

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



3rd Sunday of Lent (C)

20 March 2022

KEEPING EACH OTHER SAFE

- 1) Please wear a **face covering** (over your nose and mouth) during Mass.
- 2) Please **leave a space** between the person sitting next to you unless you are in the same household, and please try not to sit directly behind or in front of another person (i.e. zigzag seating).
- 3) We are gradually reintroducing some **singing** at Mass while wearing face coverings. So you are invited to join in singing the Psalm, Gospel Acclamation, Holy, Holy and the Mystery of Faith.

Thank you for your kindness.

Introductory Rites

Entrance Procession

Music: Praise, my soul, the King of heaven – H.F. Lyte

Penitential Prayer for Peace

Forgive us for war, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God:

R. Have mercy on us sinners.

Lord Jesus, born under the bombs of Kiev:

R. Have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, dead in the arms of a mother in a bunker:

R. Have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, sent to the front lines at twenty years old:

R. Have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, who continue to see hands armed with weapons under the shadow of the cross:

R. Have mercy on us.

Forgive us if, not content with the nails with which we pierce your hand, we continue to drink the blood of the dead torn by weapons.

R. Forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us if these hands which you created to protect have become instruments of death.

R. Forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us, Lord, if we continue to kill our brother.

R. Forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us if we continue to justify cruelty with our fatigue, if with our pain we legitimise the violence of our actions.

R. Forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us for war, Lord.

R. Forgive us for war.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, we implore you. Enlighten our conscience, let not our will be done, do not abandon us to our own doing.

R. Stop us, Lord, stop us.

And when you have stopped the hand of Cain, take care of him. He is also our brother.

O Lord, stop the violence.

R. Stop us, Lord, stop us. Amen.

(Adapted from a prayer by the Archbishop of Naples)

Collect

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

(Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15)

A reading from the book of Exodus

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of

the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103

The Lord is kind and merciful.

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.
- 2 He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills,
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

Gospel *(Luke 13: 1-9)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."' "

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

Bidding Prayers

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Music: Holy Ground – John Michael Talbot

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, Holy – German Mass (Schubert)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. (x2)
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Mystery of Faith

**Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

Communion

Music: The Deer's Cry – Shaun Davey

Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rite

Blessing & Dismissal

Final Song

Music: O Lord my God – Stuart K. Hine

Acknowledgements

Excerpts from the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 2010 International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Scripture Readings from *The Jerusalem Bible* © 1966 by Darton Longman & Todd Ltd and Doubleday and Company Ltd. Psalm from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States* © 1970, 1997, 1998 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.