

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**  
**11 October 2020**

My dear sisters and brothers,

### Funerals

There was a distressing incident at a funeral in the Midlands last week which made the news. In a crematorium, two sons moved their chairs to be close to their mother during the funeral for their father. The video showed a member of staff interrupting the service to request that the two men moved their chairs back to their allotted positions which meant they couldn't comfort their mother.

Although this incident shouldn't have happened, I was disappointed that it became a news item because the vast majority of funerals during the current pandemic have been arranged and celebrated with incredible care and sensitivity. Here, in Warrington, the funeral directors, the staff at the cemetery or crematorium, and the minister leading the service work together with the family to ensure that a seating plan is agreed, and the service is personal. In my experience, people have remarked how lovely the services have been – not at all what they were expecting given some reports in the media in recent months.

So I would like to reassure parishioners that while it is necessary to celebrate funerals at the graveside or in the crematorium for the time being, every effort goes into making sure the services are as each family would want them. The priests of the Pastoral Area are also

offering to celebrate a Mass or service in church for loved ones who have died at a later date.

### Pandemic Weariness

Almost everyone I've spoken to this week has said that they are feeling weary – including me! I use the word 'weary' deliberately because the feeling is more than just being tired. This weariness is normal in a pandemic, in fact some medical professionals are now talking about 'Covid Fatigue'. Everything changed for us on 23 March, and while most of us coped very well during the lockdown, the longer the situation goes on our minds and bodies use up a lot of energy leaving us weary – mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. That's why I finished last week's newsletter with this advice:

"Let's look after ourselves, keep in touch with our loved ones, encourage each other to keep the rules because they're there for good reason, keep in touch with the Lord because we brighten his day, and let's keep a sense of humour!"

It may help to take each piece of advice above and list what you need to do to, for example, look after yourself, keep in touch with loved ones, etc.

With my prayers,  
*Fr Dave*

### General Information

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

### 2) Parish Office

The Parish Office is open Monday to Friday, but at the slightly shorter time of **10.00 am – 4.00 pm**. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: [blessedjamesbell@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:blessedjamesbell@rcaolp.co.uk)

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

### 4) Funerals

Funerals will continue to be celebrated at the graveside or crematorium for now. 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 social distancing requirements are observed).

### 6) Piety Stall

Thanks to Chris Sykes and Mary Eason, the Piety Stall is now open at St Benedict's after Masses on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. The Piety Stall at St Oswald's will need to remain closed for the time being, so please feel free to order and purchase items at St Benedict's.

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
<b>Sunday 11 October</b> 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependents</i>	<b>10.00 am Mass</b> The Parishioners <b>12.00 noon Mass</b> Dorothy McErlaine	<i>The Polish Mass is being celebrated at St Stephen's at 3.30 pm</i>
<b>Monday 12 October</b>		
<b>Tuesday 13 October</b>	<i>Funeral Service for Brian Smith at Walton Lea</i>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> David Mahon
<b>Wednesday 14 October</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Nadine Davies	
<b>Thursday 15 October</b> St Teresa of Avila	<i>Funeral Service for Tricia Black at Walton Lea</i>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Vincent Hennessey <b>7.00 pm Novena to Our Lady</b>
<b>Friday 16 October</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Kevin Holt & Family	
<b>Saturday 17 October</b> St Ignatius of Antioch	<b>2.45 pm Baptism</b>	<b>12.30 pm Baptism</b> <b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> The Parishioners
<b>Sunday 18 October</b> 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Synod Sunday &amp; World Mission Day</i>	<b>10.00 am Mass</b> (Joan Howl) <b>12.00 noon Mass</b> Monica Weld Richards	<i>The Polish Mass is being celebrated at St Stephen's at 3.30 pm</i>

### SYNOD 2020

Next weekend, we will celebrate the third Synod Sunday in the Archdiocese. Originally, this was to be the weekend of our Synod 2020 event, but the pandemic means this will now take place in June 2021. On Synod Sunday, a summary of the proposals for the four Synod Themes will be published which you will be able to find on the Synod Website. Local Synod Members will be inviting your response to these proposals in the next few weeks as we continue to discern the Church God is calling us to be. Check out the Synod website: [www.synod2020.co.uk](http://www.synod2020.co.uk)

### QR CODES

If you have downloaded the **NHS Covid-19 Test and Trace App**, you can now 'check-in' when you arrive at church by holding your phone in front of the QR code displayed on the doors of both churches. There's also a handout with more details about the app. next to the newsletters.

### PARISH CARITAS DONATIONS

Thank you so much to those who have been able to make donations to help those who are struggling at this time. *This week:* £10 (Anon), £300 (M Jones), £50 (Anon).

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 4)*

**Today**            **28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**  
**Readings**        Isaiah 25: 6-10  
                           Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20  
                           Matthew 22: 1-14  
**Weekdays**      Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 28

### 'FRATELLI TUTTI'

This week, Pope Francis issued an encyclical letter on fraternity. It's incredibly powerful and invites us to rediscover the life God has always meant for us.

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

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

#### *St Benedict's*

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

#### *St Mary's*

Luciano Bartolo, Hilda Creagan.

#### *St Oswald's*

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

#### *Other Parishes*

Alan Brompton, Catherine Donaldson, Clare Holloway, John Hughes (Vietnam), Joseph Webster.

**Those who have died recently, especially:**

Brian Smith, Tricia Black, Mgr Austin Hunt, Ron Clare, Deacon Eric Moore.

*If you would like to add a parishioner to the prayer list, please check with them first and then let Fr Dave know. Many thanks.*

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