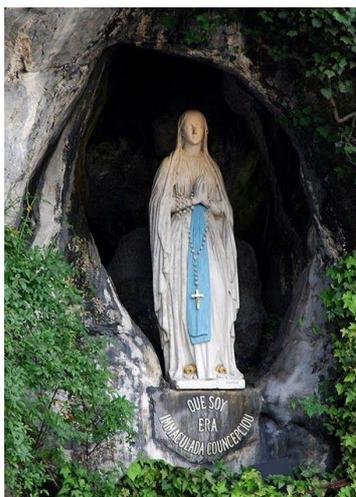


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
26 July 2020**

My dear sisters and brothers,

Usually, the Liverpool Archdiocesan Pilgrimage is in Lourdes this weekend and we celebrate Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes here in the parish. This year, with all that's going on, there is no pilgrimage to Lourdes. Instead, there's going to be an online pilgrimage. You will find details below. We will join this Lourdes 'At Home' Pilgrimage by offering Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes today (Sunday) as we usually do.

This week, I've had two interesting Zoom meetings. The first was with the Archdiocesan Environmental Task Group – a new group set up by the Trustees of the Archdiocese. It was great to meet online with others who are passionate about God's creation and heartening that our Archdiocese wants to make care for the environment a priority. This year, we will celebrate Creation Day at the beginning of September as we've done for the last four years and, hopefully, many other parishes in the Archdiocese will begin to do the same. I'll also be able to let you know how I've got on with my resolution of reducing my carbon footprint by walking between the churches and schools I serve instead of driving.

The second Zoom meeting was the launch of Sr Maria's new ministry in the Archdiocese – Signadou Ministries. As you may remember, before the lockdown, Sr Maria began some sessions in the parish entitled, "You are worth more than gold", helping us to reflect on our relationship with God. Part of this initiative includes creating a mosaic for the restored

Grotto at St Benedict's. It was really good to meet the people supporting this new ministry who come from all over the UK and from all walks of life. Although the mosaic project is delayed because of the pandemic, it will happen and will see young and older parishioners coming together to create a mosaic for the new perimeter wall of the Grotto.

Speaking of the Grotto. The restoration project was almost completed before the lockdown. Two weeks ago, work resumed. The structure has been secured, the ivy trimmed, a new 'cave' flooring together with a spring have been installed, a new perimeter wall (on which the mosaic will hang) and a carefully crafted iron grill have been built, and some beautiful plants have taken root. The statues have gone to be refurbished. When they return, we will have a celebration to bless the newly restored Grotto, even though the mosaic won't be complete until next year. When it is, we can have another celebration!

With my prayers,
Fr Dave

General Information

1) **Fr Dave** is available by phone (01925 630127) or by email fdave@rcaolp.co.uk Address: St Benedict's Priory, Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE.

2) Parish Office

The Parish Office is now open but on a part-time basis until September. Celia is available: Monday to Friday, 10.30 am – 2.30 pm. If possible, please make an appointment rather than just turning up. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: blessedjamesbell@rcaolp.co.uk

3) Parish Website

The Parish Website (www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk) is updated each day with news, as we get it, as well as prayers and reflections.

4) Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals

Although the Government has given permission for these sacraments to take place in church again – with a maximum of 30 people and other restrictions – we are not ready to celebrate these sacraments in church at present. The priests of the area will review this situation in August. For now, funerals will continue to be celebrated at the graveside or crematorium, subject to the conditions laid down by the cemetery or crematorium authorities. A Memorial Mass or Service can be celebrated in church at a later date.

5) Sacrament of Reconciliation

Individual confession can be celebrated on request (as long as hygiene and social distancing requirements are observed).

6) Care of the Sick

Please contact Fr Dave if you are concerned about a loved one at home, in hospital, or in a care home.

TEMPORARY MASS TIMES AT ST BENEDICT'S

Tuesday to Friday 11.00 am
Sunday 10.00 am & 12.00 noon

The church is open for private prayer:

Tuesday to Friday 10.30 am – **1.00 pm**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sunday	10.00 am	The Parishioners
	12.00 noon	NHS Staff
Tuesday	11.00 am	Thanksgiving (JH)
Wednesday	11.00 am	Eric Price
Thursday	11.00 am	Maureen Holt
Friday	11.00 am	Private Intention
Sunday	10.00 am	Special Intention
	12.00 noon	The Parishioners

NUMBERS AT MASS

With social distancing, we can only admit 50 people to church at present. However, those from the same household can sit together which increases the number we can admit. To give you some idea of numbers coming to church, these are last week's numbers: Sun 10.00 am **36**, Sun 12.00 noon **20**, Weekdays: Tue **25**, Wed **21**, Thu **15**, Fri **17**. *Please remember:* there is no Sunday obligation at present.

LOURDES 'AT HOME' PILGRIMAGE

The live-streamed services can be accessed through the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/Liverpool-Lourdes-at-Home-2020-109541120834991>

Saturday 25 July	2.00 pm Opening Mass 7.00 pm Reconciliation
Sunday 26 July	11.00 am Mass (Bishop Tom) 7.00 pm Exposition
Monday 27 July	10.30 am Mass 7.00 pm Rosary
Tuesday 28 July	12.00 noon Mass (Archbishop) 7.00 pm Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 29 July	11.30 am Mass 7.00 pm Exposition
Thursday 30 July	12.00 noon Mass of Healing 7.00 pm Torchlight Procession
Friday 31 July	11.00 am Mass of Thanksgiving 7.00 pm Exposition

VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND

The Deacons and I would like to visit with communion (and wearing PPE) all those who are homebound, have been shielding or continue to self-isolate during the

month of August. However, **so as not to put anyone under pressure, please phone the Parish Office (630127) if you would like us to visit you. We will only arrange to visit you if you ask us to.** *Fr Dave*

THANK YOU

† Many thanks to the 'First Act Drama Group' for their donation of £50 to the Parish.

† St Joseph's Family Centre have written to pass on their enormous thanks to parishioners who have continued to support them during the pandemic.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

Today	17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
<i>Readings</i>	1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12 Romans 8: 28-30 Matthew 13: 44-52
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 17
Wednesday	St Martha
Friday	St Ignatius Loyola
Saturday	St Alphonsus Liguori
Sunday	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

FUNERALS

This week: Ewelina Anna Kane (Wed) & Cheryl Susan Lingley (Thu).

If you know someone who has died and you are unable to attend their funeral, there are resources on the Parish Website that you could use for a time of prayer at home.

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's

Vera Brindle, Ann Brown, Barbara Edmondson, Josie Hackwell, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Thomas Ireland, Susan Keating, Peter Milner, Jean Molphy, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Ernie Roocroft, Margaret Russell-Cruise, Brenda Snelson, Matilde Valentine, Paul Vernon, Paul Whitlow.

St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo.

St Oswald's

Catherine Carne, Susan Disley, Betty Fiddler, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Mary Massey, Mike McCarrick, Jo Roberts, Margaret Watts (nee McGinty).

Other Parishes

Veronica Baker, Alan Brompton, Catherine Donaldson, Clare Holloway, John Hughes (Vietnam).

Those who have died recently, especially:

Ewelina Anna Kane & Cheryl Susan Lingley.

If you would like to add a parishioner to the prayer list, please check with them first and then email Fr Dave or give him a note of their name and phone number. Many thanks.