

# The Parish of Blessed James Bell

Serving St Benedict's, St Mary's & St Oswald's, Warrington



Archdiocese of Liverpool

## Newsletter

Sunday 30 December 2018

*Feast of the Holy Family (C)*



Our Benedictine Heritage

Parish Priest: Fr Dave Heywood

Deacons: Revv Michael Birchall, David Boyle, Tony Kerrigan & Michael Oxley

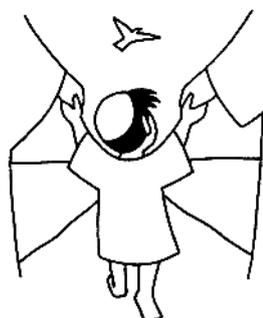
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St Benedict's Church is open Monday - Friday 9.00 am - 4.30 pm for Private Prayer (Exc. Bank Holidays)

St Benedict's & St Oswald's Masses & Services 30 December 2018 - 6 January 2019		
	ST BENEDICT'S Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE	ST OSWALD'S Padgate Lane, Warrington WA1 3LB
<b>Sunday 30 December</b> <i>Feast of the Holy Family (C)</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> <i>Jane Brindle</i>	<b>(Sat) 6.00 pm Vigil Mass</b> <i>Nadine Davies</i> <b>8.30 am Mass</b> <i>The Parishioners</i> <b>3.30 pm Polish Mass</b>
<b>Monday 31 December</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i>	<b>11.15 pm New Year's Eve Vigil Mass</b> <i>Colin Sykes</i>	<i>(No Prayer Group today)</i>
<b>Tuesday 1 January</b> <i>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God</i>		<b>12.00 noon New Year's Day Mass</b> <i>Nadine Davies</i> <b>3.00 pm Polish Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday 2 January</b> <i>St Basil the Great &amp; St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> <i>Ronnie Cooke</i>	
<b>Thursday 3 January</b>		<b>9.30 am Mass</b> <i>John O'Neill</i> <i>(No Novena Today)</i>
<b>Friday 4 January</b>	<b>12.15 pm Mass</b> <i>Thomas Bradley</i> <i>(No Meditation Today)</i>	
<b>Saturday 5 January</b>	<b>4.00 pm Slovak Mass</b>	<b>10.00 - 11.00 am Exposition</b> <b>6.00 pm Vigil Mass</b> <i>Kitty McCarthy</i>
<b>Sunday 6 January</b> <i>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (C)</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> <i>Gary O'Donnell</i>	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> <i>The Parishioners</i> <b>3.30 pm Polish Mass</b>



### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

Tuesdays 11.30 am - 12.05 pm St Benedict's\*

Saturdays 5.15 pm - 5.45 pm St Oswald's

*(Confession also available by appointment or on request)*

Parish Website: [www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk](http://www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk)



**St Mary's Shrine, Buttermarket Street, Warrington WA1 2NS**

Telephone: 01925 635664 Website: [www.fssp.co.uk/warrington](http://www.fssp.co.uk/warrington)

Served by the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter

Rector: Fr de Malleray FSSP [malleray@fssp.org](mailto:malleray@fssp.org) Assistant: Fr Conrad Loewenstein FSSP [padrek@libero.it](mailto:padrek@libero.it)

Assistant: Fr Ian Verrier FSSP [i-verrier@fssp.org](mailto:i-verrier@fssp.org)

**LATIN MASS IN THE EXTRAORDINARY FORM (with translations)**

<b>Holy Mass</b> <i>Sunday</i> 11.00 am & 6.00 pm <i>Monday to Saturday</i> 12.10 pm	<b>Confessions</b> <i>Everyday</i> 30 minutes before Mass <i>Saturday</i> 10.00 – 11.45 am	<b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b> <i>Saturday</i> 10.00 – 12.00 noon	<b>Holy Rosary</b> <i>Sunday</i> 5.30 pm <i>Monday to Saturday</i> 11.30 am
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**THIS WEEK**

**THE FEAST OF CHRISTMAS**

Thank you to everyone who came along to celebrate the great feast of Christmas, and to the many people who helped with the liturgies. In particular, may I thank the Deacons, the Sacristans, the Musicians and Singers, the Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, the Collectors and Greeters, and all those who prepared the churches - arranging the beautiful flowers, assembling the Cribs and the Christmas Trees, and the teams of cleaners who keep the churches looking so clean and welcoming.

May I also thank you for your cards and gifts, and for your kind words of encouragement and support. My two feline friends, Frances and Blaise, would also like to thank you for thinking of them – their new toys have distracted them from climbing the Christmas Tree for a little while!

May God bless us all with his peaceful presence as we begin the New Year together.

*Fr Dave*

**CHRISTMAS REFLECTION**

God has come down to earth.  
Born in poverty so we can become rich.

God has come down to earth.  
Born in an occupied country  
so we can have true liberation.

God has come down to earth.  
Born in a cold stable so we can  
experience the warmth of his love.

God has come down to earth  
as a tiny baby so we can  
learn from his vulnerability.

*By Ruth Hazelhurst*

**CRIB OFFERINGS**

Crib offerings traditionally go to support the work of Nugent (the social welfare agency of the Archdiocese).



**ALTAR SERVERS**

Altar Servers are invited to renew their commitment at Mass this weekend. New servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen. After the 10.30 am Mass at St Benedict's, all servers are invited to stay for lunch together.

**ALTERNATIVE NEW YEAR IN CHURCH**

**New Year's Eve Mass**

If you would like to welcome in the New Year in church, there will be a Vigil Mass at 11.15 pm on New Year's Eve at St Benedict's, followed by the chimes of Big Ben (live), a New Year Blessing, and some cheese and wine.

**New Year's Day Mass**

The first day of the New Year is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. There will be a New Year's Day Mass at 12.00 noon at St Oswald's. All welcome.

**PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR**

Holy God,  
as we enter this new year,  
we thank you for your presence with us  
in all the years of our lives.

We have known joy, and also sorrow,  
success and failure,  
and through it all, you have been with us  
– the companion of all our journeys.

Much of life is fleeting  
and so we thank you for things that endure:  
the love of faithful friends,  
wisdom gained from experience,  
the reliability of nature,  
and your steadfast love.

We thank you for this New Year which awaits us.  
Take us by the hand and lead us on.  
Amen.

**2019**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Archdiocesan Mission Statement**

“Taking to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus, we will go into the world to proclaim the Good News to the whole of creation.”

## POPE FRANCIS' CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2018

*(Excerpt from the Homily given by Pope Francis on Christmas Eve)*

Joseph with Mary his spouse, went up "to the city of David called Bethlehem" (Lk 2:4). Tonight, we too, go to Bethlehem, there to discover the mystery of Christmas.

Bethlehem: the name means house of bread. In this "house", the Lord today wants to encounter all mankind. He knows that we need food to live. Yet he also knows that the nourishments of this world do not satisfy the heart. In Scripture, the original sin of humanity is associated precisely with taking food: our first parents "took of the fruit and ate", says the Book of Genesis (cf. 3:6). They took and ate. Mankind became greedy and voracious. In our day, for many people, life's meaning is found in possessing, in having an excess of material objects. An insatiable greed marks all human history, even today, when, paradoxically, a few dine luxuriantly while all too many go without the daily bread needed to survive.



Bethlehem is the turning point that alters the course of history. There God, in the house of bread, is born in a manger. It is as if he wanted to say: "Here I am, as your food". He does not take, but gives us to eat; he does not give us a mere thing, but his very self. In Bethlehem, we discover that God does not take life, but gives it. To us, who from birth are used to taking and eating, Jesus begins to say: "Take and eat. This is my body" (Mt 26:26). The tiny body of the Child of Bethlehem speaks to us of a new way to live our lives: not by devouring and hoarding, but by sharing and giving. God makes himself small so that he can be our food. By feeding on him, the bread of life, we can be reborn in love, and break the spiral of grasping and greed. From the "house of bread", Jesus brings us back home, so that we can become God's family, brothers and sisters to our neighbours. Standing before the manger, we understand that the food of life is not material riches but love, not gluttony but charity, not ostentation but simplicity.

The Lord knows that we need to be fed daily. That is why he offered himself to us every day of his life: from the manger in Bethlehem to the Upper Room in Jerusalem. Today too, on the altar, he becomes bread broken for us; he

knocks at our door, to enter and eat with us (cf. Rev 3:20). At Christmas, we on earth receive Jesus, the bread from heaven. It is a bread that never grows stale, but enables us even now to have a foretaste of eternal life.

In Bethlehem, we discover that the life of God can enter into our hearts and dwell there. If we welcome that gift, history changes, starting with each of us. For once Jesus dwells in our heart, the centre of life is no longer my ravenous and selfish ego, but the One who is born and lives for love. Tonight, as we hear the summons to go up to Bethlehem, the house of bread, let us ask ourselves: What is the bread of my life, what is it that I cannot do without? Is it the Lord, or something else? Then, as we enter the stable, sensing in the tender poverty of the newborn Child a new fragrance of life, the odour of simplicity, let us ask ourselves: Do I really need all these material objects and complicated recipes for living? Can I manage without all these unnecessary extras and live a

life of greater simplicity? In Bethlehem, beside where Jesus lay, we see people who themselves had made a journey: Mary, Joseph and the shepherds. Jesus is bread for the journey. He does not like long, drawn-out meals, but bids us rise quickly from table in order to serve, like bread broken for others. Let us ask ourselves: At Christmas do I break my bread with those who have none? ...

... "Let us go now to Bethlehem" (Lk 2:15). With these words, the shepherds set out. We too, Lord, want to go up to Bethlehem. Today too, the road is uphill: the heights of our selfishness need to be surmounted, and we must not lose our footing or slide into worldliness and consumerism.

I want to come to Bethlehem, Lord, because there you await me. I want to realize that you, lying in a manger, are the bread of my life. I need the tender fragrance of your love so that I, in turn, can be bread broken for the world. Take me upon your shoulders, Good Shepherd; loved by you, I will be able to love my brothers and sisters and to take them by the hand. Then it will be Christmas, when I can say to you: "Lord you know everything; you know that I love you" (cf. Jn 21:17).

### SCHOOL ADMISSIONS Consultation on Admissions Arrangements for September 2020

Schools across the Archdiocese are consulting on proposed changes to admissions policies to take effect from September 2020. The consultation period will run until 25 January 2019 and any comments should be sent to the Archdiocese of Liverpool and to the Chair of Governors of your school. Further information about the proposed changes and where to send any comments can be found on school websites

and at <http://liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/schools/Admissions-Consultations> Paper copies are available from schools.

### EXPOSITION AT SACRED HEART PARISH CENTRE

The Keralan / Indian community are having Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday 2 - Saturday 5 January in a room of the Parish Centre at Sacred Heart. Each day from 10.00 am - 5.00 pm they will be praying in particular for Pope Francis and Priests. Everyone welcome.



**SAFEGUARDING IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF US ALL!**

**Parish Safeguarding Reps:**

Celia Baxter, Doreane Child,  
Clare Fraser & Claire Lancaster

**Telephone (01925) 630127**

*If you believe that a child or vulnerable adult has suffered or is in immediate risk of suffering significant harm, for example, physical or sexual assault or theft of their property, then you should contact the Police immediately.*

**QUOTE FROM POPE FRANCIS**

“Take some time to do this: Go to the Nativity scene and be silent. And you will feel, you will see the surprise”

*(General Audience, 19 December).*

**PEER TALK SUPPORT GROUP**

Warrington’s peer support group for anyone facing depression or a related mental health condition runs weekly at The Gateway, Sankey Street, every Monday evening at 7.00 pm. It’s free and offers a safe space to offload, to be heard and to receive support to help work through difficult times. No need to book or be referred.

For more information visit:  
[www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/support-groups](http://www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/support-groups)

**LET US HOLD IN PRAYER**



**Those who are sick or homebound, especially:**

*St Benedict’s* Paul Vernon, Jean Molphy, Anne Hill, Susan Keating, Ann Brown, Bill Hampson, Peter Milner, James Malone, Vera Brindle, Pat Buist, Thomas Ireland, Matilde Valentine, Brenda Snelson, Syd Bradshaw, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Ged Wallace, Margaret Russell-Cruise, Barbara Edmondson

*St Mary’s* Luciano Bartolo

*St Oswald’s* Susan Disley, Mary Massey, Maureen Holt, Catherine Carne, Jo Roberts, Sam Johnson, Betty Mannion, Margaret Watts (nee McGinty), Mike McCarrick, Doreen Thurston, John Gorman

*Other Parishes* Margaret Fay, Catherine Donaldson, Laurence Finn, Fr John Gildea, Fr Malcolm Prince, Alan Brompton, Mgr Austin Hunt, Rebekah Stone

**Those who have died recently:**

*St Benedict’s* Colin Cooper

**Prayer for the People of Indonesia**

O God,  
hold those who are hurting,  
comfort those who are in mourning,  
calm those who are panicking,  
surround with safety those who are traumatised,  
shelter those who are homeless,  
be a beacon of wisdom and guidance  
for those directing rescue operations.

As you entered into the blood, sweat and tears of life,  
help us to enter into lament, love and solidarity  
with our sisters and brothers in Indonesia,  
standing together with those you love  
in their time of deepest need.  
May they know they are not alone.  
In Jesus name, Amen.

*(Christian Aid)*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Sunday – Feast of the Holy Family (C)  
Weekdays – Christmas Weekdays  
Divine Office – Psalter Week 2

**NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS**

Is 60: 1-6; Jn 3: 2-6  
Matt 2: 1-12

**ST BENEDICT’S - 200 CLUB WINNER**

23 December:  
To be confirmed

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Please ensure the Parish Office receives items for the Newsletter by Wednesday at the latest. Tel: 630127

**ST OSWALD’S PARISH CENTRE**

Padgate Lane, Warrington, WA1 3LB

**The Week Ahead**

Sunday	9.00 pm	Quiz – Concert Room
Monday	<i>The Bar is open as usual</i>	No Sequence Dancing No Line Dancing
Wednesday		No Bingo

For Bookings call 07932 404364 before 7 pm, or 812266

**PARISH FINANCE**

**Total Offertory Collection for 23 December 2018**

St Benedict’s	£494.41 (£230.50 GA)
St Oswald’s	£489.64 (£213.15 GA)
Standing Orders	£62.65 (£55.73 GA)
<b>PARISH TOTAL:</b>	<b>£1,046.70 (£499.38 GA)</b>

**OTHER INCOME**

Poor Box	£147.59
Hymn Book Fund:	£287.90 (Inc. £85.90 from St Benedict’s School)
Advent Caritas:	£247.00 (Christmas Hamper, St Oswald’s)

**CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS**

St Benedict’s	£620.89 (£283.30 GA)
St Oswald’s	£991.75 (£309.10 GA)
<b>PARISH TOTAL:</b>	<b>£1612.64 (£592.40 GA)</b>

*Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity*

**ST BENEDICT’S PARISH CENTRE**

Rhodes Street, Warrington, WA2 7QE

**The Week Ahead**

Sunday	8.30 pm	Cabaret
Monday	8.00 pm	New Year’s Party
Wednesday		No Drama
Thursday		No Line Dancing

For Bookings call 07377 341982 before 7 pm, or 633920