

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

**6th Sunday of Easter (A)
14 May 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers,

Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

Today is an International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians. It offers an opportunity for Eastern and Western Christians to come together to pray for peace in the world – especially in the Middle East.

At Mass during the Easter Season, we hear the Acts of the Apostles which witness to the first preaching of the Gospel. These readings remind us of the origin of the Eastern Churches who brought the Gospel to us. Now, many of these Christians suffer oppression and persecution.

As you know, our parish is paired with two parishes in Jordan – Fr Fares Syriani and the parishioners of Our Lady of the Rosary in Kerak, and Fr Athos Righi and the parishioners of St James the Less in Ma'in. Let's remember them especially today.

Heavenly Father,
we pray today for peace in the world,
especially in the Middle East.
By your heavenly grace, strengthen the faith
and hope of Eastern Christians.
May they be blessed with peace
and prosperity in their lands.
And may we be inspired
by their devotion and witness to the Gospel,
by their love and compassion for all in their
communities, and by their courage,
endurance and self-sacrifice against oppression.
Through their charity, tolerance and friendship,
bring peace and reconciliation
to those troubled lands, where Christianity
was born and first spread.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

The Solemnity of the Ascension is on Thursday and is a holyday of obligation. Masses will be as follows:

Wednesday	7.00 pm	Vigil Mass at St Oswald's
Thursday	9.15 am	School Mass at St Oswald's
	11.00 am	Mass at St Benedict's
	2.00 pm	Mass at St Benedict's School

Coronation Celebration

Many thanks to all who came to the Parish Lunch last Sunday to mark the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. It was such an enjoyable occasion and I think it did us all a lot of good! Thank you to those who entertained us: the young Maypole Dancers, the Ukulele players and singers, Marlene Dietrich, the Hong Kong Singers and the Men's Group. My sincere thanks to Chris Sykes and the Parish Hospitality Team (Sandra, Mary E, Bett, Mary Mc, Anne and others) for the months of organising and fundraising, and for looking after us all on the day. We are all so very grateful to you.

First Communions

Many congratulations to the children from St Benedict's Catholic Primary School who celebrated their First Communion yesterday (Saturday). The children from non-Catholic Schools will celebrate their First Communion with us on Sunday 28 May at St Benedict's and on Saturday 3 June at St Oswald's.

*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 – 4.00 pm.
- 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 14 May 6th Sunday of Easter (A) <i>Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians</i>	10.30 am Mass Leopoldo Baylen	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Mary Geraghty 8.30 am Mass The Parishioners
Monday 15 May		7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 16 May		11.00 am Mass Special Intention
Wednesday 17 May	10.15 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Ron Monks	7.00 pm Vigil Mass Rita Devine
Thursday 18 May Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord <i>(Holyday of Obligation)</i>	11.00 am Mass Lynne & Steve O'Reilly <i>2.00 pm Mass at St Benedict's School</i>	9.15 am School Mass (in church) The Parishioners 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 19 May	11.00 am Mass Tom Fiddler	
Saturday 20 May		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Special Intention
Sunday 21 May 7th Sunday of Easter (A) <i>World Communications Day</i>	10.30 am Mass Syd Bradshaw 12.00 noon First Confessions	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Last week's 'Offertory' details will be in next week's Newsletter.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY

Next Sunday is World Communications Day. There will be a **Second Collection** to support the work of the Bishops Conference in communicating the Good News through its websites, publications, and social media channels.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR BISHOP TOM

Archbishop Malcolm will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Tom Williams' ministry as Auxiliary Bishop of Liverpool this Wednesday, 17 May, at 7.00 pm in the Cathedral. Everyone is very welcome to the Mass and the Drinks Reception which will follow.

CONFIRMATIONS

Bishop Tom Williams will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at 2.00 pm on Saturday and Sunday, 1 & 2 July, at St Oswald's, Padgate. Young parishioners in Year 8 who have registered for the sacrament are invited to a meeting at St Benedict's next Sunday, 21 May, 1.00 – 1.45 pm. There's an invitation in the post!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Group – Meeting this Thursday, 18 May, at 8.00 pm in the lounge at St Oswald's Parish Centre
May Procession – St Oswald's Catholic Primary School will be celebrating the annual May Procession on Friday 26 May at 2.15 pm in church. All are welcome.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

Today **6th Sunday of Easter (A)**
Readings Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3: 15-18
John 14: 15-21
Weekdays Easter – Week 6
Thursday **The Ascension of the Lord (A)**
Acts 1: 1-11; Ephesians 1: 17-23
Matthew 28: 16-20

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 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, Peter McKeown, Jean Murphy, 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), Fr Gerald Hicks OFM Conv.

Those who have died recently, especially:

John Cassidy.