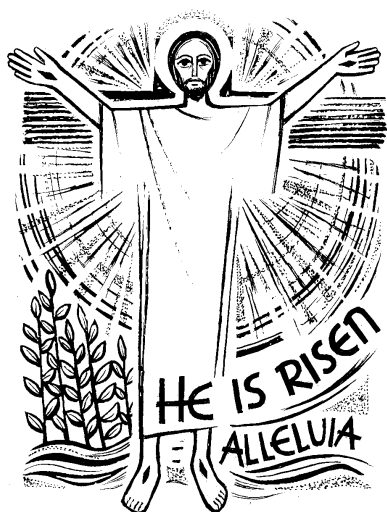


# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

**Easter Sunday – 4 April 2021**

**“This is the day that God has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it!”**

*(Psalm 117)*

A very happy Easter to you all! May the joy of this day – the greatest day of the year for Christians – lift your spirits and bring hope to your hearts.

With my prayers,  
*Fr Dave*

### EASTER MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

The events of the first Easter morning began quietly, in stark contrast to the violence and baying crowds which accompanied the crucifixion on Good Friday. Mary Magdalen went to the tomb early in the morning on the first day of the week – while it was still dark – while it was quiet with no people around and none of the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem, the busy city. Things began to change when she saw that the stone had been rolled away, she ran to Simon Peter and the disciple John saying, ‘they have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we do not know where they have laid him’. The disciples ran to the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, they believed.

Mary though was not joyful, she did not have hope, she stood outside the empty tomb weeping asking where the body of Jesus had been taken. Yet as she recognised the risen Jesus her life was transformed moving from darkness to light, from sorrow to joy and from despair to hope.

For over a year now we have been living under the darkness of the pandemic, just as the light of the Risen

Christ is always with us so we have seen light in that darkness through the bravery, generosity and kindness of others. The light offered to us by the heroes of our NHS, carers, and all who have worked to keep our country going.

Easter is always a time of reawakening and this year as a country we are approaching our own reawakening. Our villages, towns and cities have been quiet, but they are slowly and cautiously coming back to life. We are seeing hope through the vaccine, developed through the gifts of science, giving us hope for a better and safer future.

There have been times of grief, loss, doubt and despair during the dark days, and we hold in prayer all who have suffered. We bring those times to our celebration of the resurrection which begins in darkness in our churches with the lighting of the Easter Candle symbolising the risen Christ. A life-giving light overcoming the darkness, bringing healing to a broken world.

Just as the lives of Mary Magdalen and the disciples were transformed on the first Easter morning so too our lives may be transformed as we embrace the light of the Risen Lord who sheds his peace on all humanity.

May God bless us all on this glorious Easter Day.

**Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon, OP**  
*Archbishop of Liverpool*

### 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

*This week:* The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10.00 am – 3.00 pm.

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

#### 4) Funerals

Funerals continue to be celebrated at the graveside or crematorium for now. We plan to review this measure after 12 April.

#### 5) Care of the Sick & Dying

Fr John and Fr Dave continue to cover the hospital. If you are concerned about a loved one, please ask the hospital to page us and we will attend as soon as possible. If you're worried about a loved one in a care home, please ask the care home to contact us directly. Thank you.

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
<b>Easter Sunday, 4 April</b> <i>*Booking required</i>	<b>10.00 am Mass*</b> The Parishioners <b>12.00 noon Mass*</b> (Frances Fawcett)	<b>(Sat) 8.00 pm The Easter Vigil</b> Leslie Wordsworth
<b>Monday 5 April</b>		
<b>Tuesday 6 April</b>		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Angela Persse
<b>Wednesday 7 April</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Fr Anthony Fagan	
<b>Thursday 8 April</b>		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Mary & John Middlehurst <b>7.00 pm Novena</b>
<b>Friday 9 April</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Shelia Thompson	
<b>Saturday 10 April</b>		<b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Mark Hastry
<b>Sunday 11 April</b> 2nd Sunday of Easter (B)	<b>10.00 am Mass</b> Marion Naughton <b>12.00 noon Mass</b> (Parishioners)	

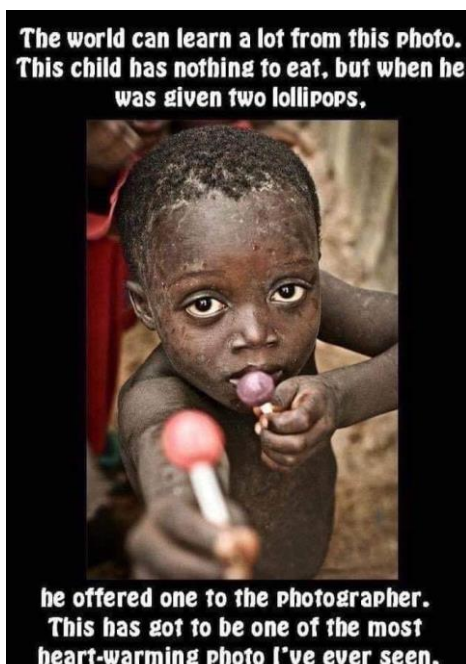
### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Archbishop will be coming to Warrington in the Autumn to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with those young people who are currently in Year 8 at High School. An invitation will be issued to young people in Year 8 at St Gregory's Catholic High School and Cardinal Newman High School in the next few weeks. However, if your child is in Year 8 at another High School and would like to be Confirmed this year, please contact Fr Dave by the end of April. Thank you.

### CATHOLIC PICTORIAL

The April edition of the Catholic Pic is now available in print in church and online at this address:

<https://bit.ly/3dpZUxc>



### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)*

#### Today

*Readings*

#### Easter Sunday

Acts 10: 34, 37-43

Colossians 3: 1-4

John 20: 1-9

#### Weekdays

Easter Octave

*Alleluia!*

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

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

#### *St Benedict's*

Vera Brindle, Ann Brown, Josie Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Thomas Ireland, Susan Keating, Peter Milner, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Ernie Roocroft, 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, June Fallon, Carole Hart, Fr Dunstan Harrington, Canon Bert Shaw, Redemptorist Brothers & Priests of Bishop Eton, Fr Bernard Jackson, Fr Anthony Fagan.