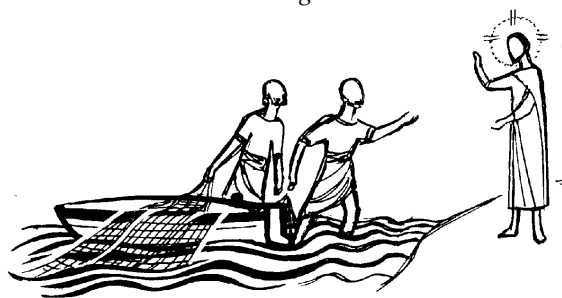


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Sunday of the Word of God

22 January 2023

My dear sisters and brothers,

Sunday of the Word of God

In 2019, Pope Francis set aside the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time as 'Sunday of the Word of God'. He did so to remind us of the importance of reading and listening to the Scriptures. If you have a Bible at home, or a missal which contains the Scripture Readings at Mass, why not pray this simple blessing today:

**God our Father, your Son proclaimed
the good news of salvation.**

Bless me as I read from these sacred texts.

**As I read, listen and reflect on your words of life,
strengthen my faith so that what I read in hope,
I may live in love and charity.**

There are lots of excellent resources about the Scriptures here: www.godwhospeaks.uk

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

The annual Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity began last Wednesday. Pope Francis often talks about unity not in terms of what separates the Christian Churches but about doing the things that unite us. In his address to the Christian World Communions delegation in 2016, he said:

"Often we think that ecumenical work is only that of theologians. It is therefore important that theologians study, they agree, and they express their disagreement: this is very important. But in the meantime, ecumenism journeys on. It journeys with Jesus, not 'my Jesus against your Jesus', but with our Jesus. The journey is simple: it consists of prayer, with the help of others. Praying together: the ecumenism of prayer, for each other and all for unity. And then, the ecumenism of work for the many who are in need, for many men and women who today suffer as a result of injustice, wars, these terrible things... All together, we

must help. Love for our neighbour. This is ecumenism. This is already unity. Unity in journeying with Jesus."

Holocaust Memorial Day

This coming Friday, 27 January, is Holocaust Memorial Day. It's a day to remember the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, and the millions of people killed under Nazi Persecution, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. The date – 27 January – is significant because it marks the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. We remember so that we don't forget. If we forget, we're in danger of repeating the past.

Could you be a Deacon?

Archbishop Malcolm will be hosting another Diaconate Information Evening on Wednesday 8 February, 7.30 - 9.00 pm, in St George's Parish Centre, Station Road, Maghull L31 3DF, with refreshments available from 7.00 pm. The evening is open to anyone who would like to find out more about the Diaconate, especially men who are wondering if they may be called to this ministry. Wives and supporting priests and deacons are also very welcome. For more information, please email Fr Chris Fallon c.fallon@rcaol.org.uk or Deacon Paul Rooney p.rooney@rcaol.org.uk

Chinese New Year

Finally, today (Sunday), our Hong Kong parishioners invite us to join them after the 10.30 am Mass as they celebrate the first day of the Chinese New Year. 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit!

With my prayers,
Fr Dave

General Information

1) **Parish Priest:** Canon Dave Heywood. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: frdave@rcaol.org.uk Address: St Benedict's Priory, Rhodes Street, Warrington WA2 7QE. **Deacons:** Revv Tony Kerrigan & David Boyle.

2) **Parish Office:** Mrs Celia Rigby. Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk

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

4) **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)**

Wednesdays: 10.15 – 10.45 am at St Benedict's

Saturdays: After the 4.30 pm Mass at St Oswald's
Confession is also available on request.

5) **St Benedict's Church** is open for private prayer: Monday to Friday, 9.30 am – 3.00 pm.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	St Benedict's	St Oswald's
Sunday 22 January 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	10.30 am Mass John, Doris & Angela Ryan Catherine Shireby	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Janet 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 23 January		7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 24 January St Francis de Sales		11.00 am Mass Harry Roe
Wednesday 25 January Feast of the Conversion of St Paul	9.45 am Funeral Service Kathleen Marie Hughes 11.00 am Mass Dermot Craddock	
Thursday 26 January Saints Timothy & Titus		12.00 noon Funeral Mass Margaret Inkersole <i>No Novena today</i>
Friday 27 January <i>Holocaust Memorial Day</i>	11.00 am Mass Alan Lloyd 12.15 pm Funeral Service Margaret Lorraine Duncanson	
Saturday 28 January St Thomas Aquinas	1.00 – 3.00 pm Cantonese Prayer Meeting	4.30 pm Vigil Mass Price Family
Sunday 29 January 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	10.30 am Mass Alan O'Donnell	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

08.01.23	£728.20	(£256.52 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£122.07	(£98.99 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£112.00	
Total	£962.27	
15.01.23	£760.92	(£314.90 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£122.07	(£98.99 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£160.00	
Total	£1042.99	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

WARM SPACES AT ST BENEDICT'S

Tuesdays 12.00 – 2.00 pm in the Parish Centre
Wednesdays 12.00 – 2.00 pm in the Church
Sacristy Meeting Room
Thursdays 12.00 – 2.00 pm & 5.00 – 7.00 pm
in the Parish Centre

ST JOSEPH'S FAMILY CENTRE

St Joseph's Family Centre is seeking an experienced professional to manage the services provided by the Centre. Applicants for this important and challenging role should have previous professional or managerial experience in the charity sector, social care, health care, education or similar field and be able to lead and inspire our dedicated staff and volunteers. An information pack containing the job description, person specification, salary offered, how to apply and other details may be obtained from the Centre on 01925 635448. Closing date for receipt of applications is Monday 8 February 2023.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)

Today **3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**
Readings Isaiah 8: 23-9: 3; 1 Cor 1: 10-13, 17
Matthew 4: 12-23
Weekdays Ordinary Time: Year 1, Week 3

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo, Vera Brindle, Ian Buist, Hilda Creagan, Carol Feeney, Malcolm Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Thomas Ireland, Susan Keating, Peter Milner, Trina Mouldsdale, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Paul Vernon, Dolores Woodall.

St Oswald's

Keith Bate, Catherine Carne, Peter Cox, Susan Disley, Betty Fiddler, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Jean Murphy, Sheila Pinnock, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts.

Other Parishes

Catherine Donaldson, John Hughes (Vietnam), June Fallon, Tracey Hand, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Pamela Watson (*nee* Park), Pendar (a little Iranian boy).

Those who have died recently, especially:

Kathleen Hughes, Margaret Inkersole, Margaret Duncanson, Vincent Lawton, Maureen Eden, Stephen Millington.