

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
25 July 2021**

My dear sisters and brothers,

Grandparents & Older People

Today is the first World Day for Grandparents and Older People. Pope Francis decided to institute this special day in light of the pandemic and the suffering of older generations in every part of the world.

In his encyclical, 'Fratelli Tutti', Pope Francis writes, "We have seen what happened to the elderly in certain places in our world as a result of the coronavirus. They did not have to die that way. Yet something similar had long been occurring during heat waves and in other situations where older people found themselves cruelly abandoned. We fail to realize that, by isolating the elderly and leaving them in the care of others without the closeness and concern of family members, we disfigure and impoverish the family itself. We also end up depriving young people of a necessary connection to their roots and of wisdom that the young cannot achieve on their own" (FT 19).

Pope Francis has written a message to grandparents and older people which you'll find by the newsletters in church and on the parish website.

Lourdes 'At Home' Pilgrimage

Sadly, the annual Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes has had to be cancelled for the second year running. Instead, there will be a Lourdes 'At Home' Pilgrimage this week which you can watch online or attend in person. You will find details of the pilgrimage, which starts today, on the parish website and on a sheet next to the newsletters in church. Today, we will celebrate Masses in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes as has become our custom in recent years.

"And he's off!"

Yes, folks, after the Masses today I will be taking a break for ten days and I can't wait – I'm so tired. Please remember that our churches will be closed during this time so that our volunteer stewards can have a well-deserved break as well.

As I mentioned last Sunday, there won't be any Masses at St Benedict's or St Oswald's next weekend (1 August). So, while the Sunday obligation remains suspended, I invite you to keep the Lord's Day at home in your own way as you did during the lockdown rather than going to other local churches which, because of social distancing, are already at capacity on Sundays.

Many thanks for your support, your kindness and especially your prayers.

God bless you,
Fr Dave

SYNOD 2020 UPDATE

"After all the Synod votes were counted and considered, the next step was a meeting with the Archbishop, his Council and the Pastoral Plan Group. This took place at the Pastoral Centre of the Leeds Diocese for five days from 12 July.

"During this week, the votes on the 19 Recommendations took centre stage. These votes, the Synod Themes and the 27,000 contributions of the listening stage were allowed to direct and speak to the development of ideas for the Pastoral Plan. Alongside this, the prayer and liturgy of each day inspired our thoughts and plans. At the centre of this was Christ himself whose light was shed on our Synod and on the realities of the world in which we are called to minister and live.

"It was a hard week but one full of life and energy. By the Thursday, a way forward was beginning to emerge. It is challenging but also life giving, and most of all faithful to Christ experienced through the discernment that has been our pattern of working throughout the whole Synod journey.

"The ideas, and there were many of them, have surfaced. The next stage is for a writing group to gather (for a week) to try to present what has emerged in a way that we can put it into place and make a difference. The Archbishop and his Council will then review the Plan. The Pastoral Plan Group will meet again for three days in September and then we will work out how to rollout the Plan so that it can be shared with everyone at the end of November."

Archbishop Malcolm, Fr Philip & Fr Matthew

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Sunday 25 July 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) <i>World Day for Grandparents and Older People</i>	10.00 am Mass The Parishioners 12.00 noon Mass Angela & Mike Birchall	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Successful Operation (R)
Monday 26 July Saints Joachim & Anne		
Tuesday 27 July		No Mass today
Wednesday 28 July	No Mass today	
Thursday 29 July St Martha		No Mass today
Friday 30 July	No Mass today	
Saturday 31 July St Ignatius Loyola	<i>Please Note:</i> There will be no Sunday Masses this weekend. While the Sunday obligation remains suspended, you are invited to keep the Lord's Day at home in your own way rather than going to other local churches which are at capacity due to social distancing.	
Sunday 1 August 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)		

COVID-19 DELTA VARIANT

It's important to remember two things. First, even if you have received two jabs, you can still catch Covid-19 and transmit it to others. However, the vaccine should prevent you becoming seriously ill. Secondly, the Delta variant is presenting different symptoms. The top five symptoms reported are: (1) Headache, (2) Sore Throat, (3) Runny Nose, (4) Fever, (5) Cough.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER and SENDCO

St Benedict's Catholic Primary School
 L8 (£50,151) - L12 (£55,338)
See School website for full details

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) The **Parish Office** will be closed from 26 July to 4 August inclusive.
- 3) **Parish Website** www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk
- 4) **Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals**
 Up to 50 people can attend a Baptism, Wedding or Funeral at St Benedict's and St Oswald's for now
- 5) **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
 Confession is available on request or by appointment.
- 6) **Piety Stall**
 The Piety Stall is open after Mass at St Benedict's. At St Oswald's, please ask Fr Dave after Mass if you want to visit the stall.
- 7) **Toilets**
 The toilets have reopened. Please ensure you sanitise whatever you touch after use. Thank you.

NEXT WEEKEND'S NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE PARISH WEBSITE AS USUAL

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

Today **17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**
Readings 2 Kings 4: 42-44
 Ephesians 4: 1-6
 John 6: 1-15
Weekdays Ordinary Time – Week 17

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's

Vera Brindle, Ann Brown, 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, Stephen Whitlow, Stuart Williams.

St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo, Hilda Creagan.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, 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, Cathy Spencer, Margaret Watts.

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:

Mary Seymour and Josie Hackwell.