other bench was closed off. No congregational singing could happen. None of the usual Sacramental preparation courses could happen nor could we gather socially. We were still so concerned for our well-being and that of others. Looking beyond our local area, the prospect of a change of Prime Minister or the invasion of Ukraine were certainly not obvious and the ensuing challenges to people's income, the availability of goods and the rises in the prices of petrol and other sources of energy would have been unimaginable. Everything has not got back to 'normal' and the pandemic lurks in new guises and continues to afflict. However, it does feel different.

I would like to thank all who have helped us through this period in our parishes. There has been much sacrifice made and a willingness to do things in a fresh way. In the Liturgy and behind the scenes there have been so many who have offered support. We have had to find new approaches to being community while keeping everyone safe and giving confidence to the vulnerable. Thank you!

In the Gospel reading for 17th July, St. Luke presents us with a picture of Jesus at home with friends in the village of Bethany. Martha and Mary are delighted to host Jesus and he is obviously pleased to be there. There are times in our lives when we need to sit close to Jesus and drink in his words. There are moments when activity and bustle are dominant. All the time Christ has to be at the centre. As we move down a gear or two for this summer of 2022, take stock and reflect on how we as a parish are busy doing the Lord's work and ready to be of service to others both in the Liturgy and out and about. Stop and ponder the contemplation we enter into at Mass, in church and in daily life. Be Marthas and Marys at once! Enjoy the intimacy of the Lord's love and be refreshed this summer.

To those going away, have a great time. To visitors, welcome! To those who remain in the area for the summer, enjoy the sunshine and get some rest. I keep you in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you. With much love, ***Fr. Norbert***

SUMMER NEWSLETTER This newsletter covers us for the Summer months; the next newsletter will be published the weekend of 3rd/4th September. The Scripture references for Masses and the reflections will be put on hold from now until September.

ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY falls on a Monday this year and so in this country will be transferred to the weekend of 13th/14th August.

RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION A good number of responses have come in these last few days. Thank you. There have been a variety of questions, some of which are dependent on the long-term approach of the Diocese. Please send in your thoughts; they are very important. There will be a Parish Meeting on Wednesday 28th September at 8pm in the new Trinity Hall (we hope) to consider the responses. We need MANY of you to come!

FINANCE COMMITTEES St. Bonaventure's Finance Committe will meet on Tuesday 19th July at 4pm. Holy Family's on Wednesday 20th July at 5pm and Our Lady's on Tuesday 6th September at 7.45pm.

BARBECUE Our thanks to the African Community for their generosity in organising and providing the barbecue on 3rd July. A donor has since paid for the drinks! For this we are very grateful.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION Any couples wanting to marry this year or next either in WGC or elsewhere should contact Fr. Norbert to organise the paperwork and the Marriage Course. Thank you.

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.

STREAMED MASS youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches On Sunday 17th July Mass will be streamed at 10.30am. After this there will be a break for the summer. The next streamed Mass from our parishes will be on Sunday 4th September.

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. The list of Mass intentions will be available on the parish website during this summer period.

SUPPLY PRIESTS During the holidays we will be welcoming Bishop Paul McAleenan, Monsignor Harry Turner, Fr. Stephen Coker and Fr. Frank Leonard to supply on some Sundays and a few weekdays. It is good to have their support and we know they will be warmly welcomed!

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK Our thanks to the SVP, their friends and all at the Focolare Centre for organising the Mass with the Anointing of the Sick on 16th July, for the transport, the warmth of welcome and the wonderful refreshments. It was really good to see the sick and housebound coming out for the celebration.

FUNERALS John Blackburn's Funeral Mass will be at Holy Family Church on Tuesday 26th July at 11am.

FIRST FRIDAY Next 6.30am Mass on Friday 5th August (and then Friday 2nd September) at St. Bonaventure's followed by breakfast in the hall. All welcome.

ST. BERNADETTE Some of the relics of St. Bernadette will be in our country from the beginning of September. Details can be found on stbernadette.org.uk They will arrive at St. Joseph's Church, Bedwell, Stevenage on Monday 17th October at 1pm and leave on Tuesday 18th October at 8.15am. There are various forms of prayer as well as Masses being planned for Stevenage and details will be published in September's newsletter.

SPANISH PRIEST Fr. Antonio Guerrero Quesada from the Diocese of Jaen in Spain has asked to come to Welwyn Garden City to improve his English and to discover the life of the Church in England. He is currently studying Scripture in Rome. All the necessary paperwork and testimonial have been completed and approved by the Vicar General. Fr. Antonio will arrive on 27th August and leave us on 20th September. If any of you would like to host him, take him out for the day or give him time to practise his English, please let Fr. Norbert know in due course.

CHURCH CLEANING and maintenance of the grounds at Our Lady's will be on Saturday 6th August at 10am and then on Saturday 3rd September at 10am. No specific dates have been arranged at Holy Family or St. Bonaventure's but these will be announced as and when. Our thanks to all who keep our churches clean and tidy and those who take care of the grounds. This is much appreciated.

CHAPEL at Our Lady's will be closed from Saturday 23rd July until Monday 5th September during the school holidays.
SVP A Ukrainian refugee is in need of a simple mobile phone in order to send and receive texts. Contact Janet if you can help. 01707 326456. Thank you.

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.

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81 Parkway AL8 6JF

Assistant Priest
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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

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 Kay Mason on 01707 335633. All necessary safeguarding and health and safety guidelines will be followed

ST ALBANS The Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral takes place at 12 noon every Friday in the Lady Chapel, All are welcome. Fr. Norbert will next celebrate this Mass on 26th August.

WH INTERFAITH Inspired by the words of Bishop Desmond Tutu 'If you want to peace, you talk to your enemies', the next inter faith meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 26th July at Oxlease Church Hall, 36 Woods Avenue, Hatfield AL10 8NA entitled 'Building Peace through dialogue'. Everyone welcome.

MASS TIMES

30 Saturday	**6pm**	Our Lady	Jim Morgan's intention
31 Sunday	**8am**	St. Bonaventure	George Okechukwu Duru (R.I.P.
	9.30am	Holy Family	People of the Parish
	10.30am	St. Bonaventure	Rajesh Anand (R.I.P.)
	11.30am	Our Lady	Augustus Joachim (R.I.P.)
	6pm	Holy Family	Patricia Frost (66th birthday)
01 Monday	**9.30am**	Our Lady	Private intention
02 Tuesday	**9.30am**	St. Bonaventure	Gordon and Kathleen Kerr (63rd
	7pm	Our Lady	Lizzy Francis birthday intention
03 Wednesday	**9.30am**	Holy Family	Tereza D'Souza (R.I.P. anniversary)
04 Thursday	**9.30am**	Holy Family	Paddy Loughrey (R.I.P. anniversary)
05 Friday	**6.30am**	St. Bonaventure	People of the Parish
	9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Paddy Loughrey (R.I.P. anniversary)
	7pm	Our Lady	Josie Bell and Louise Fearns (R.I.P.)
06 Saturday	**10am**	St. Bonaventure	David Metcalfe & Susan Cairns R.I.P
	6pm	Our Lady	Peter Bonass (R.I.P. anniversary)

PLEASE SPONSOR SPENCER WHITE

Spencer writes: I am fundraising for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Many of you will know that one of my best friends,
Michael Cade, suffers from MS, and treatments to date have not stopped the attacks. Recently he suffered another attack that required him being put under sedation and onto a ventilator. We are all keeping him and his family in our thoughts and prayers.

This is my way of doing my bit to raise money for a fantastic charity that has not only been a life-line to Mike but is at the forefront of leading medical treatment into combating MS.

The event I am fundraising for is Ironman 70.3 Weymouth which takes place on the 18th September. A gruelling triathlon consisting of a 1.9km swim, 90km bike ride, and ending with a half marathon. I am in the middle of a 12-week training programme, and to date, it is going well.

I have a fundraising page at JustGiving which is below, and you can also search for on the Justgiving website. My wife Jenny and I will also take donations in person.

Please click here: https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Spencer-White5?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=Spencer-White5&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=2c8397351ca14f26a8df30d16147520a.