

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## 2nd Sunday of Easter (B)

11 April 2021

### Gathering Song

*Music:* Jesus Christ is risen today (14th century)

### Greeting & Introduction

#### Litany of Praise

Risen Lord Jesus Christ:

You lead us from darkness to light.

**R. Praise to you, Risen Lord!**

You lead us from death to new life.

**R. Praise to you, Risen Lord!**

You are hope for all who are hopeless.

**R. Praise to you, Risen Lord!**

You are Lord of all.

**R. Praise to you, Risen Lord!**

You are justice for those who are broken and  
downtrodden.

**R. Praise to you, Risen Lord!**

Your Cross and Resurrection set us free.

**R. Praise to you, Risen Lord!**

Glorious, Risen Saviour.

**R. Praise to you, Risen Lord!**

#### Collect

God of everlasting mercy,  
who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast  
kindle the faith of the people  
you have made your own,  
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,  
that all may grasp and rightly understand  
in what font they have been washed,  
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,  
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading

*(Acts 4: 32-35)*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### Alleluia-Psalm 117

#### Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.'
- 2 The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.
- 3 The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

### Gospel

*(John 20: 19-31)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,  
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.  
For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven;  
for those whose sins you retain,  
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and

unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Homily

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.**

### Bidding Prayers

*After each intention:*

Risen Saviour!

**R. Hear our prayer.**

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

### Preparation of the Gifts

*Music:* Battle is o'er, hell's armies flee

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

### Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the oblations of your people,  
that, renewed by confession of your name  
and by Baptism,  
they may attain unending happiness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

*Holy, Holy* – Community Mass (Richard Proulx)

*The Mystery of Faith*

**Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

### Communion Rite

#### Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

#### Communion

*Music:* The Lark Ascending – Ralph Vaughan Williams

#### Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that our reception of this paschal Sacrament  
may have a continuing effect  
in our minds and hearts.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## Concluding Rite

### Blessing & Dismissal

#### Distribution of Communion

*Music:* He is risen, he is risen – C.F. Alexander



### Acknowledgements

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