

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes

*World Day for Grandparents & Older People  
23 July 2023*

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### Introductory Rites

#### Gathering Song

Holy Virgin by God's decree (366)

#### Penitential Act

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

**R. For we have sinned against you.**

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

#### Collect

May the venerable intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes come to our aid, we pray, O Lord, and free us from every danger, so that we may rejoice in your peace. 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

*16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)*

#### First Reading *(Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19)*

A reading from the book of Wisdom

There is no god, other than you, who cares for every thing, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 86

**Lord, you are good and forgiving.**

- 1 You, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in kindness to all who call upon you. Hearken, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my pleading.
- 2 All the nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord, and glorify your name. For you are great, and you do wondrous deeds; you alone are God.

#### Second Reading

*(Romans 8: 26-27)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

#### Gospel Acclamation

#### Gospel

*(Matthew 13: 24-30)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### Homily

#### Credo & Bidding Prayers

*Please join in singing the refrain:*

**Credo in unum Deum,  
Credo in unum Deum.**

### Liturgy of the Eucharist

#### Preparation of the Gifts

*Song: As I kneel before you (360)*

### Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Lord, we ask, the prayers of your people with the sacrificial offerings, that, through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of your Son, no petition may go unanswered, no request be made in vain. 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 Song

1 Hail, holy Queen enthroned above, O Maria!  
Hail, mother of mercy and of love, O Maria!

**Triumph, all ye cherubim;  
sing with us, ye seraphim!  
Heav'n and earth resound the hymn:  
Salve, salve, salve, Regina!**

2 Our life, our sweetness here below, O Maria!  
Our hope in sorrow and in woe, O Maria!

3 And when our life-breath leaves us, O Maria!  
Show us thy Son, Christ Jesus. O Maria!

*Hermannus Contractus (11th century)*

### Prayer after Communion

Renewed with this heavenly food,  
we humbly implore you, Lord,  
that, having received your Son, born of Mary,  
under sacramental signs,  
we may profess him in words  
and hold fast to him in deeds.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

### Concluding Rite

### Blessing & Dismissal

### Final Song

Immaculate Mary (365) verses 1-5

The **Offertory Collection** takes place as you leave church – a basket will be available, or you can use the 'Tap & Go' facility. This collection is the main source of income for the parish.

### Acknowledgements

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### BLESSING OF THE NEWLY RESTORED GROTTO OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES



God our Father, we thank you for those built this Grotto many years ago, and for all who have had a hand in restoring it – those who fundraised and contributed financially, the architect, the builders, those who restored the statues and added a creative touch.

We think of all those who have come here to pray over the years and those who come today – reaching out to God through Mary and St Bernadette. We give thanks for the many prayers that have been answered for those who have been remembered here.

Bless + this Grotto.  
May this sacred space continue to be a refuge for those who are seeking the touch of God in their lives and in the lives of those for whom they pray.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

Our Lady of Lourdes – **Pray for us**  
St Bernadette – **Pray for us**