

PARISH OF BLESSED JAMES BELL

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



Newsletter

**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
10 September 2023**

My dear sisters and brothers,

Education Sunday

Today is the 175th anniversary of Education Sunday. The day is an opportunity to pray for our Catholic Schools and to support them by making a donation to the Catholic Education Service.

Paul Barber, the Director of the Catholic Education Service, writes: "The Catholic Church has become the country's largest provider of secondary schools and the second-largest provider of primary schools. Catholic education is by far the largest charitable activity of the Church here, and we give thanks for the many thousands of teachers, lecturers, academics, support staff, leaders, governors, advisers and others who have found their vocation in Catholic education, and without whom this would be impossible.

"Catholic schools continue to be true to their mission: they educate more pupils from the most deprived backgrounds; outperform national GCSE English and Maths averages by five percentage points; and are more ethnically diverse than other state-funded schools."

Families of Parishes

Earlier this year, members of the Deanery Synodal Council held meetings in all the parishes of the Deanery to consider how we might organise ourselves to better work together. Three 'Families of Parishes' emerged from these meetings:

- 1) The **Parishes of Widnes and Cronton** (St Wilfrid and Holy Family).
- 2) The **Parishes of West Warrington** (Sacred Heart & St Alban, St Joseph and St Paul of the Cross).

- 3) The **Parishes of East Warrington** (Blessed James Bell, St Peter & St Michael, and St Stephen).

You will see a display of these three 'Families of Parishes' in our churches.

School Bingo Night

The Friends of St Oswald's School are holding a Bingo Night (adults only) in St Oswald's Parish Centre this 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.

Mid-Autumn Festival

Our Hong Kong friends invite us to celebrate with them in church after the 10.30 am Mass on Sunday 24 September. The occasion is the Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as Moon Festival or Mooncake Festival – a traditional festival celebrated in Chinese culture around this time. Its focus is on family gathering and thanksgiving. Everyone is welcome.

Relics of Scottish Saints to visit the Cathedral

The Relics of the Scottish Saints (St Andrew, St Margaret and St Columba) will be visiting the Cathedral from Monday 18 to Thursday 21 September. There will be a Welcome Mass on Monday at 5.00 pm and a Closing Mass on Thursday at 12.15 pm. All are welcome to visit the Relics in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

*With my prayers,
Fr Dave*

General Information

1) **Parish Priest:** Canon Dave Heywood. Tel: 01925 630127. Email: 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 10 September 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Education Day</i>	10.30 am Mass The Parishioners Staff & Children of our Schools	(Sat) 4.30 pm Vigil Mass Jasmine Turner 8.30 am Mass Theresa Hodgkinson
Monday 11 September		7.00 pm Prayer Group
Tuesday 12 September		11.00 am Mass Rita Devine
Wednesday 13 September St John Chrysostom	10.15 – 11.00 am Exposition 11.00 am Mass Charles Eason	
Thursday 14 September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross		11.00 am School Mass of Welcome Andy Banks 7.00 pm Novena & Benediction
Friday 15 September Our Lady of Sorrows	<i>No 11.00 am Mass today</i> 12.00 noon Deanery Mass (at St John Fisher, Widnes)	<i>Mass at Cardinal Newman High School</i>
Saturday 16 September Saints Cornelius & Cyprian		4.30 pm Vigil Mass Margaret Jean Cripps
Sunday 17 September 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) <i>Home Mission Day</i>	10.30 am Mass Amelia Baylen	8.30 am Mass The Parishioners

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

03.09.23	£778.37	(£325.00 Gift Aid)
Standing Orders	£129.69	(£89.31 Gift Aid)
Digital Giving	£214.00	(£91.00 Gift Aid)
Total	£1122.06	
Donation	£300.00	
Caritas	£12.00	

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today there is a Second Collection for the Catholic Education Service. Next Sunday is Home Mission Day, so there will be a Second Collection to support the work of the Bishops' Conference Department of Evangelisation and Discipleship.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy has resumed after the summer break. It takes place during the 10.30 am Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. Children's Liturgy is part of the Mass – it aims to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word with children of school age at a level they can understand. Many thanks to the catechists who provide this ministry to our little ones.

PAUSE FOR HOPE

The 25th Annual Ecumenical Service, Pause for Hope, supporting those with cancer and their loved ones, will be held in the Cathedral on Sunday 24 September at 3.00 pm. The main speaker will be Dean Sullivan. The service will feature music from Billy Hui and SingMe Merseyside. Tickets are not required – all are welcome.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

(Divine Office – Psalter Week 3)

Today	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
<i>Readings</i>	Ezekiel 33: 7-9 Romans 13: 8-10 Matthew 18: 15-20
Weekdays	Ordinary Time – Year 1, Week 23

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, 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:

Joseph Chan, Lee Kam.