

# PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



## Newsletter

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)  
1 October 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers,

### Synod on Synodality

After perhaps the largest attempt at consultation in history, the first session of the 'Synod on Synodality' begins in Rome this Wednesday, 4 October, and will last for three weeks. The second session will take place in October 2024.

In his October prayer intention, Pope Francis says, "without prayer, there will be no Synod". So let us join the Church all over the world in asking the Holy Spirit to bless and guide the Synod gathering. You will find lots of information and resources on the Synod website: [www.synod.va/en.html](http://www.synod.va/en.html)

### A Week of Inspections

Last Tuesday, we got 'the call' – Ofsted announced they would be visiting St Oswald's Catholic Primary School on Wednesday and Thursday – a term earlier than was expected. It was an exhausting couple of days, and the new framework for inspections is particularly challenging. Nevertheless, Ms Lennon and Mrs Orwin – together with the staff and children – rose to the occasion.

As Chair of Governors, I felt particularly proud of the team that serves the children of our school with such love and dedication. However, the experience has left me feeling that the Government has not listened to the complaints about the inspection process following the tragic death of the Headteacher from Berkshire, Ruth Perry, earlier this year.

In the middle of this, Health & Safety turned up to audit both churches and, on the same day, Fire Safety turned up to carry out an inspection of all our buildings!

### CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day

This Friday, 6 October, is CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day – one of two days in the year when we go without a meal or some form of amusement and give what we save in this way to the world's poorest people. Please take an envelope home with you today and bring it back next weekend.

For those who have recently come to the UK, CAFOD is the 'Catholic Agency for Overseas Development'. It's the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. CAFOD helps people directly in their own communities and campaigns for global justice. With our support, CAFOD is able to help those who are truly in need. Do have a look at their website: [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

### Blessing of Animals

The annual Blessing of Animals will take place at St Benedict's on Sunday 15 October at 2.00 pm. This short service provides an opportunity to thank God for our animal friends, to remember our beloved pets who have died, and to pray for the many animals that suffer in our world. The service lasts about 25 minutes and is followed by some treats for pets and refreshments for their servants! Please let people know about the service, especially those who have pets. Every year, new people turn up who never go to church but who have heard about the service from parishioners.

*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 1 October</b> 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Rosary Sunday</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> Sheila Mellor	<b>(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Fr Gerard Postlethwaite <b>8.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners
<b>Monday 2 October</b> The Guardian Angels		<b>7.00 pm Prayer Group</b>
<b>Tuesday 3 October</b>		<b>11.00 am Mass</b> Dorothy Hughes
<b>Wednesday 4 October</b> St Francis of Assisi	<b>10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition</b> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> Private Intention (LISC)	
<b>Thursday 5 October</b>		<b>No Mass today</b> <i>(Fr Dave attending Day for Priests)</i> <b>7.00 pm Novena &amp; Benediction</b>
<b>Friday 6 October</b> CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day	<b>11.00 am Mass</b> In honour of St Martin de Porres	
<b>Saturday 7 October</b> Our Lady of the Rosary		<b>4.30 pm Vigil Mass</b> Vincent Hennessey
<b>Sunday 8 October</b> 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Prisoners' Sunday</i>	<b>10.30 am Mass</b> The Parishioners	<b>8.30 am Mass</b> Stanislaw & Genowefa Matkowski

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

24.09.23	£695.81	(£224.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.69	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£153.50	(£83.50 Gift Aid)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£979.00</b>	

*Thank you so much for your generosity.*

### LADIES GROUP

The next meeting of the Ladies Group will take place this Thursday, 5 October, at 8.00 pm in the lounge at St Oswald's Parish Centre.

### LGBTQ+ CATHOLICS

Mass with LGBTQ+ Catholics and friends will take place at 2.00 pm next Sunday, 8 October, at St Bede's, Appleton Village, Widnes WA8 6EL. All are welcome.

### LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

Each year, around 500 young people (aged 15 to 22) make the annual trip to Lourdes with the Archdiocese Pilgrimage. Next year's pilgrimage takes place from 18 to 27 July 2024. Cost is £700 (with £100 deposit paid on application). Apply online from 2 October at: [www.liverpoolLOURDESyouth.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolLOURDESyouth.co.uk) For more details and information: [www.animateyouth.org/lourdes](http://www.animateyouth.org/lourdes)

### BAPTISMS

A very warm welcome into the family of the Church to those who have been baptised this month:

**Chinasa Didia**  
**Chester Wong,**  
**Jacob & Isabelle Tyler**

Congratulations to the children and their families.

### LITURGICAL CALENDAR

*(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)*

<b>Today</b>	<b>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)</b>
<i>Readings</i>	Ezekiel 18: 25-28 Philippians 2: 1-11 Matthew 21: 28-32
<b>Weekdays</b>	Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 26

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

**Those who are sick or homebound, especially:**

*St Benedict's & St Mary's*

Luciano Bartolo, Ian Buist, Malcolm Hackwell, Jean Hendricks, Anne Hill, Mary Hinchliffe, Ged Hughes, Susan Keating, Sheila Mellor, Peter Milner, Trina Mouldsdale, Sandra Richardson, Kate Rigby, Pembolina Smith, Matilde Valentine, Paul Vernon, Dolores Woodall.

*St Oswald's*

Keith Bate, Catherine Carne, Dave Ferris, Betty Fiddler, Mary Harcourt, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Ron Jones, Peter McKeown, Jean Murphy, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Ray Toft, Margaret Watts, Margaret Whitlow.

*Other Parishes*

Marie Barnes, Catherine Donaldson, June Fallon, Pauline Heywood, James Hutchison, Archbishop Patrick Kelly, Margaret Mobbs, Sr Maire Moms, Fr Tony Slingo, Pamela Watson (*nee* Park).

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

Rose Marston