



St Bonaventure
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Our Lady Queen of Apostles
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Holy Family
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WELWYN GARDEN CITY PARISH

CORPUS CHRISTI 22nd JUNE 2025

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

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

Today the Church celebrates Corpus Christi, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. We are given a Gospel passage from St. Luke which harmonises so much with the Last Supper as Jesus *takes...looks up to heaven...says a blessing...breaks and gives*. Those who are famished after a whole day in his company eat and are satisfied! The disciples, who initially wanted to send the people away, act as the Lord's instruments in sharing the broken bread. Nothing is wasted as the fragments left over are collected! The Mass defines who we are as Catholic Christians. We remember the Lord's Sacrifice and are immersed in the love of Calvary. We proclaim his Resurrection and taste of his Risen Body. We are filled with the Holy Spirit lavished upon us by the Lord. Heaven and earth are together in One Act of Worship.

Over the years I have never ceased to be amazed at the fresh experiences God gives me in the Eucharist. There are insights, people, life's highest and lowest points. There's the ordinary suffused with the divine. There's what I expect and then an overwhelming moment of Divine Presence bursting into my life. I am so grateful to God for this precious Gift which sustains us in our lives and opens us up to his peace. Is Holy Communion a reward for being *good* ? Is it a medicine for the *sick* ? Is it only my connection *with Jesus Christ*? Is it my oneness with my brothers and sisters in the church, in the Church, on earth, in heaven? Perhaps you might take time to ponder some of these questions today? As you will see in the newsletter, there are changes happening in the coming months. We trust that God is at work and that the inspiration Jesus gave his disciples through seeing possibilities may be the reality guiding us into the future. As my 17th year in Welwyn Garden City draws to a close, I give thanks to God for you, your loving service and support, your faith and joy. Thank you and God bless you. With love, **Fr. Norbert**

FR. MARCO will be leaving us at the end of August. His new appointment is 'missio ad gentes' to support the mission of the Neocatechumenal Way. The announcement was made to the Diocese by the Vicar General on Thursday. We will have a Farewell Mass on Saturday 30th August at Our Lady's at 6pm followed by a Reception in the Trinity Hall to which all are welcome. *We wish Fr. Marco every blessing and much happiness.*

NEW ASSISTANT PRIEST FOR WGC The Vicar General also announced to the Diocese that there will be a new Assistant Priest starting on 1st September - **Fr. James Boyle** who will be ordained priest on Saturday 28th June at Westminster Cathedral. Fr. James will live at Holy Family and serve our three churches. *Let us pray for him.*

STEFAN GUERZONI, who is one of our parishioners, has been accepted to start formation for Permanent Diaconate, serving in Welwyn Garden City. In recent weeks he has followed the selection process and, together with his wife Axelle, met the Cardinal last Saturday. For the first year he will be more involved in the life of our churches and then follow a part-time academic course leading to Ordination as Deacon in around 4/5 years' time. Stefan has Fr. Norbert's full support. He has a wife and family and a full-time job; his being a Deacon is the first of the 'Orders' of Holy Orders. Let us offer our prayers.

BAPTISMS Please contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. Marco to arrange the Baptism of your child.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES Congratulations to all the children who made their First Holy Communion this year. Our thanks to all who helped in any way!

CONFIRMATION Congratulations to the young people recently confirmed by Bishop Paul McAleenan. We are grateful to all involved in their preparation and the celebrations.

FOOD BANK New Zion Christian Fellowship continues its Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. Items received from 8am on a Wednesday at 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. Email foodbank@newzioncf.net if you wish to donate money. Please use the Food Bank Baskets at the back of our churches if you wish to give items: tins, pasta, rice & toiletries.

TRANSPORT TO MASS GROUP is there for parishioners who need a lift to Mass. Drivers are needed. Health & Safety training and Safeguarding requirements will be arranged. Call Anne Maclean-Eltham on 07811926002 or macleaneltham@gmail.com

LISTER HOSPITAL Non-urgent referrals to Chaplaincy Team 01438 285519, Urgent referrals 01438 314333 (and ask for duty chaplain), emailspiritualcare.enh-tr@nhs.net

MEDJUGORJE Fr. Norbert will lead a group to this Shrine of Our Lady in Croatia from Tuesday 21st - Tuesday 28th October 2025. There are 42 people signed up and room for up to 49! Book using: <https://www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/MJ1035/>

VISITORS Fr. Javier & Fr. Jose Antonio from Cordoba, Spain, will come in September to improve their English. These priests study in Rome. All documentation will be in place.

SUMMER YOUTH EVENT Fr. Marco has cancelled this event.

FILIPINO MASS What a brilliant time was had last week. The Liturgy was magnificent, the food delicious and the entertainment wonderful. *Thank you!*

MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK on Saturday 28th June at 12 noon at Focolare Centre (Parkway AL8 6JG) followed by refreshments. *ALL ARE WELCOME! No 10am Mass + Confessions on 28th.* The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a powerful experience not only for the person to be anointed but also for those who gather.

AFRICAN MASS on Sunday 29th June at 12 noon at Our Lady's. Come for a vibrant day of worship, music, food and culture! *The African Community invites you all to come!*

SATURDAY CLUB proposed for people with learning disabilities and their families/carers, meeting once a month for two hours offering a variety of activities, social time and refreshments. This would be supported by Caritas St Joseph's, the agency of the Diocese for those with Learning Disabilities. If you are interested in being a volunteer, come to Our Lady's Sacristy on Monday 14th July at 7pm (for an hour).

JUBILEE YEAR *Pilgrims of Hope*

Our Lady's WGC has been designated as the Jubilee Church for Hertfordshire. This means that by receiving Holy Communion, going to Confession, saying the Creed and praying for the Pope's Intention, you can receive a Plenary Indulgence for yourself or for someone who has died - helping you or the deceased towards eternity. In addition to Mass and devotions, works of charity or mercy are possible elements.

CARDINAL'S VISIT TO OUR LADY'S Sunday 6th July.

3pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament + Confessions *with visiting priests.*

4pm Cardinal will offer catechesis - *reflections on hope and time to consider his words.*

5pm Mass. This is for the whole of Hertfordshire. *There will NOT be 6pm Mass at Holy Family Church that evening.*

After Mass we will host a reception for the anticipated 600 guests/visitors. We will need lots of help! We will require up to 50 platters (1 loaf of bread makes 1 platter) of sandwiches and finger savouries. Also, tray bakes, cakes, cookies would be welcomed. If you can provide food, please contact Ann Chappell by 1st July (ahchappell@aol.com or 07784 781178) Thank you to all those who continue to support our Church with their contributions.

ALTAR SERVERS Please sign up to serve and make sure your albs have been washed.

CHURCH CLEANING on Saturday 5th July at 10am in Our Lady's. We need lots of extra help to make everything is looking its best! Please come and lend a hand.

VOLUNTEERS We need car parking stewards, welcomers and ushers, first aiders and people on hand with drinking water if the weather warms up again! *Please let Fr. Norbert know if you can help throughout the afternoon. Email him or give him your name and number.*

ST. EDMUND'S COLLEGE - Saturday 12th July *This event has been cancelled!*

HEADTEACHERS RETREAT AFTERNOON on 30th June in the afternoon. Heads from the Diocese of Westminster Academy Trust will have an afternoon of reflection in Our Lady's Jubilee Church led by Fr. Norbert.

DEAF SERVICE PILGRIMAGE to Our Lady's Jubilee Church on Tuesday 22nd July

FRIENDS OF WELWYN CARE HOMES AGM 26TH JUNE 7.30pm at Focolare Centre (AL8 6JG). All are welcome to hear about the new Hertfordshire project on enhancing the wellbeing of people with dementia through personalised music playlists. Contact: friendsofwelwyncarehomes@gmail.com/Anne Horsman 07771931063

LEARNING ABOUT BUDDHISM from Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith Group. Speaker: Julian Wall. Tues. 1st July 7.30 - 9pm Focolare Centre AL8 6JG. Coptic Cathedral trip on 24th June, those booked meet in Focolare car park 10.15. Info Frank 07855 460541

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (WGC) 70th Anniversary Mass on Saturday 19th July at 11am at Our Lady's with Reception in Trinity Hall. Friends/supporters welcome.

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL'S 60TH on Thursday 26th June. Mass at 9.30am in the school (Crookhams AL7 1PG). Bishop Paul McAleenan will celebrate this Mass on Thursday. Our congratulations to the school on this wonderful occasion!

WEEKDAY MASSES On **Tuesday 24th June**, morning Mass at St. Bonaventure's will be at 9am. On **Thursday 26th June**, parishioners are invited to Holy Family School for 9.30am Mass with Bishop Paul McAleenan for the School's 60th Anniversary. *So, no Mass or Confessions at Holy Family Church.*

OUR LADY SCHOOL Years 4 and 5 will join the parish on Monday 23rd June at 9.30am Mass. Years 1,2 and 3 on Monday 30th June.

MASS INTENTIONS

21st Saturday *St. Aloysius Gonzaga*

10am	St. Bonaventure	Mary Faithfull's Intention
6pm	Our Lady	Kitty Coakley RIP Anniv (50years)

22nd CORPUS CHRISTI

9am	St. Bonaventure	Maureen Bell RIP (10th Anniv)
10.30am	Holy Family	Clare Cooper RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Mary Davin RIP Anniv
6pm	Holy Family	Special Intention (CW)

23rd Monday

9.30am	Our Lady	Joseph O'Brien RIP Birthday
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24th Tuesday *NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST*

9am	St. Bonaventure	Stephen McArdle RIP
7pm	Our Lady	For the People

25th Wednesday

9.30am	Holy Family	John McGeehan RIP Anniv
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26th Thursday

9.30am	Holy Family School (Crookhams AL7 1PG) 60th Anniversary Mass	
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27th Friday *MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS*

9.30am	St. Bonaventure	Paul Hart's Intention
7pm	Our Lady	Michael Menezes & Damaciano Dias (Birthday Int)

28th Saturday *Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Irenaeus*

12 noon	Focolare Centre	Mass with the Anointing of the Sick
6pm	Our Lady	Marie-Colette Evans RIP

29th ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

9am	St. Bonaventure	Andrei Shah RIP Birthday
10.30am	Holy Family	Archbishop Emeritus Raul Gonzalves RIP
12 noon	Our Lady	Chacko Mooleparambil RIP
6pm	Holy Family	For the People

CONFESSIONS *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

Holy Family *No Confessions this week*

St. Bonaventure *No Confessions this week*

Our Lady Saturday 5 - 5.30pm

CHAPEL at Our Lady's near Trinity Hall open 8.30am - 4pm (Monday to Friday).

ST. ALBANS Catholic Mass at St. Albans Cathedral at 12 noon in the Lady Chapel

STREAMED MASS on [youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches](https://www.youtube.com/c/WelwynGardenCityCatholicChurches)