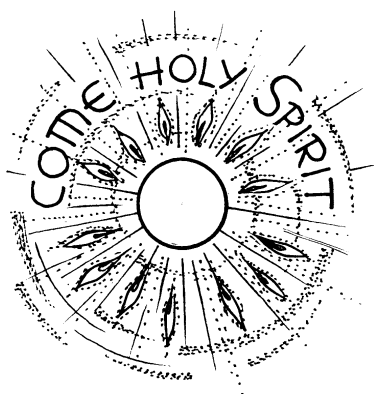


# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

**7th Sunday of Easter (A)**  
**21 May 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers,

### World Communications Day

Today is World Communications Day. This annual day reminds us of the importance of not just keeping the faith but sharing it. Vital to this is good communication – through websites, publications, and social media channels. So there is a **Second Collection** today to support the Church's work in communicating the Good News in the media.

**O God, whose word is truth  
and in whose light we see light,  
guide those who tell the story of our times  
through word and image.**

**Make them seekers after truth  
and advocates of human dignity.**

**Grant discernment to all who rely on their labours.  
As we confront the pain and promise of this world,  
awaken in us a sense of wonder at your presence  
and of longing for your peace.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### Sacrament of Confirmation

This weekend, our young parishioners who are in Year 8 in High School will be meeting at St Benedict's at 1.00 pm in preparation for Confirmation. Those at Catholic High Schools have already received catechesis through their RE classes; those not at Catholic Schools are being prepared by Deacon Tony and his team. In June, the young people will join us for a Sunday Mass, visit the Cathedral in Liverpool, and have a BBQ at St Oswald's. Do please keep these young people in your prayers – it's a lot harder to be a Christian these days than when we were their age. They need all the support we can offer them.

### Pentecost Sunday

Next weekend, the fifty days of Easter conclude with the great feast of Pentecost. Between now and then, the Church invites us to keep a Novena of Prayer for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives, in the Church, and in the world. You will find a sheet at the back of church entitled, "Come Holy Spirit", with a short passage of Scripture and a prayer for each day of the week. If you prefer, you could simply pray the age-old mantra, "Come, Holy Spirit!"

Next Sunday morning, the children who attend non-Catholic Schools will celebrate their First Communion with us. There are fifteen children this year. So that we don't over-fill the 10.30 am Mass at St Benedict's, there will be an extra Mass at 12.30 pm. Parishioners are invited to attend either Mass. The liturgy for both Masses will be for Pentecost Sunday.

### 'Families of Parishes'

This Tuesday, the Deanery Synodal Council will be meeting again. At present, we are exploring the concept of 'Families of Parishes'. In other words, how parishes in the Deanery could learn to work together. Three 'families' have emerged in our discussions so far: the parishes of West Warrington (Sacred Heart & St Alban's, St Joseph's and St Paul of the Cross), the parishes of East Warrington (Blessed James Bell, St Stephen's & St Bridget's, and St Peter & St Michael in Woolston), and the Parish of St Wilfrid in Widnes.

*With my prayers,  
Fr Dave*

### 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:** Mrs Celia Rigby. Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: [blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk)

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** 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
<b>Sunday 21 May</b> 7th Sunday of Easter (A) <i>World Communications Day</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> <i>(including Children's Liturgy)</i> Syd Bradshaw <b>12.00 noon First Confessions</b>	<b>(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Special Intention <b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners
<b>Monday 22 May</b>		<b>7.00 pm Prayer Group</b>
<b>Tuesday 23 May</b>	<b>1.30 pm Funeral Mass</b> John Cassidy	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Brian Hughes
<b>Wednesday 24 May</b>	<b>10.15 am Exposition</b> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> Tom Howell & Terry Davies	
<b>Thursday 25 May</b> St Bede the Venerable		<b>No Mass today</b> <i>(Fr Dave at Meeting for Deans)</i> <b>7.00 pm Novena &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Friday 26 May</b> St Philip Neri	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Blaze & Ashleen Donso	<b>2.15 pm School May Procession</b> (in church)
<b>Saturday 27 May</b> Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury		<b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Michael Clifton
<b>Sunday 28 May</b> Pentecost Sunday	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> <i>(with First Communions)</i> For all those taking GCSE's <b>12.30 pm First Communion Mass</b>	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

07.05.23	£677.96	(£321.16 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.00	(£89.00 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£121.50	(£64.50 Gift Aid)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£928.46</b>	
14.05.23	£813.79	(£263.50 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.00	(£89.00 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£151.50	(£64.50 Gift Aid)
First Communion	£263.45	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1357.74</b>	
Fundraising	£494.50	(Coronation Party)

*Thank you so much for your generosity.*

### LORETO GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Please see noticeboard for School Open Day for Entry to Year 7 in 2024 on 1 July (9.30 am – 1.00 pm), and for Alumnae Tea and Cakes on 1 July (1.30 – 3.30 pm).

School website: [www.loretogrammar.co.uk](http://www.loretogrammar.co.uk)

### VACANCIES

There are a number of vacancies for roles in the Archdiocese including Communications officer, Communications assistant, Lead Officer Primary School Improvement, Primary Schools Operational Support Officer. More details can be found here:

[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/careers)

### POPE FRANCIS

“Jesus ascends to the Father to intercede on our behalf, to present our humanity to him. Thus, before the eyes of the Father, our lives, our hopes, our wounds are always present through Jesus's humanity.”

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)*

<b>Today</b>	<b>7th Sunday of Easter (A)</b>
<i>Readings</i>	Acts 1: 12-14 1 Peter 4: 13-16 John 17: 1-11
<b>Weekdays</b>	Easter – Week 7

### 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, 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, 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).

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

John Cassidy, Bernadette Vaughan, Thomas Ireland and Fr Gerald Hicks OFM Conv.