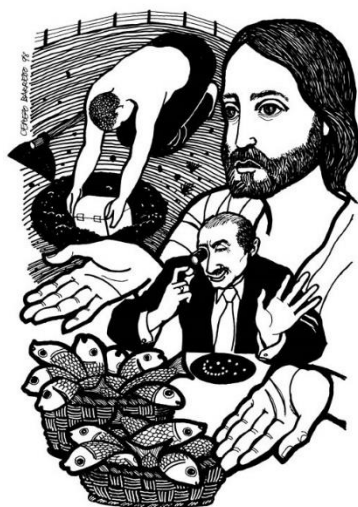


PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
30 July 2023

My dear sisters and brothers,

Welcome!

A very warm welcome and thanks to Fr Mark Drew, Fr John Schofield and Fr Raymond Anyanwu CSSp who will be presiding at the Masses this weekend while I have a break.

Illegal Migration Bill

Following my homily last weekend, there are things we can do to challenge the inhumane and unchristian approach of the UK Government to those reaching out to us for help.

Bishop Terry Draney, the Chair of Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), has called upon the Catholic community to speak out against the Illegal Migration Bill by writing to our MPs urging them to work to expand safe routes for those seeking asylum.

So, if you feel able, please write to your MP to express your opposition to the Bill, which is at odds with the teaching of Christ in the Gospels, and urge them to work for more humane and workable policy solutions which respect the dignity and rights of migrating people. If you want help with your letter, there is plenty of information on the CSAN website:

www.csan.org.uk/love-the-stranger-call-to-action

World Youth Day

World Youth Day (WYD) is a gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. This year's gathering takes place from Tuesday to Sunday,

1-6 August, in Lisbon, Portugal. As well as being a pilgrimage for young people, it is also an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelisation for the youth of the world. Although its Catholic identity is clearly evident, WYD opens its doors to everyone, no matter how close to or distant from the Church they are. You can find out more and follow the various events on the dedicated website for WYD here: <https://www.lisboa2023.org/en>

Pope Francis' Podcast with Young People

Ahead of World Youth Day, Pope Francis responded to questions from a group of young people in his latest 'Popecast'. The Pope listened to the story of Giona, who spoke about the challenges of being a believer, while accepting the reality of having physical challenges and being transgender. Pope Francis offered words of encouragement, saying "God loves us just as we are", and that "the Lord always accompanies us, always. Even if we are sinners, he draws near to help us." The Pope added, "do not give up, keep striving ahead." You can find a summary of the podcast on my blog for last week on the Parish website and on a sheet at the back of church.

Catholic Listeners

'Catholic Listeners' is a confidential telephone helpline service set up for those Catholics who want to return to the faith and need a safe space to be heard. The helpline is staffed by a team of volunteers who are welcoming, friendly, empathetic and non-judgemental. Operating three days a week from 4.00 – 7.00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, calls are free to the helpline on 0800 448 0704 or by email at catholiclisteners@gmail.com

*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:** Please note – the Parish Office will be closed this week.
- 3) **Parish Website** www.blessedjamesbell.co.uk
- 4) **St Benedict's Church** will only be open for Sunday Mass this week.
- 5) **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 30 July 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	10.30 am Mass Olive Elizabeth Swift	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners 8.30 am Mass Mark Hastry
Monday 31 July St Ignatius Loyola		11.00 am Funeral Mass Peter Hastry 7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 1 August St Alphonsus Ligouri		No Mass today
Wednesday 2 August	No Exposition or Mass today	
Thursday 3 August	11.00 am Funeral Mass Veronica Kathleen Brindle	No Mass or Novena today
Friday 4 August St John Vianney	No Mass today	
Saturday 5 August St Oswald, King & Martyr		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Elizabeth O'Neill & Kathleen Postlethwaite
Sunday 6 August Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (A)	10.30 am Mass The Parishioners	8.30 am Mass Victims of Summerland Fire (Isle of Man, 1973)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Details for 23 & 30 July next week

WANTED – BIKES FOR REFUGEES

If anyone has an old bike languishing in a shed or garage that is surplus to requirements, we can use them. Adult size, men's or women's, working or in need of repair. We can arrange collection. If you can help, please call Miriam on (01925) 815646.

FEAST OF ST OSWALD, KING & MARTYR

The Feast of St Oswald falls on 5 August. Like the Feast of St Benedict, I usually move the Feast of St Oswald to the nearest Sunday so that we can celebrate it together. However, this year, the nearest Sunday is 6 August which is the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord and takes precedence. So I suggest we celebrate the Feast of St Oswald the following weekend, 12 & 13 August.

CATHEDRAL FAMILY TRAIL & AUDIO TOUR

If you're going to visit Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral during the summer, two brand new visitor resources have been launched. First, there's an interactive family trail, especially designed for younger visitors. Free to access from any smartphone, 'Explore with Eva' takes visitors on a treasure-hunt style journey around the Cathedral. There's also an immersive audio tour, which enables local and international visitors to experience the sights and sounds of the Cathedral like never before. You can find full details on the Cathedral website under 'Visit Us': www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 1)

Today **17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**
Readings 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12
 Romans 8: 28-30
 Matthew 13: 44-52
Weekdays Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 17

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who are sick or homebound, especially:

St Benedict's & St Mary's

Luciano Bartolo, 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, Barbara Williamson, Dolores Woodall.

St Oswald's

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

Other Parishes

Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Sr Maire Moms, Pamela Watson (*nee* Park), Marie Barnes.

Those who have died recently, especially:

Peter Hastry, Veronica (Vera) Kathleen Brindle, John Hughes (Vietnam) and Fr John Harris.

Archdiocese of Liverpool. A Registered Charity No. 1199714.