

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

### The Transfiguration of the Lord (A) 6 August 2023

My dear sisters and brothers,

#### Feast of the Transfiguration

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. We recall the time Jesus took three of his disciples up a mountain and gave them a glimpse of heaven to help them and encourage them in the dark days that lay ahead.

It was on this day, 6 August, in 1945, that the US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima and, three days later, on Nagasaki. So, today, let's join the people of Japan in prayer as they remember the tens of thousands who were killed and the many who survived with injury and sickness.

#### Not in our name

The Government's newly passed Illegal Migration Act goes against everything that Pope Francis has called us to be. The Holy Father has implored world leaders to 'build bridges, not walls', and show compassion for those fleeing their homes, whether it's because of war, persecution or poverty. This new Act will cause immeasurable harm to people seeking sanctuary.

CAFOD has written an open letter to the Prime Minister and invites us to sign it:

*Dear Prime Minister,*

*We write united in our grief, outrage, and shame at the new migration law being passed. It is an inhumane attack on people who are seeking safety on our shores, who will now be turned away in their hour of need.*

*We believe in our duty to love the stranger, and stand up for migrants who need support and protection. Pope Francis*

*has called on us to "show maximum respect for the dignity of each migrant... constructing bridges and not walls [and] expanding channels for a safe and regular migration."*

*The UK has been able to welcome Ukrainian people needing sanctuary, and we strongly believe this compassion should be extended to all those in need without prejudice. We all deserve to live safely, and to be supported and protected. This compassion is at the heart of our moral duty as a society, as well as our commitment to international law.*

*We say loudly and clearly: this new law is not in our name.*

PLEASE sign this letter by going to CAFOD's website: [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) (click 'Get Involved' to find the letter). It took me less than a minute to sign the letter. Think of the impact we could make if all the Catholics in the UK did the same.

#### World Youth Day

Today, Pope Francis will celebrate Mass with young people from all over the world who have gathered in Lisbon, Portugal. You can watch the Mass and catch up on all the other events for World Youth Day here: <https://www.lisboa2023.org/en>

#### And finally...

Thankfully, I've had a good rest during the last couple of weeks. I know I needed it. I'm very grateful to those parishioners who took on various tasks to enable me to have a break. Thank you so much.

*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 6 August</b> Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (A)	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners	<b>(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Elizabeth O'Neill & Kathleen Postlethwaite <b>8.30 am Mass</b> Victims of the Summerland Fire (Isle of Man, 1973)
<b>Monday 7 August</b>		<b>No Prayer Group</b> (Resumes in September)
<b>Tuesday 8 August</b> St Dominic		<b>11.00 am Memorial Mass</b> Jenny Rogers
<b>Wednesday 9 August</b> St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	<b>10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition</b> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> Christine Berry	
<b>Thursday 10 August</b> St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Fr David O'Kane
<b>Friday 11 August</b> St Clare	<i>No 11.00 am Mass today</i> <b>2.00 pm Funeral Mass</b> Barbara Williamson	
<b>Saturday 12 August</b>	<b>11.00 am Mass of Thanksgiving</b> Aloysius Nweke & Phinastina Obijiaku	<b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Jane & Tim Wright (Silver Wedding)
<b>Sunday 13 August</b> Feast of St Oswald, King & Martyr (Transferred from 5 August)	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> Patrick & Marion Naughton

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

*Details next week*

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy of the Word usually takes place during the 10.30 am Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. However, during August, Children's Liturgy will have a break and resume in September.

### 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.

### COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS

I'm thinking of reintroducing communion from the chalice this month. Covid-19 is much less than it was, and with due care, I think it is now safe to do so. Initially, I suggest we offer the chalice at weekday Masses. Deacon Tony will assist on Tuesday and Thursday, but I could do with ministers to assist on Wednesday and Friday. **We need to have sensible precautions.** So, if you have a cold or are feeling unwell, please don't receive from the chalice. In addition, ministers must sanitise their hands and ensure the chalices are washed in warm soapy water after each Mass.

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)*

**Today**                      **The Transfiguration of the Lord (A)**  
*Readings*                Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14  
                                      2 Peter 1: 16-19  
                                      Matthew 17: 1-9  
**Weekdays**            Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 18

### 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, 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:**

Barbara Williamson