

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

Newsletter

**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
3 September 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers,

Season of Creation

Last Friday, 1 September, was the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The day marked the beginning of the annual Season of Creation which lasts until the feast of St Francis on 4 October. We'll mark the beginning of this special time during the Masses this weekend.

"Let Justice and Peace Flow" is the theme for this year's Season of Creation. In the Old Testament, the prophet Amos cried out, "Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24). This text has been chosen because we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to embrace climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities that are most impacted by climate injustice and biodiversity loss.

Our individual actions are important and make a difference. Together, they help to create a mighty river of justice and peace. So, each week, I will be suggesting something we can do to help to care for our common home.

In my experience, children at school and the over 60's are the best at caring for the earth. So, please share your ideas with me so that I can share them with the parish.

Warrington & Widnes Deanery

On the First Sunday of Advent 2021, the Archbishop launched a Pastoral Plan which was the fruit of our Archdiocesan Synod. As part of this plan, the Deaneries across the Archdiocese were reconfigured. Our Deanery now includes the parishes of Warrington, Widnes and Cronton. During the last 18 months, we have begun to work together. The priests of the Deanery meet together once a month. There is a

Deanery Mass prior to this meeting – one month in Warrington, the next in Widnes. A Deanery Synodal Council – made up of representatives from each parish in the Deanery – meets bimonthly.

At the back of each church, you will see a display – which will grow in the coming weeks – illustrating the gradual implementation of the Pastoral Plan in our Deanery.

Schools are back!

Our schools reopen this week, so a very warm welcome back to all the children and staff. A special welcome to those who are new and to the little ones starting school for the first time. Let us pray:

**God our Father,
watch over our schools as they reopen
after the summer holidays.
Be close to the little ones starting school for the first
time and those beginning a new school:
reassure them through their parents and teachers.
Bless all the children and staff as they arrive fresh
faced and ready for a new year together:
help them in their work and in their play.
Pour out your Spirit upon the leaders of our schools
as they seek to guide, inspire, and serve
all those entrusted to their care.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

*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:** Mrs Celia Rigby. Monday to Friday, 9.00 am – 5.00 pm. Tel: 01925 630127. Email address: blessedjamesbell@rcaol.org.uk
- 3) **Parish Website** 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
Sunday 3 September 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	10.30 am Mass Vera Brindle	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass The Parishioners 8.30 am Mass Colin Lloyd
Monday 4 September	<i>Staff Mass at St Gregory's High School</i>	7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 5 September		11.00 am Mass Fr David O'Kane
Wednesday 6 September	10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Thanksgiving (GCSE's)	
Thursday 7 September		11.00 am Mass Ian Fletcher 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 8 September Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	11.00 am Mass Private Intention (LISC)	
Saturday 9 September		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Jasmine Turner
Sunday 10 September 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Education Day</i>	10.30 am Mass The Parishioners Staff & Children of our Schools	8.30 am Mass Theresa Hodgkinson

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

27.08.23	£652.90	(£226.50 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.69	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£186.00	(£76.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£968.59	
Fundraising	£105.00	('Hot Dogs')
Poor Box	£8.37	
CAFOD	£10.00	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION

Next Sunday is Education Day. It's an opportunity to pray for our Catholic Schools and to support them by making a donation to the Catholic Education Service.

LADIES GROUP

The next meeting of the Ladies Group will take place this Thursday, 7 September, at 8.00 pm in the lounge at St Oswald's Parish Centre.

SCHOOL BINGO NIGHT

The Friends of St Oswald's School are holding a Bingo Night (adults only) in St Oswald's Parish Centre on Friday 15 September at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £5 and are available from School and the Parish Centre. Come along if you can and help raise much needed funds for our school.

LOURDES REUNION MASS

Next Sunday, 10 September, at 5.00 pm in St Mary's, Lowe House, St Helens. All are welcome, especially those who went to Lourdes this year.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 2)

Today	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
<i>Readings</i>	Jeremiah 20: 7-9 Romans 12: 1-2 Matthew 16: 21-27
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 22

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, 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, Sam Johnson, Miriam Jones, Ron Jones, Peter McKeown, Jean Murphy, Jo Roberts, Cathy Spencer, Claire Taylor, Margaret Watts.

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:

Peter Burke