

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
30 January 2022

My dear sisters and brothers,

A Little Kindness

I've been struggling recently with the amount of anger, impatience, and unkindness I'm seeing just now – on the roads, in the shops, in daily interactions between people, and in the media. I guess it's a lot to do with the weariness we're all experiencing with the ongoing pandemic as well as the amount of misinformation that is winding people up.

This was weighing on me during the week as I went into the hospital to see those who wanted to see a priest. As I entered one of the wards, a young doctor – no doubt tired and overworked – stopped what he was doing and asked, "How are you, Father?" I didn't know what to say. I wasn't expecting it. He then went out of his way to find the person I was looking for and asked if there was anything else he could do help.

That little kindness has stayed with me all week and it has reminded me that there are so many people around us who offer little acts of kindness every day, often unseen and unspoken about. They are not as obvious or as loud as those who are angry, impatient, or unkind.

When I'm visiting in the hospital, I am surrounded by kindness. I see the nurses making people comfortable, emptying bed pans, helping individuals with tasks they can no longer do for themselves as well as comforting and reassuring patients as they lie in bed.

Closer to home, there's not a day goes by when I don't see parishioners reaching out to each other. Before Mass, it's so lovely to see folk greeting each other,

asking how so and so is, and offering the promise of prayers. In our schools, while senior leaders, teachers and their assistants operate under immense pressure, they always put the children first and do so with such kindness, gentleness, and encouragement.

Yes, there is a lot of ugly anger, impatience, and unkindness in society just now; but there is far more kindness if we stop for a moment and reflect.

Crisis in Afghanistan

No doubt you have seen the appalling humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan in the media. In an effort to reach out, I suggest we support CAFOD's Afghanistan Crisis Appeal through a Second Collection at Mass next weekend.

With my prayers,
Fr Dave

IT'S GOOD TO TALK

On Thursday, 3 February, you are invited to stroll a mile or two around Bank Park. As you walk, we can talk about anything. We would love to hear your thoughts on some of our exciting plans for the coming year. We would love to hear your thoughts on how we can help get Warrington talking. We're always keen to hear new ideas on how we can continue conversations that end the stigma around mental health. Walks commence at 11.00 am, 12.00 pm, 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm. The pace will be relaxed. Dress according to the weather. The surface is flat and there are plenty of benches should you want to rest. The paths are suitable for wheelchairs. To book your place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/time-to-talk-day-strollcoffee-and-a-chat-tickets-247269739447>

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** is open Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. The Parish Office email address is: blessedjamesbell@rcaolp.co.uk

3) **Parish Website** www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk

4) Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confession is available on request or by appointment.

5) **St Benedict's Church** is open for private prayer: Monday to Friday, 10.00 am – 3.00 pm.

6) **Communion at Home** – If you are not able to come to Mass and would like to receive communion at home, please phone the Parish Office (630127).

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Sunday 30 January 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)	10.30 am Mass Josie Gately	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Bill Jarvis 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 31 January St John Bosco		7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 1 February		11.00 am Mass Victoria Lanzilotto
Wednesday 2 February Feast of the Presentation of the Lord	11.00 am Mass Ged Pidgeon	
Thursday 3 February St Blaise		11.00 am Mass Kathleen Hug 7.00 pm Novena
Friday 4 February	11.00 am Mass Christine Stone	
Saturday 5 February St Agatha		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Ged Snelson
Sunday 6 February 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)	10.30 am Mass Ann Brown	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

CONFIRMATIONS 2022

If you are in Year 8 and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, please visit the website www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk and click 'Register for Confirmation' at the top right-hand side of the page. Registration is open until 21 March 2022. Information about the preparation scheme can also be found on the Liverpool Called website.

DEMENTIA AWARENESS SESSION

Sr Moira Meeghan is hosting an online dementia awareness session on Tuesday 8 February at 7.00 pm. The session will explore issues of dementia and how you can help someone to live well with dementia. For the link to access the session, please contact jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

COLLECTIONS – DECEMBER 2021

Offertories	£3593.85	(£1311.10 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£919.88	(£592.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£4513.73	
Christmas	£1156.00	
Parish Caritas	£1210.00	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

VACANCY

The Archdiocese is seeking to recruit an Administrator for its Safeguarding Department. See under 'Jobs' at: www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk

NEW WEBSITE

There's a new website exploring the life and work of the late Fr Kevin Kelly, Fr Tom Cullinan and Fr Austin Smith: www.fr-tom-cullinan.co.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 4)

Today	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
<i>Readings</i>	Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19 1 Corinthians 12: 31-13: 13 Luke 4: 21-30
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 4

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's

Vera Brindle, Carol Feeney, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Thomas Ireland, Susan Keating, Peter Milner, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Ernie Roocroft, Margaret Russell-Cruise, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Paul Vernon, Stuart Williams, Dolores Woodall.

St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo, Hilda Creagan, Trina and Geoff Mouldsdale.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Susan Disley, Betty Fiddler, Margaret Inkster, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Mary Massey, Mike McCarrick, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts.

Other Parishes

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

Those who have died recently, especially: Ethel Moffatt.