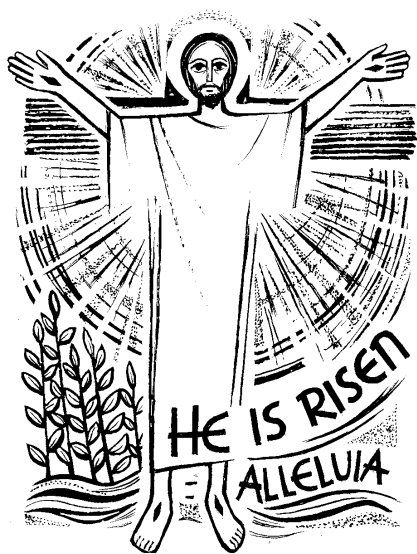


# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

Easter Sunday – 9 April 2023

**“This is the day that God has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it!”**

*(Psalm 117)*

### EASTER MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

As the evenings become brighter and there is sunshine in early morning, I notice life in my garden here at Archbishop's House. The various birds and animals that make their homes in the trees and in the flowerbeds seem to be more alive. My garden took on a greater significance for me during the pandemic. It was a place I could walk and sit down in the fresh air.

The annual feast of Easter reminds us so much of those things of the garden where the Lord was buried. It seemed that the darkness of Good Friday would eclipse all in its shade as Jesus was placed in the tomb, which was sealed. Such darkness is felt in Ukraine and in other parts of the world where there is war, violence, and suffering. The quietness of that feast of Passover which is described as 'when the King sleeps' reminds us of the silence of helplessness and death present in all our lives.

But the garden also reminds us of the new and abundant life that bursts forth on Easter Day, the life which cannot be put back in the tomb.

The life of Jesus, poured into each of us in our baptism, is a reason for hope this Easter Day. As we continue to see so much uncertainty in the political sphere, both local and global, we are called to return to the source, to the risen Jesus, who reminds us that there will be

suffering, but ultimately glory – the glory of the life of God given to each of us in His Son, Jesus Christ.

The glory given to us is the culmination of a journey – a journey of hope. The disciples hoped for the Messiah and found him in Jesus, yet their journey wasn't an easy one. They experienced that darkness of Good Friday and felt lost as their hope turned to despair, as their lives were turned upside down. Yet, three days later, on Easter morning, their lives were completely transformed as the tomb was empty and the risen Lord was truly with them again.

It is hope which is part of the journey of so many - refugees and asylum seekers longing for peace, safety, and a better life. May we welcome them with the peace of the risen Christ. May we bring light to the darkness of the people of Ukraine and join with them in their hope for peace, and may our own journey lead us to give hope to the lonely, those who mourn, those in poverty and the oppressed.

May we welcome the light of the Risen Christ into the darkness of our lives so that we can see what hope his call holds for us and, on this great feast of Easter, let us remember that Jesus has won the victory and extends life to all.

May the Risen Lord touch our hearts and lives with His hope, peace, and life this Easter Day.

**Most Reverend Malcolm McMahon, OP**  
*Archbishop of Liverpool*

### General Information

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

#### 2) Parish Office

*Please note:* The Parish Office will be closed this week.

3) **Parish Website** [www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk](http://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

*Please note:* St Benedict's will only be open for Sunday Mass this week.

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
<b>Easter Sunday, 9 April</b>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Mary Howl Catherine & James Delooze	<b>(Sat) 8.00 pm The Easter Vigil</b> The Parishioners <b>8.30 am Mass</b> Marion Naughton
<b>Monday 10 April</b> Easter Octave		<i>No Prayer Group</i>
<b>Tuesday 11 April</b> Easter Octave		<i>No Mass today</i>
<b>Wednesday 12 April</b> Easter Octave	<i>No Mass today</i>	
<b>Thursday 13 April</b> Easter Octave		<i>No Mass today</i>
<b>Friday 14 April</b> Easter Octave	<b>10.00 am Funeral Service</b> (Katherine Riley)	
<b>Saturday 15 April</b> Easter Octave		<b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> The Parishioners
<b>Sunday 16 April</b> 2nd Sunday of Easter (A)	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Kath Bradshaw (90th Birthday)	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> Samuel Taylor

HE IS RISEN  
*alleluia*

A very happy Easter to you all! May the joy of this day – the greatest day of the year for Christians – lift your spirit, renew your hope, and bring peace to your heart.

With my prayers,  
*Fr Dave*

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

02.04.23	£979.35	(£328.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£122.08	(£95.08 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£154.50	(£64.50 Gift Aid)
	£190.00	(Jan & Feb)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1445.93</b>	
Donation	£200.00	(Hongkongers)

*Thank you so much for your generosity.*

### PARISH FUNDRAISER

To help raise funds for the Parish Coronation Lunch on Sunday 7 May and this year's Walking Day, there will be a Race Night this Friday, 14 April, 7.30 for 8.00 pm, in St Benedict's Parish Centre. All are welcome.

### LGBTQ+ CATHOLICS

The next gathering for LGBTQ+ Catholics will be held on Sunday 16 April. There will be Mass at 2.00 pm followed by a social gathering at St Agnes & St Aidan Church, Huyton Hey Road, Huyton, Liverpool L36 5SQ. All are very welcome.

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

### Today

Readings

### Easter Sunday

Acts 10: 34, 37-43

Colossians 3: 1-4

John 20: 1-9

### Weekdays

Easter Octave

*Alleluia!*

## LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

**Those who are sick or homebound, especially:**

*St Benedict's & St Mary's*

Luciano Bartolo, Vera Brindle, Ian Buist, Peter Burke, Carol Feeney, Malcolm Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Ged Hughes, Thomas Ireland, Susan Keating, Peter Milner, Trina Mouldsdales, 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, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Sr Maire Moms, Glenys Pegg, Pamela Watson (*nee* Park), Pendar (a little Iranian boy).

**Those who have died recently, especially:**

Kathleen Riley, Margaret Russell-Cruise, Fr Michael O'Dowd and Fr Vin McShane.