



**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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**26th April, 2026**

**Parish Priest** Canon Norbert Fernandes 01707 323234

[norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:norbertfernandes@rcdow.org.uk)

**Assistant Priest** Fr. James Boyle 01707 327434

[jamesboyle@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:jamesboyle@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator** Mrs Jacqui Boon 01707 323234 Tues/Wed/Fri 9am -12 noon, Thurs 1 - 4pm

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

We are half-way through the Easter Season! On this Sunday the Church invites us to pray for Vocations, and, in particular, for more Vocations to the Priesthood. Our Archbishop has issued an invitation to us all in today's Pastoral Letter - his first in Westminster. Let us take up the cause, reflecting on his words and offering our prayers: individually, as households and as a community. This year I will reach my 38th Anniversary of Priest and Fr. James his 1st. We do need more priests to serve in the parishes of our Diocese of Westminster and we need the commitment of our people to support priests with loving encouragement and to foster more Vocations to the Priesthood. There are many great and noble vocations in the Church and each one of us searches for, and responds to, the ways that God reaches out to us. Knowing what we should do or be doesn't always come easily and there may be challenges as we respond. However, the yearning to do God's will in Marriage, in Consecrated Life, as a Single person, as a Deacon and as a Priest - these all form a harmony of enrichment and help us as members of Christ's Body to be a chorus of life-giving joy to those around us.

In today's Gospel, Jesus says: 'I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.' We think of his great Sacrifice given for the life of the world and we rejoice that he loves us so much. In life we have to make sacrifices and there are times when we are not sure. Nevertheless the way in which Jesus responded to God the Father is a sign of how we can and should respond.

Thank you for who you are, and how we work together. Ponder who around you might need encouragement as they search for God's will. Perhaps you might be that person to help another discover himself or herself in their life's journey. God bless you.

With love and prayers, *Fr. Norbert*

**BAPTISM** Contact Fr. Norbert or Fr. James to arrange the Baptism of your child.

**FIRST COMMUNION MASSES** Our Lady's: Sundays 3rd and 17th May, 7th June all at 12 noon. Holy Family: Sunday 10th May 10.30am. St. Bonaventure: Sunday 24th May 9am.

**CONFIRMATION** The Confirmation Rehearsal will be on Sunday 26th April (today) at 3.30pm in Our Lady's Church. Bishop Paul McAleenan will celebrate the Confirmation Mass on Friday 8th May at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Church.

**RCIA** The Group will gather on Monday 27th April at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Sacristy to celebrate their recent reception of the Sacraments and the joy of joining the Church.

**MARRIAGE** Any couples planning to get married this year or next should let Fr. Norbert know so that all the necessary preparations can be made.

**FOOD BANK** New Zion Christian Fellowship Food Bank every Wednesday 9 - 11am. Items received from 8am Wednesdays at 140 Cole Green Lane AL7 3JE. Email [food-bank@newzioncf.net](mailto:food-bank@newzioncf.net) to donate money. Please use Food Bank Baskets.

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

**TRANSPORT TO MASS GROUP** is there for parishioners who need a lift to Mass. Call Anne Maclean-Eltham 07811926002 or [macleaneltham@gmail.com](mailto:macleaneltham@gmail.com)

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS & BREAKFAST** The next early Mass will be 1st May at 6.30am at St. Bonaventure's. Everyone is welcome!

**CHARO HYDEN RIP** Charo's Funeral Mass will be on Monday 27th April at 12.30pm at St. Bonaventure's.

**PATRICK HEALY RIP** Patrick's Funeral Service will be at Our Lady's on Wednesday 29th April at 11.30am.

**HELENA OGUNSANYO RIP** Helena's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Thursday 30th April at 9.30am.

**ANTHONY PIACENTINI RIP** Anthony's Funeral Mass will be at Our Lady's on Thursday 7th May at 9.30am.

**RICHARD NOLAN RIP** Memorial Service for Dickie on Friday 8th May at 2.30pm.

**CHURCH CLEANING** Our Lady's: Saturday 2nd May 10am and maintenance of the grounds. St. Bonaventure's: Tuesday 5th May after 9.30am Mass. Holy Family: Wednesday 6th May after 9.30am Mass.

**CROWNING OF OUR LADY** at Our Lady's Church on Monday 4th May. There will be Mass at 10am, Rosary with Crowning of Our Lady's Statue, Procession outside and Picnic Lunch in Trinity Hall Garden. All welcome! Let others know.

**CWL** The Catholic Women's League thank everyone who supported their Lenten lunches, raising £705.20 which will be divided between SVP, HCPT and the new flower fund for Church flowers. They also raised £136 for Marie Curie from the raffle.

**TIMES OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS** will be in next week's newsletter.

**BISHOP PAUL McALEENAN** will celebrate today's 12 noon Mass. We welcome visitors from St. Scholastica's Church, Clapton where he first served as Parish Priest.

**ST. BONAVENTURE'S CENTENARY** Soon the second phase of the redecoration of St. Bonaventure's Church will begin, getting ready for a worthy celebration of the 100th! The Foundation Stone was laid on 10th March 1926 and the first celebration of Mass on 14th September 1926. Unfortunately Archbishop Richard Moth cannot come but Bishop Paul McAleenan has kindly agreed to celebrate a Centenary Mass on Sunday 13th September at 3pm. This can be followed by an Afternoon Tea. Also, on the Feast of St. Bonaventure (Wednesday 15th July) the 9.30am Mass will be celebrated at St. Bonaventure's. A date will be set in early June to plan for these events.

*Watch this space!*

**OTHER WORKS** As mentioned before the electrics at Holy Family have been addressed. We are still waiting for the completion of the renewal of the flat roofs at Our Lady's...a long process! If anyone has money to spare, it would be gratefully received in paying off the remaining loan on the Trinity Hall (£100k) and the works which have been undertaken. Your generosity is great - thank you!

**BANK DETAILS** To pay parish by bank transfer, HSBC account WRC DT Welwyn Garden City, Sort code 400520 No. 51094459. *It is essential that there is paperwork or an email to stipulate how money is to be spent and who has made the payment. Thanks!*

**VOLUNTEERS** We are so grateful to the many volunteers who generously give their time and services to the Parish. The Diocese of Westminster asks that all volunteers complete a Confidentiality Agreement Form. *This is a requirement.* The forms are available at the back of each church. Please complete it and return to Fr. Norbert as soon as possible. Parents should complete one for their son/daughter who serves at the altar or who reads at Mass if they are under age. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**VOCATIONS SUNDAY** is this weekend. It is an opportunity to reflect on our different callings in the Church and how together we create a harmony of service to our world. It is also a chance to pray for those still discerning what God is calling them to do/be.

**PRIEST TRAINING FUND** Annual collection this weekend. Envelopes are available especially for those able to Gift Aid their contribution. Thank you.

**SATURDAY CLUB** for those with learning disabilities meets next on Saturday 9th May 2 - 4 pm in the Trinity Hall.

**SPECIAL NEEDS MASS** Sat. 9th May 6pm at Our Lady's followed by a Get-together in the Trinity Hall with bingo, a quiz, a raffle and refreshments. Bring food to share.

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:**

**FILIPINO MASS** Saturday 6th June 6pm.

**AFRICAN MASS** on Sunday 28th June 12 noon.

**POLISH-ENGLISH MASS** on Saturday 3rd October 6pm.

**HOLY FAMILY PRIMARY SCHOOL Careers Day** - 12th June 1.00 - 3.15pm. Could you help inspire Holy Family children (Years 4 - 6) informing them about different career choices? Please email [rparmley@holyfamily.herts.sch.uk](mailto:rparmley@holyfamily.herts.sch.uk) for more info.

**OPAL** (Outdoor play and learning) Can you donate: pots, pans and utensils, traffic cones, barriers and signs, anything with wheels - prams, wheel chairs, board with castors, skateboards, arts and crafts, materials or playdough tools? Contact school office on 01707 375518 or [admin@holyfamily.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@holyfamily.herts.sch.uk). Many thanks for your support!

**RUN4UNITY** is an annual, worldwide sports relay race and peace initiative. It links children and young people across different time zones to promote peace, fraternity and the "Golden Rule" (treating others as you want to be treated). It will take place at Our Lady's School, Welwyn Garden City AL7 3TF on Sunday 3rd May. The event will be opened by the Mayor, Mrs Lyn Chesterman at 2.30pm. There will then be a prayer for peace, followed by the Run4Unity and then other team games, finishing at 5pm. All are welcome. More information from Joy Watters 07710090150

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

### **25th Saturday**

6pm Our Lady Anthony Piacentini RIP

### **26th *FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

9am St. Bonaventure Christopher Boyle RIP  
10.30am Holy Family Raphael Winch (Intention)  
12 noon Our Lady Patrick Creamer RIP Anniv  
6pm Holy Family Angela Kidd's Family Intentions

### **27th Monday**

9.30am Our Lady Mary Cade RIP  
12.30pm St. Bonaventure Funeral Mass for Charo Hyden

### **28th Tuesday**

9.30am St. Bonaventure Nigel and Family (Special Intention)  
7pm Our Lady

### **29th *ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA***

9.30am Holy Family Michael McGeehan RIP  
11.30am Our Lady Funeral Service for Patrick Healy

### **30th Thursday**

9.30am Holy Family  
9.30am Our Lady Funeral Mass for Helena Ogunsanya

### **1st May Friday *St. Joseph the Worker***

6.30am St. Bonaventure  
9.30am St. Bonaventure  
7pm Our Lady

### **2nd Saturday *St. Athanasius***

10am St. Bonaventure Mary Cade RIP  
6pm Our Lady Vicente Carniyan Junior RIP Birthday

### **3rd *FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER***

9am St. Bonaventure Mary Cade RIP  
10.30am Holy Family Niamh Kinnane RIP  
12 noon Our Lady Richard Coakley RIP  
6pm Holy Family For people with no family

### **CONFESSIONS *Sacrament of Reconciliation***

Holy Family Thursday 10.00 - 10.30 (Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament also)  
St. Bonaventure Saturday 10.30 - 11am  
Our Lady Saturday 5 – 5.30pm

**CHAPEL** Open Monday to Friday 8.30am - 4pm

**ST. ALBANS** Catholic Mass St. Albans Cathedral on Fridays 12 noon Lady Chapel.

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

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** Our Lady's 12 noon Mass *The Rosary for children and families will be prayed in the Chapel on Sunday 10th May at 11.25am before Mass.*