

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Feast of St Benedict, Abbot

Sea Sunday – 9 July 2023

### Introductory Rites

#### Gathering Song

- 1 Our blessed father, Benedict,  
sure guide in dark and troubled days,  
has shown his countless children here  
the paths of peace, the Lord's own ways.**
- 2 He dwelt in heaven while on earth,  
true man of God and man of prayer;  
for him, the love of Christ was all  
and God was present everywhere.**
- 3 He left all things that bind the heart,  
in poverty to find release;  
unmoved among the things that change,  
he sought and found a lasting peace.**
- 4 Now Benedict with all who knew  
and lived his holy Rule on earth,  
give praise to you, blest Trinity,  
in splendid light and time untold.**

*Adapted from the Benedictine Nuns of Stanbrook Abbey.*

#### Greeting & Penitential Act

#### Gloria

- 1 Father, we adore you,  
lay our lives before you.  
How we love you.**
- 2 Jesus, we adore you...**
- 3 Spirit, we adore you...**

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#### Collect

O God,  
who established the Abbot Saint Benedict  
as a renowned master in the school of divine service,  
grant, we pray,  
that we may prefer nothing to your love  
and run with open hearts  
in the way of your commandments.  
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

*14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*

#### First Reading

*(Zechariah 9: 9-10)*

A reading from the prophet Zechariah

The Lord says this:

Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!  
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!  
See now, your king comes to you;  
he is victorious, he is triumphant,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
He will banish chariots from Ephraim  
and horses from Jerusalem;  
the bow of war will be banished.  
He will proclaim peace for the nations.  
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,  
from the River to the ends of the earth.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 145

**I will praise your name for ever,  
my king and my God.**

- 1** I will extol you, O my God and King,  
and I will bless your name forever and ever.  
Every day will I bless you,  
and I will praise your name forever and ever.
- 2** The Lord is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
The Lord is good to all  
and compassionate toward all his works.

#### Second Reading

*(Romans 8: 9, 11-13)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if

by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

The word of the Lord.  
**R. Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

**Gospel** *(Matthew 11: 25-30)*  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew  
**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Homily

#### Profession of Faith

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

### Bidding Prayers

#### Liturgy of the Eucharist

##### Preparation of the Gifts

*Hymn:* O the love of my Lord (967)

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

##### Prayer over the Offerings

Look kindly, Lord, upon these holy offerings, which we make in honour of Saint Benedict, and grant that,

by following his example in seeking you, we may merit the gifts of unity in your service and of peace.

Through Christ our Lord.  
**R. Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

*Mass of Hope – Bernadette Farrell (559)*

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

*The Mystery of Faith*

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.**

### The Lord's Prayer

#### Sign of Peace

Please exchange the Sign of Peace with those around you in whatever way is most comfortable for you.

#### Communion

*Music:* Introit for the Feast of St Benedict – Gregorian

#### Prayer after Communion

Having received this pledge of eternal life, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, attentive to the teaching of Saint Benedict, we may faithfully serve your designs and love one another with fervent charity. Through Christ our Lord.

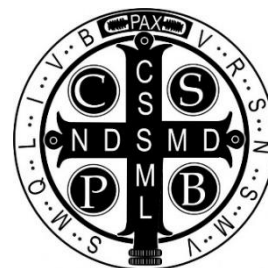
**R. Amen.**

### Concluding Rite

#### Blessing & Dismissal

#### Final Song

City of God (824)



#### Acknowledgements

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