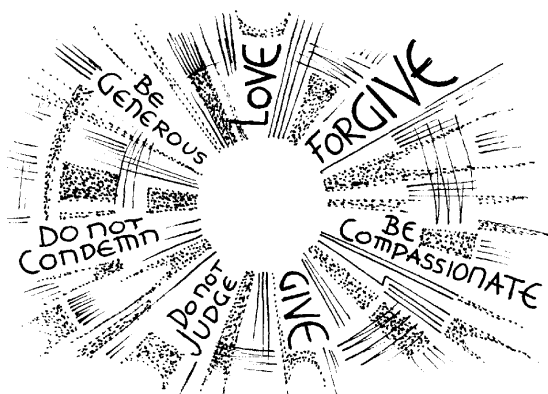


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
20 February 2022

My dear sisters and brothers,

Deaneries and Deans

Last week, I had to cancel Tuesday's Mass while I attended a Training Day for Deans. This raised some questions, such as "What is a Dean?"

The Archdiocese is made up of 141 parishes. Each parish is grouped with a number of other parishes. These groups of parishes are called Deaneries. So the parishes in Warrington make up the Warrington Deanery. Last December, Warrington Deanery was extended to include Widnes as well. So we are now part of the Warrington and Widnes Deanery.

Each Deanery is led by a Dean. A Dean is a priest appointed by the Archbishop to act in his name. Broadly, the role of the Dean is two-fold: to support and care for the clergy of the Deanery, and to nurture and guide collaboration between the parishes.

Canon Christopher was the Dean of Warrington for many years until he stepped down just before the beginning of the pandemic in 2020. The Archbishop then asked me to take over as Dean.

The Deaneries of Warrington and Widnes were joined together last year to enable the implementation of the Synodal Pastoral Plan published on the First Sunday of Advent. The Deans are undergoing training at present because they are needed to facilitate the implementation of the Pastoral Plan in each Deanery during the coming years.

At last week's training, we were considering how best to implement Synodal Pastoral Councils in each Deanery and how 'Families of Parishes' might work.

There were updates on how the new Deaneries were beginning to work across the Archdiocese and the rollout of a new initiative to better support priests as we become older and fewer in number. It was a good day and very helpful to hear how different areas are approaching the new Synodal way of working together.

Covid-19 Update

Professor Tim Spector, lead scientist on the ZOE COVID Study app, comments on the latest data:

"It feels like COVID Déjà Vu as the situation looks much like it did just a month ago. We hope that cases continue to fall consistently so that case numbers finally return to an acceptable level. Until then, cases remain historically high with one in 25 people currently having COVID and numbers still increasing in Scotland and Northern Ireland. It will be interesting to see what the Prime Minister's "Living with COVID" announcement will include. Whilst I agree we have to learn to live with COVID, and hospital and ICU admissions are very low, the ZOE data doesn't yet suggest that we've entered a stable or endemic phase. It's very likely that there are more variants on the horizon with unpredictable properties. When the mandates are lifted, to protect others, my advice is we should all still be self-isolating for five days from first new symptoms, when infectiousness is high, and tell others to do the same. For individual protection, wearing a high quality FFP2 or FFP3 mask is your best way to reduce risk."

With my prayers,
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) The **Parish Office** is open Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: 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. Our churches are also open 30 minutes before and after Mass.
- 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 20 February 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)	10.30 am Mass Angela Ryan 1.00 pm Mass with Hong Kongers <i>(Bishop Tom Neylon)</i>	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Frank Berry 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 21 February		7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 22 February Feast of the See of St Peter		11.00 am Mass Josephine Knight
Wednesday 23 February St Polycarp	12.30 pm Funeral Mass Una Griffin	
Thursday 24 February		11.00 am Mass Norman Johnson 7.00 pm Novena
Friday 25 February	10.30 am Funeral Mass Thomas Rourke	
Saturday 26 February		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Deacons Tony, David & Mike
Sunday 27 February 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) <i>Day of Prayer for the Unemployed</i>	10.30 am Mass John & Doris Ryan Catherine Shireby	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

COLLECTIONS – 13 February 2022

Offertory	£784.65	(£352.51 Gift Aid)
Afghanistan	£1398.71	06.02.22
	£3177.40	13.02.22

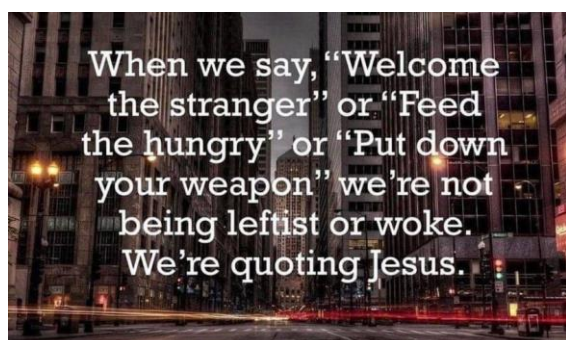
Thank you so much for your generosity.

CONFIRMATION 2022

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

COULD YOU BE A DEACON?

Archbishop Malcolm will be hosting a meeting for men who may be wondering if they are called to serve as Deacons and what the formation involves this Tuesday, 22 February, 7.30 – 9.00 pm (refreshments from 7.00 pm) at St Gregory's Parish House, Weldbank Lane, Chorley PR7 3NW. Wives are also most welcome. For further information, please speak to Deacon Tony or email diaconate@rcaol.org.uk



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)

Today	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
<i>Readings</i>	1 Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49 Luke 6: 27-38
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 2, Week 7

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo, Vera Brindle, Hilda Creagan, Carol Feeney, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Thomas Ireland, Susan Keating, Peter Milner, Trina & Geoff Mouldsdales, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Margaret Russell-Cruise, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Paul Vernon, Stuart Williams, Dolores Woodall.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Susan Disley, Betty Fiddler, Margaret Inkersol, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Mary Massey, Mike McCarrick, Jean Murphy, 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), Fr John Poland.

Those who have died recently, especially:

Thomas Rourke, Jimmy Gaskell, Una Griffin, Terry Adams, Fr Tony Reynolds.

Liverpool R.C. Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated.
A Registered Charity No. 232709.