

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## The Ascension of the Lord (B)

13 May 2021

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### KEEPING EACH OTHER SAFE

#### When you arrive:

- 1) You will be asked for your details for the purposes of contact tracing (these details are kept confidential, secure and are destroyed after 21 days).
- 2) You will be asked to sanitise your hands.
- 3) You may be seated by a steward. We have to do this at some Masses because we have a limited number of places in church and don't want to have to turn anyone away.
- 4) You must wear a face covering or mask at all times and keep to the one-way system.

#### During Mass:

- 1) Once seated, you are asked to remain in your place until invited to move at the end of Mass.
- 2) Unfortunately, there can be no congregational singing at this time, and the toilets must remain closed except in case of a genuine emergency.

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

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### Introductory Rites

#### Gathering Song

*Music:* Hail the day that sees him rise – Charles Wesley

#### Greeting & Introduction

#### Gloria

*Music:* Little Organ Mass – Joseph Haydn

#### Collect

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,  
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,  
for the Ascension of Christ your Son  
is our exaltation,  
and, where the Head has gone before in glory,  
the Body is called to follow in hope.  
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 1: 1-11)*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Alleluia-Psalm 46

#### God mounts his throne to shouts of joy! Alleluia! Alleluia!

- 1 All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth.
- 2 God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise for God,  
sing praise to our king.
- 3 God is king of all the earth,  
sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
he reigns on his holy throne.

#### Gospel

*(Mark 16: 15-20)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them: 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

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:* Ascendit Deus – Peter Philips

### Prayer over the Offerings

We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord, to honour the wondrous Ascension of your Son: grant, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms. 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

Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass.

*Music:* Viri Galilæi – William Byrd

#### Prayer after Communion

Almighty ever-living God,  
who allow those on earth to celebrate divine mysteries,  
grant, we pray,  
that Christian hope may draw us onward  
to where our nature is united with you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## Concluding Rite

### Blessing & Dismissal

#### Distribution of Communion

*Music:* Alleluia sing to Jesus – W Chatterton Dix

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### DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

- 1) Please do not move until you are invited to do so by a steward.
- 2) The words 'The Body of Christ' and the reply 'Amen' will only be said once at the beginning of communion.
- 3) Please maintain **social distancing** when you move and try to avoid contact with the minister's hands by keeping your hands as flat as possible.
- 4) When you have received the host, simply step to the side, lower your face covering and place the host in your mouth.
- 5) You will then be directed to leave church, so please bring any belongings with you, and please take this sheet home with you.

*Many thanks*

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### Acknowledgements

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