

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

4th Sunday of Easter (C)

World Day of Prayer for Vocations
8 May 2022

My dear sisters and brothers,

Good Shepherd Sunday

Today, the 4th Sunday of Easter, is known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday' because we listen to the Gospel in which Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd.

Good Shepherd Sunday is also the annual **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** to the priesthood, the diaconate, and the religious life. So the annual collection for the Priests Training Fund will take place at the end of Mass today.

Slowly Rebuilding

Thank you so much to all those who felt able to sign up last weekend to help us to slowly rebuild some of the ministries and groups that have been decimated by the pandemic. Given the age profile of our parish and the number of parishioners who've already helped for many years, I was quite taken aback by the terrific response. So thank you again.

The offers of help from the three Masses last weekend were as follows: Eucharistic Ministers (12), Readers (10), Children's Liturgy at 10.30 am (5), Church Cleaning (11), Refreshments after 10.30 am (3), Parish Visitors (6). It's simply a brilliant response. Thank you.

I will be in touch with everyone who has signed up over the next few weeks.

Platinum Jubilee

As I'm sure you know, this year marks 70 years since Queen Elizabeth acceded to the throne in 1952. She is the longest reigning British monarch and the longest reigning head of state in history. To mark the

occasion, there is a special holiday weekend planned for 2 – 5 June.

On Saturday and Sunday, 4 & 5 June, we will join with churches all over the country in marking the Jubilee by giving thanks for the Queen and her wise leadership over the years. In addition, Chris Sykes from St Benedict's, together with a small team, have been fundraising for the last 12 months so that we can join together in a 'Big Lunch' in St Benedict's Parish Centre from 12.00 noon on Sunday 5 June.

When Chris proposed this idea a year ago, we were just coming out of the third lockdown. I thought the pandemic would be over by now and this would be a good opportunity to get parishioners together again. Well, even though the pandemic isn't over, the present situation suggests that it is safe enough to go ahead with the event. So, if you want a ticket (free) to the 'Big Lunch', please sign the sheet at the back of church. Food, together with wine, tea/coffee and soft drinks will be provided. The only cost will be anything you choose to purchase from the bar.

Thank you, Chris and team, for organising this for us. I think it will do us all the world of good.

First Communion

Finally, many congratulations to the children in Year 4 at St Oswald's who are celebrating their First Communion this weekend. The children at St Benedict's will be celebrating on 18 June.

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 8 May 4th Sunday of Easter (C) <i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>	10.30 am Mass Syd Bradshaw	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Ethan Milan 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 9 May		7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 10 May		No 11.00 am Mass 12.30 pm Funeral Service Ann Antrobus
Wednesday 11 May	10.00 – 11.00 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Peace in Ukraine	2.00 pm Funeral Mass Mary Massey
Thursday 12 May		11.00 am Mass Tracy Hand 7.00 pm Novena
Friday 13 May Dedication of the Cathedral	<i>Mass at St Gregory's High School</i> No 11.00 am Mass	
Saturday 14 May St Matthias, Apostle		2.30 pm Wedding Service Elizabeth O'Brien & Aaron Lilford 4.30 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners
Sunday 15 May 5th Sunday of Easter (C)	10.30 am Mass Those in Hospital	8.30 am Mass Pope Francis

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

1 May 2022	£787.03	(£249.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£116.30	(£93.22 Gift Aid)
Total	£903.33	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

PRAYER & REFLECTION

“Say to those who are broken-hearted: Do not be afraid”. Prayer and reflection for Mental Awareness Week on Wednesday 11 May at the Irenaeus Project Centre, 32 Great Georges Road, Liverpool L22 1RD. The evening is from 6.00 – 8.00 pm beginning with a light supper. No charge but donations gratefully accepted. To book in, email: jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or Telephone 0151 949 1199.

WARRINGTON MALE VOICE CHOIR

Many thanks to all those who attended the wonderful concert by the Warrington Male Voice Choir at St Oswald's last weekend. A total of £306.62 was raised for the Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine Appeal.

CONFIRMATION 2022

Bishop Tom Williams will be coming to the Deanery to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at St Oswald's on 9 & 10 July at 2.00 pm. Young parishioners in Year 8 who have registered for the sacrament are invited to a meeting at St Benedict's on Sunday 22 May, 12.30 – 1.30 pm. There's an invitation in the post!

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 4)

Today	4th Sunday of Easter (C)
<i>Readings</i>	Acts 13: 14, 43-52; Apoc 7: 9, 14-17 John 10: 27-30
Weekdays	Easter – Week 4

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

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

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Louise Boughy, Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Susan Disley, Betty Fiddler, Margaret Inkersol, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Mike McCarrick, Jean Murphy, Sheila Pinnock, 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, especially:

Rita Ollier, Mary Massey, Ann Antrobus.