

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (B) 6 June 2021

My dear sisters and brothers,

Since he was elected in 2013, Pope Francis has been inviting us all to embrace Synodality as a path for the Church in the Third Millennium. Synodality is about a particular way of being Church. Instead of the old pyramid model with the pope at the top and the people at the bottom, a Synodal Church is everyone journeying together to become the Church God is calling us to be. It's more than a decision-making process, it's about everyone learning to take responsibility, sharing their gifts, and working together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

During the last three years, we have been trying to live out this way of being Church in preparation for our own Archdiocesan Synod. We have spent time praying together, listening to each other, discerning and proposing recommendations to be voted on in order to develop a Pastoral Plan for the Archdiocese.

In some areas of the Archdiocese, this process has been greeted with great enthusiasm, in others not so much. On top of this, we've had a pandemic which has interrupted the process. As a result, some have felt we should stop, regroup and start again; others have felt we should carry on because interruptions are part of everyday life from which we can learn.

However imperfect the Synodal process has been, God can and will use our efforts and willingness as Synod Members gather on 19 June to vote on the recommendations which have emerged from the many hours of listening and sharing across the Archdiocese.

Following the voting on 19 June, the outcomes will be presented to the Archbishop who will convene a group

of people to help him prepare a Pastoral Plan for the Archdiocese. This group will be made up of people and priests from across the Archdiocese, together with six people from around the country working in different church settings who can help in crafting the Plan because of their breadth of experience.

Whatever your feelings about the Synod – and I know there are many – let's give God a chance to work through our fallible efforts for the good of the people we try to serve, now and in the future. We know we need to do something, so let's try to do something and make it work. I have no doubt that God will bless our fumbling. After all, it's his Church and it has survived for two thousand years precisely because it's his Church.

Next Sunday, 13 June, everyone in the Archdiocese will be invited to set aside a few minutes each day leading up to the 19 June to pray for the Synod process. Imagine all the people in all the parishes of the Archdiocese joining in a few minutes of prayer each day! A prayer sheet will be available next weekend to help, but a simple prayer of silence is more than enough.

With my thanks to everyone who has played a part in the Synod process over the last three years – and to those who are about to start by joining in the week of prayer next week.

With my prayers as always,
Fr Dave

General Information

- 1) **Fr Dave** is available by phone (01925 630127) or by email frdave@rcaolp.co.uk Address: St Benedict's Priory, Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE.
- 2) **Parish Office** is open at the moment from Tuesday to Friday, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm.
- 3) **Parish Website** www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk
- 4) **Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals**
Up to 50 people can now attend a Funeral at St Benedict's and up to 80 people can attend a Funeral at St Oswald's. Up to 30 people can attend a Baptism or Wedding.
- 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.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Sunday 6 June Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (B)	10.00 am Mass Private Intention (LISC) 12.00 noon Mass (Robert Whitlow)	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners
Monday 7 June		
Tuesday 8 June		11.00 am Mass Fr Eric Fisher
Wednesday 9 June	11.00 am Mass Janette Slingo	
Thursday 10 June		12.30 pm Funeral Mass Terry Daniels 7.00 pm Novena
Friday 11 June Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (B)	No Morning Mass today <i>(Funeral in Southport)</i>	
Saturday 12 June The Immaculate Heart of Mary		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Angela Persse
Sunday 13 June 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)	10.00 am Mass Josephine Clare 12.00 noon Mass (Parishioners)	

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confession is available on request or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Young people in Year 8 who wish to be confirmed in the Autumn are invited to register online at: <https://liverpoolcalled.co.uk> If there are young people in older year groups who haven't been confirmed and would like to be, they are also welcome to register.

UPDATE FROM CAFOD

Thanks to your support, CAFOD has been helping communities around the world to cope with the pandemic. In Zambia, we've been able to reach 1,234,200 people with messages on COVID-19, provide 13,312 people with access to safe water, train 392 frontline health workers from Zambia's 11 dioceses on how to prepare and respond to COVID-19 in their local communities, and donate over 1000 handwashing hygiene stations in communities to support handwashing measures. Thank you for standing alongside the people in Zambia and for supporting people in more than 30 other countries worldwide.

IRENÆUS PROJECT

'The Word of the Lord endures forever' - reflections on the Letters of Peter and Jude by Fr Chris Thomas. These will take place by zoom on Thursdays 10, 17, 24 June and 1 July from 10.30 am – 12.00 noon. To book a place, email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk.

CATHOLIC PIC

The June issue of the Catholic Pic is now available as you leave church and online at: <https://bit.ly/2RfTnhE>

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

Today **Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**
Readings Exodus 24: 3-8; Hebrews 9: 11-15
Mark 14: 12-16, 22-26
Weekdays Ordinary Time – Week 10

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's

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

St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo, Hilda Creagan.

St Oswald's

Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Jan Davies, Susan Disley, Betty Fiddler, Margaret Inkersol, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Mary Massey, Mike McCarrick, Jo Roberts, Mark Van Schoor, Margaret Watts, Barry Wood.

Other Parishes

Alan Brompton, Catherine Donaldson, Clare Holloway, John Hughes (Vietnam), June Fallon, Carole Hart, Fr Anthony Fagan, Pamela Watson (*nee* Park).

Those who have died recently, especially:

Terry Daniels, Deacon Bert Wright, Deacon John Keeley.