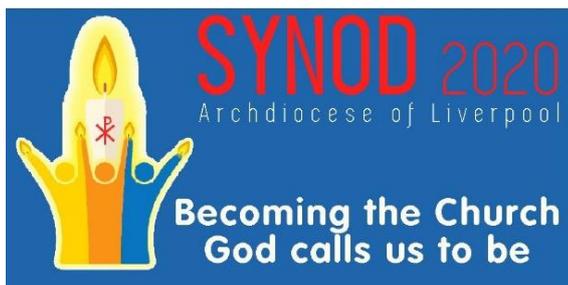


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
13 June 2021

My dear sisters and brothers,

Archdiocesan Synod

After almost four years of listening, sharing, prayer and discernment, our Synod journey culminates in an important meeting next Saturday in which all the Synod Members will vote on the recommendations we have made.

The Archbishop invites everyone in the Archdiocese to join him in a few minutes of prayer each day this week – asking the Holy Spirit for guidance. As you leave church today, you will receive a prayer leaflet which may be helpful.

As I said last week, “whatever your feelings about the Synod... 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.”

You may recall that our Parish Synod Member, Ron Clare, died suddenly last September. Clare Lancaster kindly stepped into his shoes. Ron was very enthusiastic about the Synod and I’m sure he will be rooting for us all from his place in heaven. We will remember Ron at Mass next weekend.

“Data not Dates”

We were told that the Prime Minister’s roadmap out of lockdown would be based on ‘data not dates’, which seems an eminently sensible approach. Yet many of the Prime Minister’s own backbenchers, together with a significant number in the media, have consistently challenged this approach whenever the data has warned against relaxing restrictions. This has not only

added to the weariness and frustration that so many of us are beginning to feel after 15 months of the pandemic, but it is not helping any of us to manage the situation in which we find ourselves. It’s no wonder people are turning off the news and increasingly ignoring the guidelines.

A virus has no regard for dates. A virus simply wants to spread. The only way we can halt the spread of the virus is by doing the things we’ve been doing – hands, face, space and ventilate. When we relax these measures, the virus will simply circulate again. Vaccination is our way out of the pandemic, but this needs to be universal. Until it is, we are likely to continue to face the threat of the virus spreading, especially when new variants enter the country.

I do believe we are at the stage when we need to learn to live with the virus. Lockdowns are really a last resort for those times when the virus is out of control. So let’s hang in there. We’re in a much better place than we were, but we’re not out of the woods yet.

New Covid-19 Symptoms

The Delta (Indian) variant is now the dominant variant in the UK and the symptoms are different. The top five symptoms reported are: (1) Headache, (2) Sore Throat, (3) Runny Nose, (4) Fever, (5) Cough.

Parishioners from Hong Kong

Finally, a very warm welcome to those who have arrived in the parish from Hong Kong and have been joining us for Mass. It’s great to have you with us. Know you that you are very welcome. If you need any help or support whatsoever, do please contact me.

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. These rules will be reviewed on 21 June.

5) Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confession is available on request or by appointment.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Sunday 13 June 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)	10.00 am Mass Josephine Clare 12.00 noon Mass (Parishioners)	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Angela Persse
Monday 14 June		
Tuesday 15 June		11.00 am Mass Barry Wood
Wednesday 16 June	11.00 am Mass Nadine Davies	
Thursday 17 June		11.00 am Mass Those who died in the blitz (Liverpool 1941) 7.00 pm Novena
Friday 18 June St John Rigby, Martyr	11.00 am Mass Successful Operation	
Saturday 19 June		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Sarah Boardman
Sunday 20 June 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>Day for Life</i>	10.00 am Mass The Parishioners 12.00 noon Mass (Ron Clare)	

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. The deadline is 28 June.

DAY FOR LIFE

Next Sunday is the annual Day for Life – a day set aside by the Church to pray for the gift of life from conception to natural death. The theme for this year is 'End of Life Care'. There will be a **Second Collection** at the end of Mass next weekend to support the work of Church pro-life organisations. For more information: www.dayforlife.org

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

May 2021

Offertories	£2634.43	£1108.00 Gift Aid
Standing Orders		
& Online Giving	£922.27	£719.00 Gift Aid
Total	£3556.70	£1827.00 Gift Aid

Thank you so much for your generosity.

A PRAYER

O God, we hope in you: you carve us on the palms of your hands; you promise not to forget us, even if a woman should forget her own child; you count the hairs on our heads; you go out after your lost sheep, and welcome your children home, like the father welcomed home his prodigal child. Be hope for our journey, courage in times of challenge and comfort in times of despair. Be hope for us today, O God. Amen.

(From the Diocese of Kerry, Ireland)

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)

Today	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
<i>Readings</i>	Ezekiel 17: 22-24 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10 Mark 4: 26-34
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Week 11

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 Roocroft, 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:

Andrew Maher

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