

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



1st Sunday of Lent (A)

26 February 2023

Introductory Rites

Processional Litany of the Saints

Please join in singing the refrains:

Pray for us.

Lord, deliver us, we pray.

Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

Greeting & Introduction

Collect

Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
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

(Genesis 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7)

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil.
Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and
thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the
east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The
Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind
of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the
tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and
evil in the middle of the garden.

Now the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild
beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the

woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from
any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered
the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the
garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the
garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it,
under pain of death.'" Then the serpent said to the
woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that
on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you
will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman
saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the
eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it
could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She
gave some also to her husband who was with her, and
he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened
and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed
fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 50

- 1 Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 2 My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.**
- 3 A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.**
- 4 Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise.**

Second Reading

(Romans 5: 12, 17-19)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through
sin death, and thus death has spread through the
whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is
certain that death reigned over everyone as the
consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain
that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign
in life who receives the free gift that he does not
deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's
fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good
act of one man brings everyone life and makes them
justified. As by one man's disobedience many were
made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be
made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

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

Gospel

(Matthew 4: 1-11)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

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

Response after each intention:

Let us pray to the Lord.
R. Lord, have mercy.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Music: Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts – Henry Purcell (1659-95)

Prayer over the Offerings

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray,
to make these offerings,
for with them we celebrate the beginning
of this venerable and sacred time.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, Holy – Mass of Christ our Saviour (Dan Schutte)

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

The Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Please understand if others don't wish to shake hands
just now.

Communion

Song: Be not afraid – Bob Dufford, SJ

Prayer after Communion

Renewed now with heavenly bread,
by which faith is nourished, hope increased,
and charity strengthened,
we pray, O Lord,
that we may learn to hunger for Christ,
the true and living Bread,
and strive to live by every word
which proceeds from your mouth.
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Concluding Rite

Blessing & Dismissal

Final Song

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer (960)

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 Psalms: A New Translation* © 1963 The Grail (England) published by HarperCollins.